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The Bee's Platform

- 1. New Union Passenger Station. 2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highway, including the pavement with a Brick Surface of Main Thoroughfares leading into Omaha. 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.

Test of National Sincerity.

Old-fashioned diplomacy, the sort that began with Machiavelli, and which was brought to its apogee by Talleyrand and Metternich, is playing its part at Washington. Whether it can overcome and undo the "shirt sleeve" variety is to be determined. If the nations that are represented at that gathering are sincere in their professions, the days of thimblebarging in international conversations is over.

China promises to afford the acid test of the sincerity of the great powers. China's history is placid enough, although not devoid of glory, even from a military standpoint. It is a matter of record that the aroused indignation and valor of the Chinese were sufficient to expel the Tatar invaders, and turn the tide of their nomadic conquest to the west, where the decadent Romans were unable to check the oncoming flood.

America, to her everlasting glory, has had no part in this. On the contrary, our relations with China have always been of the best and our presence there has been helpful. When John Hay interposed the "open door" policy, in the early years of the present century, it was to prevent the final dismemberment of the Chinese empire.

If the Chinese requests are granted, it will mean that Great Britain and Japan especially, and France to a lesser degree, will have to let go of definite material advantages, acquired at the expense of China. No need to inquire too closely into the nature of these; possession of them arises from the inability of China to negotiate with the powers on equal terms.

China could not resist. The United States promptly served notice on Japan that it can not recognize any agreement or undertaking which has been entered into, or which may be entered into by the governments of China and Japan impairing the treaty rights of the United States and its citizens in China.

Now it will be plain that efforts being made by Great Britain and Japan to retain their grip on China, and the manifest desire of the Japanese to avoid consideration of the questions involved, is not in keeping with either the letter or the spirit of the agenda for the discussions at Washington. A fairer test for international sincerity never was presented. It is idle to talk about the square deal for oppressed or submerged peoples, when China is to be denied access to justice.

The American people are neither so soft-hearted or so simple-minded as not to see through the smoke-screen being developed at Washington. European or Asiatic diplomats may undertake to steal the gold from the teeth of Hughes; if he permits it to be done, they will have something to boast about. But they will do well not to mistake his straightforward communication as the utterance of one who is not bright enough to know guile when displayed before him.

An Indictment From the Pulpit.

It is to be wondered how many persons die a natural death, according to the standard set up by the Rev. Oliver D. Baltyz. Death brought on by wearing thin and scanty clothing for the sake of style he classifies as suicide. Presumably mortality caused by the insufficient clothing or food of poverty is murder or at least manslaughter. Long hours of labor, low pay and lack of safeguards were specifically placed in the category of killing.

By such striking statements a new conscience is being aroused in man. Responsibility for poverty and misery is no longer held entirely personal, nor is all human suffering accepted as the mysterious act of God, but as wrongs which

must be righted by the social conscience. If men love their neighbors as themselves they will not wring what they can out of their fellows, but strive for the general good. The man who takes what he did not produce, the exploiter and the parasite, is not in favor today. The teaching of religion requires the strong to bear the burdens of the weak. It is a heavy accusation which this clergyman levels at the folly and neglect which cause so much suffering on every hand, but strong words are needed to bring to each man and woman that personal conviction of sin which precedes repentance and right living.

The Golden Calf of Efficiency.

Commercial colleges and schools have their uses, but the great universities should not imitate and compete with them. There is danger in the movement toward making many institutions of higher learning mere annexes of industrial plants and business and financial houses. In Detroit recently a group of manufacturers and business men conferred with the president of the University of Michigan and a professor of chemical engineering on plans for revolutionizing the educational ideals of the colleges of the state. It is said that the movement begun there may result in shearing the courses of much of their theoretical aspect and fitting the students to slip more easily into the industrial machine upon graduation.

"We contend, especially of state universities, that their guiding influence should be patterned largely to the industrial requirements of their state," said Howard E. Coffin, an automobile manufacturer. "For instance, today Michigan is a manufacturing state. Our great industrial concerns are by far the biggest consuming agencies of graduates from the state colleges."

The task of the universities is to teach young men and women how to think, rather than what to think. It would be interesting to know how many of the attendants at that conference had the background of a college education. Certainly Edsel Ford, who was one of them, did not. He has succeeded, not by virtue of any special training, but by following in the footsteps of his father. Others no doubt were graduated from technical schools, but under the old regime, and not under the severely practical methods they now propose. If they have been narrowed down in their outlook on life, it was not their college that did it, but their work. No man who really studied in school will say that he is not the better for it, or that he wasted his time. It is the business of a university to broaden human knowledge and widen human spirit, not to confine instruction to a single narrow channel. The universities that are endowed by private fortunes are not thus limiting themselves, and the public, which supports the state universities, ought not to allow this worship of efficiency at the expense of the humanities to be set up.

The Art of Spelling.

Complaint is frequently heard that the ability to spell is now regrettably low, and that boys and girls are graduated even from universities whose knowledge of orthography is weak. Especially is this a handicap in commercial life, for scarcely anything can be more irritating than the fantastic shape that words assume in careless hands. Yet it is scarcely to be upheld that spelling now is worse than in earlier times.

Almost all of us misspell at one time or another. An unkind explanation of the prevailing use of stenographers is that business men wish to avoid the necessity for the correct handling of English. A debate on whether the stenographer or her employer is the more skilled in orthography might bring out some interesting testimony. Great emphasis was put on spelling in former generations, yet one has only to look over any collection of family letters in order to discover that mistakes were made then as now.

One of the hardships is that almost every letter in the language is silent in some word or other. Dr. Vitzetelly classifies only j, v, y, and z as always being sounded. Phonetic spelling has made little progress, and is not reliable so long as words are mispronounced. Dr. Wayland of Philadelphia showed us several years ago what could be done with letter values in English when he produced ghouphthightecau, which he explained was the word potato spelled according to the following system: g stands for p as in the final letters of hiccough; ough for o as in dough; ph for t as in phthisis; eigh for a as in neighbor; tie for t as in gazette, and eau for o as in beau. Result: p-o-t-a-t-o.

To be able to spell is an accomplishment worth while, and one that should be sought by all. There is evident a slow movement toward simplification, as is seen in the substitution of "airplane" for "aeroplane," just as in the change from "choaked" to "choked" since the time of our grandparents. But in general the old rules hold, and the knowledge of and respect for them should not be allowed to decline.

A New Experiment in Medicine.

Leaving aside all questions of why it is so, the fact remains that expert medical attention is beyond the means of a great many persons. For the very poor there are free clinics and dispensaries, but for many other persons who can not afford the fees of specialists there is only neglect. In recognition of this condition a model "pay clinic" providing treatment at cost has been opened in New York City by Cornell Medical College. Specialists in the main divisions of medicine and surgery will work there on a salary under the direction of the distinguished members of the Cornell medical faculty. One may visit any branch of the clinic for a fee of \$1; get a thorough health examination, with advice on personal hygiene for \$2.50; cases requiring consultations, special study and written findings cost \$10. X-ray photographs, drugs, eye glasses and other supplies are sold at cost.

In reply to the objection that all this cuts into the incomes of private practitioners, the public health committee of the New York Academy of Medicine pleads the necessity of adequate facilities for diagnoses and treatment. The Survey magazine estimates that there are 2,000,000 persons in New York who fall into the small-income class in need of such provision. This effort to establish a self-supporting public health service will be watched with interest. While pay clinics have been maintained for several years in Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Brooklyn and elsewhere, they have not offered general medical treatment, but only that in special lines, as baby care and dentistry. The ordinary objection of state medicine is avoided here, and every high standard of the profession upheld.

THE HUSKING BEE —It's Your Day— Start It With a Laugh

A NEW WEEK. The Sabbath is a day of rest. A day the workers like the best— And off of it we speak; For on this day of grace and praise We turn our backs on bygone days And start a brand new week. Let's, ere this Sabbath onward rolls, Take inventory of our souls, And let our probe be true— Then cast out evil, doubt and fear, Fill up our hearts with mirth and cheer, And take a start anew.

No matter how much good we've done Let's make this week a better one. Let it from wrong be free; Let's help our fellows on their way, And this our practice every day— Faith, Hope and Charity.

PHILOSOPHY.

Man who hasn't got a self-starter on his disposition is a crank. Most men think the sermon is directed at the other fellow. Many a society bud blooms into a wall flower. "Scientists were not without a sense of humor," mused the corner philosopher as he buttoned his overcoat up under his chin. "They called this the temperate zone."

A COUNTER PLOT.

Yesterday we saw a coal wagon and an ice wagon unloading at the same building. This pigmy world sinks into petty insignificance when we read of astronomers who speak casually of a star with a diameter of 300,000,000 miles, as compared with the world's mere 8,000. It isn't by comparison much of a world, but it is the only world we've got, so we might as well make the best of it.

SWAT HIM.

Of all the guinea ginks we know, That one should wear a shroud Who chews gum at the movie show And reads the words out loud. Money lost may sometimes be won back, but the time lost in games of chance is gone forever.

BUT WHAT IS IT NOW?

Douglas street hashery announces on its bulletin board "Been Soup." Will Hays has set the Postoffice department to personally inspect certain mail addresses. Will attempt to deliver the male, as it were.

Over 85 per cent of runaway marriages are failures, a pastor says. The remaining 15 per cent, we take it, have no difficulty in obtaining their divorces.

A LITTLE ANXIOUS.

Wife: I should think you would show a little anxiety to change your household affairs. Hub: Well I do, dear—just as little as possible.

The more money a man gets the easier it seems to be for him to curb his generous impulses.

Arbuckle is not wealthy, according to a recent news item. And we used to consider Fatty one of the fixed stars.

UNIMPORTANT ITEM.

In all Paul Jones' numerous naval engagements he never sighted a submarine. Yes, Philbert, the clothes do make the man. If you doubt it try walking down Farnam street without any.

For years the old world hovered on the verge of war. Now it is hovering on the verge of peace.

RIGHT.

He is a model husband. So says a modern sage, Who remembers his wife's birthday But quite forgets her age.

PERTINENT QUERY.

"Remember, my boy, we are here to help others." "And what are the others here for?"

When they take the tax off the movie tickets we shall know that universal peace is at hand.

FAIR EXCHANGE.

Now the scientists chirp that even shaking hands involves the exchange of millions of deadly germs. "S'all right if we get rid of as many as we get."

One problem has been solved by beating the swords into plowshares, but what are we going to beat the corkscrews into?

Out in Montana school was dismissed for a week because of deep snow. Some kids have all the luck.

When they flop the telephones over to the automatic system whom is a guy to blame it on when he gets the wrong number?

SURE THING.

"There are no sure things in this life," Declared the pessimistic pill, "Oh, yes, there are," declared his wife, "You quite forget the grocery bill."

One difference between war and peace—in war time the government tries to run the railroads and in times of peace the railroads try to run the government.

See where a meat market burned down and the flames spread so rapidly that the butcher had time only to take out one armful of goods. Just saved his bacon.

He (about to propose): I wish I could photograph your mind. She: Yes, in that way you could see the negative.

WHY IS IT

That when a reporter asks a woman for her picture to put in the paper she almost always produces one taken about 15 YEARS AGO?

Airplane funerals are to be inaugurated by up-to-date morticians, it is said. Of course they come higher than the old-fashioned undertaking.

ISN'T IT THE TRUTH? If you tell a girl she's pretty And beautiful and fair, That she is cute and witty And has such lovely hair; If while this line you're spilling, You look into her eyes, You'll always find her willing To forgive your other lies.

AFTER-THOUGHT: Today is the tomorrow we worried about yesterday. PHILO,

How to Keep Well

By DR. W. A. EVANS Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. Evans are answered personally, subject to proper limitation, where a stamped address and return postage are enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnoses or prescriptions for individual diseases unless letters in care of The Bee. Copyright, 1921, by Dr. W. A. Evans.

A WOMAN'S TRAGEDY.

I have before me a letter which I wish I could find space to publish in its entirety, but there are 8,000 words in it and I can use less than 400. It will lose much of its force by being abstracted, but even at that, I think the abstract will prove helpful. It is the life story of an educated, refined woman of middle age, who calls herself an old maid. The daughter of parents of considerable means, she grew up in a gentlemanly home where the father was an able lawyer, guilty of no social tragedy, she is now employed as a cook, and has been in service of this grade and type for a number of years. Being introspective, and having an analytical mind, she has diagnosed herself and the causes of her failure.

Judged by social standards, her life is a failure. She frankly admits the limitations of her capacity, and acknowledges a considerable degree of unhappiness. The situation is saved from utter loss by her reference to the advantages of common sense, and the beneficial effects of a frank diagnosis. Starting with this equipment, were she a member of the government, she would be trained into efficiency and happiness by one who knew.

But let us give the remainder of her story to the authorities. Here was a woman, the victim of emotional instability—a neurotic—who might have been made into a personality of great value to society had the teachers who educated her and the parents who bore her given some attention to emotional training. While they were teaching reading, writing and arithmetic—had they known and understood the meaning of certain types of personality, certain kinds of behavior and the right treatment of training of those who were peculiar in these regards.

But let us give the remainder of this space to extracts from the lady's story. "I am what is usually called very nervous. I think you would call it emotional instability. I am intensely self-conscious and introspective, conscientious and easily tired by nervous strain, though physically I am strong. "My great drawback is that I cannot meet people and talk to them with ease. If I am in an evening party I am so nervously exhausted the next day that I can do nothing but rest. This is due partly to a lack of early social training, but also to a sort of sensitive vanity. I feel my inferiority, but I am apt to show it by an attitude that seems just the opposite of what you mean."

"I am acutely sensitive to irritating noises. My eyes are sensitive to light, and I usually wear smoked glasses in the summer. I lack concentration. I find it difficult to read even an interesting article through. But let us give the remainder of this space to extracts from the lady's story. "I am what is usually called very nervous. I think you would call it emotional instability. I am intensely self-conscious and introspective, conscientious and easily tired by nervous strain, though physically I am strong. "My great drawback is that I cannot meet people and talk to them with ease. If I am in an evening party I am so nervously exhausted the next day that I can do nothing but rest. This is due partly to a lack of early social training, but also to a sort of sensitive vanity. I feel my inferiority, but I am apt to show it by an attitude that seems just the opposite of what you mean."

"When I want to do a thing, I cannot want to do it methodically. When I want some pleasure, I want it at once. Putting up with my chief failings, yet I have gone into some situations in a hysterical fashion without stopping to think. It was always a trouble for me to think and talk at the same time. I have had very vivid flying dreams all my life. "I am so much affected by the personality of strangers that my mind is sometimes put out of gear by meeting them. I am timid about meeting any one whom I want to make a good impression. My will is weak for long stretches, but strong for a spurt. I am intensely sensitive to disapproval, even when I know it is deserved. I am easily irritated. "When I was a child they tried to get me to play with other girls, but these children seldom came back after one or two visits. I remember hating them and feeling jealous when my father spoke to them."

"The parents saw there was something wrong, so they gave the child Farrish's syrup and cod liver oil. Inquisitive writes: "I have severe pains in the region of my liver, often becoming sick and vomiting. What do you think would cause this? "2. Please tell me for what purpose veronal is used and its effects."

REPLY.

1. Among the conditions which may cause pain in the liver, nausea and vomiting are gall stones, infection of the gall bladder, cancer, abscess and perhaps cirrhosis and heart disease. I cannot guess the trouble in this case. "I have a physician examine you. "2. It is used as a sleep producer. Its use is never justified except under a physician's directions, and seldom then.

Needs Plenty of Sleep.

"Mrs. L. W. writes: "My baby boy is 2 1/2 years old and weighs 31 1/2 pounds. Is he under weight? He weighed 33 pounds when 2 years old. He does not rest well, but is very active. Is the loss of weight a danger signal?"

REPLY.

He weighs enough, but he should not have lost weight during the last six months. See that he gets a morning and afternoon nap as well as plenty of sleep at night. He should get a pint and a half of milk, about an ounce of meat or egg, plenty of vegetables, cereal and bread.

One Honor Left for Foch.

Apparently no college has yet made Marshal Foch a doctor of divinity. But as a doctor of laws, civil and canon, he must now be the possessor of more academic insinias than of military ribbons.—New York Tribune.

ON THE PLATE.

Out on the sandy, wide and shallow Platte A drifting log has lodged against a boat. And forms a seat along a fishing hole Among the islands, shifting, bare and flat. The wave track widens from a water rat. That paddles swiftly to a rusty knoll: A camper with a hook and line and pole. Is caught upon the luring habitat. Here Coronado may have been the guest Of some brave Indian of the peaceful race. Explorers Clark and Lewis stopped to rest. Beneath the lifeless trees that mark the banks. Or tramped through the west. Came to the beach and offered up their thanks.

Jane Adams says women will avert future wars. But you never can tell. A new nation may arise at any moment.—Philadelphia Record.

Bolshevism and Education

(From the Boston Transcript.) Baron Rosen, former ambassador to the United States, whom many Bostonians met at the Portsmouth peace conference, publicly takes H. G. Wells to task for stating just as publicly that the "monstrous" character of the present government "is the result of the failure of elementary education as an offense against the state." As the baron puts the case there is an implication that autocracy was not so black as it is usually painted; into the case offered by Mr. Wells there intrudes the suggestion that present conditions in Russia are far more favorable to educational interests than were conditions under czarism. What are the facts? It is undoubtedly true that the Russian masses during the pre-war times, and that admission comes from the revolutionists themselves, were illiterate. Between 1880 and 1911 the primary schools in European Russia increased in number from 22,770 to 80,377, the total for the whole empire. The number of pupils estimated at 6,500,000. During the five sessions of the third duma, the appropriations for schools increased from 4,900,000 rubles in 1908 to 9,000,000 rubles in 1912; during practically the same period the expenditure on all forms of public instruction increased from 85,000,000 to 170,000,000 annually. But much of this new zeal for education was reflected in the discussion made towards representative government, especially to the activities of the Zemstvos and rural communities. The government granted appropriations, yet remained suspicious of the educators; the teachers had to be "fired" from the office; the authorities long had a supposed sign of nihilism, was taboo, and when the Russian educators organized a trip to western Europe in 1907 the authorities eliminated Paris from the itinerary as "republican" and therefore "dangerous."

How much better does Russian education fare under bolshevism? The author and journalist, A. V. Amintrotrof, who has just arrived in London after four years' experience of the new regime, reports that the bolshevik schools form "one of the most terrible sores on the body of the soviet republic." The present-day rulers of Russia work on the principle that in order that the children may be won over to their "cause" they must be separated as completely as possible from their families. In the schools a "bolshevik alphabet" has been introduced, and the boy who masters it is granted unlimited privileges. Instead of a standing for "archangel" an E for "Bosroditsits" or "Mother of God," as in the former church schools, now abolished, A means "autonomy," the slogan of communism, and "B" means "boss," "master," or "employer," the instruction being work for the former and suppress the latter. Any 13-year-old lad who has mastered the new alphabet, along with the teaching of the other subjects, can take part in communistic propaganda and join the ranks of the active soviet workers. And in the disintegration of family life which has been wrought by soviet rule it often happens, Amintrotrof asserts, that children, hearing criticism of the bolsheviks, inform against their parents, who are thereupon arrested and sometimes executed. The school premises at Petrograd are meanwhile in a deplorable and insanitary state, the children are covered with vermin, and are dying of hunger and disease; that in the "children's homes" a death rate of 500 per 1,000 is a normal occurrence. And there are only a few of the things that might be cited to show what education has become in bolshevik Russia. They are certainly pertinent to the controversy between Baron Rosen and Mr. Wells.

Tumulty as an Historian

(From the New Haven Journal-Courier.) While rather pleasant reading on the whole, Mr. Tumulty's record of his 10 years' intimate association with Mr. Wilson has already lost its true value as a true record. It is clear that it will find a place on the shelves of the book collector by the side of other gossipy volumes of passing interest, but not of permanent value. The accuracy of the book has already been called into question in two important particulars. The version of Mr. Garrison's retirement from the cabinet because of his dissent from Mr. Wilson's Mexican policy has been disposed of by that gentleman himself. It was not his insistence upon a policy of intervention that cooled him toward his chief; it was the absence of any policy at all. The next break came in the Tumulty account of the Vera Cruz incident. So grossly inaccurate was the version that Rear Admiral Fiske felt called upon to instantly correct it. An additional blunder came in the chapters printed on the very day when Mr. Hughes was the recipient of the world's praise for his naval holiday triumph. Mr. Tumulty showed such a distorted understanding of the Hughes character as to bring into discredit his powers of character analysis. What is further in store for the record can only be imagined.

KEEP TO THE MAIN QUESTION

(From the Congressionalist.) Speak of it formally in whatever terms you will, the Washington conference is a peace conference. As it proceeds, the delegates should feel that peace is its main business as constantly, as vividly, as if every time they lifted their eyes they saw on the walls about them in shining letters, "Peace on earth, good will to men." We have not liked the tenor of some dispatches from Washington during the last fortnight. "The public should not think," says one correspondent, "that this conference expects to abolish war, but greatly to reduce the possibilities of it." That theory, if generally prevalent in the public mind, or in the minds of the delegates, might hold the conference back from the achievement of its central purpose. Here is a monster that has slain within the last six years 7,000,000 of the flower of the youth in many lands. These straggled nations are joining their forces with a view to casting him beyond the possibility of his working further injury upon the world. He is going to be treated as an outlaw, or as two or three men would be treated who, in trying to settle their private quarrels, start a conflagration that might burn up the whole town. This conception of the functions of the conference is not so idealistic as to leave no room for discussion of any number of economic or practical questions that must be given careful consideration. It leaves also for the first limited steps that probably will have to be taken before complete disarmament can come. It is far from convincing of the delegates waiting in the millenium. There will be many international conferences after this, and no doubt some kind of association of nations.

But the decisions of 30 or 40 men must not frustrate the hopes of waiting millions. If the delegates could prove sceptical or lukewarm concerning the ultimate aim of the gathering, and slow-footed in mov-

ing strongly toward that goal, they would deserve the rebuke of right-minded men the world over. This world has simply got to get rid of the drag and fear of war. If two of three nations, large or small, persist in fighting, they must be restrained by all the other nations. It cannot be at this great hour, which may mark either a lapse into practical barbarism, or a mighty advance in the history of mankind, that the Washington conference will do anything else than stick to the main question.

HEARD ALSO AT THE CONFERENCE.

"The bombs bursting in air" of "The Star-Spangled Banner" is getting to mean something to American diplomats abroad.—St. Louis Star.

New Kink in a Hotel.

A New York hotel has installed a "thinking room." Always catering to the out-of-town trade.—Washington Post.

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