

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

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NELSON B. UPDIKE, Publisher

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The Bee's Platform

1. New Union Passenger Station.
2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highway, including the paving 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.

Ludendorff a Dead Issue.

The fact that Berlin could, on a day set down for the signing of a peace treaty with the United States, calmly endure the spectacle of a parade that was to glorify the imperial absolutism of Germany, is a good sign. Marshal von Ludendorff, Prince Eitel Friedrich, Count von Waldersee and General von der Goltz reviewed the marching remnant of the kaiser's one-time mighty forces, while the Berlin populace looked on undisturbed. Von Waldersee delivered a fiery oration of the type that must have given great joy to the junkers, but which seems to have made no impression of moment on his hearers.

Another fact emphasized by this demonstration is that the spirit of kaiserism is as dead in Germany as it is elsewhere. Von Waldersee talked of revenge; "Hatred will stand guard in Germany," he said. His memories may be bitter, but he will find that hatred is poor nourishment for national aspirations, and revenge no longer an inspiration. Turnover Jahn might have awakened a national spirit in the "baudern" of his day, when he pointed to the French flag over the Brandenburg gate, but that day is gone. Seeds of patriotism then sown have been choked by weeds of imperial ambition, but even that impediment has been removed, and the German people at last feel the full strength of the impulse that stirred in the early days of the Nineteenth century, and made Blucher's army of clod-hoppers the instrument that overthrew Napoleon and changed the history of the race as well as the map of Europe.

Ludendorff, Eitel Friedrich, von Waldersee, von der Goltz, all that crew, represent a day that has gone. Their sun set forever when the armistice was signed. Germany may hate for the present, but Germans will learn to give over the passion for revenge; they have before them a great task, one that will enlist their every resource, and on the fulfillment of which depends their future. As they carry out the bargain they have entered into they will gain in stature with the world, and in the triumphs of peace will find ample compensation for the glories of war. A destiny greater than that to which the kaiser would have led them is possible, and they may reverse the judgment pronounced on them by Price Collier, who dubbed them "a nation of intellectual inefficient," by proving their capacity for doing things.

The Ludendorffs and the von Waldersees belong with a past that has a seal of finality placed against it. They can no more stir into life the war spirit of 1914 than they can call back the millions who died while wearing the kaiser's uniform. They are hold-overs in a new era, whose development will not be delayed because these sitters by the wayside call out to the procession to turn back.

What Kind of a Husband?

A moving picture actress, presumably in pursuit of nothing more than wider public attention, is said to be in search of a husband who is physically perfect. The actress herself has demonstrated on occasion her own unblemished self, and professes to be interested in an athlete temporarily resident in Omaha, who has offered himself as a eugenic husband.

Eugenics, with its slogan of "better babies," is a science that has many attractions. Pointing to the thin-blooded aristocracy of the old world, Bernard Shaw long ago urged that the race would be improved if, instead of intermarrying with their own kind, duchesses would mate with navvies. It has only been a short time since a British lord made the daughter of a blacksmith his bride. This act may give the family a new lease on life, and is of a sort that has occurred more frequently in England than in other countries whose nobility is more decadent.

In ordinary life nature takes pretty good care of these matters, since the attributes of health, intelligence and good nature surpass in attraction their opposites. Among the nobility of Europe and the film queens and kings of America, however, a tendency toward intermarriage, followed by divorce, is noticeable. The star who announces her desire for a eugenic marriage may realize the error of the system, but no one need be surprised if instead of wedding a stalwart member of the proletariat she should finally take as a husband a round movie magnate, consumed with gout and almost ready for a stroke of apoplexy.

Eliza Never Thought of That.

A fugitive from justice, pursued by a baying bloodhound, calmly sat down and waited until the brute caught up and then, after tying him to a tree, went peacefully on with his fight. The surprising thing about this simple solution is that no one ever tried it out before. Some alterations in that good old favorite, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," might well be made in view of this epoch-making discovery.

Criminals sometimes have eluded bloodhounds by wading streams, and other malignant spirits have scattered red pepper in their footsteps, thus discouraging the dogs from sniffing further along the trail. All sorts of methods have been used to throw them off the scent, but this latest caps them every one. If the South

Carolina fugitive had only been supplied with a little dog meat he might have made a faithful pet out of what seems long to have been a cruelly misunderstood domestic animal.

Good Roads in Nebraska.

Something more than a pot of paint with which to smear telephone poles is required to make a good road. Some other states do not realize this as well as does Nebraska, and when delegates from South Dakota and Colorado meet at Alliance to organize the North Star Highway association which is to cross western Nebraska, every assurance should be given that this new trail will be kept in good condition.

Kansas is one state which is not fulfilling this obligation, as those who have traveled the trail between Omaha and Kansas City have discovered. The motto of that state, "Ad Astra per Aspera," most emphatically would not fit this new road, for motorists do not care to ride to even the North Star "through difficulties."

It costs money to keep up a road. Those who have driven along the dirt boulevard from Omaha to Nebraska City and beyond are enthusiastic over its splendid condition. Along the way they may notice two or three road-dragging outfits at work. But the moment the state line is crossed the road narrows and the way becomes rough, although it does not become impassible until Leavenworth is reached.

Figures on the cost of upkeep of this heavily traveled road through Otoe county for 1920 are available, and show what is required to provide easy passage, not merely for tourists, but for the trucks of farmers bringing their products in to the packing house, cannery and elevators of Nebraska City as well. This is a federal aid road, and each mile is patrolled by repair men. The maintenance cost for the 19 1/2 miles for a season of nine months amounts to \$3,412. This is an average of \$175 a mile, or \$19.44 per mile per month. Over in Pawnee county, with conditions somewhat different, the upkeep of its federal aid roads amounts to \$23.06 per mile per month; Thayer county expends \$29.61 per mile on the Meridian highway, and Hamilton county's rate is \$29.55. These figures are not considered at all excessive.

It is apparent from this that good highways such as are needed for country business and desired for pleasure travel are a constant though justified expense, and that cost is not escaped even though they are made of dirt.

When the Main Girder Buckles.

In all likelihood the final verdict on the ZR-2 disaster will place the blame on the main girder, which is believed to have given way under the strain. It would be unfair to anticipate inquiry by suggesting that faulty workmanship is in any way responsible, or that negligent inspection had contributed to the regrettable outcome. On the contrary, it is reasonable to assume that every precaution had been taken to secure safety. Men who know that human life depends on the faithful discharge of their duty are not apt wantonly to slack their work. In the end, therefore, failure will be ascribed to some intrinsic defect in the metal used, and future attempts will be directed to the remedying of this.

Twice the great bridge over the St. Lawrence at Quebec crashed into the river, carrying many workmen down to death with it, but the third essay saw one of the wonders of the world span the mighty gorge, and on its man-made strength bear daily the lives of hundreds who cross in full security on the trains. The great Frith of Forth bridge went down, carrying a full train-load of passengers, some inherent weakness in the structure, unsuspected by the builders, having suddenly developed when put to the strain of service. Millions of passengers have crossed the Frith of Forth on the new bridge in safety. The St. Charles bridge over the Missouri produced a similar catastrophe, and yet the succeeding structure has borne its heavy traffic for many years.

The moral of the main girder is that man must continue to build in face of the knowledge that certain factors elude him in his effort at solution. He plans on security, his calculations resting on tests and experiments, and always subject to revision by the force he can not estimate yet must ever recognize. So long as the unknown challenges the human mind that long will there be disasters, because man will not rest content until he has conquered.

Grocery Stores on Wheels.

Latest of all is the automobile grocery store. Large vans carrying an assortment of articles of food will go up this street and down that, just as milkmen, ice-men and hucksters now travel. It is also reported that butcher shops are being operated in the east on the same principle.

Perhaps this plan will succeed; it certainly has an advantage over the present system of ordering goods over the telephone. It may be found that the cost of operating such a motor truck is smaller than the rent and upkeep of a stationary store. The plan to keep the grocery trucks moving on schedule so that housewives will know just when to expect them, however, scarcely seems possible of realization when the variation in demand and in the amount of inventory given to various articles of diet is considered. It takes time to plunk every watermelon or inspect sweet corn, whereas if the day's demand is for package goods, the progress of the food truck would be more rapid. With a minimum of time in which to discuss the virtues of the wares the art of salesmanship would be revolutionized and the pleasure of shopping abbreviated.

In some of the old countries milkmen drive their cows or their goats from door to door and milk them to order. While it is hardly to be expected that dairy owners will adopt this method and carry their cows into the city by truck, yet the grocery stores on wheels represent an advance or a retrogression in this direction.

Hoover could not get much support for the presidential nomination in America, but he would run strong in some of these countries that have been saved from starvation by his organization.

At least the county commissioners took a practical way of getting information as to the pavement. They walked over it.

Nebraska boys at Camp Dodge feel better about it than they did three days ago. They know now what military duty means.

The bank cashier who refused to have his photograph taken must have had a hunch as to what was going to happen.

The Morality of Nations

How to Make Whole Peoples Responsible and Responsive

(From the Baltimore American.)

In the latest of his talks at Williams, Lord Bryce has touched upon a subject about which public opinion in America is somewhat vaguely worried—the question of the morality of states and its relation to secret diplomacy. In face of the knowledge that our great war effort could not possibly have been put forward save as a moral effort on the part of the American people there comes the disquieting course of postwar affairs which seem to indicate that there is no morality in national actions. The frank statement of Mr. Harvey as to our war aims caused a wave of disapprobation, for Mr. Harvey seemed to be denying the value of the national sacrifice. But the recantment was not that which would have met a false imputation; the very violence with which his opponents repudiated Mr. Harvenderly his remarks. It was an attack, not upon ourselves, but upon ideals to which we were tenaciously clinging.

As a matter of fact, those ideals, as Lord Bryce shows, are as yet only ideals. National morality has failed to keep pace with individual morality, and it is impossible to regard either the United States or any other nation as a moral agent. A nation cannot at present be a moral agent because it is not an individual. The individual citizen may find himself in a cause with all the heroism of self-sacrifice, but how is a nation to indulge in self-sacrifice? A nation is at any one crisis or in any particular matter necessarily controlled by the few diplomats and administrators who actually conduct affairs. These men can be self-sacrificing of themselves, but they have no means of making their sacrifice for the people to a high moral purpose. Their only proper guide is the specific interests of the nation they represent; if they went farther than that, they would be arrogating to themselves powers which majority of the people may be united in a great moral cause, but the statesmen who must decide for peace or war cannot be governed by anything but the interests of the people. An in the lesser events of international relations, where there is no popular excitement, but where the wars are prepared, there is even less room for the men in command to act upon moral grounds.

"Open diplomacy" is nothing more or less than an effort to get around this difficulty, and to make a nation morally responsible through an attempt to put the conduct of affairs directly in its hands, rather than in the hands of agents who can have no higher ethical standard than that of loyalty. But practical experience has shown the impossibility of the attempt. As Lord Bryce points out, the conduct of international affairs moves too quickly, is too technical, and requires too much concentration for it to be entrusted to a loose electorate or even loose body of undefined popular opinion. Beyond laying down the broad principles, the people can have no effective control over the diplomats, from the practical limitations of the case; just as a client cannot dictate to his lawyer the precise words in which to argue a complicated point of law.

A moral value can only be brought into international relations through the military door, by making it a large American military agreement, wars, are neither the cheapest nor the easiest ways of accomplishing national ends—by devising new methods which will put the military method out of business as wasteful. The coming Pacific conference is an attempt in that direction. The question of secrecy or publicity has nothing to do with the attempt; by introducing it we would only be confusing issues and distracting attention by barking up the wrong tree.

The Daily Paper

We miss the water when the well runs dry and we miss the daily paper when we are deprived of it, though we may have found various things to say in its dispraise when it was readily procurable. The figures given out by the census bureau (as for 1919) show that it is difficult anywhere in the United States to miss a daily newspaper, that comes as an open letter from all the habitable globe to the reader, even when every other correspondent fails him.

The 2,433 daily newspapers send out 32,735,937 copies a day—enough to provide mental pabulum for a third of the whole population. In a year the total amount is 11,270,559,316. Even to Harold Bell Wright, Zane Grey or Gene Stratton Porter that might seem a considerable sale. The Sunday newspapers number nearly 600, and their combined circulation is nearly 20,000,000 weekly. In other words, Sunday papers numbering less than a quarter of the number of daily papers, sell nearly two-thirds as many copies. The sales of all newspapers aggregate about \$200,000,000 annually, and the advertisements bring in about twice as much. If it is a favorite fiction that advertisers control editorial policy and opinion—which is true only of an occasional journal that disgraces its profession—it is also a frequently cherished illusion that the reader when he spends 2 cents is defraying the entire cost of publication. What other commodity on earth yields a return so large for an investment of this kind? What else can one purchase for 2 cents?—Philadelphia Ledger.

Is War Unthinkable?

War with either Japan or Britain or both is, of course, quite within the region of possibility. It is merely an evasion of the trouble which facing reality always involves, to say that war between Britain and America is "unthinkable." If any war, as we have known it these last 10 years, is unthinkable, we have between them that have already fought two wars is not unthinkable. And those who can recall at all vividly the forces which marked the growth of the conflict between Britain and Germany will see just those forces beginning to color the relations of Britain and America. Among those forces none is more notable than this: A disturbing tendency to stop short at the ultimate questions, a failure to face the ultimate causes of divergent aims. People of good will there is a tendency to say: "Don't let's talk about it. Be discreet. Let us assume we are good friends and we shall be. Let us exchange visits." In just such a way, even within a few weeks of war, did people of good will in England and Germany decide not to talk of their differences, to be discreet, to exchange visits. But the men of will talked talkers of the wrong thing—alors the readily point.—Norman Angell in the New Republic.

The Shamrock Settlement.

The Irish question suggests a pretty fancy, not without its hint of deep truth. Ireland's symbol is the three-leaved shamrock. What it requires to make its unity in spite of its differences is a "three-leaved" constitution—one parliament for the majority, one for the northern minority, and another central and co-ordinating body for both. Hence we may say that the only thing is "the shamrock solution."—London Outlook.

Some Get Along on Even Less.

A Newport woman says that \$5,000 a year is all that a woman needs to be well dressed. We believe it. Some women get along on even less.—Pittsburgh Gazette-Times.

Who You Skerred Off?

Among nations as among citizens anybody desiring to carry a gun should be expected to tell exactly what he wants with it.—Washington Star.

Cause and Effect.

A pessimist often got that way by backing an optimist.—Boonville Republican.

How to Keep Well

Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. Evans by readers of The Bee, will be answered personally. Dr. Evans will not make diagnoses or prescribe for individual diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee.

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KINGS ARE SCARCER, TOO.

In the dark ages of medicine nobody but the king could cure scrofula. Now anybody with an x-ray machine can cure it.

It is a sad fact that nobody but the rich could have it, because nobody but the rich could afford milk from pampered tuberculous cows, but now everybody pretends much about scrofula has fallen from its proud estate as the king's evil and affects alike the prince and the pauper. Verily, we live in a democratic age.

The old time disease scrofula was an infection of the glands of the neck. Since most of these infections are due to tubercle bacilli, we generally think of this condition as a form of tuberculosis.

Drinking raw milk from tuberculous cows is the principal cause, but it is means the only one. Infection from the teeth, tonsils, gums, and nose are important causes. The infecting agent may be a pus cococcus and may be tubercle bacilli. Absorption from skin wounds, especially from insects in the hair, is also a possibility.

How to get rid of such glands is a question that interest a lot of people. The oldest method consisted in removal. There are many people of middle age who bear silent, but fearful testimony to the popularity of this method. It consisted in the treatment. That treatment lifted scrofula out of its place as a terrible and usually incurable disease, discharging pus, and breaking down, running a course which lasted for years or for a lifetime. The people who carry those enormous discharges are an arrested case (not directly cured) still some I have known, who seemed to respond to the treatment in the sanitarium, have died after being up outside wearing a hat who ever have been afflicted with t. b. can live the same life with safety that they formerly did. I have read that practically all the t. b. cases in the army were simply old arrested cases made active by the strenuous exercise of army life.

Use Salt Solution.
Mrs. M. P. writes: "My daughter, 5 years old, has been troubled with pin worms during the last year."

REPLY.
As a rule enemas of salt solution is the only treatment required. This should be preceded by an ordinary enema. Repeat once a week for a while in order to get worms hatched from eggs left.

Glasses Only Treatment.
P. R. G. writes: "Please tell how a slight case of glaucoma in one eye may be cured."

REPLY.
By wearing properly fitted glasses you will be efficient. Nothing else in the way of treatment gets you anywhere.

The Bee's Letter Box

Garbage Incineration.
Omaha, Aug. 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: Garbage collection presents a serious problem. Building a plant to burn the garbage does not solve the problem. Such plants emit maldororous fumes which pervade the atmosphere and become as offensive as the garbage itself. Beyond laying down the broad principles, the people can have no effective control over the diplomats, from the practical limitations of the case; just as a client cannot dictate to his lawyer the precise words in which to argue a complicated point of law.

One of our commissioners already sees that one incinerator in Omaha would not be enough. He suggests a big plant on the river bottoms, to carry away all plants in the north end and one in the south end. The city is 15 miles long. It is quite evident that a central plant would not prove sufficient to recover, sooner or later, public sentiment would force it out of business, because of the stench. By the way there is quite as much garbage on the west side as there is on the east side as there is at other extremes.

There is no proof that these costly plants would improve conditions. All property would be taxed to pay for them and we all know that Omaha property is now taxed to the limit. In cities having incinerators the household is taxed \$5 a year or more for each garbage can on the place, and the garbage must be drained, wrapped in paper and tied into packages. This is an additional expense which must be added to the cost of garbage contractor to the housekeeper.

We have much to learn about garbage-burning plants. They are expensive. Let us get full information before assuming so great a burden.

J. L. BAKER,
1624 South Thirty-second Avenue.

Why Not a New Political Party.
Omaha, Aug. 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am opposed to the organization of a new political party because:

A majority of the voters must be reached regardless as to what party the means by which they are reached.

The only possibility of winning through a new political party is by drawing out the existing political parties to give a plurality of votes. This means a temporary victory only and that the next election would be a contest between old foes with the same old problem of obtaining a majority again in the foreground.

We cannot, in reason, assume that all those in the existing political parties who agree with our political aims, will leave the old camp on the one evening as we choose to leave. A new party, means inevitably, division from the start.

A new party means a fight over machinery and methods of party organization, at the very moment when we ought to "go in and possess the land" at the very moment when we are in position to do so. The fight should be directed at the enemy and not against those who are capable of being tried, trustworthy and capable leadership, and against those who are vicious or unformed.

The formation of a new organization of new parties. That time is not when the majority of men and women are still fighting in the ranks of one of the existing political parties. That time arrives when the rank and file are thrust back, battered, bleeding and disorganized and the faith in enough of their leadership to continue to struggle. The fight is desperate today. Many have only begun to recover from the effects of the war. But there are too many reasons for a change of leadership where change is vital, and too much confidence in those long known to be true and capable to lead us through the present battle to expect the rank and file now to desert them.

Those who believe in the ideals of the founders existing from the present not now of a mind to leave the parties with which they have long affiliated, aside from some competitive small groups. Further than that the names and traditions of both old parties are assets which should not be surrendered lightly. It is for these names and traditions that priv-

Good American Doctrine.

(From the Washington Star.)
The unionist party of Porto Rico continues its agitation for independence for the island, and Governor Kelly stands pat on his opposition to the proposal.

In reply to a letter by the leader of the unionist party recommending the appointment of friends to office, Governor Kelly made this reply: "I have never appointed any man to any office who is an advocate of independence. When you publicly renounce independence and break loose from some of your previous statements, then I will be glad to have your recommendations, along with those of any other good citizens of our beloved Porto Rico."

This is in the right key. "Put none but Americans on guard." Men who are desirous of living under another flag should not while living under the Stars and Stripes be entrusted with any governmental duties. The offices in Porto Rico should be reserved for those who are patriotic to the United States, and favor its continuation. In no other way can that rule be administered to the full benefit of the people.

The Porto Ricans, like the Filipinos, have profited greatly by the change from Spanish to American control of their country. The evidences are all about. The people, indeed, confess the fact. Visitors remark on the good look of things, and speculate pleasantly on the future.

Why, then, independence, except as a means of settling the stage for the plans of men ambitious to play a larger part in affairs? What would there be in it for the rank and file, who are not seeking office but desire the only good government? And that they now have.

Watch Hiram Johnson.
The Seismological Society of America, and those that there were 47 earthquakes in California last year. A bill to prevent the immigration of seismologists may be expected at any moment.—St. Louis Star.

A Prelate's Opinion

(From the Detroit Free Press.)

Bishop Charles H. Brent of the Episcopal church, who is now of the diocese of western New York, but was for a long while bishop in the Philippines, had some interesting things to say about the past and future of the islands in a recent address at Williamstown.

He believes that the United States should remain in the islands as guide and tutor until the people are ready to govern themselves and he found during his long residence among them that, for the most part, the American officials have kept that ideal before them. But from 1913 he observed a different tendency. In the Wilson administration he found that appointments were made for reasons which related to matters of partisan politics in the United States and that those who were sent from this country were not leaders but men who were content to sit back and let the people go according to their own devices.

This conclusion, reached by observation, corresponds with the impression which was made in this country. It was said that the policy which let the Filipino have his own government was a mistake and that by leaving the Filipino to his own devices this government was giving the people the best possible training in self-government.

Evidences are accumulating which show that the theory did not work. It is clear that penance has been a growing evil in the islands. Laborers put out to service with a view to making they pay their honest debts have been held for years in virtual slavery and there has been no sufficient check upon that practice. There is also a good deal of evidence to show that the right of free speech has been greatly impaired in recent years. It is certain, also, that in finances the government has made an exceedingly bad mess of it. Government funds are tied up in unprofitable railroad enterprises and the banks are badly involved in loans made upon securities which are now greatly depreciated.

What is needed is a return to a policy of firmer guidance. The liberty which the former government allowed was more than the islands were ready to use and General Wood's first task, if he should decide to accept the appointment which has been offered to him will be to correct some of the excesses due to the laxity of his predecessor.

Making One Job Out of It.
Many a man keeping bachelor's hall now begins to contemplate the necessity of washing the dishes before the family's return.—Boston Transcript.

REPLY.
As a rule enemas of salt solution is the only treatment required. This should be preceded by an ordinary enema. Repeat once a week for a while in order to get worms hatched from eggs left.

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THE SPICE OF LIFE.

History Professor—How was Alexander II. of Russia killed?—By a bomb.

Student (vacantly)—By a bomb.

Professor—A little more explicit, please.

Student (in desperation)—Well, you know—it exploded.—American Legion Weekly.

Very stout Old gentleman—"Here, my lad, is a nickel for you. Now tell me if my shoes need polishing."—Boston Transcript.

"Did you really call this gentleman an old fool last night?" asked the judge.

The prisoner tried hard to collect his thoughts.

"Well, the more I look at him, the more likely it seems that I did," he replied.—Lawyer and Banker.

A negro lad had been brought into a Virginia police court for the fifth time charged with stealing chickens. The magistrate determined to appeal to the boy's father.

"See here," said his honor, "this boy of yours has been in this court so many weeks. I'm quite tired of seeing him here."

"I don't blame you, judge, and the parent," said the father, "but you tell me here as you do."

"Why don't you teach him here as you do?"

"Well, the more I look at him, the more likely it seems that I did," he replied.—