THE OMAHA BEE

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(Seel) W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public

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Ancient Wisdom and Modern Experience. It is sometimes said that there are only two kinds of men-some wear whiskers and some don't. Indeed, so far as our responses to fundamental stimuli are concerned, there is little difference between human beings. Almost everyone laughs when tickled, resents being robbed, enjoys praise and seeks to better his condition,

Less firmly rooted in mankind is the institution of government. The race was millions of years old before the state as we know it rose. There have always been rebels against it, and there have been also those who set it above all other considerations, human or divine, Hence it is that though one may gauge pretty closely the reaction of another to the older incentives, yet in politics and government there is a never ending difference of opinion.

These thoughts are provoked by the reading of a letter from Thomas Jefferson, written several years after his retirement from public life,

in which he said: Some men look at constitutions with Some men look at constitutions with canctimonious reverence, and deem them like the ark of the covenant, too sacred to be touched. They ascribe to the men of the preceding age a wisdom more than human, and suppose what they did to be beyond amendment. I know that age well; I belonged to it, and labored with it. It deserved well of its country. It was very like the present, but without the experience of the present; and 40 years of experience in government is worth a century of bookgovernment is worth a century of book-reading; and this they would say themselves were they to rise from the dead. I am certainly not an advocate for frequent and un I think moderate imperfections had better be borne with; because when once known, we accommodate ourselves to them and find practical means of correcting their ill effects. But I know also that laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind.

It is possible to make a point of this counsel of moderation without falling into the error of regarding Jefferson as the oracle which he never set up to be. There are today men who see red at the first mention of the fallibility of the founding fathers. There are others who are unwilling these classes the words of one of the original leaders may be commended.

Fruits of Discovery.

Amundsen starts on a seven-year Journey mto the Arctic circle with the North Pole his goal. Major Blake starts around the world in an airplane,

For what good purpose? Fame, profit, adventure, what?

If you could five 100 years you would learn the true answer.

More than 400 years ago Columbus discovered the existence of the western hemisphere. You are seeing the result now. But life is moving faster nowadays and the world, fortunately, won't have to wait so long a time to profit through explorations of his successors.

Risking life and limb without great remunerative return may at first thought seem foolish. but the world-all of us-gains thereby,

Things Worth Knowing.

'Any fool can ask questions, and in spite of Edison's evident belief, a man may answer them and also lack real wisdom. The raw material of information must be digested before it can be called knowledge. The human mind loves to soar, and so perhaps it would be untenable to attempt to hold that a fact is worthless unless it has some useful application, but still there are a great many facts that classify under the head, "Interesting but unimportant."

Nathaniel C. Fowler, jr., compiler of a number of popular handbooks, has undertaken a brave, almost a foolhardy, task in a recent volume entitled "1,000 Things Worth Knowing." However useful it might be as a book of reference, it most emphatically is not the sort of vade mecum one would choose for a list of works suitable for reading on the proverbial desert island.

Imagine if you will two castaways, each of whom had memorized these 1,000 facts. In the effort to while away their boresome existence, one opens with the paragraph: "Statistics vary, but considerably more than 6,000 buildings are injured by lightning every year, causing a loss of about \$3,000,000. About 700 people are killed every year, and more than 800 are injured. It is said that lightning kills between 4,000 and 5,000 domestic animals a year, valued at about

His victim might come back with the question whether or not cats and dogs were counted | the journey? in the list of domestic animals, but on the other hand he might quote from the next set of facts: "About 90,000 of the inhabitants of the United States are deaf and dumb, more than half of that number being born with the affliction. Of this number about 47,000 are males and 43,000 females."

Not to be outmatched in vital statistics, the first castaway replies: "There were in the United States in 1918 confined in insane asylums 239,820 persons, or 229.6 in every 100,000. In 1910 there

were 187,791, or 204.2 in every 100,000." By way of variety they might turn listing the seven chief virtues, matching these with the seven deadly sins, the seven corporal and spiritual works of mercy, with reference also to the seven liberal arts, the seven wise men of Greece, the

the old world and the new world. Eventually the conversation might, if the two held their tempers, get around to the fact that "Baseball became the national game in 1885, although it was played to some extent as early as 1840." Then they might list the pennant winners, the prize fight champions and walking records.

If one of them broke in to tell of a championship game he once saw with his own eyes, they might retain their sanity. But to talk like an intelligence questionnaire is not human nor rational. Facts are valuable as they touch on experience. Rather than listen to "1,000 facts worth knowing," the average person would thoose to hear something beginning, "Two Irishmen landed in New York, named Pat and Mike."

A Flower's Plea for Life.

I am just a flower in one of the parks. The fresh air, the wonderful sunlight and the cool water have made me graceful and beautiful. Because I am so beautiful, I now fear for my

During the past few weeks, in the stillness of the night enshrouded by the shadows of the bushes and trees, flower vandals have come and stolen my kin.

And well-dressed men and well-dressed women have been among them. Some even came high-priced automobiles.

Why, the other night one woman almost plucked me. If it hadn't been for Old Joe, the night watchman, I wouldn't be here to tell the story. Old Joe arrested her and I was told she was fined by the judge. It was what she de-

It isn't that I fear to die. Our days in the parks are but few, but if we are permitted to live our full life we can spread much sunshine and

When my life was endangered in that amount of anxiety I thought of the little girl who comes to the park with her mother every evening. Her mother is a seamstress and they live in a flat. They haven't flowers in their home and they

don't own a back yard. She makes believe I am in her back yard and she tells her mother how beautiful and tall I am becoming. She sits in the grass before me and tells me that she, too, wants to be good, beautiful and graceful.

You see, dear friends, we flowers of the publie parks have a very important mission. We spread sunshine and happiness, and are an inspiration to those that seek the things that are wholesome and good in life.

Every step should be taken to curb the flower vandals. And, dear judge, when you get them in court, punish them. When you visit the parks, and as the breezes blow, see us bow a tribute to

We want to live our full life, ever so much, for the little daughter of the seamstress, and many, many others.

Plant an Apple Tree.

The Japanese grow their cherry trees for their olooms rather than for fruit, and the Chinese likewise have a dwarf apple tree that is purely ornamental. Though our American orchard trees are beautiful in spring, yet it is solely for their utility that they are valued. If they are planted by householders in the city, it is in the backyard rather than the front,

It is interesting to find the dean of agricultural writers, L. H. Bailey, calling attention to the aesthetic features in the initial volume of Macmillan's Open Country Series, under the title, "The Apple Tree." An apple tree that is not pine tree to grow as it will, is looked upon as an unkempt piece of the landscape, he remarks. Yet, he adds, if the apple tree had never borne good fruit, we should plant it for its blossoms and its picturesqueness as we plant a hawthorne or a locust tree.

There is indeed beauty in the gnarled and twisted trunk and branches of an old apple tree. Its hardy and rugged appearance seems full of character. More fruit trees should be planted in the cities, even perhaps in the parks. The fact that they are useful as well as ornamental should be an added recommendation and not a drawback.

The Saving Habit.

"A man's best friend is the dollar in his pocket," says a pioneer business man who started with nothing and now heads his own company. "And the best way to make lots of these

friends is to save. You can't start too early in life on Thrift Highway toward the City of Success."

The Bee Thrift campaign has just closed. Hundreds of Omahans, young and old, men and women, boys and girls, made the first step toward financial independence.

And perhaps the most interesting of these is the little babe in arms, that mite which has been but 12 hours this side of the Land of Nowhere.

She knows nothing of thrift, yet; but as soon as she learns what pennies are, she'll be putting them away in her little Liberty bell bank, and before she's able to realize it, she will have adopted the habit of saving and have plenty of "friends," as our successful business men prefers to call them.

Her parents, for starting her on her way, will be thanked many times when she's old enough to comprehend.

Just one more thing to be thankful forthose ambassadors of his royal highness, King Ak-Sar-Ben, who will now be leading to the Den their fellow citizens from the towns and villages of Nebraska and Iowa, are spared all the worry of Colonel Harvey over whether to wear long trousers or knee breeches.

While San Francisco as the true Mecca of the pilgrimage of Shriners to the national conclave there, will derive the greatest benefit and pleasure from these befezzed gentlemen, Omaha has cause to praise Allah, for hasn't the Gateway of the West been one of the chief oases on

The park commissioner is to have a new 3,615 automobile in which to tour the parks and boulevards. If council would make him ride a flivver maybe he, too, would bring pressure to bear on the street commissioner.

What with the air mail and the new radio tation for broadcasting government weather and market reports, it looks like Omaha would soon be all up in the air, so to speak.

If those "piff-box" motorcycle police substations had been installed in Omaha, maybe Fred Brown wouldn't have escaped so easily.

"Strike forbids prediction of coal price trend" says a headline over a story on coal conditions seven wonders of the middle ages, and ditto of in Omaha. What else could be expected?

From State and Nation

What We Put Into and Get Out of Life.

An inquiry recently concluded in Ohio shows that 41 per cent of the city folks were born on farma, that \$1 per cent more are sone or daugh-ters of at least one country parent, and that 17 per cent more have at least one grandparent who was raised in the country. Practically all the rest, it is added, trace back to farms in the

fourth generation.

A few years ago a friend very proudly commented upon the fact that \$5 per cent of the names of those persons listed in a certain "Who's Who" publication in one of our largest cities were persons who had been born in the country. He asked me if I do not feel that this was something in which country folks generally should take great pride. I replied that I did not, that while country people might find considerable satisfaction in the fact that those born and reared on the farms or in small towns had achieved large measures of success after going to the city, there was another side.

Each year there go from our farms and from country towns thousands of the most capable young men and women. They go to the cities

country towns thousands of the most capable young men and women. They go to the cities and as a result the country loses them forever. In the cities many of them succeed. That is to say, they succeed as success is measured in the cities. One reason that they succeed is that somehow it seems that they have to overcome fewer jealousies than would have been the case had they remained in the country. Commercial life, "big business," if you please, is quick to recognize ability and instead of penalizing it, places it at a premium. It is not always so in the country. The country boy who shows unusual talent, who is ambitious and who bids fair to carve out a place for himself, all too frequently finds that instead of receiving encouragement, which he should reasonably expect.

to carve out a place for himself, all too frequently finds that instead of receiving encouragement, which he should reasonably expect, obstacles are actually put in his way. If not this, it may be that instead of the home neighborhood giving him a "boost" there are those who, figuratively speaking, are hanging on to his coat tails, hoping that he will pull them up. If not, they will pull him down.

Of course, the cities need this new blood from the country. Can we, though, afford to have this drain of our very best continue? Would it not be profitable for the country to give larger thought to securing permanently the aid, advice, counsel and co-operation of more of these promising young men and young women? How is this to be? Largely, I believe, by a proof of appreciation, by willingness to recognize worth and, in so far as possible, to pay for the service rendered, but most of all, by the setting up of right standards and through measures as to what really constitutes success. Large incomes do not always stand for satisfaction, certainly not for the more durable satisfaction, certainly not for the more durable satisfaction of life. With a comparatively small income many a man on the form or in the small town is extended. With a comparatively small income many a man on the farm or in the small town is getting more out of life and giving more in return than would be possible on a very much larger income in the big cities.

Of course, whether we live at the end of the lane, whether our hoe be in "Main Street" or the metropolis, we are only going to get out of life what we put into it—that and nothing more. Country communities get out just what is put into them. The best that can be put into any country community is put there by country folks themselves. The biggest loss that any community can suffer is the loss of its leaders, those leaders which have been developed or those who may become leaders.

Daylight Saving for Plants.

From the St. Joseph News-Press.

That the number of hours of daylight determines the flowering of plants to as great extent as the temperature is a recent discovery halled as offering possibilities in floriculture.

Experiments have been conducted by physicologists of the United States bureau of plant industry and include the prolonging of winter days by hours of electric light upon the plants and also the darkening of greenhouses during part of the long day in summer. As a consequence, we may have Christmas poinsettia upon our table in August, iris blooms in winter and tender spring spinach in mid-summer.

Many of the experiments are extremely interesting. For instance, the common wild ester.

teresting. For instance, the common wild aster, which ordinarily flowers in September, requires 122 days to blossom when grown in the open. Given but seven hours of light daily, it flowered in 26 days. So with the chrysanthemum. When the daily light period was reduced upon it to the length of the autumn days, the chrysanthe-mum hastened to bloom. The poinsettia threw forth its red bracts whenever the day's light was gradually reduced to its length during the Christmas season.

one of them. All winter it grew only foliage. But when electric light was turned upon it in But when electric light was turned upon it in winter to give its days the length of those of late spring or early June, it unfolded its stately blossoms. Though sunlight upon plants may reach the intensity of 5,000 candlepower or more, a small degree of illumination in the greenhouse accomplishes the same results. Strung overhead, the electric light on the iris had only three to five candlepower at the surface of the soil, yet this seemed to suffice. By altering the length of the day, plants may be forced to flower in latitudes where formerly only leaves were produced.

There appears no limit to botanical discoverthere appears no limit to botanical discoveries. This recent one means not only that plants will now grow in countries where they did not formerly flourish and bloom in seasons when they did not formerly bear, but new varieties can be produced by cross-pollenization of flowers; that theretofore did no blossom simultaneously.

The Automobile's Spiritual Value.

The Automobile's Spiritual Value.

From the Ohio State Journal.

The spiritual value of the automobile lies me the fact that it makes it easy for city people to take a weekly holiday in the country. We sometimes think that Mr. Ford has done more for America than any other man of his time, for his dry and materialistic genius for mechanical specialization and quantity production has had the result of popularising nature. John Burroughs attributed the trend of his useful and inspiring life to the fact that he was a country boy; in the formative period he became familiar with the fields, the hills, the streams, the trees, the birds, the flowers, the wild animals and the inthe fields, the hills, the streams, the trees, the birds, the flowers, the wild animals and the insects. Otherwise he might have grown up to be a clerk or a millionaire. But if John Burroughs were a city boy now and the family had a Ford he would still have his chance.

The love of nature is implanted in every normal human heins but it needs must be culti-

The love of nature is implanted in every normal human being but it needs must be cultivated or it will die. Next to religion itself, if indeed it is not so closely allied with religion that the two cannot be distinguished, it is the most uplifting and satisfying influence, the greatest inner resource, in the life of man or woman. Parents who appreciate their responsibilities and their opportunities do what they can to foster and develop this natural love in their children. They are aided by the wise teachers and the good books but there is nothing like going to the They are aided by the wise teachers and the good books but there is nothing like going to the sources. We see many family parties happily starting off on Sundays for a few hours on the hills or in the woods and later we sometimes see some of them scattered about the countryside miles away. There must be thousands of such joyous little excursions from Columbus every week and the good they do is incalculable. But there might be more. One of the best things about outdoors is that there is plenty of room.

Sky Signs.

From the Minnesota Star.

Letters 10 miles long wrote a name across the sky over London so that 5,000,000 people read the words. The enterprise was conducted by Lord Northeliffe, the English newspaper publisher. The words which the Londoners read in the sky were: "Daily Mail."

An invisible airplane with a smoke-making attachment wrote the letters in a mighty scroll which ran 10 miles across the clouds. Lord Northeliffe believes this form of writing across the sky has unlimited advertising possibilities.

The prospect is disheartening. We are assailed now on all sides by exhortations to buy this and that cheap product. If the poster and billboard are going to be carried to the skies, we want to get out of that part of the earth where the sky billboards are.

Think of having to read on the clouds a notice that a certain brand of gum will save the teeth, calm the nerves and make the chewer happy; or the equally faliacious announcement that a vote for Preus and Harding will bring prosperity to everybody.

Poor Cooking.

Prem E. W. Howe's Monthly.

I am acquainted with an old gentleman who is ill. His wife is also ill. He has several grown sons and daughters, and they are also ill, as is an old bachelor brother who lives with him. The only trouble with the family is bad cooking and lead food. The members are sufficiently well-informed as to Christianity, democracy, and the like; they are reasonably well-informed about overything except diet. So they eat too much insultable food, take medicine, and six worthy people are failures



"The Isle of Vanishing Men," by Later he graduated from Columbia W. F. Alder (Century) is an ex- university with the highest honors is tremely interesting book. It tells economics and history. When Frank Tannenbaum writes of experiences and adventures in it is with an intimate and thorough

other half of its implication being that the cannibals themselves are 'vanishing men;" that is, they are diminishing in numbers very rapidly, because of contact with the whites.

camped in the interior, lived in native houses in their villages, and saw the cannibals idling away their days under the blazing tropic sun, as he says in characteristic western man-ner, "their minds as nude of ideas

as their bodies of covering."

Because Mr. Alder is a "movie man" there is some touch of the pose about some of the pictures. But, also, because he is a "movie man," we get a book that is splendidly illustrated with photos well chosen. Mr. Alder writes in an easy reading, personal style and contributes a curious, fas-cinating story, telling of the strange huts, the weird customs, the daily life, the barbaric mutilation of the men and women, their childish sus-picion and trust of the white men, he tribal councils he attended, and the kangaroo hunt at which he assisted.

The 17th volume of Constance Garnett's translations of the novels of Turgenev has been issued by the Macmillan company. It contains five stories: "Knock, Knock, Knock,"
"The Inn," "Lieutenant Yergunov's Story," "The Dog," and "The

Mr. Frank Tannenbaum, author of The Labor Movement," has had recently published by Putnam's "Wall Shadows," a study in American prisons. This is a book which ought to be read by every American interested in what our society does to its condemned evil-doers. It ought to be read, also, by our re-

This volumne is not for those comfortable people who believe, and would insist on believing, that America has been converted to fresh air, clean rooms and kindly treatment for prisoners. In his recent tour of inspection of American penal institutions, Mr. Tannenbaum found whipping posts, dark cells, solitary," men handcuffed to doors, bread and

water, no work for inmates.

There are four parts to the book. sections dealing with the psychology of prison cruelty, prison democracy, some prison facts, and, facing the rison problem, Mr. Tannenbaum ooks upon prison democracy as the great hope of American penal insti-tutions. The author has facts; he treats of the psychology of both the offender and the jailer; he discusses past experiments, the present situation and the outlook for the future. was once deeply interested in social Thomas Mott Osborne contributes welfare work, and that he was the

nenbaum served a year in the peni- property valued at well up to half tentiary in 1914 because he led an a million, most of which was pro-orderly group of jobless men into a vided by the founder. This club New York church to demand work. was founded in 1876, and since that

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New Guinea, the largest island in the knowledge of his subject. The pro world, which still containes canni-bals. These furnish one-half the reason for the title of the book, the Sing, Auburn and other large penal institutions. And recently completed a transcontinental tour of Mr. Alder, an American moving the country, visiting all the prisons a very interesting story of the life en route, studying their methods of one of America's really great wilder parts of Dutch Guinea. He and, whenever possible, interviewing captains of industry. their inmates.

> wrong in making a selection from Everyman's library, even though he sets about it blindfolded. Standard books these, such as persons of culture read, and with the further attraction of a price of \$1.
>
> The four latest volumes of classics

> to be added to this set, include "Fathers and Sons," by Ivan Turgenev; "Through Russia," short stories by Maxim Gorki, and "The Golden Treasury of Longer Poems, edited by Ernest Rhys. The pub-lisher is E. P. Dutton & Co., New

"The Lobstick Trail," by Douglas Durkin is an outdoor story with love and adventure and tenderness. It is well-written drama of northern Canada of the days when romance was still in the world.

This is the story of Kirk Brander, who spends five years in northern Canada to make a man of himself. At the end of the period he starts back for the east, home and his rich friends. But, unfortunately for his resolution never to return, he reaches the Pas on the eve of the big northcountry sporting event, the Hudson Bay dog derby. Mr. Durkin gives a real touch to the story of this contest. Brander runs in the race and is forced into a conflict, a fight to gain control of a new copper mine in which his uncle is interested. He wins the race and the mine after hard fights.

"The Lobstick Trail" is published by A. C. McClure & Co., Chicago.

E. H. Harriman: A biography by George Kennan; two volumes; Houghton Mifflin company, Boston (\$7.50.) Mr. Kennan has painstakingly put together an immense amount of in formation of an intimate character concerning the great railroad builder and financier, E. H. Harriman. In the two volumes is contained much matter which has generally been lost sight of because of the overshadowing importance of the monumental achievement of Mr. Harriman in his reconstruction of the Union Pacific railway and the lines associated with it in the "Harriman system." Not many people ever knew, and most of the ones who did have forgotten that Mr. Harriman an introduction to the book.

Now one of the most priminent of the younger sociolgists, Mr. Tantion in New York, which now owns

time is credited with having moulded tacles of biography. When Gamathe tastes and formed the character liel Bradford completes his series of in some degree of more than 250,000 American characterizations a new and more attractive aspect will have

cific well prepared for the great work he set about. He had demonstrated his ability and had convinced his associates of his power and the

is but a setting down of accomplishment; the great railroad system, now functioning so splendidly in spite of determined efforts to "unscramble the eggs," is Harriman's monument Mr. Kennan has given the work but since his release he has volunthe charm of his established style, tarily lived inside the walls at Sing lighting it with splendid passages, embellishing it with contemporaneous accounts of a chievement, excerpted

from others' writings and has made

A pleasant as well as a helpful way

How Mr. Harriman got into the railroad game through his connection with the Illinois Central, and how he defeated J. P. Morgan in maneuvering for the coutrol of the property, is one of the early and interesting chapters of the biography. Harriman came to the Union Pacific well prepared for the great work has at about He had demonstrated. appeared orginally in the Atlantic monthly. Houghton, Mifflin Co., is

> "No, Virginia," a story for girls from nine to 14, is the second of the Virginia stories written by Helen Sherman Griffith. Virginia is again implicated in a series of mishaps. Her mother tries to start her edu-cation at a finishing school. The story tells of her adventures. The book is published by the Penn Publishing Co., Philadelphia.

J. Edward Meeker, economist to the New York stock exchange, has written an authoritative work entitled, "The Work of the Stock Exchange." It is published by the The lover of literature cannot go to regard history is through the spec- Ronald Press company.

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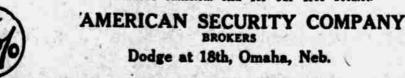


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