

THE OMAHA BEE DAILY (MORNING) - EVENING - SUNDAY

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The Bee's Platform

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

Excess Profits Tax and Revenue.

The senate finance committee has decided to accept the plan of the house and retain the excess profits tax for the calendar year 1921.

The excess profits tax was a war expedient, copied from the British law, and was aimed at profiteering...

One of the greatest problems is how to lay a tax on the huge sum of profits and income that has escaped the present law...

While the tax bill is being considered, the work of readjusting the administrative costs of the government also is going ahead...

If the excess profits tax repeal disturbs our democratic brethren, they may get some consolation if they will only consider the fact that the exemption to heads of families has been doubled...

The High Cost of Alcohol.

Liquor is said to be going up in price, but it will be a long time before the cash output for a beaker of alcohol reaches the cost set in the will of a Chicago attorney.

If memory does not play false, there were in the old days many delectable drinks which contained more than the Volsteadian proportions of alcohol...

Success From Failure.

Almost everything has happened to the cotton crop to make it the poorest in years. Strange as it may seem, this is said to have saved the credit situation in the south.

For a long time that section of the United States was unable to find any market for its main crop. Some of the white-topped plants were ploughed under in the fields and thousands of bales for which there was no sale collected in the warehouses.

The redeeming feature about the wage reduction at Gary is that all other things went down at the same time.

Now the money that has been tied up in cotton is being freed, debts are beginning to be paid, and new purchases to be made.

part of the country, from the lumber fields, the mines, the factories and railroads to the grain growing districts of the middle west will be benefited by the rejuvenation of King Cotton.

Snobbery Properly Rebuked.

When President Harding went to dinner at one of the great caravanserais on the Board Walk, Atlantic City, he found the table spread with gold plate.

"Take away that plate and bring ordinary dishes," said the president. A simple enough, and not at all an unexpected request, for the man who sits in the executive's chair at the White House is as unpretentious in his walk and conversation as the humblest citizen of the United States.

One of the most pleasant places on the Atlantic coast, where all the allurements of the ocean are displayed, termed "the playground of a nation," it has been ravished of much of its charm by vulgar display of wealth.

President Harding took an outing there, just as has many another American; he undoubtedly experienced some of the exactions that are borne by his fellow countrymen who go there for a holiday, but he did himself and all the land a service when he discouraged the snobs who would treat the head of the republic as though he were the crowned ruler of a decaying monarchy.

Mr. T. C. Byrne, speaking at the Chamber of Commerce "get together" dinner Tuesday night, suggested four things for the betterment of Omaha. Two of these are a part of the platform for Omaha which The Bee carries at the head of its editorial column, namely, continued improvement of highways leading into the city and a new union passenger station.

New Hinges on the City Gates.

These items appear naturally in Mr. Byrne's list, as they will in any list compiled by men who are giving thought to the city's future. Both the condition of the highways and the present Union station are obstacles between Omaha and its neighbors. The one constitutes an actual physical barrier between Omaha and surrounding territory; the other gives the visitor a most unfavorable impression of a city of 200,000 people and, if the weather should be inclement, works a positive hardship.

As to the highways, progress is being made. But what of the Union station? Mr. Byrne quoted railroad officials as having said in the past that Omaha has never made progress toward a new station because it has not made sufficient effort nor directed it in the right way.

Let the Chamber of Commerce survey this situation. Let it decide upon the proper location. Let it find out which of the railroads are Omaha's friends in this undertaking and which are not. Let's get ready.

Man's Greatest Foe.

An eagle soared high above the Nemaha county court house, king of the air until an airplane, swifter and stronger, passed far above it. The correspondent who witnessed the scene writes that observers found in it a perfect symbol of man's dominance over all living creatures.

And so it is. Afloat and ashore, under the sea and in the air above, man has outdone the achievements of nature. The world and all its varied mineral, vegetable and animal life has been turned by the intelligence of man to his own ends.

With everything else in restraint, man has neglected only to conquer himself. The airplane, piloted by a soldier flying from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, to Fort Crook was more than a symbol of man's supremacy. It typifies also that man's great enemy today is man.

Each great nation has these instruments, designed to protect it from the rest. Carrying explosives and poisonous gases, they are capable of laying any civilization in ruins. These and many other machines combine to menace their inventors. Partly in recognition of this fact, the subject of disarmament is much to the fore. In this is to be seen the final determination of man to bring himself under due restraint—and compared to this all other achievements will be as nothing.

Commissioner Dunn wants to stop "stunt" flying over the city. He is right. The atmosphere is big enough to give plenty of room elsewhere for dangerous exhibitions.

Secretary of Labor Davis announces that he sees signs of improvement. He might have noted that some time ago if he had been around Omaha.

Omaha is another community in which impulsive spouses show tendency to reach for a gun the first thing. A check ought to be put to this.

A husband who made the acquaintance of his wife in a flirtation is perhaps hoping too much if he thinks marriage will surely stop the habit.

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About the Ku Klux Klan

Amazng Mixture of Mumbo Jumbo and Something Else.

(By Albert de Silver in The Nation.) The modern Ku Klux Klan, according to its descriptive folder entitled "The Ku Klux Klan—Who—Why—What," has been in the making for the past twenty years.

One might have expected that such a portentous event would have been attended by some extraordinary disturbance of the celestial spheres or at least by some strange and mysterious currents in the affairs of men.

When it came to the average number of days lost for each illness the order was considerably changed. Whooping cough kept the child out of school 24 days on an average, pneumonia 14 days, diphtheria 16 days, scarlet fever 12 days, smallpox 10 days, chickenpox 8 days, mumps 7 days, tonsillitis 7, colds, 3 and toothache 2.

An interesting table is that which showed the ages at which different diseases caused high or low absenteeism in children 6 to 19 and much more so at the older ages. The same rule held for tonsillitis, toothache and diphtheria. All other diseases were most troublesome with young children.

While influenza was prevalent enough in February seriously to disturb the school, it was not so in March. The law-abiding negro who knows his place has nothing to fear from us. We do not act out called upon, but if needed we will strike terror into the hearts of lawbreakers.

Which, after all, gave more hint of the sober reality of the Klan than did the imperial proclamation of 1915. For some years after the proclamation indeed little was heard of the Klan. The fiery cross appears to have remained hidden under a bushel.

On October 21 the New York Tribune reports that a certain Peter Malton of York, Pa., while traveling south to assist a lady in a dispute about her share in the estate of a deceased relative, was "taken from a train at Trenton, N. C., by a gang of men dressed as Ku Klux Klansmen, who had attempted to lynch him and then had beaten him. The negro seems to have tried to force a better chance at the police station. The law-abiding negro who knows his place has nothing to fear from us.

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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 answer being received by enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make a diagnosis nor prescribe for individual diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee.

WHY PUPILS ARE ABSENT. If asked how much of the pupil's time is lost and, inferentially, how much of the taxpayers' money is lost because of poor attendance by reason of sickness, what would the answer be?

Dr. D. D. Collins of the public health department has been asked to set this point in thirteen localities in Missouri during the session of 1919-20. The towns studied varied in size from a region with a population of 104 and with 437 school children to Sedalia with a population of 21,144 and 1,367 school children.

The children ranged in age from 6 to 16. On an average each boy was absent twenty days during a session on account of sickness and each girl twenty-one days. That amount to four weeks of five school days each for the boys and a little more for the girls. The absence rate for all school causes was slightly more than one-half that from sickness. Young children 6 to 10 had a higher average sickness absentee rate than older children.

February was the worst in February, January, March and April came bunched, but considerably behind the worst month. However, the February rate was exceptionally high because of a recurrence of influenza in that month in the year under investigation.

Among the causes of absenteeism were far and away the most important, both in number of cases and days lost. Measles was second and other diseases followed in the order named: Mumps, scarlet fever, whooping cough, chickenpox, tonsillitis, pneumonia, diphtheria, smallpox and miscellaneous.

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Tom Kelly Talks On European Tour

Rotarian Delegate Considers France Entitled to All Indemnity It Can Collect.

Tom Kelly, past secretary of the Omaha Rotary club and one of the delegates to the international convention of Rotary clubs in Edinburgh, Scotland, last June, described at length his trip through Europe to his fellow Rotarians at their weekly meeting Wednesday noon at the Rome hotel.

Following his stay in Edinburgh, Mr. Kelly, his wife and other Rotarians, made a tour of Europe which took them into the devastated regions of France and Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, London and Paris.

"After seeing the ruin wrought in France, I believe that France can not extract too much indemnity from Germany," said Mr. Kelly. "Much of the damage done by the German invaders can never be repaired. The graves of the Americans who died in France are being cared for by the French, far better than we could do over here."

Harold George, landscape architect, told Rotarians how to combat the web-worm and tussock moth which are doing such great damage to trees. The pests can be destroyed by arsenic compounds sprayed on the limbs and leaves of trees and by burning.

Mr. George declared if the carcasses and eggs were not destroyed this fall the pests would be worse next year.

Omaha Bank President Settles Strike in Prague

Frank C. Horacek, Omaha bank president, settled a strike among bank employes in Prague while visiting there last summer.

Horacek, who is president of the Union State bank, heard the employes were on strike, declaring they wanted a voice in the management of the bank. Mr. Horacek advised them they were getting dangerously near to bolshevism and they called off their strike.

Mr. Horacek and wife returned Tuesday from an extended visit in Europe.



TRADE MARK L.V. NICHOLAS OIL COMPANY

How Money Grows

On June 22, 1917, savings account No. 7184 was opened by a young lady in the Savings Department of the First National Bank.

Since she opened the account she has kept it growing by depositing some money every month, and today this account amounts to \$418.73. The young lady states that it has required very little effort to keep this account growing.

A constantly growing savings account is a mighty valuable asset for anyone.

First National Bank of Omaha

Go West the Wonder Way Through the Canadian Pacific Rockies

Splendid trains daily—the finest that cross the continent—open-top observation cars through the mountains. Stop at Banff, Javelin Lake Louise, and other points of interest. Or go clear through to Victoria and Vancouver. It is the trip of a lifetime via Canadian Pacific Railway.

An Indiscreet Director

(From the New York Times.) The democratic national committee treats itself to a director of publicity. What it needs is a director of silence.

The person occupying the former exalted station has been good enough to enrich the press and the public with a statement about the plans of Mr. Harding's administration with regard to the Washington conference.

Whoever is responsible for that statement ought to be lynched in Jericho till his head has grown to his feet. His intelligence may be judged from his assertion that "the simple question of disarmament (elimination of armaments) has been complicated by the injection of purely diplomatic Asiatic questions which can only operate against speedy and successful results."

A schoolboy of 16 regarded as backward in his intellectual on account of scarlet fever ought to know better than that. To remove or abate the causes of international controversy in the Pacific is a condition precedent of any agreement for reduction of armaments. But it would be time wasted to go through the ramifications of foolish partisanship and executive blunders in which this document abounds. The whole thing is a partisan attack, an effort to commit the democratic party to a querulous, prejudicial and unpartisan attitude on national and international policies of momentous possibility and scope; policies whose success must be desired by every friend of peace who is not satisfied to let the ruinous competition of armaments run on and the always lurking germs of war to develop in the old way, un-restrained.

Whatever may or may not be accomplished by the approaching conference, the best wishes of every person of good-will go with it. The democratic party, whatever provocation it may have had from the republican party's treatment of the treaty of Versailles, shouldn't make the mistake of imitating it in any degree. The peace of the Pacific is a mighty contribution to world peace; the lessening of the enormous weight of taxation are objects so vital that the effort to bring them about should restive the heaviest burden on every citizen. The democratic party can't be silly enough or base enough to approve or follow the narrow and partisan hand laid down by this impertinent director of publicity.

Who Ran the War in the Hills?

(From the Washington Star.) After peace has been re-established in the West Virginia hills the United States government should do some sharp questioning to find out certain facts. It should ascertain first what form of organization there was among the marching miners whose defiance of the state laws compelled federal intervention. It should learn further who provided the arms or the means of buying them which these men carried into the hills. It should find out who furnished the essential supplies. It is impossible to send two or three thousand men on a military expedition without some sort of commissary. Anyone who has ever been in that region knows that a freebooting expedition of 2,000 and more could not possibly live on the country. It is not fully settled, generally tilled land. It is mostly wooded, rocky and rough. Two thousand men would clean out all food supplies within a radius of 10 miles of camp inside of two days. It follows that there must have been some sort of organization. Not even the most fanatic of these people would have stayed in their hills starving. And where did their ammunition come from to keep up

OUR BABY.

There's a rose in our garden of beauty, A flower in our garden of love, She came on the wing of the star-lighted night; The sunbeams lurk in her golden-locked hair. And the infinitesimal in her eye, While she smiles that she brought in the seal of our love— An apparition of light from on high.—Robert J. Meeker in the Rock Island Railroad Magazine.

Sergeant Thestrup Resists Demotion to Police Ranks

When Olaf Valdemar Thestrup left Omaha seven weeks ago to visit Denmark he was a sergeant on the Omaha police department. When he reported for duty Wednesday upon his return, he was notified he had been reduced to the ranks and must hereafter walk a beat. Thestrup, former sergeant of the morals squad, declares he will not walk a beat until the city council has confirmed Chief Dempsey's order.

Department Report Shows 8,000 Unemployed in Omaha

Department of Labor statistics show that 8,000 persons are unemployed in Omaha. J. M. Gillan, manager of the industrial bureau of the Chamber of Commerce, considers the figures too high and declares that only 5,000 are unemployed.

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