

THE OMAHA BEE

MORNING—EVENING—SUNDAY.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY NELSON H. UPDIKE, Publisher R. BREWER, General Manager

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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of May, 1922. (Seal) W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public

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Costs and Rewards of Citizenship. Omaha, first city of Nebraska in population and wealth, leads also in per capita taxation, with a figure of \$31.09, according to the compilation by the state department of finance.

There are compensations for high local taxes, though no one at present is in the mood for seeking them out. Government, whether local, state or national, does not take without giving something back, at least. It can be asserted without danger of contradiction that those places having small levies are attaining their savings by sacrifice as well as public thrift.

More public money goes for schools than any other branch of public activity. Undoubtedly there is waste in education, but can any one point out a private school run on strict business principles, that can give the same instruction as the public schools for as small cost? The average Nebraskan who has a child in school is receiving more in return for his school tax than he could get out of investing the same sum in any other way.

Statistics show that in Bayard, Neb., which is a comparatively new country where there were a few years back no educational facilities, the cost per pupil is \$113.07. In Sidney it is \$104.64. The cost of a year's education in Kearney is less than half as much, \$50.27, and in Falls City, \$32.06. The figure given for Omaha in this table compiled in Lincoln is \$74.70. This is correct as far as direct taxation is concerned, but does not include indirect income from fines and licenses. The statement of the Omaha board of education sets the actual cost per pupil in the elementary schools last year at \$83.07, and in high school at \$150.50. This compares with much lower figures for 1914, \$48.95 for the grades and \$58.52 in high school. A good deal of the increase in high school costs is due to the installation of technical courses, the most costly sort of education.

People say that they want lower taxes, and in fact, the burden of government must be lightened. This happy result can only in small measure be obtained by eliminating waste—most of it must be sought by public self-denial. And, once more it is repeated, the bulk of taxes go to the school districts and local governments, not to the state.

Governor McKelvie's Timely Notice. At the recent gathering of republicans at Lincoln the governor said that prospective candidates will be expected to stand by the work they have helped to do. This is not unreasonable. The legislature passed certain laws, believing them to be conducive to better government in the state. An active minority, taking advantage of the referendum, has secured the suspension of these laws until passed upon by the voters. What the governor asks is that the legislators who voted for these measures defend their course before the people, explaining why they thought it right that such laws should be enacted. Of course, he concedes to each the right to change his mind and to attack his own record, but neutrality is hardly a becoming attitude under the circumstances. Opposition to these measures is part of the general campaign against the McKelvie administration, which is the basis of the opposition campaign. McKelvie has encountered not a little opposition in his own party, yet it is not fair or reasonable that all he has done be condemned because some of it was not done to the satisfaction of everybody. The work of the legislature, however, is quite apart from the work of the executive, and its members, when put on the defensive, as they are by the reference of certain laws, should have something to say for themselves. That is what the governor has in mind when he gives them notice that the legislation was worthy of passage it deserves defense by those who made it.

War on the Speeder. Like the dandelion, the speeder is a pest hard to get rid of. Also, like the dandelion again, if he affected himself only, he would never be molested. But, just as the dandelion mars the beauty of an otherwise well kept lawn, so does the thoughtless, heedless driver, spoil the joy of the road for other drivers, and puts in jeopardy those who come under the orbit of his flight. He has been warned and fined, cajoled and scolded, and sometimes cursed in good heart, but to no purpose. He cares for no ordinary treatment, he steps on the gas and away he goes. Any who happen to be in his way are out of luck.

In cities other than Omaha the treatment is much more drastic than here. In Denver for example, the speeder goes to jail, and stays there. The result is that traffic on Denver streets is far safer than on those of Omaha. Perhaps if the local police magistrates would take into

consideration the fact that a driver who willfully violates the law by driving his car at a dangerous rate of speed is not a safe person to be let run, and so should be retired from circulation for a time, it would be of help in solving the problem. Small fines are of no avail; threatening to impound cars or even doing so has little effect on the evil. If driving an automobile around Omaha is to hold pleasure for the occupants of the car, and leave the streets safe for others who also must use them, it will not come until the speeder is eliminated, and present methods are not efficacious to the desired end.

When Democrats Are Frank. Those who are inclined to scoff at the sincerity of partisan advocates frequently ask what President Harding would have to do in order to win the approval of democratic newspapers. It is possible that nothing he could do, short of resigning from office, would gain him a word of commendation from some of his political foes. It is, therefore, with real pleasure that those who are Americans first and partisans after will read an editorial from the New York World on the report of the budget director, Charles G. Dawes.

Representative Byrns, who challenged President Harding to show any record of saving in government expenditures, was favored with a full financial report which he received without enthusiasm, approval or anything but disdain. The New York World, known as the mouthpiece of President Wilson, is more fair, as is shown in the following excerpts from an editorial entitled "A Triumph for the Budget":

Director Charles G. Dawes has been able to give to the president, and the president to congress, a very good account of the operation of the bureau of the budget for the first few months of active existence. The government's savings for the current fiscal year are placed at \$907,500,000, of which no less than \$250,000,000 can be attributed to economies and efficiencies effected by executive pressure upon the various departments.

The World drops its partisanship before this achievement, which benefits democratic and republican taxpayers alike, and concludes: The great credit due to Mr. Dawes and the Harding administration is not to be belittled. The budget system is already amply vindicated. But it will take more than one year for it to work out its full worth. The executive branch of the government is doing its part to that end. It remains for congress to do its part in co-operation with the executive and this is what, up to date, congress has not been doing.

Nebraska Tells the World. An Illinois manufacturer's magazine singles out Nebraska for congratulation, calling public attention to the fact that this great state is now well on the way back to normal and permanent prosperity. Other states are not receiving this recognition even though they have come back as well as Nebraska. Some folks seem actually to enjoy telling bad news, but this state since the first of the year has been in a more optimistic frame of mind.

Recently Governor McKelvie embarked on a campaign of publicity for Nebraska. Wherever he has been he has made a point of telling of the improvement in business. He has written many letters to financial and industrial concerns citing figures on the increased value of grain, live stock and other Nebraska products.

"The governor's letter to us," remarks the editor of the Illinois publication, "breeds optimism and confidence in the future, two things that are needed now in abundant quantities. Spreading the gospel of Nebraska's come-back offers a lesson to all of us—let's look at the doughnut, not the hole."

Nebraska is not without its calamity propagandists. Were they more numerous they might be influential in drawing the state back in the slough of hard times. However, their efforts at discouragement are pretty well discounted, partly as efforts to stir up unrest and gain political capital. Nebraska is coming back, and it is important that the world outside should hear of it.

For the Russian People. Lloyd George has pleaded with the delegates at Genoa not to send the soviet representatives home empty handed, because it might confirm the starving, destitute people of Russia in the belief that they are forgotten by the world outside. Such an effect would be deplorable, and it must be remembered that the chief approach to the people of any country is through their government. So, if the Russians are to be led back to safe ground, the first step will have to come from the group that is in control. Millions of tons of food sent into a famine-stricken region is good evidence to the sufferers that they are not abandoned, but it is not enough to win them entirely away from their adventure into an unfortunate experiment. Recovery will be slow, but the process will be made the more certain if action taken at Genoa is such as will permit some encouragement to the masses that their case is not entirely hopeless. In the end the Russians will have to help themselves, but they should not be allowed to live on under the apprehension, so carefully engendered by the Lenin-Trotsky group, that all the world has lost sympathy for them. Lloyd George's plea will find an echo and may bring results at Genoa. Eventually, however, the people of Russia will have to wearily, but hopefully, retrace some of the steps they have so hastily taken.

There are 1,035,948 women in employment in New York state—63,637 teachers, 5,635 actresses, 3,845 artists and 918 editors and reporters among them. If these self-supporting persons wish to bob their hair or wear short skirts, who is going to prevent them?

The Hungarian government has banned the writings of the good gray poet, Walt Whitman, as stirring up the revolutionary spirit, but not even this prohibition will induce the American public to read him.

The Illinois Central railroad is about to issue \$10,000,000 worth of stock to finance the electricification of its Chicago suburban lines, which should do a lot to reduce the smoke nuisance there.

Nebraska's democratic senator returned to Washington long enough to complain that the republicans were trying to pass a tariff measure. Will he be there to vote on its final passage?

"The shame of the cities" today is the powerlessness of the police to check banditry.

Another bill to limit senatorial election expenses is offered in congress. It will probably get senatorial support.

Russia is beginning to wonder what the party was for,

Nebraska Republicans Awake

Editors Agree Last Week's Meet Did Much to Arouse Spirit. Crete, Valetto. J. H. Walsh: The meeting of the republican state committee at Lincoln Thursday sounded the keynote to the approaching republican victory this fall. The republican party in the state and nation has made good to its platform and pledges to the people. Sweeping tax reductions have been enacted and useless employees have been eliminated from the payroll by the thousands. In this great transitional period after the war, the republican party has proved itself capable of handling the ship of state. A congressional caucus in the chamber of commerce was only a reiteration of the outstanding facts, and his exposure of Senator Hitchcock's failing to vote on important questions is so telling that only lack of interest on the part of republicans due to the landslide of 1920 can be the hope of the democratic party.

Beatrice Daily Express. Clark Perkins: The republican conference indicates a healthful condition of public sentiment, based upon confidence in the Harding administration. Graham's indictment convicts the democratic party of utter incapacity for constructive effort when given full authority in a time of supreme emergency. It deserves indelible termination of retirement such as it may by record of obstruction during the civil war.

McCook Tribune. Frank M. Killiam: With Congressman W. J. Graham of Illinois, the chairman of the Lincoln, Nebraska district, and Governor McKelvie on the platform Friday in Lincoln reviewing the work of the republican party during the democratic extravagance and wastefulness during the world war and the later efforts of the republican party to reduce and retrace and save the good of the war, the republican campaign in Nebraska for 1922 was opened auspiciously and effectively.

Wayne Herald. E. W. Huse: Congressman Graham's defense of the national administration appeals with convincing force to unprejudiced minds. His review of waste and inefficiency during and following the world war, his exposure of the democratic achievements in the direction of economy and efficiency were possible in little more than a year. Due understanding will lead people to approve of the administration in the part in retrieving the country from near chaos.

Hastings Tribune. Charles McCloud, republican chairman, made no error when he said that the campaign issue in Nebraska that is being fought is upon the tax problem. The people are going to demand a big slash in taxes and they are going to get it, as is plain by the republican conference at Lincoln. Congressman Graham's campaign in Nebraska for 1922 was opened auspiciously and effectively.

Table Rock Argus. Frank H. Taylor: The republican conference and speech at Omaha at Lincoln last week ought to arouse the people to the gigantic job the republicans assumed when they took over the reins of government, and to the fact that \$24,000,000 deficit cannot be met without sacrifice on the part of those who have to pay the bills. Efficiency without waste is good doctrine.

Kearney Hub. M. A. Brown: While the conference did not sound any keynote, the speakers confounded the enemies of republicanism with the summary of achievement presented by congressman Graham and the arraignment of Hitchcock by chairman McCloud. The effect of the conference is to justify republican faith and vindicate the administration in all essential particulars.

Nelson Gazette. The wholesome effect of the republican conference at Lincoln and Congressman Graham's exposure of the democratic waste is already evident. In contrast to the study of the public's business rather than to further the interests of party candidates, the conference gives evidence of superior wisdom and invites confidence. It is a credit to the republican party that it has not been content with a mere evading campaign. The incompetency of the democrats to handle public business and their utter disregard for the tax-payers while they were in power is not soon to be forgotten. The people need and want business men to represent them in public administration, and they are going to look to the republican party to furnish these men.

Man's Lost Knickerbockers. Women in knickerbockers crowd the boardwalk at Atlantic City, says a news item. Men lost a good opportunity when they omitted to adopt knickerbockers for permanent use, after the subsidence of the bicycle craze. The girls now are adopting them. Soon the identification of short "knickerbockers" with women's apparel may be complete. It then will be, perhaps, impossible for men to wear them.

A woman's well worn, unbuttoned, mannish garment. A man who is in the habit of wearing a dead wall rather than a considered effeminate. He will not wear anything which suggests his being effeminate.

Men once were plumed hats. Nowadays only women, in the western world, so adorn themselves. A man in a picture hat is now inconceivable.

When, or if, knickerbockers become a part of the sports wardrobe of women men may hesitate to wear them. The female of the species is not bent upon strict adherence to costume effects proclaiming the wearer thereof, but man will not risk the dear possibility of his seeming for an instant, in anyone's eyes, anything but a man. But he wouldn't stick to knickerbockers when bicycling was abandoned, and inasmuch as he wouldn't the girls have a clear right to a sensible and a useful bifurcated garment which he laid aside.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

On Their Way. The Irish refuse to forget that they are long on leaders, but short of places to go.—Indianapolis News.

How to Keep Well

Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. Evans by readers of The Bee, will be answered personally by the doctor, at his address, 1015 North 16th St., Omaha, Neb. Dr. Evans will not make diagnosis or prescribe for individual cases. Address letters in care of The Bee. Copyright: 1922

Those Sour Vegetables.

So far as we are able to judge, fruits and some vegetables make two acids which are acids for the body. They are malic acid and citric acid. In the human system these acids are burned into water, which is eliminated by the kidneys, and carbonic acid, which is thrown off by the lungs. They make some heat and energy. They are, however, lies in their appetizing qualities. The alkaline human body seems to crave the acids of the fruits as they are eaten, or many of the fruits are the alkali which these fruits yield up in the last analysis. It is somewhat suggestive that while the human taste buds for acid foods in a dozen different directions, I know of no such demand for any alkaline taste or flavor. From the standpoint of health, the most acid fruits furnish minerals and vitamins in the main, merely using these acids for appetizers.

Malic Acid Contents. Apples—21 to 1.81 per thousand. Pears—11 to .59 per thousand. Cranberries—59 per thousand. Cherries—56 to 1.54 per thousand. Currants—2.27 to 2.37 per thousand. Gooseberries—1.7 to 2.6 per thousand. Plums—35 to 2.15 per thousand.

Citric Acid Contents. Lemons—6 to 9 per thousand. Oranges—1 to 2.5 per thousand. Citrus fruits are present in strawberries, quince, grape, peach, watermelon, tomato, greens, beet, asparagus, spinach, lettuce, celery.

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The Bee's Letter Box

The Bee offers to answer freely to its readers who care to discuss any public question. It requests that letters be "concisely brief, not over the words. It requests that the name of the writer accompany each letter, and that the writer be prepared to defend his position in person, but that the editor may quote any statement by correspondence in the letter box.

Care for Children First. Beatrice, Neb., May 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: Let us thank you for people like "A Reader," whose letter was in The Bee on May 8.

Why can't the good people of Omaha do as she suggests? Why do we have to know their money had saved countless children—who can say "Thank you" which a dog cannot? Remember, as much as we have done it into one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it into me." ANOTHER READER.

Eagles and Old Age Pension. Omaha, May 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is most gratifying to learn that the Fraternal Order of Eagles, an organization of national scope and activity, as well as of originating sympathy, is backing a movement to write an old age pension law on our statute books. Recent developments in the industrial field have accentuated the needs of this reform. When Dr. Carter, some 40 years ago suggested that after 60 years man should efface himself from participation in the world's work, humanity felt stunned, but when the modern captain of industry dumps his exhausted slave on the scrap heap our ignorant or indifferent silence is mistaken for approval. Now, society must provide in some way for its charges, and the question presents itself, How? The old age pension is one of the most humane and acceptable solutions of a difficult problem. We never grumble over the amount of money spent on the inmates of our poorhouses or poor farms, but the suggestion that it might be far more economical as well as more manly and self-respecting to support our aged poor under a small pension does not find ready lodgment in our minds; and yet this is the manner in which most civilized countries have worked out the problem. Even England, that trailed all Europe in this matter for decades, now has a law in operation. The existence of one poorhouse in this land of fabulous wealth and limitless resources is a reproach to us all. We should be sorer and willing to make any reasonable sacrifice to save our relatives, friends or neighbors from the ineffaceable stain of pauperism, and an old age pension offers us a cheap and decent way to do it. M. J. GRADY, 4713 South Seventeenth Street.

Why Are the States? (From the New York Evening Post.) There was a time when Americans were not proud of their states, but aggressively proud of it. The greatest American of all, in camp at Cambridge, wrote to Lund Washington that he was proud of his state, grasping set, in distressing contrast with the Virginia officers. The Yankees themselves had such rooted objections to serving under a New Yorker that congress replaced Philip Schuyler with Gates. The most eminent Pennsylvanian, Dickinson, and the most eminent son of Massachusetts, Adams, cut each other over a question of Pennsylvania policy. It was a pride that persisted to the day of the revolution. The Virginians of 1860 would have been as much insulted to be taken for a Vermonter or Dr. Johnson would have been insulted to be called a Scotchman. Of this pride there are fewer and fewer vestiges. "It is curious how state lines mark differences in Americans," writes William Allen White in the first of a series of nation articles which will try to define the variances of 48 states. It is even more curious how little the differences are recognized.

In large part this arises from our habit of looking at the states from a standpoint of national history and politics, which light they seem to have played a discreditable and diminishing role. Haven't the states been in the way of every great step from the federal constitution to the establishment of a truly national army? Are they not now the source of the main difficulties in such fields as divorce? Such questions are misleading. The states have often been not the obstacles to national reform, but the instrument for which it came. Frequently it is not the nation which conquers the unwilling states, but the states which conquer the nation.

When we look at the Interstate Commerce commission struggling with the legislatures, but we forget that it was the granter movement in the states which gave birth to railway regulation. We see the nation trying to remove the child labor evil in several southern states, but the unwilling states, but the states which conquer the nation.

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