

THE OMAHA BEE

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BEE 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.

Foreign Exchange and World Markets.

The recovery of foreign exchange was not a sudden thing, sprung on the world over night, as our disingenuous contemporary would have its readers believe. Improvement was noted some weeks ago, and since the first of the year, when it was made certain that the arms conference at Washington would successfully accomplish its purpose, all foreign exchange has been gaining in strength.

Several reasons may be ascribed for this. London has been the center of the financial world since the Napoleonic wars forced the concentration at the English metropolis of the capital of the world. Up until the close of 1915, at least, London fixed the credit of all the world. This power shifted to the United States, because of the war, and yet abides with us. The pound sterling, then, was the unit on which the rate of exchange was established, and so remained until supplanted by the dollar.

Another reason for this is that the British currency was the least debased by liquification incident to excessive paper issues. The British relied on heavier taxes and the least possible issue of bonded indebtedness to meet not only war expenditures but the heavy cost of government since the war. While France and Germany have been anticipating future production by present issues of irredeemable paper currency and the flotation of huge bond issues, thus depressing their credit, England has struggled to maintain its national financial integrity, and with great success.

If the improvement in sterling exchange is followed by a corresponding increase in the franc and the mark, the result is a consequence of the British policy, and a reflection of the prospect for a reduction in taxation, as exhibited by a proposal to cut the British naval budget by not less than \$375,000,000 for the current year. All other countries are likewise favorably affected by the economies made possible through the decrease in armament, and are correspondingly benefited. That such a relief is exhibited in their increased purchasing power is not to be marveled at, nor is the accompanying rise in the price of American produce a reasonable occasion for surprise.

To ascribe all this to the beneficial effect of a proposed international banking system may suit the cards of the democratic senator from Nebraska, who is laying plans to secure a third term for himself, but it will fool nobody who has followed the international credit situation with anything like critical interest.

What Others Think.

To listen to the opinions of others is a salutary thing, especially beneficial in times of confusion. With so many now appearing in the guise of spokesmen for this million or that million of the population, it is a good time for ordinary folk to listen to each other. Perhaps some will find that the volunteer leaders who have sprung up to fight this or that battle do not really express any prevailing or extensive sentiment.

Such are some of the reasons that make those clippings that are being reprinted in The Bee from other Nebraska newspapers so full of interest. The smaller the community from which these editorial opinions come, the greater the probability of their reflecting accurately the stand of their section. Many of these country editors are very close to the people with whom they live. They are trusted at home, and they may be trusted in the world outside in the same way.

Profound respect for the carefully weighed expressions of the country press on state and national issues, and on questions of the day quite apart from politics, is felt by all who have thought on the subject. Don't fail to read the symposiums on live Nebraska topics that are printed from time to time on this page.

Consolidation of Public Offices.

The public is beginning to pay a lot of attention to the suggestion that service may be improved and cost of government lessened by eliminating a lot of offices that are really duplicates. Some who are in public life are stepping rather gingerly around the question, but it is a live wire, and will not be disposed of until it has been properly taken up and considered. No good reason exists why the business of Omaha and Douglas county can not be handled from one headquarters by a single set of officials. Any objection that may be raised is answered by the experience we have had with the office of treasurer. One does for city, county, school district and utilities district. It has not been found necessary to consolidate the political boundaries of the city and county to accomplish the improve-

ment in public service made possible by the merging of the four offices of treasurer into one. So it is not beyond possibility to arrange the other offices so that a single unified government will handle the business for the people, at less expense and certainly with no less efficiency than now exists. Mayor Dahlgren predicts it will take at least sixteen years to accomplish this. Perhaps, but such delay is not complimentary to the good judgment of the people, but rather is significant of the inertia that is to be overcome.

Forward, March!

Elsewhere in this issue The Bee publishes, as a full-page advertisement, a message which will give courage and inspiration to every forward-looking Nebraskan.

The first function of a newspaper is to report the news. In fulfilling that mission The Bee has found that Nebraska has turned the corner, that the doldrums are past, that a new economic day is dawning. That is not the expression of a hope; it is the chronicle of a fact. This information is important, important for Nebraskans themselves to know that they may appreciate its significance and think and act accordingly, important for others to know that they may not misjudge Nebraska. The Bee is publishing this advertisement today at its own expense in a hundred leading daily and weekly newspapers of the state. It published a similar advertisement earlier in the week in Editor and Publisher, a national trade magazine which reaches newspapers throughout the country.

No longer is it a day for commiseration with one another, for idle lament, for aimless calamity howling. "Let's all pull together for a bigger and better Nebraska."

Hold the Economic Conference Here.

It may be taken for granted that there will be an international economic conference, and it may be predicted that not much will come of it unless the United States is represented there. Sharp jockeying between France and Great Britain has cast the date of the proposed Genoa conference in doubt. On the face of the news it would seem that the world is asked to believe that unless certain conditions are agreed on in advance there will be no such meeting to discuss the rehabilitation of world finance.

However, there will have to be a meeting to deal with the problems of peace, just as the disarmament conference, concerned chiefly with the menace of wars, was inevitable. The full measure of success which rewarded this arms meeting was due in part to the fact that it was held here at home in America. In spite of numerous efforts to conceal the desires or intentions of various nations, the people managed to see pretty well just what was going on. Several times, it is not too much to say, American public sentiment, quickly felt by the foreign delegations, turned the scales against militarism and national greed.

The economic conference will deal perforce with many questions in which the people of America are directly or indirectly involved. There is no important section of public opinion which favors our refusal to attend once it is put on a broad and fair basis, so that every economic problem can be hauled out into the open for inspection. No more fitting place for the convening of such a meeting could be found than Washington. The American people want to be in a position to see what is going on, and might not be in any mood to endorse conclusions arrived at in secrecy in some distant European city. Let them call the Genoa conference off, and then let them be invited to come again and take counsel with the American people.

Better Times and War Finance Loans.

Millions have been lent to farmers' co-operative enterprises by the War Finance corporation. These loans have been direct, without the intervention of any bank or loan company. The same simple method of procedure could not be followed in the cases of loans to individual farmers since it would be impossible for any single central agency to investigate the soundness of so many thousands of local applications.

A witness from North Dakota has appeared before the senate agricultural committee in Washington with the statement that although the benefits of the War Finance system are being reflected to the farmer, the loans are not getting to the dirt farmers. If he means that a farmer without assets or any particular prospects can not get a loan through the federal agency, he should have said so in an outspoken fashion; it is true that every cent loaned by the government is loaned on good security. Were it otherwise, the War Finance corporation, though a private blessing, would be a public curse, with an immense deficit to be paid off by taxation.

By making advances on good agricultural paper the War Finance corporation is enabling banks with slow assets to carry the existing loans of their former customers for a longer period, thus removing the necessity for unwise liquidation and relieving the financial pressure which otherwise would make it necessary for producers to sacrifice their products without regard to the consuming demand. It is also enabling many banks that are in first-rate condition to make new loans for helping farmers and stockmen.

The situation of agriculture has been growing steadily better, and it is certain that such would not have been the case had it not been for the War Finance corporation.

Somehow we feel little sympathy will go out to the burglars who carried off a safe from a Presbyterian church, only to find it filled with aged sermons. It shows they do not know the Presbyterians.

A well known cartoonist should consult his colleague, the sporting editor, as to the resemblance between a mudcat and a sucker.

A defendant in a local divorce suit is accused of being crazy over women. He is not unique; there have been others.

If the Bryan brothers should reach the senate at the same time, a new bloc might be formed.

Men's clothes are to be a riot of color, say the clothiers. They have advance information. Unboiled water may now be returned to the dietary, which does not enthrone the home brewer. Third term hunters usually have bad luck in Nebraska. Winter is going, not coming on.

Cutting Down Expenses Congress Not Slack in Its Efforts to Reduce the Outgo.

(From the National Republican.) The sentiment expressed in some quarters that the congress is not concerned about reducing governmental expenses is wholly unfounded, as the action of the house of representatives upon estimates submitted to it by the budget bureau shows. Acting in accordance with the budget law, the executive departments were submitted to the congress on twelve different bills. Four of these bills have been acted upon by the house of representatives, and the appropriations asked reduced by \$53,800,000.

Twelve million dollars were cut from the budget presented by the Treasury department, \$10,000,000 from the postoffice budget, \$10,000,000 from the budget covering all the dependent governmental agencies, such as the shipping board, interstate commerce commission, federal trade commission, civil service commission, etc., and \$6,000,000 from the budget of the District of Columbia. Eight more estimates remain for the consideration of the house, and it is said by those who are familiar with the situation that the reduction on some budgets yet to be considered will be greater than upon any of the four already acted upon.

This action of the house is consistent with its record during the special session, at which time it made reductions in estimates submitted by various departments in the aggregate of about \$300,000,000. This republican congress has shown itself to be in earnest about economy. One of the best evidences of it is the fact that it promptly enacted the budget law, under which all methods of economy inaugurated by the executive departments is made possible. It is not surprising, therefore, that it is particularly in an effort to reduce the operating expenses of the government to the lowest possible figure.

Examples of extravagance and waste are constantly coming before the budget bureau and before the congressional appropriation committee. One of the most recent examples came to light during consideration of the budget for the District of Columbia, in which it was disclosed that public officials were using public automobiles for private purposes. In one case one official had incurred a repair cost of \$1,000 on a machine that originally cost less than half that amount. In another case the executive immediately introduced making it a misdemeanor for government officials to make private use of public automobiles. Not only was such a bill introduced, but Congressman Martin B. Madden, chairman of the house committee on appropriations, issued a formal statement saying: "I have served notice directly on certain government officials that unless they come before my committee that all illegal use of government funds must stop. They must not exceed their appropriations without authority in law and then come asking for deficiency appropriations. They must not use money given them for one purpose for some other purpose. They must not use public property, especially of automobiles, by officials in certain departments. I told one official particularly that if this was not stopped I myself would take legal action to have it stopped."

Speaking of the reductions in public expenditures, Congressman Madden says: "The republican congress has met a good start. It came into control of the congress in 1919. The expenses of the government in that year were over \$9,000,000,000. The succeeding year the expenses were \$7,500,000,000; in 1921 \$6,500,000,000; for the current fiscal year 1922, which ends June 30, next, the estimated expenditures are \$4,034,000,000. That indicates a reduction in cost, doesn't it?"

"We have \$975,000,000 interest charges, \$381,000,000 sinking fund charge, and \$489,000,000 of expenses connected with allotments, allowances, compensation, vocational training, hospitalization, insurance and payments to the dependents of dead or wounded soldiers who fought in the late war, amounting in all to \$1,845,000,000, no part of which existed before the war."

Why Blame the Students

The New York college presidents meant to be severe on college students when one said "the modern college is a high-class country club, useless in fitting a young man for a lucrative profession, and the other declared 'enjoyment of luxury and ease for four years. No man can on the side constitute satisfactory fulfillment of requirements for a college degree.' But the charge of futility made against the college course does not lie in appreciable degree against the men enrolled as students. If any institutions of higher learning are not fulfilling their mission the fault is with the authorities. No man can sneak through college, 'spending his time smoking cigars and wasting his father's money and his own time,' without the consent and connivance of the faculties, the responsible heads of which are the presidents.

One of the gentlemen quoted asserts the system of elective studies is at the root of the failure of colleges. Why not, then, abolish the system? Young men are sent to college to be trained. If they are given more freedom than is good for them, they are not to be blamed for taking advantage of the condition. If suitable tasks are set for them and they are required to maintain a grade through performance of work essential to their education they will work credit to the institution enrolling them; if they do not they should be excluded, which would do to the credit of the college.—Pittsburgh Gazette-Times.

Education in Mexico

One of the most marked evidences of progress in Mexico is the success of the school which have been established in connection with the Mexican army. A year ago more than 80 per cent of the privates were illiterate. Today most of them can read and write. In addition to reading and writing, instruction is given in the army schools in geography, Mexican history, arithmetic, grammar and civics. In these, as in the two primary branches, the progress of the pupils is remarkable. So great is the enthusiasm that some of the regiments stationed in the interior of the country have furnished, at their own expense, all the material for the school room.

For generations the ignorance of the Mexican soldiers has been proverbial. It accounted largely for the ease with which revolutions could be staged, no matter how flimsy or indensible the cause. The soldiers themselves were representative of the ignorance of the population from which they were drawn.

It is fittingly to the credit of the present Mexican administration that the Mexican people, soldiers included, are being lifted from the abyss of ignorance and given a chance at education. It is the only road by which Mexico can hope to rise to real prestige and sustained power. If education proceeds as it has started, the United States will soon have on the south neighbor worthy of her confidence.—Tacoma Ledger.

Rooted to the Spot.

Our faith in the official pronouncements of 1920 is unaffected by the result of the election of that year. We stand in our very tracks, just where we were when the votes were counted.—James M. Cox's speech at Dayton. Yes, looking backward like Lot's wife, and in danger of being petrified in that position as she was.—Portland Oregonian. Extremists Never Satisfied. Because it did not fulfill all their expectations two of the super-optimists and the hyper-pessimists, will be disappointed in the Washington conference. The rest of the country, however, is likely to be pretty well satisfied.—Detroit Free Press.

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. The doctor will accept questions stamped, addressed envelope and enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnoses or prescribe medicine. Address letters in care of The Bee. Copyright, 1921, by Dr. W. A. Evans.

FOOD FOR DIABETICS.

A disease concerning which we have learned a great deal during the last year is diabetes. The question has gone to about this point: The average diabetic who is intelligent enough to know that his condition is a serious one and determined enough to live by rule, can live out the life expectancy of people of his age, or practically so. Patients who live a happy, efficient, productive life. Of course, there are a few diabetics in whom the presence of sugar in the urine, though it seems to be progressive and fatal disease. These do not come under the above statement relative to the average diabetic.

When we consider that investigations show so large a proportion of the people to be diabetic, and the fact that the disease has its headquarters are potential diabetics, these discoveries are of no mean importance. The basic necessity for a diabetic is that he know enough about food values intelligently to carry out the directions of his medical adviser. This means that he must know something about calories, carbohydrates, proteins and fats. Rarely is he interested in vitamins and salts.

The basic condition of diabetes is a lowered tolerance for carbohydrates. If any man eats more sugar and starch than his tissues can use, the amount of sugar in the blood rises above the limit of his sugar tolerance. In diabetes, the limit of carbohydrate tolerance is low. They cannot eat much carbohydrate without having the kidneys secrete sugar in the urine. The problem is not so much that the diabetic eats less than his limit of carbohydrate tolerance. In practice the problem is not so simple as that.

Carbohydrate is the great source of heat and energy. To keep up body warmth the fuel for the furnace for energy we use carbohydrates as being the cheapest, most digestible, and most readily available source. It is not difficult to get the protein and cannot get enough carbohydrate to supply it, the need will be met by burning up protein or lean and also fat. In the protein the protein and fats elsewhere it will burn up the very important body proteins, such as muscle and body fat. The amount of carbohydrate which should be allowed in the diabetic's diet, it is proper to take into account the amount of sugar in the body, the amount of lean meat, and other sources of protein. Fat can be burned to make heat and energy, and, therefore, it can replace carbohydrate in the diet provided at the same time some carbohydrate is being burned.

In burning kerosene in a lamp there is the smoke which is the vaporized oil and the air are mixed in the right proportion. If these are not right, burning fat into heat and energy makes a condition known as acidosis. Baring all this in mind, Dr. W. H. Holmes has worked out a series of tables which a person, knowing the metric system, and having some knowledge of calories, can use as a basis for a diet for a diabetic. He can admit that no dietitian or doctor could do this, even with these simple tables.

First, the weight of the subject is ascertained. Next, his sugar tolerance. This is obtained by calculating the glucose in the carbons in the food, plus the per cent of glucose in the food, plus 10 per cent of the fat, minus the amount of sugar excreted in the urine. The tables show how much fat a person with a given sugar tolerance can stand.

Next, the acidosis products from protein is given. Finally, with these several items in hand, it is possible to divide the food allowances into carbohydrates, protein and fats. This, finally, is used as a basis in making up the daily diet.

Eat Less, Exercise More. M. M. writes: "I. Having read and heard never to take calomel, what are your views for torpid liver and biliousness?" "2. When the bile duct is removed what becomes of the bile?" "3. Mr. M. says a physician gives calomel with a pink tablet to work it off."

REPLY. 1. What you call torpid liver means constipation. It also means the habit of eating too much and exercising too little. 2. When the bile duct is removed the bile flows directly down the duct to the intestine. The bile is never removed. In time the duct is never removed. A portion of the duct pouches somewhat.

3. You are lucky you have this physician rather than his father. The father would have given you a teaspoonful of calomel for every ache, pain or other disorder you complained of. Your present physician will give you no calomel. Then you will be lucky right.

Put Quinine on Nails. Polly asks: "Why does a girl almost bite her finger nails? What should be done to stop her?" REPLY. Nervousness. She should overcome it by training herself in nervous poise. To keep quinine on her finger nails helps to overcome the habit. CENTER SHOTS. But the trouble with civilization is that it will stand considerable strain.—Syracuse Herald. Another difference between 'Prokident' and vice president is: 'Who knows Coolidge's dog's name?'—Wichita Beacon. We may expect very little accomplishment of the Genoa conference. The Russian bullet has gone there.—St. Paul Pioneer Press. THE SQUIRREL CAGE. Round and round he makes it go. Sometimes fast and sometimes slow. Every muscle tense and taut. Dreaming that he has not waked. While all the while he must have run.—Sure the forest soon is won: Almost he will be free. He will reach their nest, though late: Round and round he makes it go. Sometimes fast and sometimes slow. Round and round he makes it go. Sometimes fast and sometimes slow. Fast when through the bare ice: Slow when he has to wade. Slow when all my strength is spent. Staining me but dimly. For my feet. In a squirrel cage at last. —Florence Van Cleve in the New York Times.

The Bee's Letter Box

(The Bee offers its columns freely to its readers who care to discuss any public question. The editor will accept no "anonymous" letters, but will accept letters for publication, but that the editor may be able to refer to the writer's name. Letters do not proceed to editors or accept columns or opinions expressed by correspondents in the Letter Box.)

FARMERS AND FARM BUREAU. Gilchrist, Neb., Feb. 13.—To the Editor of The Bee: We hear a great deal at present about the big interests fighting the farm bureau, but little is being said about the selfish propaganda that is being spread in its favor.

In our home county a petition was circulated, asking that the county agent and highway commissioner be discharged and that the county quit paying for the services of a county assessor.

Now, the leading newspaper in the county has been making a desperate fight in behalf of the county agent, though it seems to have nothing to say in favor of the other officers mentioned. But it might be of interest to know that while the other county officials have their headquarters in the county headquarters, the headquarters of the county agent are located in the building owned by the county assessor.

If Fisher was negligent he should have been removed, but to insist that he not be a candidate would seem to indicate that the military authorities themselves recognize that he is a competent public officer, and that the voters would re-elect him if given the opportunity.

Is the action of the military court to become a precedent? If the voters were set up by permanently military courts in the various municipalities, would it be proper, then we can save much expense by doing away with public election and instead therefor set up permanently military courts in the various municipalities. QUERRY.

Agrees With the Doctor. Plattsmouth, Neb., Feb. 13.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is with great pleasure that I read the letter from A Country Doctor, from Norfolk, Neb. He certainly has the farmer sized up about right. Why should the grower, self-centered, egotistic farmer kick about his fate when we all know he is so stupid that if he gained that which he wished he would probably work all the harder?

Why should the farmer complain because his work is hard, and hours are long? Don't he get enough to eat? Does he think that he should aspire to the social pleasures and advantages of his superiors and more intelligent fellows? Let the poor farmer make a little money and they think they are almost human beings. If the farmer would just be content and let some "great constructive leader" outside of the farming interests; for instance, some grain speculator or "country doctor" tell him how to run his business, how much more he would prosper.

I fear, though, the obstinate fellow will continue to kick when things do not suit him, and to try to remedy them in his "poor blundering way." OLD GROCER. California on the First Page. When the California earthquakes are rating up the motion-picture colony grasps the opportunity to register a few shocks.—Springfield Union.

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the schooling but considerable experience from the school of hard work. A FARMER'S SON. OTOE COUNTY'S SHERIFF. Omaha, Feb. 14.—To the Editor of The Bee: As a former resident of Nebraska City, and having known Sheriff Ed Fisher from early boyhood, I am wondering if the son of Governor McKelvie's military court, established at Nebraska City recently, did not set a dangerous precedent in forcing the resignation of the local police force and the sheriff and his staff. Ed Fisher has been elected and re-elected sheriff of Otoe county so many times that natives have to look at the records to say when. However, the point that strikes me as most dangerous is the requirement from Sheriff Fisher that he yield his office to a young democratic appointee, and that he (Fisher) agree not to be a candidate for re-election. (Fisher is a republican.)

We try to educate our citizens to elect by the will of the majority, and that the voice of the people as expressed at the ballot box is a sacred thing. If the people of Otoe county elect Ed Fisher, if our sheriff, surely foisting on the people of that county a sheriff and police force whom they had no voice in selecting up, permanently military courts in the various municipalities.

If Fisher was negligent he should have been removed, but to insist that he not be a candidate would seem to indicate that the military authorities themselves recognize that he is a competent public officer, and that the voters would re-elect him if given the opportunity.

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