

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

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OFFICES OF THE BEE

The Bee's Platform

- 1. New Union Passenger Station. 2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highways...

Peace by Resolution.

The certainty that the Knox resolution, with certain modifications, declaring a state of peace with Germany will be passed very soon after the senate resumes its sessions next week holds some encouragement.

Two years ago Mr. Wilson was in Paris, finishing the text of the covenant and weaving it into the text of the treaty, knowing that it had the avowed opposition of a considerable group of influential men at home.

This will be given them in the resolution declaring a state of peace; that the United States will look on a future war between Great European powers as a matter of grave concern to its own interests, and that this government holds Germany responsible for the late war, and will aid in exacting reparations.

No room for argument exists as to Germany's responsibility and the necessity for payment of indemnity. Propagandists who have been active in endeavors to build up a contrary feeling in America have wasted their effort.

Care for the Wounded Soldier.

Soldiers wounded in wars of the nation are not wards of the nation. They are our creditors; they have performed for us service not to be measured in money, and the country owes to them a debt that never can be discharged.

"Best Place on Earth."

Omaha may now hope to tack the imposing initials, "B. P. O. E.," after its name as the "Best Place on Earth" for the "Best People on Earth."

Another great fraternal organization, the Woodmen of the World, already maintains its central offices here, giving proof that the pivotal location of Omaha makes it naturally fit for an executive center.

of 800,000 are known to pay as they go, and are not seeking special favors. Omaha wants this headquarters. It likes the Elks and would be proud to be their hosts.

Rivalry in Transportation.

Certain changes in methods of transportation are taking place without attracting general notice. In some cities the motor bus is giving deadly competition to the street car, and in all parts of the country the motor truck is cutting in on the business of the railroad.

The dispatch concludes with the statement that he plans to add larger trucks and develop the system. Such is the process that is being carried on quite generally. Trucks moved 1,200,000,000 tons of freight in the United States last year.

It is claimed that in this way costs of delivery are cut down, and there are many other advantages that indicate the new method has not yet reached its highest possible use. There are more than 120,000 trucks on farms, widening the farmers' market and freeing him from dependence on freight trains to a considerable extent.

South Dakota "Blues."

The public may never be treated to the complete demonstration of what would happen if all the laws were strictly enforced, but South Dakota is having a glimpse at least. Some county attorneys there have given warning that they will enforce all Sunday closing laws and others are planning to enforce particular parts of them, such as the provisions forbidding baseball and moving picture shows.

In some parts of the state, merchants, garages, theaters, soda fountains and filling stations closed their doors upon being warned by the local officers. Elsewhere no effort was made to enforce any part of the law, and none of the usual Sunday amusements or activities was interfered with.

It was easy for the legislature to decree a state of suspended animation on Sunday, but the officials charged with the enforcement of the blue laws quite evidently are at a loss how to proceed. The attorney general, although recommending rigid carrying out of the statute, has contented himself with arresting a single moving picture theater proprietor in Huron, in order to carry the issue to the supreme court and determine the constitutionality of the act.

Matter of Forfeited Bail Bonds.

The Board of Education has taken an important step in assigning to Attorney T. J. McGuire the job of cleaning up the bail bond situation. Not that there is any likelihood that the balance in the treasury will be extensively augmented as a result; but because, if the work is well done, a really scandalous situation will be cleaned up. It is one of the sad truths in connection with our city housekeeping that the road between the police court and the district court provides many loopholes through which an offender may vanish.

The last horsethief has been caught at Wilbur, and there are some horse fanciers, no doubt, who are deeply appreciative of the proof that someone still thinks enough of the animals to steal one of them.

For the Control of War Stop Making Arms Is the Easiest Way to Disarm.

Writing to the Boston Transcript, John R. M. Taylor discusses the question of disarmament from another angle. He argues for the control of arms-making plants. Going back in history, he finds that at the close of the eighteenth century "making small arms and ammunition was as much a household industry as making apple-jack."

During the life of Napoleon armament did not make a single step in advance, which is strange enough thing for that essentially military period. The old flintlock musket of 1777 and the guns of Gibraltar of 1765 were the working tools of the epoch; the first survived until 1840 and the guns until 1827.

In 1799 the guns for coast defense were shipped to a United States fort and the commander officially informed that he could doubtless find timber out of which to make the necessary muzzles. During our Civil war a gun carriage for the heaviest mobile artillery of the Federal army had been built in a week by a village blacksmith and wheelwright working together.

How far we are from that today must be realized by anyone who has seen even pictures of the monstrous and complicated artillery employed in the war which is not yet over in spite of the highly placed gentlemen sitting about green covered tables. And these monstrous arms have grown, not only in size and complexity, but in their insatiable demand for ammunition. At Gettysburg, in 1863, the Union army expended 32,000 rounds of artillery ammunition. At St. Mihiel, in 1918, the United States army expended 1,000,000 rounds. In the same year one American division expended in thirty minutes, during a raid, a mere minor amount of such artillery ammunition as the whole United States army expended, in 1898, during the war with Spain.

If we turn to the modern high-power rifle we see that it has progressed equally far beyond the musket of a hundred years ago. It is now an intricate production. The 1917 Enfield is relatively simple in construction, yet the soldier can dismount his Enfield into 86 parts, and some of these are made up of component pieces. Many of these pieces must be made to such precision, gauged with microscopic nicety, and finished with unusual accuracy. To produce any modern rifle on a grand scale in private plants would imply the use of thousands of gauges, jigs, and other small tools necessary for such manufacture, as well as great quantities of special machines. Accordingly, as the present war we used the Enfield rifle during 1914 and 1915, among other governments, both the British and Russian had turned to the United States to supplement their sources of rifle supply while they, particularly the British, were building up their home manufacturing capacity. By the spring of 1917 the Enfield rifle had been built up her own manufacturing facilities at that time the last of her American contracts were nearing completion.

Here, then, was at hand a huge capacity, which, added to our government arsenals, could turn out every rifle the American army would require, regardless of the number of troops we put into the field. We would have been forced to spend preliminary months or even years in building up an adequate manufacturing capacity for our own rifle, the Springfield, while our men in France were using what odds and ends of rifle equipment we might have been able to purchase for them, except for this well-nigh providential condition in our small-arms industry in early 1917.

From April to August, 1917, the total production of rifles by the United States government plants was 16,000. Then foreign governments released to us the plants which had been manufacturing for them. All plants produced from August 1 to December 31, 1917, for the United States, 414,000 rifles. From January to November 19, 1918, these same plants produced 2,506,307 rifles. This shows how long it takes to get ready for quantity production of small arms.

In August, 1914, the guns of the world were made by Krupp, Skoda, Cockerill, Creusot and Vickers. No one else could make them efficiently in quantity production for no other countries, except ours, had the necessary combination of large and cheap supplies of coal and iron, with high mechanical designing and constructing capability. Italy had the mechanical ability but not the coal and iron. Japan was behind in mechanical ability, but was improving by practice. The United States had all the requisites for construction, but had never gone into making guns on a large scale. To make them we had to take time to get ready for our first order. The guns were placed early in 1914. It was not until October, 1918, that quantity production really began. We can make them now, we shall continue to be able to make them as long as our mechanics remember how, and as long as the necessary jigs, gauges, and patterns are in store; but the robot of our conditions in this war shows how long it takes to put imagination, ability and resources into quantity production.

The control of war is the control of the means of making war. In theory the solution is extraordinarily simple. In December, 1918, its application would have been almost equally simple. All that was necessary was to take control of German and Austrian armament would have been the destruction of certain machines at Skoda and the Krupp works, machines useful only for the manufacture of arms, and of the contents of certain storehouses filled with the drawings, patterns, jigs and gauges, which are necessary for the quantity production of munitions. To replace them would take much time, and during this time the skilled workmen would be forgetting their ability to use them. Then if the ammunition dumps which are now supplying certain warring people had been destroyed—and there was a time when some of the largest could have been destroyed—there would still be fighting, but in many places where there were no guns and rifles, they would be using knives and stones.

Why was this not done? It is hard to say. Such questions of high policy are settled behind closed doors and those doors have not yet been opened. Was there a serious desire to limit armament? It is awkward to raise questions which may affect your own armament and when it may affect your own international trade in arms. Everyone knows how long Creusot in France and Krupp in Germany have been competing in the international munition market. With the control of the iron and coal of central Europe in the hands of France Creusot could have no dangerous competitor.

The guns of the world, the rifles of the world, the aircraft of the world, are made by a small group of highly civilized nations. The others cannot make them efficiently and buy from those who do. Close that market and those nations can make war only at the will of the gun producing group. Against them they are hopeless and defenceless.

The Bee's Letter Box

Communism Center Work.

Omaha, April 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: Your editorial of Saturday morning, April 2, on Communism, was read with very much interest by me. Your suggestion that community centers should be run all the year round is a very good one. About 100 might be run in more months than just during the summer. Now is the best time of year for playgrounds to be in operation, but not one of these activities can be continued longer than the scheduled time by the recreation department at the present time.

According to figures in my office, the recreation department handles about twice as many people and does about twice as much work in the recreation centers as it does in the playgrounds. I would like to call your attention to this: That the recreation department is running on the same appropriation, \$2,000, as it did in the first year it existed, but the playground facilities might be increased. I want to thank you for the interest your paper has taken in community center work this winter and hope that next winter will be a still bigger year in community center work.

IRA A. JONES, Recreation Director.

"Sponsor" Cites Examples.

Omaha, April 4.—To the Editor of The Bee: Permit me to reply to my article signing himself George D. Curtin in Monday's paper. Mr. Curtin says that the word "sponsor" has the public morals as clean as it could, thereby fulfilling its purpose and thereby in my estimation showing that he falls on his argument "as clean as it could."

He points with pride to the fact that the Monarch cabaret was closed immediately after a man committed suicide in the place. In Mr. Curtin's opinion, was commendable on the part of the welfare board. That, in my opinion, is or should not be, a matter of indifference. It was closed by a member of the board at the time the place was closed, did not have anything to do with the action taken by the board. Recently a man committed suicide in the rooming house, but the welfare board did not close the hotel. Recently Burnell Lawson murdered his wife in the Hollywood apartment house. So Mr. Curtin, I am of the candid opinion that your alleged argument in favor of the welfare board, that has kept the morals of the city as high as ever, could do not hold water. Come again. Cite some more examples. WELFARE SPONSOR.

Not Strong for Ringer.

Omaha, March 29.—To the Editor of The Bee: Allow me a few lines to respond to Perplexed who comes with a list of names. It is a bunch of incompetents in your paper Tuesday morning seeking "to know where the city could find a better candidate. Oh, such ignorance is appalling to those of us who have seen good government and law and order in the past when those terms meant something. Under the Ringer regime, the city has seen a number of crimes which now adorn the report sheet of the police department. I place these under the Ringer regime. I defy any sponsor of Ringer to cite another city in the country with a more successful and one more successful in crime. The City and State bank at Ralston, together with the \$105,000 robbery of the Bank of Benson, December 31, 1919. Government reports show a greater number of robberies than participated in these robberies are now serving sentences in the Nebraska state penitentiary as a result of the Omaha police department's activities in arresting and convicting the robbers? Not one, Mr. Perplexed. Not one. I could ramble on at length, Mr. Editor, citing examples of unsolved mysteries but what's the use. Let this suffice. Omaha's best bet lies in attaching the well-known "tinware" to one J. Dean Ringer on election day in May. Let's boot him out and give the real substantial residents of Omaha something to say about running Omaha instead of continuing the city in the hands of the crooks. ONE NOT PERPLEXED.

Up and Down of Prices.

Omaha, April 2.—To the Editor of The Bee: Why is it that in the decline in the price of commodities, and the demoralization of our industrial system, which has resulted in a great army of unemployed? Will an increased gold standard facilitate our present day problem? Has congress the power to remedy this situation? There are a number of fallacies current to which are attributed the cause of our slump in business—proletarian scarcity of commodities; the tax efficiency of workers. But none of these are well founded, nor can they be responsible for present day conditions. Profiteering changes the distribution of currency into different channels, which results in increased buying of certain commodities, but does not change the total distribution of currency. Government reports show a greater surplus of raw materials today than at any period of our history, therefore, the scarcity of commodities in America does not exist. High taxes have little or no effect on average prices; and the so-called inefficiency of workers is a trumped-up excuse to raise the price of labor, and a pure delusion, for the average per capita production in the United States has more than doubled during the past 25 years according to government statistics. The cost of distribution of commodities has a far reaching effect on commerce. The immense increase in freight rates by the Interstate Commerce commission has produced a "shipper's strike" which has temporarily paralyzed activity in all our markets. Through a systematic study of per capita production, bank deposits and clearings, labor wages, and the scarcity of commodities caused by monopoly, also high taxes, we still find in the end, a static equilibrium. To the contrary, that the law of supply and demand controls the markets, and that the total amount of circulating currency controlled by the government has complete control over price levels, industry and the prosperity of the nation. Through an unemployment problem today, and industries are at a standstill, with farm products at lower levels, is that the federal re-

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, 1921, by Dr. W. A. Evans

The sixth year molar is the first permanent tooth to break through the gums. Coming as it does toward the back of the mouth at a time when the other teeth are all of the temporary variety, it generally is regarded as one of the milk teeth. The people who are on the lookout for the first permanent tooth have their thoughts focused on the front of the mouth. It is queer that the first permanent tooth should be a jaw tooth when all other beginnings of teeth are in the front of the mouth.

The consequence of all this is that the sixth year molar is neglected as a rule with temporary teeth, instead of being cared for as many permanent teeth are cared for. The sixth year molar begins to form about five months before birth. At birth the top of the crown is completed. At one year the entire grinding surface is calcified. In this first year most of the severe illnesses of childhood occur. Is it any wonder that a large proportion of the first year molars are found to have faulty grinding surfaces. At 5 years of age the entire crown is finished and at 6 the tooth erupts.

JUST IN JEST.

"It will not be responsible for any debts contracted only by myself," declares Mr. Barker of Gary, Ind., who appears to have no confidence in his shopping ability.—New York Illustrated News. "I'm sorry that my engagements prevent my attending your meeting, Mr. Editor, but I shall be with you in spirit."—The Drexler. "I have tickets for half a dollar, a dollar, and two dollars."—The Drexler.

Prof. Albert Michelson, an American astronomer, has just succeeded, with the aid of an apparatus he has invented, in measuring the top of the crown of a molar. It is also reported that Secretary Denby is busy with a number of apparatuses for taking the measure of the Rising Sun.—Punch (London).

Kitty, aged 4, had been naughty and her father had had to administer vigorous correction before she was sent to bed. That an impression had been made was apparent when on his return from business in the evening, Kitty called upstairs with a loud voice: "Mother, your husband's home.—The Archaist (San Francisco). "No, but I have a little miss in my engine."—The Drexler.

Your Opportunity to Buy Carpets Is Now At Bowen's

The splendid line of yard Carpet Goods now being shown at Bowen's at the new and much lower price presents a wonderful opportunity to get just the quality and patterns in Carpets you have been looking for. From the lower priced Brussels and Velvets to the all-wool worsted Wiltons, in all the popular patterns, colors and shades, in fact, here you will find suitable Carpets for any room in the Home, as well as Carpets for Halls, Lodges, Churches, etc. This is your opportunity.

How to Keep Well... The sixth year molar... Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease...

When You Order BERNICE Get The Genuine... There is a lot of coal being sold in Omaha on the reputation of Bernice, which is not Genuine Bernice Anthracite.

The McAlester Fuel Co. Phone Tyler 0171 733 Omaha Nat. Bank Bldg. Systematic Saving Money is an absolutely tireless worker, and if conserved will eventually produce enough to care for you in adversity or old age.

When I Earn More It is not good policy to put off saving until your income is larger.

The Omaha National Bank FARNAM AT SEVENTEENTH... Start a savings account NOW with small amounts regularly deposited. It is the regular habit that counts more than the amount saved.