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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.

The World As It Is.

More than two years have elapsed since the League of Nations became an active, concrete topic for discussion; more than a year since it was finally and definitely rejected by the senate of the United States. Its friends in America, however, look forward with more or less of hope to the day when the United States will, to quote Hamilton Holt's words, become a member in "its own peculiar way."

When the conference called by the president assembles it will have a distinct advantage over the gathering at Paris, in that all the world now is pretty well advised as to what can not be accomplished. At Paris the business was the winding up of a great war; victors had gathered to announce terms to the vanquished; the best of motives did not wholly control the counsels of those who framed the treaty.

At the Washington conference the specter of vengeance will not sit at the head of the table; experience has shown that the whole cost of the war can not be shifted to the losing side. Many things that bulked big at Paris have dwindled in the perspective of two years, and we now realize that much of the animating spirit of that gathering has been dissipated by second thought.

The men who will sit down at Washington will be no less devoted to the abstract ideal of world peace than those who met at Paris, but they will be less hampered in their consultations because they know now that nations are not yet ready to surrender their identity to achieve that ideal.

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employment one week and the remainder the next. Vast experiments are going on, and what the eventual result is to be no man can tell. If, as we are being told, Americans normally produce more than they can consume, and if foreign markets are to remain inactive, limitation of working hours conceivably might come to pass. Certainly one-half the population can not expect to have all the jobs and support the other half by their charity or taxes.

Sims' Charges Sustained.
A majority report to the senate from the committee that inquired into the merits of the controversy between Admiral Sims and the late Secretary of Navy Josephus Daniels finds that the charges made by the admiral are well founded. These include the assertion made by the indignant naval commander, who was sent to England with the parting admonition that he should not let the British pull the wool over his eyes, for "we would as soon fight them as anybody," that delay at Washington cost half a million lives and \$15,000,000. Also the charge that recommendations made by him after he had reached the war arena were held up, some for weeks, some for a year, yet all finally acted upon, the delay, however, in each instance being vexatious and costly.

A minority report finds all the other way around, and gives the former secretary of the navy a clear bill. This, however, is a purely partisan view, something that supporters of Mr. Daniels will not hesitate to say in regard to the action of the majority of the committee. It does bear out much that was said in criticism of the conduct of our share of the war at the time. When complaint was made that time was being lost, Newton D. Baker replied that the war was 3,000 miles away. The action of the navy at that time was as mysterious and uncertain as the army's.

Sims made his charges knowing the consequences of failure to make good when called upon to establish them. The situation is one that will not admit of whitewash. Action by the senate may not settle the controversy, but it will do much to decide in the minds of many Americans as to whether the government moved as wisely or as expeditiously as it might in the critical early hours of 1917.

Rail and Water Transportation.

Were it only the farmer who is adversely affected by the existing railroad freight rates, the case would be had enough, but the burden is irksome to others as well. A news telegram from Pittsburgh says: Statements of leading steel manufacturers here, that unless the Ohio and Allegheny river improvements were completed and the Lake Erie and Ohio River canal constructed it would be necessary to move most local furnaces to the Great Lakes or the Atlantic coast, have just received striking confirmation, says Pittsburgh First. The United States Steel corporation a few days ago shipped 6,000 tons of steel from Mobile to Alaska entirely by water because of the high rail rates. Last week the first shipment of wheat was made from Duluth to New York on inland waterways—the Great Lakes, the New York Barge canal and the Hudson river.

The importance of developing inland waterways, to provide a cheaper method for transporting bulky commodities is admitted. Only when this is achieved will the producer be freed from a condition that is becoming more and more oppressive. So far as the railroads are concerned, they must prepare to meet the future on a different basis. Methods of operation will have to be revised, economies suggested in management during the war must be adapted to produce the saving expected, because present charges for service are too great to be permanently sustained.

That the public is willing the railroads should prosper has been well proven, but that prosperity should not be achieved at the expense of ruin for others. Somewhere the reasonable relation between service and charges should be established, but at present rates are sadly out of proportion and business suffers accordingly.

Don't Revive 3-Cent Postage.
The Postoffice department, under the administration of Will Hays, is rendering services satisfactory to the public. The good impression should not be dispelled by increasing letter postage to 3 cents. Yet such a plan has been suggested by congressmen seeking ways in which to revise the federal revenue system.

This is not to be confused with the decision of Postmaster General Hays to charge 25 cents instead of 10 cents for special delivery letters. This latter increase is justified on the basis of actual cost. Instances have occurred where mail came through the ordinary channels more quickly than by special delivery, and by increasing the fee, more prompt service can be afforded, and in the country, the telephone will be used to apprise addressees.

"Truth in Fabric" Bill

Two Views of the Measure Offered for Public Information.
(From the New York Times.)
To the Editor of the New York Times: Let me say a few words at this time in regard to the "Truth in Fabric" bill.

This bill in my estimation is more important than most people realize, and had this bill been passed six years ago the government would have been greatly handicapped in making war necessities if the quantities upon quantities of investigation. Should this bill be passed, it would immediately discourage the by-product industry and make the cost of wool in clothing manufacture almost prohibitive.

I personally know of fabrics that have been made of by-products which were better and more suitable for wear than that product those particular "virgin wool" experts ever made. Certain by-products, which are used in sweetening, such as slubbing waste and similar stocks, could not be used if the "Truth in Fabric" bill becomes a law, because it is labeled a by-product by this bill and would not be considered virgin wool.

Wool and garnet stock are also of great value especially in the manufacture of undergarments or any clothing which goes next to the body. To place this valuable stock under the "Truth in Fabric" bill, Australian wool, under prohibitive prices, would have to be used as a substitute.

With conditions as they are today, fine wool underwear would have to be sold at a price it is commanding because of the scarcity of the proper wools for its manufacture; also on account of this bill making the proper raw stock for this garment undesirable in the eyes of the public who do not understand its manufacture.

If a census were to be taken of every woolen mill you would find that at least 90 per cent of them use by-products. There are millions upon millions of by-products which would go to waste annually to help pile on the extravagance and waste which we must now stop, and would burden the ultimate consumer and greatly increase the cost of living.

To the Editor of the New York Times: The object of the "Truth in Fabric" bill is to compel the manufacturers of woolen cloth to so mark their goods that the consumer will know whether he is buying pure virgin wool previously unused, or whether he is buying what is called, somewhat deceptively, "all wool," which may contain a high percentage of shoddy or reworked wool. The origin of such reworked wool is always doubtful. It has either been used in garments or in some other woolen goods previous to being reworked. Tattered remnants of old clothes are gathered up, reworked, and sold over again as many as eight times, always under the unconvincing title of "all wool."

Truth-in-fabric legislation is based on the well established principle upon which the food and drugs act is based. It is certainly of great importance to consumers. Tattered remnants are buying whether it is butter or oleomargarine, or what the composition of foods in packages really is, and it is of equal importance to know whether the clothes we buy are made of pure virgin wool, or how much, if any, shoddy they contain.

Farmers I have talked with on the matter have no desire for class legislation. In any case, they know they never could get it, even if they wanted it. Farmers are taking a large view of these questions, and it seems to them quite proper to state their views as farmers on questions relating to finance, taxation and other legislative matters without presuming for one moment that theirs will be the only viewpoint considered. K. D. SCOTT, Warren County Farm Bureau Manager, Warrensburg, N. Y., July 2, 1921.

Pie for Patriots
New England once was called the pie belt. Today the United States is the pie belt. There is also the individual pie belt which every man wears every summer as a sustainer of his indispenable. He lets his one two holes in the season when the essential fruits and flour are brought into succulent association.

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 cases. Address letters in care of The Bee, 1921, by Dr. W. A. Evans.

DEATH LOVES A FAT MAN.
The old saw "nobody loves a fat man" can not withstand scientific investigation. The insurance companies will read off yards of figures to prove it. Diabetes loves the fat man and Joslin proves it by a string of figures.

A study of the weight for height and age for 1,000 cases of diabetes under his observation, proves that when a person begins to put on excessive weight he starts for diabetes. If he gets used to the place he is in and does not change his habits, eats less and exercises more, he may never arrive at the goal, or some other malady may catch him before he gets there, but that does not alter the fact that fat men and women are on the way.

Joslin was not disposed to split hairs, so he counted all persons between 5 per cent below and 5 per cent above weight as being in the normal weight class. Of the 1,000 only 153 were in this class. There were a few underweights—107 of them. Of these 54 were under 30.

For most reasons or other weight doesn't seem to be an important factor in diabetes of the aged. However, closer studies of diabetes in relation to weight in children are being made, especially diabetes in persons who were fat boys and fat girls.

All the remainder of the 1,000, that is, 734, were overweight. Why 70 of the number were more than 10 per cent high, is not known. In one instance, a woman who should have weighed 140 pounds was found to weigh 238 and to be a diabetic. Consider the pounds of candy, pie, suet, etc., which she had eaten up to make that 238 pounds, a good part fat, and the strain it must have put on the organs which convert sugar and starch into fat and energy.

A long time ago Von Urden said all fat persons should have their feet examined periodically for sugar. He said that many who found no sugar in their urine and who were disposed to think themselves out of danger would find that they had an excessive amount of sugar in the blood if they also had a blood sugar test made.

Joslin took up a number of causes of diabetes and showed how they operated by bringing about obesity. There was diabetes in husband and wife. Easy! They got fat together because they ate at the same table. Diabetes in Jews? Easy! What other group likes so well to eat? Fat? No need to answer. Diabetes among the rich? Again easy! Heredity? "Unusual exposure to an obetie environment," to quote our Boston friend. Among metal workers? Do they not tend to become fat? Among convalescents? Are they not overfed?

Age? The ages in which obesity is greatest are those in which there is most diabetes. In ages 50 to 70 there are more cases of overweight and more cases of diabetes. In Joslin's test no person over 50 years of age and 20 per cent overweight developed diabetes. As a rule, a person gets all the weight he needs at the age of 30. He has enough to protect himself against exposure to an obetie environment, all the weight we put on above that, proper for height and sex at age of 30, is a definite liability, and out of it diabetes may develop.

The moral is: "Exercise more and eat less and thus escape obesity." If you have not sufficient self control for all the year perhaps you have enough to last through the hot weather. Try it during the dog days anyhow.

Is the Habit of Reading Lost?

From the Baltimore American.
At the convention of the National Education association at Des Moines, Iowa, Chamberlain, a librarian, made a statement which is startling, if true. She asserted as the result of her own personal experience that people neither the average teacher nor the average pupil is a reader of books and that for everybody reading at home is rapidly becoming a lost art.

The statement as it stands represents her deliberate judgment, it surely needs a good deal of qualification. The exact number of readers of books either now or in any previous generation with which a comparison can be made will never be known. All that can be said is that probably it has always been a small proportion of the whole population and there seems no ground for saying that the proportion is any smaller now than it used to be in the good old times.

The newspaper and the widely circulated magazine have become the library of large masses of people and may have tended to displace books. But even if they have, they have attracted many thousands of readers who would certainly not have had the inclination, and perhaps not the ability, to read books. After making this allowance, there still remains the question, who it is that reads the books published in ever-increasing quantities?

Many people do their reading chiefly in books obtained from libraries, but there is a large book-buying public, the number of which, if not as large as it might be, appears by all recent accounts to be on the increase. Publishers, booksellers and other people who ought to know say that during the last year people have been buying more books and better books, which in most cases must be for use and not merely for display as furniture. At the moment the high cost of books makes them a prohibitive luxury for many who ordinarily would be regular buyers.

There is also among the enormously large proportion of people who earn their living in business and manufacturing concerns a considerable sale for books dealing with business and manufacturing methods and developments, which are not usually to be found in libraries and must be bought by the people who wish to study them. Altogether the statement that reading at home is fast becoming a lost art, while it has a percentage of truth in it, is far from being the whole truth.

Where to Expect Progress.
Modern men, when they change locations, inquire first about the tax rates in the communities they are attracted to. Everywhere they find sufficient school houses, churches, and sufficient moral standards. The first question they ask is: "What is your tax rate?"—E. W. Howe's Monthly.

What's the Answer?
Musings of a non-expert: We must sell abroad if we desire prosperity, they tell us. If we sell abroad we shall have to produce merchandise cheaper than the people abroad can produce it themselves. Are we doing it?—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

At Least That.
If Lloyd George comes to Washington for the conference he will be sure at least of a pleasant sea voyage and a certain amount of space in the American press.—Boston Transcript.

and eat less and thus escape obesity. If you have not sufficient self control for all the year perhaps you have enough to last through the hot weather. Try it during the dog days anyhow.

Wit of Statesmen

(Robert A. Simon, in the New York Evening Post.)
Charles Evans Hughes' undergraduate essays in satire may have helped to fit him for his present post, but the roster of our high officials, past and present, reveals few one-time college wits. A glance through a collection of old campus comics shows many contributors who have since become celebrities—but the political celebrities are almost nonexistent.

Perhaps there is something in the atmosphere of Brown university that turns literary seniors into secretaries of state, for John Hay, who preceded Mr. Hughes at Brown and in the State department, indulged in humorous verse with no little success. Apparently, John Hay did not make his debut in the pages of an undergraduate publication, for these addities were scarce in his ballad days. However his verses "Jim Pludo" and his "Little Breeches" were composed long before their author became a national figure, and even today they are better known to the majority than Hay's contributions to our foreign policies. After Mr. Hay became a distinguished statesman, many persons attributed "Little Breeches" to Bret Harte, because it seemed impossible for a dignified diplomat to have written a poem with so informal a title. The confusion amused Bret Harte, who once told a lady, who insisted on complimenting him on "Little Breeches," that she had put the breeches on the wrong man.

Theodore Roosevelt was at one time editor of the Harvard Advocate, but that was before the Advocate issued burlesques of the Atlantic Monthly. T. R. was one of the leaders of his class, but he seems to have refrained from any manifestations of published hilarity. It is rather startling to see his name signed to a piece in the June 25, 1880, Lampon—but the contribution was only a primly-worded announcement from a class day committee of which Roosevelt was a member.

Although Woodrow Wilson's reputation as a wit is private rather than public, there are bits of charming satire in Mere Literature, which he published a quarter of a century ago. It is possible that some of these essays may have appeared originally in Princeton journals, although some good Princetonians may be able to furnish proof to the contrary. It is said that Mr. Wilson's favorite form of humor is the limberick, and some years ago the following verse was ascribed to him—apocryphally, perhaps:

For beauty I am not a star; There are others more handsome by far. But my face, I don't mind it. For I am a habit of it. It's the people in front that I jar.

There have been other writers of light verse in the presidential chair, although it is surprising to find that the only accomplished one was John Quincy Adams. However formidable

John Brogan's Home.
Corley, Ia., July 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is hard to get the idea of what Jerry is trying to do or explain by his quotation of figures and confession of ignorance as to when Brogan's home will be paid for. People generally get their homes paid for when they deliver the cash for them. When they can not deliver the cash probably Jerry would like the state to do so. Probably Jerry would like the state to deliver the cash for a home for him. Brogan bought a home worth \$3,500 on a capital of \$1,000. He lived rent free on the place for 18 months, paying \$30 a month and \$110 additional. This he had the use of over \$3,000 of the seller's money for 18 months, which would be worth about \$250; \$3,500 plus \$250 amounts to \$3,750. He paid \$1,850, leaving a balance of \$2,150. The difference between that, and what his books show he owes is \$128. Probably taxes and insurance in \$3,000 of the seller's money for 18 months would amount to \$128. What then is wrong with Brogan's case. If he is out of work and has a sick wife and five children by all means give him work, give him money and give him a home without his paying for it if you can find someone who has already paid for their home to hand over the necessary spondulix. Jerry is talking to hear himself talk or he is one of those ginks who want something for nothing. Well, if he hollers loud enough the state might give him and his friends a home in the poorhouse some day where he can converse with others who want homes without paying for them. ONE WHO HAS NO HOME YET.

and unending Adams may have seemed in his later years, he could write verses which would have won him a niche in almost any of our contemporary columns. Here is a stanza from his paraphrase of "Integer Vitae," which he made over into a variation of "Sally in Our Alley!"

Elsewhere was it, Thursday last, While strolling down the valley, Delineating, as I passed, A canon to Sally, A foot with mouth-protruding snout, I clapped my hand and raised a shout. He heard, and felt, confounded, Benjamin Franklin was a satirist in his own college—the printer's gallery. But here the list seems to come to an end. We have a constant stream of foreign ministers who were once literary men and no end of literary men who once enjoyed political favor, but Mr. Hughes appears to be the only avowed college wit who has managed to make an impression in political life. Perhaps potential statesmen are already serious in college. Or perhaps we have been overlooking a source of material for the diplomatic service by not reading regularly the college comics.

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"ROYAL" WEEK
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Fathers praised "Royal" Week when new, delicious foods appeared on the table. Mothers praised "Royal" Week, when they found Royal Baking Powder was so economical and easy to use; but — for real enthusiasm — Royal won greatest praise from the school children of this town.
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If you didn't receive your copy of the New Royal Cook Book, and your grocer can't supply it with your order of Royal Baking Powder, you can secure one free by addressing ROYAL BAKING POWDER COMPANY 135 William St., New York City
Just one of the great recipes from the New Royal Cook Book:
FILLED COOKIES
1/2 cup shortening, 1 cup sugar, 1 egg, 1/2 cup milk, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, 3/4 cups flour, 3/4 teaspoon salt, 4 teaspoons Royal Baking Powder
Cream shortening; add sugar, beaten egg, milk and vanilla; add flour, salt and baking powder, which have been sifted together. Roll out thin on slightly floured board and cut with cookie cutter. Place one teaspoon of filling on each cookie, cover with another cookie, press edges together. Bake in moderate oven 13 to 15 minutes.
FILLING
8 teaspoons flour, 1/2 cup sugar, 1/2 cup water, 1/2 cup chopped raisins, 1/2 cup chopped figs
Mix flour and sugar together; add water and fruit. Cook until thick, being very careful not to burn.