

# THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

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

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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.

## End of a Devoted Life.

The brief, laconic announcement of the death of late empress of Germany will attract more attention to her life than anything she did while living. Wholly absorbed in her duties as mother and housewife, she had no part in the politics of her time, no share in the intrigue that surrounded her, and was little more than a lay figure in the formally stiff and colorless life of the court. She exemplified in her own life the virtues of the woman as laid down in the "three K's" of her imperial husband.

While some scandal has been attached by the slander of enemies to the name of the kaiser, it is his most eminent recommendation that he was singularly free from the petty vices of princes, and gave remarkably little occasion for public or private reproach because of his morals. One basis for this may be found in the fact that he was self-centered to no absorbing degree that he derived more satisfaction from setting a high and notable example of family devotion that he might have found in the indulgence of any form of intrigue. However that may be, the domestic affairs of the emperor were of a nature that did give his people a pattern of real excellence.

Augusta Victoria leaves on her age only the impress left by millions of other women. She was born, she was wed, bore and reared children, gave to her husband loyal support, and then answered the call and passed on. It is not a record of excitement, of sensational deeds, of novel notions and astonishing adventures one will set down when making up her chronicles. The record will tell of a woman who patiently and systematically, day after day, went about her unappointed task, directing the affairs of her home, managing her share of family responsibility, holding her little conferences with a limited group of intimates, just as does any wife and mother in the humblest circumstances commune with her neighbors similarly situated. The fierce light that beats upon a throne shed few rays into the household rooms where Augusta spent her days. Not that she was inadequate when state duties required her presence at the side of her husband, for she was not, and has always been written in terms of deepest regard. But she was seemingly content with her sphere, and so furnished an ideal consort for a restless aspirant to universal power. A more ambitious woman might have marred the plans or thwarted the leaping ambition of the man whose dream was universal domination of humanity. This quiet, unassuming wife and mother found her expression in a home well tended, a flock carefully looked after, in the comfort of her husband and children, in their moral and physical welfare as far as she was responsible, and the rest she left to God. And of her it may be said, as Grey said of his youthful subject, the unbending circumstances of her life—

nor circumscribed alone  
His virtues, but his crimes confined;  
Forbidden to waste through slaughter to a throne,  
Or shut the gates of mercy on mankind.

Augusta will be mourned and will be remembered for just those qualities her husband lacked, although he admired them in her. And the figure of that bent and broken man, standing alone by the bedside where his wife lay dead will get a sympathetic thought that otherwise will be denied the kaiser.

## French Railroads Differ.

The tender care and even charity with which railroad construction was encouraged in the United States by means of bonus, land grant and subsidy perhaps may have been matched by the severity with which the transportation lines have been chastened since that time. In France they do these things otherwise, and there is closer and more friendly relationship between the railway systems and the regions they serve.

According to the International Institute of Agriculture, the Paris-Lyon-Mediterranean Railway company has offered subsidies of 2,000 francs to each of the first twelve co-operative cheese factories built within two years if they are equipped with modern machinery. Subsidies amounting to 50 per cent of the expense, up to 1,000 francs are promised to existing cheese factories which modernize their plants.

French railroad companies are said quite generally to follow this policy of encouraging the development of agricultural co-operation. Plainly there is wisdom in such efforts to build up local industries along their lines, and equally apparent is the folly of the rigid American policy which so often actually discourages by unfavorable rates the upbuilding of enterprises outside the large centers.

## Congress on the Job Again.

Whatever the message of the president, to be delivered to the congress today, may contain, the extraordinary session just convened faces a full program. One thousand bills were dumped into the hopper at the start, many of them renewals of measures that had not reached final consideration during the two years of the Sixty-sixth congress and which will consequently take some of the time of the Sixty-seventh. The questions of reconstruction press heavily, among them being that embodied in the Fordney tariff measure, designed to afford relief to American farmers. Following this is a long line of proposed constructive legislation, most of it familiar because of discussion heretofore had; some of

it is certain to excite controversy, as opinion divides sharply on what is the better way to proceed. Revenue legislation will be included in this list, and a lengthy debate in both houses is fore-shadowed before the new law is finally adopted. The senate will probably find its time early taken up with the Knox peace resolution. In this connection, the expressions from Japan that another peace conference may be called are of interest. If such is the Japanese disposition, the adoption of the Knox resolution may speedily open the way. It will not affect the announced attitude of the United States. The treaty with Colombia is also likely to engender a lively debate, for some very able senators are opposed to the ratification of any convention that even indirectly impugns the motives of the late Theodore Roosevelt, or which carries any acknowledgment of unfairness on part of the United States. All in all, the present session bids fair to be both lively and important.

## Ure Sets Up a Standard.

"I believe that the assignments of departments should not be a matter of barter and trade for endorsement or support for election, but should only be considered after election, and should be made only after due consideration of the qualifications of the seven men chosen." Thus did W. G. Ure state a principle and set up a standard in his letter to the "Committee of 5,000," declining to accept a position in the list of preferred candidates of that group if he required that he pledge himself in advance to vote for A. L. Sutton for mayor. Mr. Ure does not abate his advocacy of the policy of good government on which the committee bases its existence. Neither does he discuss the qualifications of its standard bearer. He frankly declares himself as opposed to pre-election bargains as to preference to be given after the voters have made their choice.

The letter of the law may not forbid the selection of a mayor in anticipation of victory for a particular "slate," but such a course hardly conforms to the spirit or meet the hopes under which the commission form of government was set up. Messrs. Butler and Zimman are understood to assume on this point the same position as does Mr. Ure, and it is likely that Mr. Towl will also line up with them.

Experience has taught these men the ins and outs of city government, and if they object to being tied hand and foot by pledges in advance to distribute the departmental duties and responsibilities, it must be because they have a conviction that supports them. Feeling that the city is entitled to the services of men who have made good on the job, The Bee is devoted to the election of the six sitting commissioners, and is willing to leave to their judgment the assignment of departments, including the election of mayor. Mr. Ure's statement of the case is commended to the voters, in confidence that it will have weight as the citizens come to understand what it contains.

## Lined Up With Mr. Harding.

What became apparent during the recent national campaign, that there was a definite division of opinion among republican leaders in regard to the League of Nations, becomes now even more plain. The result of the election was to give fresh strength to the group known as the "irreconcilables," and now many who were only "reservationists" are now utterly opposed to the ratification of the Treaty of Versailles in any form, amended or unamended. Uncompromisingly arrayed against them, now that the election is over, stand a few highly respected republican statesmen. The split over the advisability of adopting the Knox peace resolution reveals Hughes and Hoover united against the idea of separate negotiations. It is to be expected that Taft and Root will also remain with them. It is noticeable that the advocates of a close association with Europe are men who do not hold elective office, and that those who are opposed depend on the votes of the people for their position and hence may be suspected of more nearly representing public opinion.

Caught between this clash of opinion, the position of President Harding is not altogether happy. His address to congress can not be expected to please all sides. However, the feeling of the American people is that the president has been entrusted with full authority, and it is not to be doubted that public opinion will back him in his decisions. The threats of the "irreconcilables" and the pressure of their opponents can be left out of account by Mr. Harding, for the temper of the nation is such as to welcome firm leadership and to give short shrift to those who will not fall in line to decide national issues on national and not factional considerations.

## Moving Pictures in the Home.

The family album has lost its place on the parlor table, but it has not yet been replaced as some, enthusiastic over the development of moving pictures, predicted by strips of film. Putting aside the matter of cost and the manipulation of a projecting machine, there have been other drawbacks to what might be called home cinematography. There are many people well able to afford moving pictures of themselves but who would not desire to appear as they really are, without having the benefit of skilled retouching of the photograph, a thing impossible in the movies. Full length pictures, displaying awkward or meaningless motions would be true to life, but that is exactly their fault.

Moving pictures of mother in the kitchen or father driving his flivver could hardly be expected to possess a sentimental value sufficient to overcome their too-harsh reality. Children, who never are still anyway, might provide excellent subjects, and would be aided by their natural lack of self-consciousness and instinctive grace. But we all like to idealize ourselves, and so do our friends. Who has not confessed to himself that a certain portrait is exactly like the subject and objected to it on precisely that ground? To say that a thing is true to life is not a compliment, and the inability of the moving picture camera to flatter deprives it of the opportunity to oust the cabinet photograph in the home.

When eggs were \$1 a dozen it might have been considered a compliment to be bombarded by them, but now they are so cheap that the California judge who was struck by three thrown by a woman prisoner had every right to feel his dignity was outraged.

Those Russians are likely to get themselves highly respected in new quarters if they persist in executing the undesirable America ships in.

Turning the fire hose on bootleggers and high-jackers, as Sheriff Clark did recently, is bringing in an element of irony into play.

## Fair Deal for the Farmer

Better Division of Return  
Will Solve His Problem

Addressing the third Iowa business congress at Des Moines last week, D. P. Hogan of Omaha, president of the Federal Land bank of Omaha, had for his topic, "Iowa—A 35,000,000-Acre Farm." He discussed the farmer's problem from an intimate born of contact, and said among other things:

"There are 35,725,000 acres of land in the state of Iowa; 98.4 of this area is productive farm land—a record unrivaled by any other equal area of land in the world, so it can well be said that Iowa is a 35,000,000-acre farm. I need not go into details about the magnificent production of this great farm. Its annual products are of greater value than those of any other equal area in the world. Its total agricultural, horticultural, dairy and live stock production is more than \$800,000,000 annually. Its climate for agricultural production is unsurpassed. Every year there are more hours of sunshine in Iowa than in California. Iowa has never known a crop failure—some farm is still growing."

"As practically every dollar that comes into Iowa is the product of an Iowa farm, practically all of the 2,400,000 people in Iowa may very well be classed as farmers. True, they do not all live in farm houses and cultivate the soil, but they are farmers, nevertheless."

"This Iowa farm is comparatively a new one. Men now living remember when it was a wild prairie with scattered stretches of woodland."

"We have seen that Iowa's products have grown from the mere pittance that sustained the first hardy pioneers of 75 years ago, to an enormous volume of grain and other farm products that not only sustain the present population, but furnish more food to feed the world than any other like area. Iowa's products are largely staple and while they are necessities and always in demand, their price cannot be controlled, but is established in the world's markets. The farmers of the Iowa state, therefore, must control the price of their products, and feedstuffs to the consumer by direct; that they be kept open and that no excessive tolls be charged on the way."

"The almost every dollar that crosses the border into the state is the product of the soil, when it enters the state, that dollar should be divided equally between each of the laborers on this great farm—whether he tills the soil, works on the railroad, in the factory or mine, in the market places, or attends to the finances. The tiller of the soil gets what is left after the other workers have been paid for their services."

"The dreadful suffering and loss of life and the destruction of capital are not the only crimes that can be charged up to war. It disorganizes society, creates a sort of temporary prosperity and leads people to think that things of value are created by the fiat of the government, that business can be made to prosper by legal enactment and that wages can be made higher and kept higher by law. The tiller of the soil, who has a little temporary prosperity during the war, for which he is now paying very dearly. His prices went up and have now gone down, because he has to compete in the world's markets, but he now finds himself saddled with high-fixed charges for freight, taxes, interest on his loans, machinery, fuel and other necessary articles, from which it will take years to unburden himself."

"The pity of it, too, is that the organization responsible for the maintenance of these excessive charges seem to think they are benefiting themselves, while anyone with the exercise of a little reason ought to know that the tiller of the soil is at the bottom of all prosperity, that if the dollar that is paid for his products is nearly all taken before it reaches him and he receives very little for his labor, he cannot buy the things he needs. When the railroad stops buying, labor is not employed, the railroad traffic is limited and the factories are idle."

"When the others agree to accept a fair share of the dollar and leave a fair share for the farmer, it will be a sign at least that we have turned in the right direction. Nothing is more certain than that no progress can be made toward a return to prosperity until the tiller of the soil receives a fair share in the dollar that the consumer pays for his products."

"Since there is no question that general prosperity is dependent upon the farmer receiving a fair share of the dollar that is paid for his product, it follows that not only the tiller of the soil, but other people in general, are interested in the economic marketing of his products. This is a subject that has engaged the attention of every important committee of the American Farm Bureau federation for several months past."

"The Federal Land bank of Omaha gathers the individual mortgages of borrowers throughout the states of Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming and issues against them, under the supervision of the United States government, a standard Federal Land bank bond that is readily accepted by investors as the choicest kind of security."

"The Federal Land bank is not a profit-seeking institution and exacts no charge for its services, except the actual cost of handling the business. During the past year the cost of its service was 3-10 per cent per annum of the volume of its loans. It has succeeded because it furnishes the shortest, most direct and most economically conducted connection between the farmer who needs the capital and the investor who has money to loan."

"If all Iowa would unite in co-operating to prevent waste and increase production, it would add immensely to the prosperity not only of the tiller of the soil, but also of every other inhabitant of this great commonwealth."

## How Not to Grow Old

Youth is a quality, a spiritual energy, and, properly speaking, there is no "old age," but spiritual decay. "The foot less prompt to meet the morning dew" is no valid evidence of growing old, any more than to lose a leg in battle. Fussy physical activities are not the only tests of youth. That brain of Sophocles who wrote his greatest play at 90, is more to the point, and it is to famous saying recorded of him, in reference to the cooling of passions with the years, that to grow old was like being set free from service to a band of madmen.

Because we grow wiser and stronger, less selfish, and generally more useful to our fellows with the passage of years is not to say that we have lost our youth. It only means that we have learned how to employ it. We do not run in every direction as we did. We know a little better what we are doing, or what we want to do; but the motive force that enables us to do it is that same energy which once drove us to make fools of ourselves at the beginning, and still provides the same "swift means to radiant ends."

Decay, disillusion, weariness: we mean those things when we speak of "growing old," but we fail to realize that these are no necessary companions of age. We may, if we are unfortunate, inherit them, or acquire them, like bad habits, or then through neglect of a proper care and exercise of our spiritual selves. Spiritual and intellectual laziness makes most people "old before their time." If we lose interest in life, life will soon lose its interest in us, and it is just as possible to achieve a precocious senility at 20's as at any later period of our lives.—Richard Le Gallienne in *Harper's Magazine*.

## Mrs. Harding Sets an Example.

Mrs. Harding believes it is her duty to get along with the old furniture in the private apartments of the White House, a decision which will save the government at least \$10,000. We print the item as a testimony to her strength of character. She could have had anything money would buy but she will make the old do, with the help of a few personal belongings from Marion. How many women could stand such a test?—Capper's Weekly.

## Correct and Safer.

Two college professors have declared that either "Drive slow" or "Drive Safe" is correct. At any rate, either is much safer than "You're way drive."—Detroit News.

## 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 space. Send a stamped address to be enclosed. Address letters to: Dr. W. A. Evans, 1111 G. St., Omaha, Neb. Do not make a doctor's prescription for individual disease. Address letters in care of The Bee.

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## WHITES HARDIER THAN NEGROES.

Negroes are not so healthy as white people. About the best proof of this are their birth and death rates. The negro death rate is about 75 per cent higher than that of whites. The negro birth rate is 46 per cent higher than that of whites. United States census office.

Emerson says the death rate of negroes in New York city is 70 per cent higher than that of whites. The Trask of the United States public health service gives the excess as 59 per cent. Dublin of the Metropolitan Life insurance company says among their policy holders the negro death rate is 60 per cent higher than that of the whites.

These statistics are therefore essentially in agreement. The United States census office says the death rate among negroes in northern cities, each with a negro population of 10,000 and over, is as high as it is in southern cities, where the negroes make up at least one-quarter of the total population.

The census of the foreign general of the United States army for 1919 shows that negro troops had a higher disease death rate than the whites. The average length of life of white males is 46 years, of negro males 37 years, of white females 52 years, of negro females 39 years.

Glover says of each 100,000 white females born in 1890 and living in rural districts 80,000 were living in 1910. Of a similar group of white women born in that year and living in cities 70,000 were alive. White women only 39,000 were living in 1910.

The white birth rate is 10 per 1,000 higher than the white death rate. The negro birth rate is no higher than the negro death rate. The annual net white immigration into the United States is 100,000. The negro immigration rate is too small to be considered. The census of 1910 showed that the negro constituted a smaller percentage of the total population than in any previous census. It is a safe bet that the census of 1920 will constitute even a smaller percentage of the total population.

The registrar of vital statistics says the death rate of whites was reduced 15 per cent in a certain period. In the same period the negro death rate was reduced 8 per cent. Dublin says in nine years the death rate of their white policyholders fell 15 per cent, that of their negro policyholders 9 per cent. Again we find the figures substantially in accord.

Trask in a report on the trend of negro vitality, which many consider rather optimistic, says the present negro death rate is no higher than that of the white death rate of 30 years ago. Had he made the comparison with the white death rate of 40 years ago the statement would have been rather generally accepted.

May Cause Bright's Disease. Mrs. P. G. G. writes: "Today's paper full of Woodrow Wilson's illness and the fact that the particular treatment for head colds which Mr. Wilson received."

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## SHORT ARM JABS.

Now that there are no more book beer signs, it is impossible for some people to know when spring has come.—New Orleans States.

A Kane surgeon operated on himself successfully for appendicitis. At this rate man will soon become his own undertaker.—Harrisburg (Pa.) Patriot.

"Thirty United States Marines Wreck Nicaragua Newspaper."—Headline. Probably canceling their subscriptions.—Nashville Banner.

Footless hostility is now the rage in Paris. Personally we have Paris beaten by several years.—Burlington News.

Love is supposed to make the world go round. But a troubled love affair is said to be making the crown prince of Japan go round the world.—Columbia (S. C.) State.

George Sylvester Viereck wants a post from Mr. Harding. It is understood the American Legion has suggested him for the lamp-post.—Philadelphia North American.

In Assam (wherever that is) women steal men and make them marry when the men resist their advances. And still Assam is said to be only partially civilized.—Dayton News.

## Obsolete Phrases.

1. Yes, sir. What's yours, Mr. Lushleigh?  
2. Here's a quarter, my poor man, to buy yourself a good meal.  
3. Lips that touch liquor shall never touch mine.  
4. To love, honor and obey till death do us part.  
5. Thank you very much, sir, for that salary increase.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

## A Dream.

A Boston banker says we are an extravagant nation. In this he makes no reference to personally. One of our fondest ambitions is some day to be able to have enough gathered together so that we can go out and try what it is like to be extravagant.—Detroit Free Press.

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The supreme concern of Kansas has the courage and patriotism and fear of God enough to remove traitors. How long will it be until the courts of all the states will do likewise? Paste the in your heart. Humanity is progressing, not retrograding. W. E. GLYNN.

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