

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING) — EVENING — SUNDAY

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NELSON H. B. PUBLISHER
B. BREWER, General ManagerMEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
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75,073THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY
B. BREWER, General Manager
ELMER S. ROOD, Circulation ManagerSworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of December, 1921.
(Seal) W. H. QUIGLEY, Notary PublicBEE TELEPHONES
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The Bee's Platform

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

Taxation and Progress.

There is no reason for believing that any line of business, public or private, is to escape deflation. Almost everything else has been liquidated, and it is inevitable that the cost of government—national, state, county, municipal and school—must likewise be readjusted. Through the budget system General Dawes has accomplished a saving of \$120,000,000 in federal appropriations for the current year, and has made a further cut of \$500,000,000 in the estimate for the coming twelve-month period. Limitation of armaments will add also to the national economy. States and cities have no battleships to junk, but still they may disband some of their army of clerks and other appointees.

If it were possible to strip public offices in every division of government of superfluous or incompetent jobholders the saving to the taxpayer would be disappointingly small. There are economies yet untapped in the methods of purchasing public supplies, but the net result of them all would be less than most people imagine. Few citizens are credulous enough to believe that merely changing the party in control will benefit taxpayers. There never has been a campaign in which both parties did not pledge lower taxes, and yet no other promise has been found so difficult of performance.

Reduction in the burden of taxation must come, if in any great amount, very largely at the expense of such things as good roads and good schools. Friends of education and advocates of public improvements will have in the next few years their heaviest battle. Bond issues and special appropriations for various good causes are bound to meet unusual opposition. At a bond election in Kansas City last month every proposal was turned down. This is an example of the thrift movement in politics. The disconcerting thing about it was that out of 135,000 registered voters, only 30,000 went to the polls. If there had been a wider understanding that bond issues entail taxes for interest, refunding and for maintaining the proposed improvement, a larger vote would have resulted. Until the people learn to say "no" to proposals for extraordinary expenditures, legislatures, commissions and other public bodies will continue to have before them an unending list of proposals for appropriations, all endorsed by large sections of the public.

There should be very little recrimination or ill will over the subject of taxes. This is not a political issue in any partisan sense. The responsibility can not be laid on any official or on any party. Privately and publicly, Americans have been living beyond their income. Sacrifices must be made in order to bring about tax liquidations. It is of high importance, though, that such funds for schools or public improvements are necessary to the upholding of high standards should not be withheld. There is real danger confronting public education, public health and the general welfare in the advocacy of a blind and miserly program of expenditure. Waste must be cut out, and luxuries, too, but not one necessary item should be repudiated.

Bootlegging and the Soldiers' Bonus.

We hope that, if the soldiers' bonus bill is to be passed, it will be completely divorced from any consideration or connection with the prohibition law. However, the suggestion made that revenue from sale of liquor under a modification of the Volstead act could be used to pay the bonus must compel consideration of the situation. A "high official" of the government is quoted as saying that the bootlegger is getting money that ought to go into the treasury.

Without debating that point, we may make the statement that were it not for the exorbitant profits made possible by the law, there would be less bootlegging. Men who enter the illicit liquor traffic as an avocation do so because of the big profit it pays. Some are caught, but some get away, and most of the vendors are willing to take a chance on being numbered with the fortunate few who escape the law. One other factor enters, and that is a current belief that a division of the illegal gain has been sufficient in some instances to so interest enforcement officers that violations of the law are made easy through connivance of officials. This latter may be pure slander, resting only on a suspicion and not at all warranted estimate of human nature, yet frequently men have been known to yield to temptation when that takes the form of easy money.

One thing is true. Immense quantities of liquor are daily being dispensed through surreptitious methods, and the consumers are paying enormous sums of money for the supplies. Bootleggers thrive in spite of the activity of enforcement officers; huge fines levied in the courts are paid with the proceeds of the traffic, or the convicted culprits are held prisoner for a time in the jails, another expense to the public. Revenue from the liquor traffic was cut off when

prohibition was adopted as part of the law of the land, but something more is needed before the problem is entirely solved.

Mellon's Christmas Suggestion.

The secretary of the treasury of the United States is not Santa Claus nor yet a rival of Santa Claus. He is, however, an able and conscientious coadjutor of the saint, and as such offers a suggestion that deserves more consideration than it will probably get. That is that belated Christmas purchases take the form of treasury certificates. The new issue of these securities is offered in denominations as low as \$50, and afford an attractive form of investment for small buyers. During the times the treasury has been compelled to resort to this method of financing most of the effort has been directed to the banks, where the certificates in large blocks could be sold with little or no effort on part of the government. Now the government is trying to interest the people in the purchase, thus securing the use of money that otherwise would be hoarded and idle. One of the serious phases of every time of financial stringency is that considerable sums of money are withdrawn from circulation and hidden away by owners who are distrustful of the banks or other depositories. Such money is idle, and its absence from the currents of trade is felt. The present situation is no different in this respect from all the others of human experience. Money is in hiding, is going to seclusion every day, and until it can be lured from its secret nooks and set to work it will be a drag on the general effort, slowing up progress and retarding recovery. The secretary of the treasury wants to get this cash into the coffers of the federal government, where it can be made to do something useful, and so he proffers the best possible security, the short-time treasury certificate, and suggests the purchase of at least one as a Christmas gift. The idea is a good one.

Not Enough to Eat.

Almost half the students in a great eastern university, it has been found, do not have enough to eat. The head of the medical department put it more neatly in his report, that they are "improperly nourished." Accordingly, milk or hot cocoa is to be served free each forenoon to any student who wishes it.

In every institution of higher learning there are many men who are supporting themselves while studying. Others are financed by the savings of their parents, usually rather meager. In view of these circumstances it is justifiable to relieve the college boarding houses from blame for not supplying more nourishing food. If the boys would or could pay more for their board, better food and more of it would be forthcoming. While some of these young men may be improperly nourished because of their own irregular habits, either dining at odd hours or spending their money on sport or clothes rather than on food, yet this can not be made a general charge.

Every once in a while after one of these nutrition surveys it is announced that large classes of people are suffering from lack of proper food. This is not only true among the children in the city schools, but in the army as well. What about the parents of these needy collegians—does unappeased hunger spread far and wide through America? What would be found if the people on a street car were tested out? The remark is sometimes heard that more people die from over-eating than from under-eating, but this is far from being proved by the mere saying. There is a good deal of food going to waste in the country, yet there is starvation abroad and hunger at home.

The Christmas Spirit.

If proof were needed that Omaha is animated by the Christmas spirit, it will be afforded by the crowds hurrying about hither and thither, each bent on a mission in which the pleasure of giving outweighs all other considerations. It is all right for the quid nunes and mossbacks to prate about the extravagance of the season; the "spug" may interpose his futile objection, but the warm-hearted populace will go right on, buying gimcracks and knickknacks, things of service and fanciful things that never can serve, all the endless list of articles and wares that encumber the pack of Santa Claus, that joy may be spread along with the spirit of Christmas. No where on earth can be found a more inspiring scene than is presented in any Omaha store these days. What matter if the buying be a little belated? Who is there to set a fixed and definite hour for proceeding on that errand. The purchase of a Christmas gift depends on something that is not controlled by a time schedule, and it is well that this is so. Funds for the purpose of providing Christmas cheer for the poor and afflicted grow apace, and The Bee's Free Shoe Fund is mounting along with the passing days, denoting the generous impulse that swells in the popular heart. It is Christmas time, the spirit of Santa Claus is abroad in the land, and the people are responding after a fashion that convinces even the most cynical that the world is not such a bad place to live after all.

Footpads who hold up Santa Claus are in a class all alone. No known or classified form of meanness compares with theirs.

The ex-kaiser says "Germany opened her archives freely and unreservedly after the war," but it is not recorded that he had anything to do with it.

White Christmas? Santa Claus likes snow.

Return to Thrifty Ways.

The agitation for strict accounting and intelligent fiscal management at Washington was long in bearing fruit. The shocking conditions of extravagance and irresponsibility disclosed in the war period made the reform inevitable. Congress began to work from March, 1919, on in the spirit of budget surveillance, although there was no budget. Now we have the system functioning with forethought and energy. In two years a load of more than \$2,000,000,000 has been thrown off the treasury. How many other billions were wasted because such control was not established years ago?—New York Tribune.

Turbulent China.

China has been regarded as one of the most peaceful of nations, when as a matter of fact it had so much strife within its own borders that it could not undertake the kind of fighting that attracts the most attention. If all its fighting talents could be co-ordinated, China might take rank as a great military nation.—Washington Star.

Choice of How We Shall Die.

We are not a logical people when we come to collective choice of how we shall die. We shrink from the killing powers of a mysterious disease, but defy the death-dealing potentiality of motorcars.—New York Herald.

THE HUSKING BEE

—It's Your Day—
Start It With a Laugh

QUESTION!

The question now before the board
On which we would get action,
Is one that has this family floored
And yields small satisfaction:
As for the problem we would solve—
It is a weighty matter,
As round about it we revolve
And hand out verbal chatter.

Old father says: "Now, hark to me—
We went broke at Thanksgiving,
And yet if we can't eat, I see
No further use in living;
This idea strikes me rather punk,
As one I put my feet on—
To spend our Jack for Christmas junk
With nothing left to eat on."

But mother banks on gifts a lot,
(But all she has to bank on)
And so the presents must be bought,
That mother is a crank on;
And now the point before the board—
At Christmas time can we afford
To have another turkey?

PHILO-SOPHY.
It doesn't pay to let your wife suspect that
you think you know more than she does.

HOUSEHOLD HINT.

If you wish your husband to enjoy his
Christmas dinner don't open the festivities by
telling him how much the stuff costs.

Speaking of the "poverty of riches" we still
cling to the old-fashioned idea that it is possible
to be miserably rich and still be reasonably
happy. While riches may not bring happiness,
they at least have this merit—they do not prevent it.

See where an Omaha girl had several parcels
stolen, that were marked, "Please do not open
until Christmas."

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER.

I heard my daddy talking
To another man one day,
Dad didn't know I listened
But I sure did hear him say:
"Oh, God, I'd like some sherry
For a Christmas gift this year!"
The first prayer dad had offered—
Do you s'pose—
—CAROL RICKERT.

Wonder what Mr. Volstead takes when he
gets a cold?

The 'phone company now wants us to pay
more for getting our own number. That's putting
a tax on suffering.

Lost—Gentleman's diamond ring in Wool-
worth's 10-cent store.—Wanted.
Some one may have picked it up and put
it back on the counter.

UNIMPORTANT ITEM.

Heard a speaker the other day who used the
word "camouflage," but he hadn't been back in
this country very long.

OWED TO REV. BLATZLY.

Tell us now in mournful numbers
Santa Claus is God my dear,
That the story is a falsehood
Used to fool the children with;
Tell us not that we are heathens
Perpetrating baseless lies,
That we've lost the truth of Christmas
That day to commercialize;
For there really is a Santa
And he comes to us each year,
He's an all-pervading spirit
And his name is Christmas Cheer!

Everyone believes in Santa Claus in one form
or another, but, of course, the popular concep-
tion of him is in red pants and white whiskers.

Sh-h-h, ladies, maybe hubby would like some
new lace curtains or a set of dishes for Christ-
mas. It won't do any harm to hint around and
find out.

GLAD HINT.

If you've a friend you'd like to please
This coming Christmas day,
Here is a hint you may seize
To make him blithe and gay;
A gift that entertains and cheers,
As all men will agree—
Just smile and send your friend a year's
Subscription to THE BEE!

AFTER-THOUGHT: It is a wise fish who
begins business on a small scale.
—PHILO.

Letters to the Editor

Pleads for Debs' Liberty.

Omaha, Dec. 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: Christmas is approaching, and the time when strife and bitterness in the struggle for existence is in a small measure temporarily cast aside—when man's normal instincts (love and kindness for his fellowmen) to a small extent at least prevail. When we celebrate the birth of Christ, from thousands of pulpits we hear the message of the Christ spirit. Nearly 2,000 years ago Christ was born, lived the life of a martyr, was misunderstood, persecuted, and finally nailed to the cross.

In the 19th century a boy was born in an Indiana town, grew to manhood and developed a love for mankind as great or greater than any man who ever lived—a man of whom James Whitcomb Riley said, "When God made Debs he did nothing else that whole day." A man who has scorned wealth and position for principle; a man who cannot be bribed to do what he considers wrong for any price; a man who flays the money changer as Christ is supposed to have done; a man who hates all wrongs and has the courage to denounce them openly; a man grown old in the highest and noblest service of his fellowmen. No nobler or greater heart ever beat in any man's breast, and now he is lingering in a prison cell, because he spoke in opposition to the war. If he is left to perish, it will be one of the greatest crimes in history.

Debs is loved more than any other living man; loved—yes worshipped almost as a deity by the common people who know and understand him, and he is hated and feared by those who fatten on special privileges—a man who drank the bitter cup of persecution to the dregs. And it took the Superman he is to endure all this.

This country can do nothing better as a kind and just act right before Christmas than to liberate its political prisoners, as the European countries have done long ago; return them to their families and loved ones who, like them, have suffered untold agonies. Debs was sent to prison and kept there, not so much for what he said in his Canton speech against the war, but special privilege feared his influence among the masses, and fear it still.

What is the use of so-called Christian churches take towards the greatest living advocate of real Christianity—the international champion of the unfortunate of all the world—Eugene Victor Debs of Terra Haute, Ind.?

Where are the ministers who protest against that crime? They are silent. It seems he will have to die, like others have, before his life work has been generally appreciated.

Give your love and appreciation to the living, it does the dead no good.

R. B. BENDA,
299 South Twentieth street.

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 or stamped, addressed envelopes enclosed. Address letters in care of The Bee.

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MORE ON VITAMINES

The food sources of fat soluble A vitamins, according to McCarrison's collection of the reports of investigations made all over the world, are: Milk, butter, egg yolk, green leaves and the growing parts of plants.

It is present in abundance in liver, kidney, heart; in salmon, herring and other fat fish. Crude cod liver oil contains 250 times as much of it as does butter or the refined cod liver oil of the drug store. Next to unrefined and liver oil comes mutton fat, beef fat and fish oils.

It is abundant in spinach, lettuce, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, tomatoes and soy beans are rich in it. Such foods as potatoes, carrots, beets, radishes and turnips are rich in it.

The foods which contain no fat soluble A growth principle are as follows: Skim milk, skim milk cheese, olive oil, cotton seed oil, coconut oil, linseed oil, hardened or hydrogenated animal and vegetable fats, margarine made from vegetable fats and containing no animal fats, peanut oil, palm oil, tallow and bacon fat; white flour, pure corn flour, polished rice, custard powders, glucose, sugar, syrup, egg substitutes, meat extracts, highly refined foods and white fish.

The body has the capacity of storing considerable of this vitamin. To insure enough of it, one should eat whole milk, butter, animal fats, eggs, glandular organs, fresh fruit and green vegetables.

If the diet is too low in it, growth is slowed up. If the deficiency is considerable, ulcers develop on the eyes.

The food sources of the anti-scorbutic vitamin C are stated comparatively as follows: Juices of lemons and oranges and fresh raw cabbage and raw ripe onions, 100.

Raw tomato juice, 60.
Cabbage cooked 20 minutes, 30.
Cabbage cooked one hour, 10.
Malted grains, turnip juice, raw green beans, 30.

Potato boiled for 30 minutes, raw carrots, beet juice and raw dry beans, 75.
Grape juice, 5.

There is only a moderate amount of this principle in milk, and especially skim milk, from cows fed on dry feed. Fresh milk from cows fed on green grass is fairly rich in it. Skim milk contains as much of it as did the milk from which it was made. The proportion of it is low in old milk, bottled milk, pasteurized milk, milk treated by hydrogen peroxide, sweetened condensed milk, evaporated milk and dried milk.

Canned tomatoes are rich in it. It is absent from animal and vegetable oils, canned meats, cereals, pulses and yeast.

To insure oneself of plenty of this substance one should eat plenty of green vegetables and fruit. The body is capable of storing up a fair reserve of it.

If the amount of it in the diet is low, there is some sponginess of the gums, some bleeding from the gums and some roughness of the skin. If it is very low, scurvy results.

No animal has the power to make any vitamins. Plants pick up elements from the soil and air and build them into vitamins. Animals derive them directly by eating plants or indirectly, by eating meat and eggs of other animals which have gotten them from plants.

Of the three vitamins A and B are fairly stable, but C is rather easily destroyed by heating, exposure to air, aging, decay, or by drying.

Alas, It's Fattening.
Mrs. R. writes: "Will you kindly give an opinion as to the value and wisdom of eating yeast cakes for the relief of auto-intoxication of intestinal type? The person is past 70 years of age."

REPLY.
By auto-intoxication, I presume you mean constipation. With some people, yeast acts as a laxative. It is all right to use it for that purpose, unless you are obese, and one of those who get fatter when they eat yeast.

Rusty Knee Joints.
F. A. writes: "What is usually the cause of a pain in the knee."

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Jack and Jill

By DR. W. A. EVANS.

"Well, just look at it now!" and Jack scraped the frost off the bedroom window, peering out at the eddying maze of heavy snowflakes. "That means that we'll have to get our front pavement and the walk cleared early this morning, or the house will be blocked by the time I come back from the office."

"There comes a man with a snow shovel now," said Jill. "Whistle to him, and he can have the job through by the time breakfast is over."

Jack did so, and hurried down to the front door in his bathrobe. "The price is twenty-five cents for the job," observed the man with the shovel. "You've a verry long walk around to your kitchen, and it's bitter cold."

"Twenty-five cents?" snorted Jack. "Not in a million years. I can do it in ten minutes myself."

"Go to it," retorted the man, retreating with provoking speed. "There is plenty more that are willing to give a poor man work!"

"The very idea, Jill," declared Jack indignantly, as he hurriedly dressed. "They used to do it for a dime. The laboring classes seem to think that when a fellow wears a white collar and lives in a decent little house he's a millionaire. I'll be glad to see bread lines again."

"But it isn't such easy work at that, dear, with half ice and half snow. Maybe you had better call him back and let him do it. You'd waste an extra quart or two on cigars during the day."

"Not if it's good fresh morning exercise and I'll show them I can take care of my own place."

Jack was down in the basement, hunting for the coal shovel, in no time.

"Do you know where it is, dear?" he called up the stairs impatiently. "Oh,