THE OMAHA BEE

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B. BREWER, General Manager
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(Seal) W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public

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Mother.

Whether the fact is denoted by the parade of a flower or not, each of us will today pay the tribute that is due to mother. It may be questioned if even the busiest man does not some time during every twenty-four hours withdraw into the secret chamber of his soul and for a little while commune with his mother. Living or dead, she is his constant companion, and no separation is wide enough to entirely get beyond her sweet and tender influence. Whoever succeeded in setting up a special occasion to be observed as Mother's Day, the American people have taken it, not as a perfunctory memorial, but as a sincere and genuine event for the manifestation of a deep and honest sentiment.

Every day in very truth is mother's day. She begins, as she has from all time, before the rest of the family stirs, to provide for the comfort, the health and the safety of her flock; she watches over the little ones throughout the day with patient solicitude, attending to their many wants, soothing their little sorrows, healing their bruises, and again at night she tucks them into bed, and renews her vigil over them till a new day starts the routine all over. All through childhood, youth and into maturity, mother follows and keeps watch over her boys and girls, herself her second thought. No man or woman ever repaid all mother's care, nor does mother expect it.

So the day for mother deserves to be marked by an especial regard, because it engages sons and daughters to acknowledge the indebtedness and obligation to the greatest blessing God has given the world—Mother.

Saving the World From Mr. Wells.

A good many people have been reading "The Outline of History," by H. G. Wells, unconscious that they were exposing themselves to the contagion of bolshevism and believing that they were acquiring a splendid bird's-eye view of the story of mankind. Some, notably Miss M. Carey Thomas, president of Bryn Mawr college, have suggested that it be used as a school text. The appeal of the Mr. Wells, who began his career as a teacher, for the establishment of a broader point of view in education has gripped the popular imagination.

All this has alarmed the National Civic federation. It set to work, in fact, to reveal the insidious propaganda of Mr. Wells so that no one might miss the point in reading the "Outline." As a result of a symposium of opinions gathered from a number of college history teachers, the National Civic federation makes bold to announce that, "Mr. Wells has always been an extreme radical at absolute odds with civilization as it exists in the world today, and an avowed advocate of socialism, but without any constructive program."

In addition to casting out this work as propaganda, the report produces opinions from members of college faculties exposing mistakes of fact and contradicting conclusions of the author. Among these expert opinions are those of Prof. Guernsey Jones, of the history department of the University of Nebraska.

"Mr. Wells gives only inaccurate and distorted views of those periods of history with which I am familiar," Professor Jones is quoted as saying. "Mr. Wells' qualifications as an historian are in my opinion nil. I should hesitate to call Mr. Wells' rapidly shifting views 'a social and moral philosophy.' However that may be, their influence is in my opinion, vicious."

The reading public, meanwhile, continues to absorb this amazing historical work. For anyone to announce that it is not fit reading for a 100-proof American is only to advertise it further. The task of the National Civic federation will not be completed until it is able to announce a better book covering the same world events in the same space and with the same readability.

Slang That Lasts.

The spread and development of slang is a mysterious process not to be limited by purists. It also is to be questioned if the popularity of a phrase can be forced by methods of publicity. Slang that takes a permanent place in the language must have within it some intelligence, aptness and humor.

Few think of words such as "skyscraper," "bedlam," and "snob" as ever having been anything but proper, well bred idioms. Even "highbrow," "fluke," "pal" and "butt in" seem to have made names for themselves. These are pointed out by Prof. George Stephens of Swarthmore as instances of legitimate slang.

He endeavors to contrast with these words such latter day expressions as "the snake's hips," "the monkey's instep" and "the cat's meouw," calling the lot of them meaningless, but at the same time declaring that they contribute suggestiveness that tends to the immoral.

"Meaningless slang is a sure sign of mental laziness," Prof. Stephens says. "The virtue of slang has been its sparkling originality. An acceptable slang word or phrase is so cleverly couched as to cover an expression better than it can be put in ordinary English. Such expression as "the bee's knees" or "the cat's pajamas" is a meaningless phrase bereft of the essentials of expressive slang.

The charge of stupidity appears to be better taken than that of indecency. Time is the real test of slang, but in so far as the outcome is able to be anticipated, it does seem that the newest fads in conversation are not likely to last.

Into a New World.

Advocates of certain changes in human habits of thought and action, methods of conduct and control of relations, tell us we are entering a new world; that old things have been broken up, and must be left behind as completely as Lot and his daughters left behind Sodom and Gomorrah. In a very large sense this is true. The war did break down many things that seemed fixed forever. It was evolutionary as well as cataclysmic, not merely the uprooting of traditions and customs, the making over of manners and fashions, but the loosening of bonds that held back ideas and closed in progress.

All this carried with it something else, the disposal of hold-overs that persist to connect the newer with the old, the present with the past, and may go on into the future. We may be very sure that there is nothing strange in this. No age or era in the world's development has escaped it. Nature still exhibits strange forms of life that trace back into the abyss of years beyond human understanding. What has made the change the more startling is the intimacy of contact in all the world. Before the Christian era a dynasty fell, or a civilization vanished, and only a few comparatively of earth's people ever knew it. Cities were buried and forgotten; races disappeared, and left no record. That is no longer possible, and that fact may account for some of the turmoil that accompanies the present transition.

No longer ago than the so-called Middle Ages great reforms moved slowly, extending their influence by gentle degrees, because communication was more difficult. It is hard to understand that European learning was decaying in the fourteenth century, because it was shut off from the fountain of the Near East, that burst and spread its vivifying flood when Islam overthrew Christianity and the Byzantine empire went to ruin. Yet this was true, because one section of the world had little knowledge of the other. Now the change in Europe affects all the world in a material way, and the new philosophy of life and religion touches on all in a spiritual way. It will conquer, if it be as sound as its followers believe, but it will have to overcome much that does not readily move. Long enduring beliefs are not easily changed, as witness the faiths that have altered in no essential regard through fifty centuries or longer.

We are well into a new world, dragging a lot of old ways with us. Perhaps we will all be better off when these are discarded, yet human nature is so constituted that it parts very slowly with things that are by long association almost an integral part of man. So, the new world will hold some elements of the old for a long time, but, if the prophets be not all entirely askew, a day will be reached when it will be a far better world, just because man has laid down a lot of the worthless and useless attributes with which he now encumbers his progress.

Exchanging Ideas.

Thousands of students from the four qdarters of the earth come to America to gather up and carry home with them American ideas and ideals. This intellectual intercourse between nations makes for international understanding and peace. In some cases there is an exchange, both of teachers and pupils between America and other countries. The Rhodes scholarships, on the other hand, take promising American boys to Oxford, where in addition to making them familiar with English ways, they are thrust in contact with minds from many lands.

Twenty American students and scientists have recently been selected by the American-Scandinavian foundation for study at Scandinavian universities. These traveling scholarships are for $1,000 each. In Denmark the recipients of these awards will study co-operative agriculture and dairy farming, and the Danish system of Folk high schools, which it is suggested may be suitable to use in isolated sections of America. Philology and mathematics will be subjects at the University of Copenhagen.

Electrical engineering is one of the specialties offered at the Technical institute of Norway, weather forecasting at Bergen Geo-physical institute, and language and literature at the University of Christiana. In Sweden the students will enroll at the Universities of Upsala and Lund, at the Forest institute, Nobel institute and other special schools in Stockholm. Botany, agriculture, forestry, metallurgy and philosophy are the leading subjects to be undertaken there.

Nowhere else in the world can Americans learn more of benefit to themselves and their nation than in these northern countries. Each of them have developed and intensified certain departments of knowledge. The Danish, Swedish and Norwegian students who come to American universities in exchange will also broaden themselves. These fellowships are an excellent means of cementing friendly relations.

Omaha's Cultural Life.

Several recent events tend to emphasize the importance of art in the social life of Omaha Most of these affairs have been conceived and organized by amatuers, although professional musicians have notably contributed to the success attained. First of all, the main intent was to entertain and amuse; few if any of the performers thought of achieving artistic laurels, but each was willing to do a little something to make the whole worth while. Each possesses a talent, and to the exhibition of that talent gave intelligent effort, with a distinct desire to make it all go over right. Conceding the success of the endeavors in the direction of divertisement, what is the effect on the whole social life of the community? This question is not so readily answered, yet reflection is apt to lead to the conclusion that it is for good. Knowledge of the presence of those who have trained themselves in one or another of many ways, who have attained accomplishments and developed gifts is encouraging, for it advises all that Omaha possesses assets that are not ponderable as bank accounts. These intangibles, if they may be so designated, are components of the cultural life of the community, and mark the distinction we deserve for not having devoted all our efforts and time to the sordid things of life. Omaha is growing spiritually and mentally as well as materially, and is a good place to live, because its people prize things for beauty as well as for use, and so exhibit the appreciation of a well-balanced existence.

Nebraska has only one democrat in congress, and he does not spend a lot of his time there.

Civil Service Danger

Compulsory Appointment May Be Bad or Worse Than Spoils System.

(From the Boston Transcript.)

A committee of the National Civil Service Reform league has again brought forward a proposal which periodically, for many years, has been much discussed by both the unofficial advocates and the official administrators of the merit system, and which is one of the most difficult to dispose of among all that have ever been raised in connection with the civil service. The committee is that on the appointment of presidential postmasters, of which Hon. William Dudley Foulke, acting president of the league, is chairman, and its proposal is that the appointment of the person standing highest on an eligible list shall compulsorily be appointed, instead of the appointment being made from among the highest three, at the option of the appointing officer.

It is urged in behalf of this proposal that if competitive examinations show the comparative fitness of candidates, then the one who stands highest must be the fittest, and should therefore be appointed; that to permit the selection to be made from among the three is to permit the element of political preference to enter; and that if the choice is made from the first three, the candidate at the head of the list may never be appointed, since every time he and two others are certified to the appointing officer, one of those below him may be selected, and he be left.

On the other hand, it is urged that a certain discretion ought to be left to the appointing officer, because there are often certain personal qualifications which can not be determined or expressed in the results of a competitive examination, which might make the second or third man really more fit for the place than the one who had the highest technical marks. Men who have performed the duties of civil service commissioners, for the nation or for the state or city, know this to be the case, and for that reason have generally been inclined toward retention of the present system of a choice from three.

The present proposal would seem to require, then, that congress shall by law vest the appointment of inferior officers in the civil service commission. But then the question arises whether that would be constitutional. The constitution gives congress the power thus to vest appointments in "the courts of law or the heads of departments." But the civil service commission is neither a court of law nor a head of a department of government. It is thus quite conceivable that another amendment to the constitution would be necessary for the carrying out of the proposal. And with all possible sympathy with and faith in the merit system and the system of competitive examinations, it may well be doubted whether so radical a change of our scheme of government would be desirable. To invest the civil service commission with the power of appointment of all inferior officers would be to make of it an extraordinary and most portentous administrative hierarchy, the powers of which would be in danger of grave abuse. At present candidates for appointment have to pass the scrutiny of both the civil service commission and an entirely separate and independent appointing officer, who will be responsible and authoritative head under whom they will work. Under the proposed system there would be no such dual scrutiny, with its wholesome checks and balances, but there would be left one sole appointing power, and it would have nothing whatever to do with the work of its appointees after they were commissioned.

The best friends of the civil service system will give the matter very careful consideration before they commit themselves to so radical a change.

Now President's Golf

President Harding, having duly applied and been accepted for membership in the Washington Newspaper Golf club, must by his own hand lay bare his record as a golf player. In a letter to James D. Preston, superintendent of the senate press gallery, Mr. Harding today applied for membership in the organization, composed of Washington newspaper men, as the publisher of the Marion (O.) Star. Stating his address for three years would be the White House, he submitted his dues for that period.

"I shall hope to be able to show some of the younger fellows how to make a good score," the president said in his letter. Before entering the tournament this summer Mr. Harding, under the rules, must submit answers to a questionnaire on his high and low scores and on what courses they were made. On the basis of his answers his rating as a golf player will be determined for the tournament.

Apparently Mr. Harding will have to stretch his memory on some points. Following the statement in the application, "I am at present a member of the following named golf or country clubs," the president inscribed, "Probably all of them."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Age of Discretion

People of mature years, not old people, understand, but simply people out of the first flush of foolish youth, do occasionally get their innings. To be sure they sometimes read in the public prints about "an old lady of 55," which, though admittedly and evidently absurd, is nevertheless disturbing to the morals. And once in a while there is a manifestly erroneous head line about the death of an old man who turns out to be a person just in his prime; 62, say.

But, as we started to say, there is balm in Gilead. Pictures. Pictures of Mr. A. J. Balfour, no Sir Arthur, no Earl Balfour, are now in circulation, showing him in an active game of tennis at Cannes. Tennis, as everyone knows, is a game for youngsters. No elderly person can cover a court. This gay young dog, shown chasing a ball with a racket, is 74.

"The days of our age are three score years and ten . . ." Hush! That was long ago. We are doing much better than they did in the time of Moses. When we reach 70 we are only at years of discretion. Ask Earl Balfour.—Kansas City Star.

Baseball Is Our Own.

So far as we have been able to determine, baseball is the only thing of prime importance which the Chinese do not claim to have invented. They will tell you in China that football was played in that country some centuries before the Christian era.

It may be that baseball is a development of the English game of rounders, if that is what they call it, but it is so changed that even our English cousins, who, like John Chinaman, are fond of claiming priority in discovery and in invention, are not at all forward in declaring that baseball is their own. We have, therefore, one "big thing" which neither Britons nor Chinamen played at, or made use of, before America was discovered.

The Chinese may have been the first, as they say they were, to make gunpowder, to fly kites, to print from movable type, to practice proper surgery, to master astronomy and do a hundred and one other things which other nations think they did first, but we can forgive all of this claiming presumption if John, whether John Chinaman or John Bull, will keep out of the baseball court of claims.—Chicago Post.

First National Bank in Danger.

Rolled stockings may not have had much effect upon the finances of the country, but they have compelled many of the wearers to change the place of doing their banking.—Portland Express.

Modern Both Ways.

Albanian women are discarding trousers to become modern, and American women, for the same reason, are putting them on.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch

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 proper limitation, where a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnosis or prescribe for individual disease. Address letters in care of The Bee.

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HOW ARE YOUR FEET?

The Long Island College hospital is getting into the foot game.

Here is what they say in a pamphlet, presumably printed for gratuitous distribution:

First page:
Better Shoes.
Better Health.
Do You Know?

Remaining three pages: Dou You Know—

Thas your Uncle Sammy called 4,000,000 men and 2,000,000 women into the service who had been wearing all kinds of shoes and had all kinds of feet, and that 85 per cent had a definite foot trouble due to improper shoes?

That this 85 per cent would have had better feet had they worn a proper type of shoe from infancy?

That 65 per cent of our children at the school age have stiff feet due to improper shoes?

That you should not teach children to walk with their toes turned out?

That this constant walking with the feet turned out is the beginning of weak feet which leads to flatfoot?

That children should not wear corset shoes or shoes that brace up the sides?

That this type of shoe splints the foot to the leg and restricts muscular motion at the ankle joint, and that this motion is important to the beginning of the walking period of children?

That corns, callouses, bunions, ingrowing toenails and arch troubles are due to improper types of shoes and stockings?

That there is no such thing as a root to a corn, callous or bunion?

That short ,or pointed, shoes are injurious to the feet?

That the barefoot race never knew of any foot troubles in any form?

That a proper type of shoe should be low at the heel, broad at the toe, straight on the inside line and flexible at the foot?

That the three best medicines for the feet are cleanliness, proper type of shoe and proper stocking?

DAILY FOOT EXERCISES.

Walk with the feet straight ahead —the heels and the great toe touching the line.

Sitting with the feet parallel and apart, raise inner border of the feet 20 times.

With the toes protruding over the edge of a thick book in the pigeon-toe position, turn toes under 20 times.

Place one foot over other knee. Turn foot upward and then downward 20 times. Repeat with other foot.

Standing, place both feet in the pigeon-toe position, the heels five inches apart. Roll the feet over on the outer border 20 times.

Walk about the room, with the shoes off, the heels on the ground and the toes protruding upward for five minutes daily.

Don't soak the feet in water. Wash them.

Harm From Steam Slight.

S. L. writes: "1. Is bathing in a bathroom which is heated by a kerosene stove harmful to a person who has tuberculosis? There is such a cloud of steam or vapor from the water when the bath is being taken that I feared breathing such moist air might not be best for one with lung trouble."

REPLY.

1. I scarcely think so. The exposure is very short.

Pack the "Snufflers" Home.

Mrs. D. W. writes: "1. We have a rural school with 135 pupils in four rooms. Every year we have many cases of certain disorders—tonsolitis, adenoids, mumps, bad catarrhal colds, etc. In inclement weather the children have no recreation accommodations except a small basement, which contains the lavatories and hot water boilers. Most of the children have to bring their lunches.

"Could such disorders as tonsilitis and adenoids be traced to unsanitary conditions at school, and what precautions can we use to prevent it?"

"2. What is your idea of circumcision? Does it affect the health of a boy? When is it necessary (if at all)? Has it any merit besides being an ancient religious rite?"

REPLY.

1. Yes. The remedy consists in better ventilation, more outside air at recess periods and better school inspection. Children with colds and sore throats should be sent home for a short period. 2. Seldom is it necessary or advisable.

Yes, Ma'am, That's Their Start.

Mrs. J. B. W. writes: "I am a mother with a baby 27 months old. I still nurse her. Does it do any harm?

"I have tried to wean her many times, but have failed. She is a very fat baby and very big for her age.

"She is always pale. She is also inclined to be nervous. I give her all other kinds of food besides the breast."

REPLY.

Wean her at once.

If you let her boss you now she will do it until she marries, after which she will give her husband —. She needs more vegetables and meat than she is getting.

MOTHER'S DAY.

By SELMA GORDON.

Oh, Mother's Day, that glorious day!
Where woman reigns supreme,
Come forth, ye sons and daughters all.
Strew gladness on her lonely way.

Here in this lovely month of May
Let each all thoughts unfurl.
Memorial to the greatest pearl
Who is hastening down life's way.

We hope she'll oft see many a day
As this in each succeeding year,
May her eyes each day be free from tears
And our devotion to her—happiness convey.

Now while we reverence this blessed hour
With joy and with tears for some,
Strew her grave with flowers and in the home
Let every sentiment be said with flowers.

The Love of a Mother.

BY GLADYS FIRKINS.

When God in His wisdom created this earth,
He made no thing faultless, but one.
For if life were one thorniess pathway,
Our race had already been won.
But one thing he needs must make perfect,
To help us this life to endure—
And that was the love of mother,
So perfect and priceless and pure.

Let those who possess this great treasure,
Which grows richer with each passing year,
Count themselves undeservedly happy,
And remember to cherish it dear.
For there's no one on earth but a mother—
You will find as life's lessons you learn—
Who will love you and sacrifice for you
With never a thought of return.

O, surely the fairest of mansions in heaven
Will lovingly be set apart
For the one who on earth lived so near like the Master—
The Mother of Unselfish Heart.

Nebraska Notions

Clay Center Sun: Some of the old-fashioned editors of the state are hollerin' because their track teams parade through their streets in costumes which show their legs. 'Spect this agitation will keep up until our just arriving manhood will have to go into the courts or the halls of congress and demand equal rights with their sisters.

Fremont Tribune: If the girls of Fremont should adopt the latest style of having their names worked in the back of their hose it is a safe guess that most men of the town would know the name of nearly every girl.

Kearney Hub: The Hastings Chamber of Commerce has set a mark for 30,000 population for that city within 10 years, which ought to be easily possible. Indeed, the three chief cities of central Nebraska—Grand Island, Hastings and Kearney—should be able to show that percentage of gain in that time, with an era of new progress and deevlopment that is now opening so auspiciously.

Blue Valley Blade: All the magazines are discussing the "flapper," the pert girl, the girl of the late (or rather early in the morning) hours who aims to live independent of her parents. Priests and pastors are hurling words of disapproval at her now—but wait; she will improve as she grows older.

Fairbury News: Banner county, Nebraska, has not had a divorce case in court for over four years. It certainly is entitled to its name.

Kearney Hub: A Clean Life Week, to embrace an anti-cigaret Sunday, is the latest. If the gait for "week" this and "week" that is kept up we'll soon be running short of a sufficient number of weeks in the year.

Pierce County Call: After we have celebrated all kinds of weeks and days, it might be a good idea to have a work week.

Blair Pilot: The modern girl, if she thinks she has a beautiful back, just grins and bears it.

Fairbury News: "How much should I tell my daughter?" asks a considerate mother who is worried over family problems. Not a thing, madam; she probably knows more than you do.

Keith County News (Ogallala): We will have a better community when people get to talking to each other, instead of about each other.

Norfolk News: After reading one of Conan Doyle's psychic lectures one expects Sherlock Holmes to emerge, light his pipe, inject a "shot" of dope and explain to Dr. Watson's dense mind what it's all about.

Bayard Transcript: People whose conversation is mostly slang, who pick up and use constantly phrases and expressions of others, or who have a few set expressions in their communications, are quite commonly said to have a small vocabulary. The popular conversationalist, the one who will be always correct because never conspicuous in form of language, will be the one who copies only from Noah Webster, who speaks only orthodox English and leaves slang to those who are unable to speak the English language.

Spaulding Enterprise: We are getting back to old times, for a front page on the newspaper has the same old tariff headlines that we were familiar with 40 years ago, and the same speeches are being brought out that have lain idle for many moons. And, besides, the southern democrats are lining up with the tariff republicans on some things, especially where a southern politician depends on his bread and butter from a cotton crop.

Fort Calhoun Chronicle: The state of Nebraska couldn't put across a 1-cent gasoline tax, but the oil companies slipped over one of twice that amount this week—and we haven't noticed any diminution in the number of gas chariots, either.

Nebraska City Press: The revenue law requirement of publication of lists of stockholders in foreign corporations doing business in Nebraska is not being universally lived up to. Dozens of oil companies, for instance, which bilked stockholders in Nebraska, have not yet furnished their lists for public approval. One or two which operated in this community have no lists on file. Perhaps they have gone broke.

Sutton Register: The Nonpartisans are out of the running in Nebraska, but the new third party is trotting along fairly well. But it's only a question of time when it will slow down to a walk and finally stop. There never was any real need of either the nonpartisan or progressives.