

THE OMAHA BEE

MORNING—EVENING—SUNDAY.

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

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The net circulation of The Omaha Bee for April, 1922 Daily Average . . . 72,390 Sunday Average . . . 79,595 THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY

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

BEE TELEPHONES Private Branch Exchange Ask for the Department of Person Wanted. For Night Calls After 10 P. M., Editorial Department, AT 1021 or 1045.

OFFICES Main Office—17th and Farnam Co. Bluffs—15 Scott St. South Side—1935 S. 24th St. New York—284 Fifth Ave. Washington—1211 G. St. Chicago—129 Stearns Bldg. Paris, France—420 Rue St. Honoré

Hughes Did Not Close Door.

Statesmen at Genoa express surprise that the invitation to the United States to attend a conference at The Hague was answered so promptly from Washington. These same statesmen were similarly surprised when they found the United States ready with a program at the opening of the Washington conference. It is merely another manifestation of the American way of doing business.

What Europe seems to have forgotten is that no wound will be healed by talking about it, nor will prosperity be restored to any European nation by the processes of old-fashioned diplomacy. When the representatives of the several nations can meet, put their cards on the table, as was done at Washington, and come to an agreement resting on justice and not on political expediency, then a start will have been made in the direction of a permanent settlement.

As long as national pride and prejudice stand in the way, with a return to the old balance of power system, conferences at The Hague or elsewhere will bring no lasting good. England, France, Italy, Germany and Russia must get together, and not stand in opposing groups. This means the Russians will have to abandon some part of their communistic program, that Germany will have to acknowledge responsibility for damage done during the war and make settlement for it, that France will have to learn to trust to a sense of international justice and not rely exclusively on its armed force, that England and Italy will recognize that intelligent self-interest is sometimes best served by helping others, and finally, that all the nations cease bickering over boundaries and the other matters that can be adjourned, and take up seriously pressing and vital problems of an economic nature, the adjustment of which is vastly important to Genoa.

The Hughes note which disturbed Genoa yesterday is not intended to close the door. The United States still is sympathetically interested and inclined to help, but insists that politics be adjourned until the more urgent business is attended to. When Europe's people turn to work again, and set about to restore something like industrial and commercial stability, with communication unhampered, and armies disbanded, then they will not call in vain at Washington.

Wool and Wyoming.

The interests of producers and consumers do not ordinarily meet as closely as they do in legislation such as that proposed in the "Truth-in-Fabric bill," which is now before congress. It is to the advantage of purchasers of goods and garments that they know exactly what they are getting.

Wyoming is a great wool producing state. It is, however, without any textile mills, and its citizens clothe themselves in eastern made cloth. Wyoming sells pure wool, and it desires to buy goods made of the same quality. It has the impression that by purchasing adulterated goods it is destroying its own market.

Thus, the city of Rawlins has passed an ordinance requiring fabrics and apparel containing wool or purporting to contain wool to be labeled in one of three ways. The state itself has enacted a similar statute. Under this a label must state plainly: "All virgin wool," "Not less than — percent virgin wool," or "No virgin wool." The terms "all wool" and "pure wool" may apply to all wool shoddy, but virgin wool is that used in fabric for the first time. Shoddy, it perhaps is unnecessary to explain, is wool that has previously been spun into goods.

If one wishes to obtain wool clothing, it is fair that he should be enabled to be certain of what he is getting. If one has no objection to shoddy, and wishes a cheap garment, there is no interference with that, either. Manufacturers may find some objection to such provisions, but neither the sheepman nor the man in the street will lose.

Lady Astor and Her Hosts.

Speaking at Chicago, Lady Astor tells us that she was warned not to mention certain subjects, the alternative being exposure to possible bombing. She courageously ignored the threat, saying she dreaded dynamite far less than apathy. One would expect such a reply from an American woman whose native spunk has been well tempered in the fires of British politics. However, Lady Astor need have no more dread of bombs because of her views in Chicago than she would have at home. It is, perhaps, true that she is in somewhat more of danger here than there, for unfortunately just now America harbors a scattered group of rattle-pates whose idea of liberty is a bomb hastily shielded after night-fall at the domicile of some one who has offended the tosser. Such argument has convinced nobody, has not as yet established the "terror,"

nor restrained free speech. Lady Astor may voice her views with the frankness that has marked her course since she entered public life, and Americans will listen to them. It is not guaranteed that we will take her advice, although much of it might be with profit applied to our political and social life. But she will not be in any special jeopardy because of her utterances; if she be made the object of a bomber's activity, it will be because she is Lady Astor, a person of prominence, and therefore fair game for the skulking assassins who work as "direct actionists."

Price of Gasoline.

When the government issues a statement announcing or predicting an unusually large production of some farm commodity, the market price immediately adjusts itself in accord with the increased supply. This is according to the well known economic law of supply and demand, before which all restive farmers are called upon to fall down and worship.

Why should this natural law not work the same in the case of gasoline? According to the statistics of the federal bureau of mines there is more gasoline and oil in storage at the present time than ever before. In the face of this oversupply the price of gasoline has been hoisted steadily. The fact that the increase is so timed as to coincide with the automobile tourist season makes it doubly unpopular. It is no wonder that the United States senate has ordered an investigation.

According to the "Credit Forecast" of the American Security Credit company of St. Louis: "The advance was not caused by any shortage present or prospective, but to help the oil companies carry their enormous crude holdings. About the only thing that makes an advance possible is the fact that the big companies hold nearly all the gasoline."

If such is the truth, this is nothing better than a subtle form of highway robbery. More surely than the robber barons who used to lie in wait for travelers, these oil concerns are levying toll on all those who motor. The manufacturers will in time be hit by the backlash of this unscrupulous act.

There is less hope in the ability of our lawmakers to regulate this situation than there is in the invention of some cheaper motor fuel. Mother Necessity is calling for the development of some inexpensive way to turn Nebraska corn into power.

Child Labor Must End.

The federal supreme court, in considering the constitutionality of the anti-child labor law, had to settle again the old question: "Does the end justify the means?" The court said, "No."

The overworked and undereducated children of certain "backwoods" states cried out for relief. Little tots of 8 and 10 and 12, bent over machines or carrying burdens in dark holes under the earth's surface, found their state governments no guardians of their right to develop mature physical and mental strength. The states would not act and could not be coerced. The federal government appeared to be the only recourse and public opinion supported action by it.

Against this motive stood the natural inclination to avoid the giving of new powers to the federal government. There are practical as well as theoretical and traditional reasons for maintaining all possible sovereignty in the state governments. Stretching the constitution to give added responsibility and authority to Washington, at the expense of the forty-eight commonwealths, is a tendency fraught with danger.

In the child labor legislation, the two ideas clashed. Congress decided with the children. The supreme court decides in favor of maintaining the constitutional barrier. Yet some way should be found to enforce a reasonable restriction of child labor.

Receiverships.

The science of taking care of sick business concerns has not kept pace with that of curing the ills of human beings. Twice within a month a high federal court has set aside the receivership under which local corporations were being managed, has voided the acts of those in charge and has turned affairs over to other managers. Debts adjusted or on the way to adjustment are reopened, expenses of settlement are multiplied and the whole situation is little short of chaotic.

These particular orders may be proper and necessary. The point is that the system is wrong which requires or permits such delays and such reversals of policy. The layman gave up long ago all hope of understanding the intricacies of the administration of law; the difficulty is that they seem past the understanding of most lawyers as well, and that through no certain fault or incompetence of the lawyers. As time has gone by, the uncertainties of the law become more instead of less evident. The expense of litigation mounts correspondingly. In the case of receiverships, not infrequently the cost of receiving wipes out the receipts.

Moses was the original law giver. There is a job cut out for a second Moses. The Red Cross, faced with a budget calling for expenditures of \$7,000,000 with an income of only \$3,000,000, has withdrawn from European relief work. John Barton Payne, the chairman, also favors the abandonment of the Atlantic and Lake divisions in America. The abandonment of many peace-time activities such as dental clinics, clinics for babies, health service centers and child welfare work would be a loss, but the only way to economize is by sacrifice.

Miss Elizabeth Marbury, women's national democratic chairman for New York, has challenged Lady Astor to a debate on prohibition. It is to be wondered how some reformers who welcomed the entry of women into politics will view the spectacle of Miss Marbury chumming with John Barleycorn.

The British parliament is moving to abolish the law by which the eldest son inherits the family property, no doubt quite a proper reform, but one which a few centuries back might have altered world history which has been influenced to a great degree by the wanderings of the younger sons.

Anna Gould, who is the duchess of Talleyrand, now asserts that the 13-year-old duke of Sagan is not her child, but that of some other woman, and that her own child was a girl. Here is a movie plot in real life.

South Africa plans to raise its tariff duties against many American products, which suggests a fertile field for free traders to exercise their persuasive powers.

From State and Nation

American Opportunities.

In the biography of Henry Ford which begins in the May issue of McClure's Magazine—a biography, by the way, which is worth reading through every word of it for its fine inspirational American qualities—there appears this paragraph of splendid encouragement to effort of all kinds:

We have only started on the development of our country—we have not as yet, with all our talk of wonderful progress, done more than scratch the surface. The progress has been wonderful enough, but when we compare what we have done with what there is to do, then our past accomplishments are as nothing. When we consider that more power is used merely in doing nothing than is used in all the industrial establishments of the country put together, an inkling comes of how much opportunity there is ahead.

Most successful men are inclined to talk only of the good of what they have done with the big opportunities that were offered a generation ago. As a consequence, young people are likely to get the false idea that all the good things were picked up long ago by the big men in industry and that there is nothing left today but the small pickings and hard competition of followers. But when a man like Henry Ford, a man whose ears of hard work and success have not dimmed his vision, reminds us that the development of the country has only just begun there is a direct incentive to work which will result in some achievement to this glorious country of ours. One thinks with impatience of the present problem of unemployment in the light of all the vast labor forces which will be needed in our national development.

Flappers in France.

M. Marcel Prevost, who is regarded as France's authority on la femme—a sort of French W. L. Gillette—has a peculiar combination, who knows more about women than women know about themselves—has been discouraging upon the French flapper file. She, too, it appears, has been thoroughly enlightened. When one considers that before the war no country hedged her young girls about with sterner protection than France, where the chaperon reigns supreme, and where she is left alone in the company of young men, never played games with them, only dined with them under the eye of their elders, never had a say in the choosing of her suit, and where she was in the choice of their own clothes, the emancipation of the flapper in that country is little short of a social revolution.

This emancipation of the flapper file was brought about by the example of the very capable young English and American girls who flooded France during the war. It was these foreign girls who were contagious, and they could run the canteens, manage the Red Cross stores and only toward the end were the French girls allowed the same social independence—and even the right to wear the automobile, running the canteens, managing the Red Cross stores and only toward the end were the French girls allowed the same social independence—and even the right to wear the automobile.

Curbs for Crime.

A committee of the American Bar association, appointed last year to investigate crime conditions in large cities, has prepared a tentative statement for presentation to the association at its meeting in San Francisco in August.

For one thing, it is found that crime increases or decreases in proportion to the population of the city. It has been found that in Chicago, for instance, the crime of murder has decreased by 51 per cent as a result of speeding up trials of criminals. This means of speeding up justice perhaps is one that the bar association itself can exert the greatest influence upon. Another matter about which there is no doubt, which the committee report makes prominent, is the necessity for more strict regulation of the sale of firearms. It is pertinently remarked that crimes of violence in large cities will not be reduced to normal until the gunman is done away with. Texas and Missouri have solved the problem and the solution of it elsewhere may require the prohibition, under limitation, of the manufacture and sale of revolvers and cartridges. Other suggestions refer to the "sloppy sentimentality in the handling of insanity pleas" and advocate the imprisonment for life of "professional" criminals.

Ration of Candy Eaters.

One of the remarkable results of prohibition is the growth of the candy business since the enactment of the eighteenth amendment. There was invested in this business in 1914 the sum of \$170,845,000. There is now invested \$500,000,000, a tremendous jump in value. Perhaps it is this demand that keeps candy prices so high, in the face of the great drop in sugar. There is no nation in the world that consumes so great a quantity of these sweets as do the people of the United States. With a population now estimated at 115,000,000, it means that over four dollars' worth of candy is made annually for every man, woman and child in the country. The theorists hold that this growing consumption is owing to a craving for some sort of a substitute for alcoholic beverages. This presents a problem for the physiologist and psychologist to work out. The fact is, seemingly, that the water wagon has become a confectionery wagon, and that hundreds of thousands of unwilling riders find some solace in bonbons and chocolate creams, who, in the prohibition days, may not even have known the taste of these delectables.

Nebraska's New Capitol.

The new capitol of the state of Nebraska, soon to be erected at Lincoln from the designs of Mr. Goodhue of New York, would be an astonishing structure anywhere in the United States. Its main feature is a tower so lofty and so ornate that the low, plain offices of state which stretch in a square about it seem merely to be fenders for the main structure. The jubilant Nebraskans are already so enthusiastic over what they call Mr. Goodhue's new note in architecture, that it seems heartless cruelty to disagree with them even for a moment. Yet dispassionate critics in the east are sure to feel that the irresistible quality of this new note is the fact that it rises 400 feet into the air. It may have seemed deliciously impolitan to the committee of choosers to have a skyscraper capitol, but with all the will in the world to be sympathetic, what on earth has the skyscraper form to do with a hall for a state legislature?

Skyscrapers in the congested areas of great cities are an economic necessity, and born as they have been of necessity, they have forced architects to brilliant achievements, of which New York more than most cities is prone to boast; but how is the believer in the ultimate arrival of good things to be convinced of the necessities of this crowded city are those of a prairie state?

Hugging Job Too Close.

A man was heard to boast that he had been on the same job for fifteen years without any vacation. There is something wrong with a man like that. Why should any one take pride in attaining a record for stupidity? If a man has no other interest in life, aside from his job, then he is so narrow minded that he puts no value on the job. When a man treats his job as an endurance test and is proud of a long vacation period the chances are that it is the only thing he has to show for it. Moreover, he may be trying to hide the fact that he is afraid to take a vacation lest his employer should find out how little he is needed. As a rule, the man who has an undivided heart in his own indispensability is the one who can be most easily spared.

Influence of Women Workers.

Of women who work, there are in this state 112,593. There will be, as it is, some expression of gloom over the fact that the only occupational group falling off is that of domestic and personal service. Today we are quite used to seeing sisters stepping into the jobs once reserved to their brothers. What comes to us first, upon the contemplation of figures, is the thought of the new power that exists in the great feminine corps of laborers and the spread of consequent influence.—New York World.

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 a diagnosis or prescribe for individual diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee. Copyright: 1922.

YOUR ABDOMINAL BRAIN.

"Ever since your article in January on the solar plexus came out," writes G. D., "I have been watching for the next one."

REPLY. Some day we will know a lot about the sympathetic nervous system, of which the solar plexus, or coeliac axis, is a part.

This part of the nervous system has charge of the distribution of blood to different parts of the body; with blushing and turning pale; with cold feet and burning of the ears. It has much to do with the digestion of food and its absorption; with nutrition; with heart beat; breathing; and with the generative functions.

Its work has to do with comfort and ease, and with well being in general. It follows that it has much to do with discomfort, disease, and the conditions of the body which are the opposite of well being.

REPLY. Some day we may know how to treat such diseases of the nervous system as cold feet, Raynaud's disease and many others.

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The Bee's Letter Box

land in the United States senate. Inasmuch as the entire income of the gas plant must come out of the pockets of the consumers, every dollar of the immense surplus accumulated last year represents just that much overcharge. But please tell us (meaning those who of necessity must still continue to use 2-cent prepaid gas meters) what are we going to do about it? JOHN F. OVERBAY, 1212 South Sixteenth Street.

CENTER SHOTS.

The modern girl can't have much milk in her heart. She is always so willing and ready to kiss and make up.—Nashville Banner.

"It is hard to give away a million," says John D. Evidently he has never tried patronizing his own filling stations.—Nashville Tennessean.

For a bank-up sort of man we recommend Nitro Shute of Portland, Pa.—Schuylkill Gazette.

That 7,000,000 majority has survived the honeymoon stage and is now talking about a divorce.—Asheville Times.

"Perfect Girl Leaves Chicago." Any perfect girl would have to—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

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