

Topeka State Journal An Independent Newspaper.

By FRANK P. MAC LENNAN.

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American Newspaper Publishers' Association.

Maybe it will work out all right, but why did the Weather Man deem it necessary to invite disaster by predicting six successive fair days for the Topeka fair? Everybody in the city should indulge in the business of "knocking on wood."

Whoever put the "dumb" in Dumba, the erstwhile Austrian ambassador to the United States, had a fine sense of the fitness of things, or the appropriate. How this distinguished gentleman ever figured it out that he could get away with such crude stuff is a mystery. That he tried is pretty good proof that he isn't very smart. Uncle Sam is not an "easy mark," even if there is reason for that impression getting abroad occasionally.

Also, Dr. Dumba's photographs indicate that he looks the part in which he was cast. He didn't have to make up for it at all.

If numbers and reputation count for anything, Secretary of the Navy Daniels has assembled a naval advisory board of wonderful possibilities. But the rub is likely to come in getting the members of this board to agree on the things that should be done to strengthen the navy and make it more efficient. Scientists of their distinction are usually pretty choice of their own opinions.

Greece seems to be about as prolific in the production of the unusual in the way of war news as is Switzerland. A recent report from there has it that the Germans are carrying munitions of war to their Turkish ally with aeroplanes. This may be true, of course, but if such is the only source of supply for munitions of war that Turkey has, she will have to worry along with an exceedingly small quantity.

While the Seven Day Adventists are protesting vigorously against the so-called "Sunday" law, it is a foregone conclusion that many more people affiliated with other religious denominations would protest even more vehemently were these laws set aside to please the Adventists. All of which is only more emphatic evidence that it is impossible to arrange anything in this old world that will be entirely satisfactory to everybody.

Lloyd George's declaration and admission that Kaiser Wilhelm is supreme in war strength also points out the virtue of the old "saw" to the effect that practice makes perfect. The Kaiser and his Prussian strapons have been specializing in the science of war for a generation.

With Tip O'Neill deposed from the presidency of the Western league by its magnanimous prospects of this league are brighter than they have been for some time.

Nor does it happen that the present brand of weather causes much enthusiasm with the man who hasn't a few or many acres planted to corn. It should, though. The bigger the Kansas corn crop the more money there will be in circulation in Kansas later on, and at which everybody in the state will have a crack.

NIGHT AND THE STARS. We are too much indoors, declares Collier's, and it goes on: Even when night comes we turn up the lamp and sit within its excluding circle to read what other indoor men have written, or we go out, hastily and under cover of the street lights, to get within other walls where folks are gathered to see or hear something of what others have done in films and plays and lectures. Or we sit on a shaded porch with trees about, so that the vast evening night is only coolness and breeze. The stars do not get much chance at us. Thus we keep the universe from our souls. Such living makes for pettiness of the spirit. These scolding, gossiping little villages always live under roofs and behind blinds and curtains as if in ambush, that each inhabitant might lie in wait against the reputation of the other.

er. Almost all of those who wrote the Bible lived in flat-roofed houses and went up on the house-top when day was done so that the wheeling planets and the whole host of the stars were the familiars. It was in that light that they thought of man and his destiny. In this modern confusion of change we need the eternal influences—the moon etching patterns on lake and roadway, the night gleaming of the rivers, the solemn beauty of the Milky Way, the steadfastness of the North Star. Night ought to free us from the littleness of the day's doings and lift the heart to the things that are above and beyond our days.

SAME OLD U. S. NAVAL STORY. If the European war has demonstrated anything in naval matters it certainly has been that the biggest warship afloat is not by any means the most serviceable naval agent. Yet Mr. Daniels, the secretary of the navy, goes right ahead and approves plans for the construction of two mammoth battleships that are the biggest and most powerful that have ever been designed for the American navy. And we haven't a sign of a battle cruiser, which is the most versatile type of the larger naval ships. Maybe we need these two big battleships that Mr. Daniels is figuring on, but we seem to need other naval units more.

THE GOOD ROADS' PROBLEM. Roads out of Topeka in all directions are reported to be rough and in generally bad conditions, which is all the testimony needed that "good roads" radiating from Topeka are as scarce as hens' teeth. Suppose Shawnee county had started in ten years ago and used its money available for road building in the construction of one or three miles of permanent road each year, or as many miles as the money would construct. Shawnee county would now have quite a system of highways that would stand up under almost any kind of weather. But a late start in this direction is better than none at all, and this seems to be the only way by which Shawnee county will ever have anything like "good roads," unless, of course, the state of Kansas eventually develops general wisdom to go into the road building business, as other states, and the only ones possessing "good roads," have done.

TYPHUS FEVER MENACE. While the epidemic of typhus fever in Europe seems to be on the decrease because the little insect which transmits it paradoxically goes into winter quarters in summer, the United States public health service has issued a warning to all quarantine officers to keep a sharp lookout for the disease among passengers arriving from Greece and Italian ports. The overcrowding, lack of bathing facilities and general insanitary conditions brought about by the state of war in Europe have made the fiscal year 1914-15 a typhus year. The extensive outbreak which occurred in Austria-Hungary and Serbia is probably responsible for the introduction of the disease into Germany, but as immigration from these countries is at the present time practically nil, the government's sanitary considerations of passengers from Greece and Italy of potential health menace. The disease has also been reported in Spain, at Zurich and St. Gall in Switzerland, and Moscow, Odessa, Petrograd and Warsaw in Russia.

CROPS BREED BUSINESS. "Financial circles are beginning to feel the influence of the grain crops, which once more, considered as a whole, are to establish a new high level for American farm production," writes Henry Clews, the New York banker, among other things; in his current weekly financial review, and he continues: "The wheat yield will not be far from a round billion bushels, a figure that has not heretofore been approached. The 1914 crop of \$91,000,000 bushels was itself an unexampled one at that time. Corn, if present prospects are confirmed, has but once been exceeded, namely, by the 3,124,000,000-bushel crop of 1912. Oats have a yield considerably in excess of earlier years. Our wheat crop at present is good and will be sold at a premium on the exigencies of war. There will be a correspondingly large demand for other grain crops. Hence the grain export situation is one that merits careful consideration as a favoring factor in the stock exchange situation. The railroads are to have a large grain tonnage. There is in fact already a drift in market circles from the wild speculation that marked the weathering of stocks back to the railroads and to more conservative trading as a whole. There are also heavy yields of hay and fruit. Nature has indeed smiled once more upon the American farmer, whose products this year are estimated at about \$10,000,000,000, and this in spite of the lower prices sometimes resulting from this self-same bounty. The only notable exception is cotton, which has been adversely affected by the war. The situation is not as bad, however, as is made to appear in political circles, for the contraband problem has been largely clarified and the loss of German and Austrian consumption, amounting to nearly 3,000,000 bales, is compensated for by the smaller crop and the immense quantities used in the manufacture of explosives. Traffic in the west is already increasing owing to the grain movement but exports of the latter are still under the influence of the exchange situation and the certainty of a big rush of Russian grain to the Dardanelles are opened. Industrial activity thus far has been confined chiefly to the iron trade, which is sustaining its reputation of being either prince or pauper. Just now it is decidedly the former. Our steel plants are now running at nearly full capacity and prices are steadily rising. Of course this is almost entirely due to war orders, which means that such prosperity is purely ephemeral unless it is succeeded by betterment in home conditions. Of the latter there are some signs. Railroads and other big buyers are shopping around with a view of placing orders for replacement of equipment before the prices rise too high. Perhaps it is fortunate that the domestic demand is not urgent since otherwise the industry would be so deluged with business as to induce unwholesome speculation and more or less derangement. One satisfactory symptom in the steel trade is the recovery in legitimate export trade. Quite a change has occurred in this department and the export divisions of some of our largest concerns are rushed with business of the regular type and not munitions of war. When the war is over American steel manufacturers will doubtless be called upon to furnish much of the material needed for reconstruction and for railroad equipment, machinery, tools, etc. There should be a good inquiry until Europe is once more able to meet her own requirements. One substantial proof of business improvement is found in bank clearings. The total for all cities in August was \$14,200,000,000, against \$9,900,000,000 some time last year, an increase of about 43 percent. Much of this gain must be due to the activity on the stock exchange, which was closed a year ago. But all the large cities showed gains. So also did many of the smaller manufacturing towns in the eastern states which are busy on war orders. Our foreign trade is still running on abnormal lines—heavy exports and small imports—but the exchange situation is being somewhat relieved by the liberal arrival of gold and securities, estimated at about \$150,000,000 during the last few weeks."

Heartaches are among the bridges between souls.

What has become of the old-fashioned illustrated song?

Parading one's ancestors is a favorite sport with not a few folk.

No matter how prepared one is for truth, its realization is usually a shock.

Attempting the impossible often leads to the accomplishment of something worth while.

Differentiations, by the Minneapolis Messenger: Some men there are, both those who become fishermen and others talk about their children.

Life is just one bill after another, says the Madison News. As soon as the loafer quits bringing around his monthly bill the coal man takes his place.

It takes an expert in the business, points out the Lost Springs News, to blow his own trumpet and make the sound musical enough for people to forget he is doing his own blowing.

One is impressed with the coming of every circus and every carnival with the number of people there and the world who are trying to make a living without work, says the Colby Free Press. Every kind and character of a device to take a nickel or a dime is brought forward. The young people are the ones who spend their money on this class of entertainment, which usually is of no benefit at all.

As the Jewell County Republican tells the story: It was a warm perfect evening. The young man, a Grider woman decided to take a bath on the back porch in a quiet street. An automobile came down the street, turned a sharp corner and the tall figure of a man in a dark suit and a house afire. The woman gave a yell and the guy driving the machine lost control and ran into the fence. Tom Grider in relating the incident concludes that people who live in glass houses should never take a bath.

Gems from the Jewell County Republican: Fashion has put out of use two words that used to stir men's hearts—the grade and the coffin. The grade was made of dust so don't be surprised when you find that a little dirt still sticks to him. No matter how jolly a girl is, it is a girl of principle the boy will know it and treat her with proper respect. Some girls are handsomer than others, but all good tempered girls are pretty fair to look upon. Incidentally let the boys tear the house down once in a while than let them lose the home-loving spirit. The way to cure sleeplessness is to get a job sitting up with the sick.

In real life the villain doesn't always look it.

There can be no culture without toadyism.

A thief is apt to be concealed until he gets caught.

He wears a watch on his wrist when what he really needs there is a slap.

There would be more tyrants, no doubt, if there weren't so many rabbits.

A lack of endurance is another reason hung juries are comparatively few.

Unless you are a lawyer, you probably can't build up much of a business on advice.

A church row is regarded as the most entertaining scrap from the hearthstone's point of view.

Pipe manufacturers are clearly entitled to a share of the profits of the match trust. Gotta match?

If you think it necessary to go back to the beginning to prove your proposition, don't attempt to prove it to us.

Ab Adkins says his son-in-law is the sort of creature who makes preparing for the Worst his life work.

No, Geraldine; horse radish is not fed to horses. One should always be kind to dumb brutes, you understand.

When a man imagines he is a statesman he becomes deaf, and the only cure is to run the band wagon over him.

While there is no use of stirring up trouble, it is a fact that the average romantic person is also a considerate one.

There are so many hypocrites that you can be perfectly consistent in smiling into the face of a man you would like to smash.

The Evening Story

Freda's Fiction. (By Grace Faislie.)

Miss Markham scarcely tasted the dainty supper Freda served, but she drank every drop of the wine before she could get her hands on the delicious side glance as she removed the dishes. She set the tray down on the kitchen table and shook her head slowly.

"Ah, something's wrong," she mused. "She ain't been like herself since she come home from the mountains. I'll just wager there's man back of all these blue spells. Well, I wish he'd turn out to be the right man, for she ought to be married and took care of her."

Freda kept Miss Markham's bungalow immaculate and served wholesome meals, but felt that she ought to give additional service in lessening her mistress's grief. She had a matrimonial plan. Miss Markham owned the bungalow and the twenty green acres around it. She owned King Cooper, the most handsome Scotch terrier in the county. Until recently she had seemed abundantly content, but since her return from a summer in the mountains she had been in a morose and irascible mood.

While washing the dishes Freda tried to think of some way to rouse her mistress from the despondency she was in. She completed any loan committee may be here to meet McAdoo.

Washington Frowns on Loans. Officials pointed out that the government has already indicated its disapproval of any belligerent loans by the American bankers will sound out the administration to prevent the transaction as grossly unneutral.

Propose Gigantic Loan With Bonds as Only Security. New York, Sept. 14.—The report that the Anglo-French financial committee contemplated borrowing a billion dollars here without collateral of any sort and solely on government notes of Great Britain and France, has caused a commotion in the financial section today.

Heretofore the opinion has prevailed that Great Britain and France would secure the proposed loan by loan by American securities, mortgage for dollar, or by some other acceptable form of collateral. All calculations of American financiers prior to the commission's arrival here had been based on that assumption.

The reported plan of the commission providing for a straight loan, without collateral, caused the biggest sensation of the year in the New York financial district. It was a consensus of financial opinion that the commission would find its task tremendously more difficult than would be the case were the proposed credit loan secured by collateral of American bonds and stock, as at first suggested.

U. S. Neutrality in Question. Whether a strict interpretation of American neutrality would permit the issuance of a straight commercial loan to the warring nations was a topic of considerable conjecture. The belief prevailed that the administration at Washington would not give its sanction to that effort, nor was anyone apparently willing to say upon what the opinion was based. In this respect the reported plan of the commission, so far as it could be called a plan in the present somewhat nebulous nature of the commission's proposals, was as follows:

The establishment here of a mammoth credit loan, from the proceeds of which would be paid all bills for exports to Great Britain and France, and probably Russia.

To fix the amount of this loan as at nearly a billion dollars as possible.

The commission itself declined positively to discuss the reported plan, was its plan. Lord Reading, its chairman, in the only statement he has made since he landed here, did not refer to the matter, but he made a general review of the situation as he saw it and to a recital of the reasons why an adjustment of the present foreign exchange market was desirable.

Can Buy Emission here. In case the commission should fail in its plan, it was said wholesale curtailment of American exports would ensue. There is nothing, it was said, that Great Britain and France could do here that they could not obtain elsewhere with the exceptions of munitions of war. These they were prepared to pay for in gold, if necessary. The outstanding feature of the situation that overshadowed by its tremendous importance everything else that has influenced the foreign exchange rates since their outbreak began, was the reported plan of the commission to establish its hoped-for credit here without offering any collateral.

Some Financiers Started. Other financiers were more than ready to discuss the reported plan, and said to have so taken them by surprise, and so quickly shattered their idea of basing the proposed loan on American collateral, that they required time for consideration before they could express their views. Still other financiers were prepared for the proposal and were not surprised. The bankers, reflecting the views of the entire credit of both Great Britain and France would be back of the bonds, which was expected, should there be required additional security.

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He met Miss Markham a short distance away, and in plain view of the dining room window where Freda had stationed herself. Her keen eyes sparkled as she saw the stranger take Miss Markham's right hand in both hands and toward the house, leading King Cooper, while Scotty barked and leaped about in the friendlier fashion.

"I never had a gardener for a lover in my life," chuckled Freda as she hurried into the kitchen, "but I raked up the right kind of a story to make Miss Markham's love affair grow." (Copyright, 1915, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

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ANNUAL CLEAN UP

Assistant Attorney General Is Busy at Leavenworth.

Leavenworth, Kan., Sept. 14.—Assistant Attorney General J. P. Coleman of Topeka, is here investigating charges placed against four members of the city administration. An inquisition was held Saturday at the office of J. K. Coddling. According to testimony given before the state official, four policemen are guilty of breaking the lock on a room in a boarding house and making their homes at that place.

Charges were also made that members of the police force protected relatives of the men alleged to have operated joints in the city.

Chief of Police William Shaughnessy does not place credence in the report. He made the statement that the evidence had all the earmarks of a frame-up and that the position of a policeman makes it easy for such an affair to be arranged. The two women in the case recently came to Leavenworth from a country district in Missouri.

TEUTONS TAKE R. R.

(Continued from Page One.)

and it is suggested that they are preparing to abandon the straits. It is also reported that the Turkish shore batteries on the Asiatic side of the straits have been almost reduced to silence.

TEUTONS BOMBED FROM AIR.

Sky and Land Artillery Shakes Both Sides of Western Front. Paris, Sept. 14.—The activity of the artillery along the front in France continues and at some places with great violence according to the reports made this afternoon by the French war office. Furthermore, French aviators have thrown bombs on a railroad in possession of the Germans as well as on certain German barracks.

The text follows: "There is continued activity today on the part of the artillery along the front in Artois. To the south of the river Somme, in the environs of Tilloy-le-Oesler and Bouvraignes, there has been a bombardment of particular violence, in which both sides participated.

"Artillery fighting continues along the canal from the Aisne to the Marne, near Saigne and Godat in Champagne; to the north of the Camp of Challons and along the western frontier of the Argonne. In the forest along Mortmare our batteries put an end to the fire of the German machine guns and directed an efficacious fire upon certain salients of the German lines.

"The night passed quietly on the remainder of the front.

"French aviators have bombarded the railroad station at the junction of Bendorf, near Morhange, as well as the barracks of the enemy at Chatel, in the Argonne, and at Langemack, to the north of Ypres."

AUCTION OFF-RAILWAY.

St. Paul, Sept. 14.—From the steps of the state capitol building here today all property of the Mississippi, Hill City & Western Railway was sold under the auction hammer. Creditors claiming \$85,000 on the road's paper, forced the action.

QUAKER MEDITATIONS.

[From the Philadelphia Record.] The man who wins in a walk may get a run for his money.

There is plenty of room at the top, but most of us like crowds.

Even the editor of a comic paper ought to take things seriously.

Many a man is a chronic liar who never went fishing in his life.

If it could only turn away wrath, a short answer would help things along.

You never can tell. Some men get the glad hand and some get cold.

It isn't wise to assume that a man is polished, just because he casts reflections.

Of course Opportunity will knock, but it is just as well to have the latch-string out.

Nell—"Mrs. Talkalot believes everything she hears." Belle—"Yes, and a lot she doesn't hear."

"How ignorant that woman is," said Mrs. Gausp to her caller. "She and I went to the zoo the other day and I thought I would laugh outright when she called the giraffe a 'caraf.' The joke of it was, the animal wasn't a giraffe at all. It was a zebu."—Boston Transcript.

"Can't I persuade you to sign the pledge?" "I suppose so," replied Uncle Bill Bottlesop. "The only trouble is that I'm getting on in years and I don't want to sign the pledge with a fellow come along and persuade me to take a drink."—Washington Star.

"What on earth happened to him?" asked the ambulance surgeon as he worked over Egbert's prostrate form. "He was too proud to fight," chirped the leader of the gang Buffalo Express.

K. U. OPENS TODAY

Makes 40th Salaam With Promise of Biggest Year Ever.

Lawrence, Kan., Sept. 14.—The forty-ninth regular session of the University of Kansas began this morning with the registration of students. Registration will take up the first

Up in the sky the dainty white rain clouds

Up in the sky the dainty white rain clouds headed up so thick and fast that they seemed to be coming down from the earth, they looked dense and black.