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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.

Loans to Save Cattle Industry.

Reports from other parts of the state fortify the statement recently made in the Letter Box by F. M. Currie of Broken Bow that the ranges of Nebraska are not filled with the usual droves of cattle. The railroad rates on stock from southern ranches to the northern cattle country were cut, but in many instances the cattlemen have been unable to obtain credit with which to make their purchases.

His suggestion that this sum be applied in making more loans on land is in line with the judgment of many who are deeply interested in the success of the farm loan bank and who realize that it has no machinery with which to arrange cattle loans. The \$40,000,000 bond issue which is now being sold to provide funds for the land banks is perhaps all the market could absorb at this time, but it is small indeed when measured by the needs of agriculture.

Cattle loans differ in many respects from those made on land. The security is more hazardous and the business of lending money on herds is one that is best handled where intimate information as to the standing and capacity of the borrower is known. If the money could be sent into the agricultural communities on land mortgages it would find its way naturally into a whole procession of advances for stocking up the ranges.

Mr. Currie admits doubt as to its being a kindness to lend money to an industry that is not on a profit-making basis. If it seemed probable that American agriculture were to continue so largely a losing business, further financial advances would be inadvisable. But people will continue to eat and the farmers to grow food, but more than that, attention is being directed not only to questions of production, but of marketing as well.

While advocates of "light wines and beer" are slipping up alongside the Volstead act, hoping to get aboard, the skipper, with his weather eye cast to port and starboard alike, announces that he will not only keep the decks clear, but will batten down the hatches, so that even leaks will be prevented. If any amendments are made to the Volstead law, its author announces, they will be to do away with the provisions that permitted Attorney General Palmer to issue his opinion with regard to the use of beer and wine as medicine.

Weakness of Calling Names.

It would be easy to make a mistake in judging the purpose of a little magazine published in the east which is right now laying about in all directions, almost frantic. In one issue it attacks the Young Women's Christian Association, the Federal Council of Churches, a convention of Jewish rabbis, the universities of the land, the farmer co-operative movement, the labor unions, the retailers, a church publication and several ministers who are named.

those who differ from them, who clamor at any innovation and shriek at the thought of reform. It is as Hazlitt once said: "The most dangerous enemies to established opinions are those who, by always defending them, call attention to their weak sides."

Farmers Forming a Federation.

One of the things the farmers have learned in the course of their efforts to improve their own conditions is that their interests are not so nearly identical as to permit the formation of a single big union. It is not necessary to enter into detailed consideration of this at the present, beyond the statement that the variations are of a fundamental nature, and therefore must have weight in all the calculations of the organizers.

On the other hand, the main factor is one in common. It is the question of better marketing facilities and more economic methods of financing farm operations and crop production, to the end that the farmer as such will secure a more adequate return from his produce.

Department of Public Welfare.

One of the first practical steps in redemption of the pledge to reform the administration of our government has been taken in the introduction of a measure to establish a cabinet Department of Public Welfare. Under such a head will be grouped various bureaus and commissions now functioning as portions of other departments.

However, there is danger to our democratic ideals in such a movement. Public health, education, care for the wounded veterans, direction of the pension bureau and war insurance, and all the related processes of government are in themselves appropriate subjects for regulation, and yet the presence of the government in such fashion in the ordinary lives of the people indicates a paternalistic attitude not always in harmony with accepted notions of democracy.

Peace by Resolution.

The New Zealand court of appeals should look up the records in the case; it might then modify its opinion that the United States, having accepted no responsibility under the Treaty of Versailles, is entitled to no rights under that treaty. Primarily, this view is wrong, for the Treaty of Versailles affects the rights of every organized government, whether signatory to it or not.

Chairman Porter of the house committee on foreign relations is holding up the Knox resolution, that he may study its possible effect on points. He gives as his opinion that peace may be established by a single resolution, declaring the war at an end. However, he says there is no pressing need for haste, and he is desirous of learning just what may come out of the possible participation of the United States on the reparations commission, and the Yap controversy, before determining finally the form in which the peace resolution will be presented to the house.

Matters are moving with some speed in Europe just now. When the German cabinet resigned, as the net result of the failure of Dr. Simons to secure important concessions on the reparations question, it was taken as indicating eventual acquiescence in the Allied program. This conjecture may not be justified, but while the settlement is pending, it is assured the United States will be no worse off if the peace resolution is temporarily held in abeyance.

If Senator Kenyon's bill prohibiting senators from having any source of income outside of their federal salary should, by any miracle, pass, considerably property would have to be put in the wives' names and many a statesman would have to borrow carefare from his better half.

New York City wants statehood because of the domination of the up-state majority, while in Illinois, the down-state folks want to make Chicago into a separate state in order to avoid its dictation. This is class conscience on a large scale.

The spectacle of a world almost crippled by the burden of debt which it owes itself must seem like a paradox to the inhabitants of Mars.

Profit and Loss in Farming
Experience in Gage County
Analyzed by Real Experts

On the theory that farming may be approaching prewar conditions, the Nebraska College of Agriculture has made public an analysis of the incomes from 58 Gage county farms in 1914. The farms are graded according to their losses and profits and an attempt is made to analyze some of the reasons for the variations, the purpose being to encourage farmers to keep books and check up their operations from time to time, as is the practice in the business world.

The figures make an allowance for interest on investment, which in some instances was large. Also, the income allows the farmer no wages. In other words, the profits as set forth in the report represent the annual salary of the farmer, and in addition must cover interest on investment. Allowances are made for depreciation.

Six of the 58 Gage county farms lost money in 1914, some of them as much as \$1,500. Not only did the man who operated the farm receive nothing for his year's work and capital invested, but he was worth \$1,500 less at the end of the year than at the beginning. Twenty farms made less than \$500 each. Eighteen of them made less than \$1,000. Five farmers received more than \$2,000 for their year's work, and only two received more than \$3,000.

The farms ranged in size from 191 to 403 acres, but the college analysts do not consider size as one of the important factors in the profits and losses in this instance. The analysis shows that the men who had a low income made less efficient use of man and horse labor. The farmers making the most money farmed almost twice as many acres per man and per horse as did those who lost money. Likewise, the efficient management of live stock stands out rather prominently on the more successful farms.

A business capitalized at \$35,000 in the city represents a good-sized investment, but it would be a "dead end" if the manager did not keep careful accounts and study his business, so that he could plug up the leaks—large or small," says the analysis of the Gage county farm incomes.

Are Athletics College Advertising?

I believe in college recreation; I delight in going to undergraduate parties myself. And especially do I believe in the value of athletics. I have no thought of launching a conventional diatribe against an activity that contributes to student solidarity, encourages fair competition, and serves in a score of ways as an antidote for undergraduate provinciality. But the use, either official or unofficial, of athletics to advertise the academic departments of an institution is dishonest in principle and vicious in its ultimate effects.

"But college is like business," one of my former students said to me recently. "You see, the successful automobile manufacturer must look after his advertising department as well as his production, and in college your advertising department is your athletic sport." "Yes," I admitted, "but the automobile industry what does the advertising department advertise?"

"Why," he replied, "the production end of it, of course." "And," I inquired further, "if athletics are to be regarded as the advertising department of a college, what department do they advertise?" He hesitated a moment and then replied, in a good-natured effort to get even: "Well, professor, when I was in college you didn't teach me to reason straight enough. Of course, I see now that athletics advertise the advertising department."

How greatly such advertising may misrepresent the professed chief business of an institution may be seen in the following instance: A state university in the middle west secured a new football coach in the order to bring into the school a new era was dawning for this institution, a committee prepared an illustrated circular which set forth vividly this new coach's athletic prowess. By utilizing sectional basketball tournaments that the high schools of the state held soon afterward, the committee placed this circular in the hands of virtually all the pupils who were then attending high school in that state. Some of these boys and girls at once decided to attend this university. Among them were many who could give no reason for going so, other than that this physical giant was going to "bring the institution to the front." Now, this state university is honored by having at its head a man of great capacity and unusual personal charm, and it numbers among its teachers many men who are known to thinking people throughout the entire country. Yet, when I questioned some of these boys and girls who had decided to go there to college, I found that many of them did not know the name of the president; that they could not name any teacher in the institution; and that they did not know what courses, or even what subjects, they would have the opportunity to study, once they were there. Some of them vaguely contemplated studying subjects which had never been in the curriculum of that university. Perhaps when they matriculated the following autumn, the obscurity of their own purpose kept them from being greatly disappointed. But if a mail order house had resorted to the same methods in securing them for customers, their fathers would have prosecuted it for securing money under false pretenses.—Prof. R. W. Brown, in Harper's Magazine.

A Pitiable Shame.

We are not in a position to know what measures should be taken by congress in the way of co-ordinating various bureaus which now deal with the necessities of disabled soldiers, but we know that the American people want everything done for these men that gratitude and money can do. The burden of war falls very unequally upon citizens. War deprives some families of their bread winners; some men are disabled for life; it impoverishes millions of families. On the other hand, it pours into the lap of the small minority wealth such as they never could have amassed except through war. There are men in the United States and, of course, in every country in Europe, rich beyond their most avaricious dreams. They made it all in the world war. And they made it by profiteering. These war-made millionaires are pouring into New York to spend their fabulous incomes. War did it. If we are not going to continue civil war among the white races, might not something be done to prevent these war fortunes? That may be impossible. We do not know. But we know that it is a pitiable shame that one section of the population should be fattening on war profits while disabled soldiers are being neglected.—Churchman.

Flaw in His Eloquence.

Senator La Follette's eloquent espousal of the cause of Ireland might have more influence if he had espoused the cause of the United States a little harder during the recent war with Germany.

Open Flats to Children.

New York has legislated against the lap dog and the canary, and in favor of the child, by making it a misdemeanor for a landlord to refuse to rent to a family which has children.—Boston Globe.

How to Keep Well

By DR. W. A. EVANS
Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. Evans by 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

SCARS ON THE FACE.

A fair number of people write to me about scars left on their faces by pimples. As a rule they want to know what can be done to remove such scars. There is not much that I can tell them to do.

The deed is done long before they become interested and not much can be done to undo it. I commonly suggest that massaging be done. Perhaps this accomplishes something when persisted in.

It is more important that the public know that such skin blemishes can be prevented. Why is it that some people pass through the greasy age, having a multitude of pimples all their life, and some of it without any scars, while others will reap a number of scars as the result of a few acne spots? I have seen some people pitted from acne far worse than others have been as the result of smallpox. Why the difference in the results of pimples in different people? The answer is scratching and picking.

The 1924 volume on skin diseases of the Practical Medicine series devotes eight pages to neurotic excoerations. The page illustrations might well be pictures of men and women we meet on the street daily. One is a close-up side view of the lower half of the face of a man. On his cheek, jaw and neck just below the eye is a row of scars like the like of those which I see almost daily.

An article by Mackee quoted says at times the excoerations may be produced by the habit of picking at every slight elevation on the skin. This picking or digging may be quite unintentional and in mild cases it is limited to an unconscious habit of passing the hand over the face while deeply absorbed in study, locating a little rough spot and digging it with the finger nail until an excoeriation is effected.

Another type is that in which the person has a mania for picking at spots of various kinds for the purpose of promoting healing or to remove foreign bodies supposed to be present.

You Are Mistaken. A Mother writes: "I should like to help the high school boy who asks how to get rid of his hair. Neither vinegar nor kerosene will do any good, as they feed on kerosene. Use 10 cents' worth of red precipitate mixed with fresh lard made into a salve and rubbed into the scalp, the head covered with a cloth for eight, ten or twelve nights, then shampoo."

Depends On Conditions. A. T. writes: "If one has a bad cold, but the day is fine, is it better to be outdoors or indoors?"

1. If you are in the fever stage stay in bed or quietly at home at any rate. In fine weather it is better to be in bed out of doors or to sit out than to be in bed or in a chair indoors.

2. Do not worry. Get nine hours' sleep. Cultivate poise and calm. Eat a bowl of milk and cereal twice a day. One such portion should be taken at bedtime.

Leaking Heart Valves. M. M. writes: "I, I am 43 years old and would like to know if a leaking valve of the heart is serious."

1. It is serious or not, according to the condition of the heart muscle, the habits of the person, and the degree of injury to the valve. There are half a dozen kinds of heart leaks.

2. I have heard of persons living with the heart leaks for a long time, say 70 years. The state of the muscle is more important than the leak in determining the question.

3. There are very good books for the laity written by Babcock, Bishop and Hirschfeld.

Probably Not Harmful. S. S. writes: "Is the amount of salt used in preserving meat harmful in the system? If so, in what way does it affect one?"

REPLY. I do not think the dose of salt-peter you get will harm you.

Training Is Essential. Anxious writes: "Please give me advice regarding extreme self-consciousness and blushing. I cannot even walk in the street without blushing. I am quite well otherwise."

REPLY. Training is what you require. Mrs. F. M. E. writes: "Is there any cure for a person infected with the worst stage of hydrophobia?"

REPLY. Hydrophobia can be prevented. There is not much that can be done in the way of cure for a well-developed case of the disease.

If Barney Had Waited

(From the Baltimore American.) A peculiar feature of the business situation this year is that there is more depression than failure. Business men were tuned up to a fast clip by the transactions of a great war and the problems of a vast peace, and it hits their nerves to realize that in place of a drive pushing them onward they need to sit tight.

The American business man seeks the tonic of action. Without it he sees blue and fears the worst. His hard problem is to wait for the turn of the tide. A great authority has said that American business can stand anything except uncertainty—and just now the world is full of uncertainty. But it is absolutely certain that the tide will turn. It always has and it always will. One of the most tragic instances of giving way to a depression that turned was the death of Barney Barnato, the diamond king of South Africa. The story is told authentically in Scribner's by John Hays Hammond, who was his consulting engineer. Barnato had formed a new corporation, but financial depression fell upon London and the Barnato shares declined sharply. He started for London to meet his disappointed shareholders. On the way his depression increased and it weighed so heavily on his mind that he threatened to commit suicide. Then his friends kept watch over him until the day before the steamer touched at Madeira he escaped from them and jumped into the sea. "That was before the days of wireless," says Mr. Hammond. "If Barney had lived to reach Madeira, he would have learned that the market had taken a turn upward, that the shares he sold to friends were actually standing at a premium." And today, adds Mr. Hammond, "the Barnato group is the greatest group of financiers in England, surpassing even the Rothschilds in money power."

The Bee's Letter Box

Jerry Is C. to K. Omaha, May 4.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am curious to learn the reason for the harmony that existed between big business and the working class on election day, as during the remainder of the year labor and capital are found working entirely in different camps. It appears to the writer that on election day the interests of the workers and corporations should clash, their interests being entirely different. I have no desire to raise a class question, however, I fail to see where the labor class derives any benefit from the election of corporation men, whether at Omaha, Lincoln or elsewhere. Perhaps this harmony is brought about on election day by a pecuniary consideration for the leaders. Let us hope that the day is not far distant when the horny-handed sons and daughters of toil will do their own thinking. JERRY HOWARD.

What Made the Landslide. Omaha, May 5.—To the Editor of The Bee: Who defeated four of the six candidates you endorsed for city commissioner? Was it not the prohibitionists and the equal suffrage people? Of course, both will vehemently deny the charge, yet it is not really true? The prohibition advocates said all they were after was to wipe out the public saloon. They falsified. Although Uncle Sam allows doctors to prescribe whisky within certain limits, for the sick, the Nebraska statute will not permit it, and the aged and sick, to whom a limited quantity of whisky, as a medicine, would be very beneficial may "just as well die" is the evident viewpoint of prohibitionists. The writer once knew a case, in Nebraska, of an insane reformer whose dying wish asked for a drop of wine, which he refused to give her, saying "you shall die before I will permit you to touch it"—and she died. They were most reputable people.

An equal suffrage people expected to "make politics clean" by the women's vote, refusing to believe, when they were told, that many of the best of women who did not want the ballot would refuse to use it, whereas, on the other hand, the ignorant, the un-Americanized, those who could be easily deceived or purchased, and even well-meaning and well-intentioned women, who do not understand politics and the wily politicians, would be more likely to vote. The inevitable result would naturally be "worse than the previous condition," increasing the number of voters but decreasing the proportion of fair-minded and intelligent voters. Neither the prohibitionists nor the equal franchise reformers are expected to see, or seeing, to admit the truth. "I TOLD YOU SO!"

Poor Old Britain. The sun never sets on the British empire's troubles.—Fitchburg Sentinel.

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