

DAILY GATE CITY, PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

C. F. SKIRVIN, Manager

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No. 110

Keokuk, Iowa, February 1, 1909.

A BOY.

A boy—the greatest thing on earth—

A dawning life of matchless worth;

A problem grave through every age;

Source of wisdom for the sage;

Loyal friend and comrade rare;

At once a joy and—a despair.

Who seeks with love and gentlest art

Finds treasures rare within ails

heart—

A present joy—yet, more he is—

A glorious hope for years to be.

—George Herbert Nelson in the Chicago Record-Herald.

Don't know what a "gargoyle face" is? Look in your mirror.

Thought for the day: Dishonesty is prima facie evidence of short-sightedness.

It has been well said that quite often we are the architects of our own misfortunes.

One of the splendid things about the Iowa legislature is the marked contrast it presents to the Illinois legislature.

The "impending war" has thus far been confined to the yaps and the Japs and the chances are it will never get any farther.

This "possum business" leads the New York World to believe that some southern dialect expert will get the job of poet laureate.

Train No. 23 on the Milwaukee road has been lost since last Thursday. The number of the missing train is suggestive, to say the least.

Four more counties of Indiana have voted for local option by large majorities. This makes seven counties which have voted under the option law, and all have gone dry.

Strauss has written an opera—"Elektra"—which, it is said, knocks the socks off "Salome"—that is, the Cedar Rapids Gazette explains, it would knock them off if Salome wore as much as a pair of socks.

Chicago has decided to give up the teaching of vertical writing in the schools and go back to the slanting penmanship. The change was brought about by the refusal of the commercial world to employ those using the vertical system.

The Bureau of Statistics estimates the number and value of farm animals in the United States on January 1 as follows: Horses 20,646,000, value \$1,947,000,000; mules 1,053,000, value \$47,052,000; milch cows 21,720,000, value \$72,945,000; other cattle 49,379,000, value \$863,764,000; sheep 65,084,000, value \$192,632,000; swine 54,147,000, value \$354,745,000. During the last year the value of farm animals has increased \$194,029,000.

The Minneapolis Tribune has received from President-elect Taft an answer to its letter asking his opinion of the advantages of public golf courses, the city of Minneapolis having under consideration the purchase of a 600-acre tract for such a course. Mr. Taft says that he regards golf as a great game, especially for men over fifty, and that wherever public courses can be established it will be in the interest of public health.

The legislature is wrestling with the problem how to stop junketing. About everybody outside the legislature knows without the expenditure of any gray matter that the most direct, prompt and effective way is simply not to junket.

Sixty prominent Boston clubwomen have conceived the idea of influencing the people of their city for good by means of advertisements. "Curing Boston by suggestion," one paper has it. The plan is to placard the city with posters bearing such sentiments as "The greatest possession is self-possession," "We gain the strength of the temptation we resist," and others designed to give the people who see them an inspiration toward a higher plane of thinking and living.

Banker Henry Clews, in a letter to the Yale News, says that while he formerly deprecated a college education as a requisite for success in business life, especially in Wall street, and still thinks a bright high-school graduate may be placed upon a par with the average college youth, he believes that a higher education gives its possessor greater advantages in after life. He advocates a financial course in every college, taught by a man who has had actual experience in business.

Following the achievements of wireless telegraphy in the recent collision, the navy department opened bids for locations for a wireless tower in Washington, D. C., for communicating with ships at sea to the distance of 3,000 miles. Bids were also opened for the equipment of two naval vessels with apparatus that will enable them to communicate with ships 1,000 miles away and with the tower at Washington. No less than seven firms responded and there was some lively bidding.

Chief Kohler of the Cleveland, Ohio, police force says that the so-called "golden rule" policy in making arrests inaugurated by him a year ago has obtained results beyond all expectations, and that the effect has been so great for good that the old custom will in his judgment be a thing of the past. He asserts that the number of arrests in 1908 were 66 per cent less than in 1907. First and minor offenses are not given a prison record, disgraced and humiliated, but are allowed to go to their work without being detained in prison, thus insuring the necessities to their families.

The fight over the question of permitting the use of benzoate of soda as a means of food preservative, which has been going on for several months between prominent food manufacturers and Chief Chemist Wiley of the agricultural department, has now been decided against Wiley by the board of experts named by the President. This board, which includes Remsen of John Hopkins, Chittenden of Yale and several others, has decided against Dr. Wiley's contention that benzoate of soda is injurious. The President had already suspended the order prohibiting its use in foods, thus indicating that he will sustain the report of the referees. Dr. Wiley says that it is simply a case of experts disagreeing.

Further additions to the list of words whose spelling has been reformed have been made by the Simplified Spelling Board. The new list includes four classes of words, as follows: (1) Words having a c pronounced as short e, as in sted, relm, etc; (2) preterits or participles ending in ed pronounced d with e silent and therefore omitted, as in armd; (3) words ending in the unstressed suffix ice, pronounced is, has the e changed to s and the e omitted, as in cornis; (4) words ending in live or rve, with a silent and therefore omitted, as in delv and carv. An article dealing with these changes at some length is published in another column of this issue of The Gate City.

Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman, the poet reformer, speaking for the women's forum at New York, gave her answer to the frequent question asked, "What effect will socialism have on the home?" In the first place, Mrs. Gilman said that the home as it exists is held together largely by economical causes, women and children being bound to it as a means of support and men being committed to its support. She said socialism would give all mothers a claim on the state to provide for herself and her children. She thought there would be more happy marriages under the coming regime, because marriages would be based upon love alone, and home would be held together through affection rather than material necessity.

In his last annual report the retiring provisional governor of Cuba, Charles E. Mazon, reviews the entire work of the American occupation, and shows that the outlook of the republic is now very bright. Not only have the current expenses of administration been met, but the cost of the revolution which overthrew Palma and much anterior indebtedness has been met and the treasury on June 30 last, showed a balance of \$5,522,518. A feature of the report of interest to Americans is the statement that the sunken battleship Maine in the harbor of Havana has become a serious menace to shipping, the obstruction having caused the accumulation of a shoal, so that dredging will soon be necessary. Certain Havana papers have renewed the story that the Maine was blown up by her own officers.

The importance of the preservation of the home intact was the theme of the discussion at the conference on the care of dependent children, held in the White House at Washington last week, opened by President Roosevelt. It was the unanimous opinion of the 200 delegates present that the child should be kept in its home whenever possible, and that the breaking of a home should be permitted only for reasons of inefficiency or immorality. It was also agreed that where poverty exists in the home, state aid should be given and where children are left fatherless mothers should be given an opportunity to support themselves and their children in the home. It was also agreed that the state should inspect the work of child-care agencies and home-finding societies.

Harry E. Gorst, the English writer on political affairs, who is in this country for a year to study educational systems, said at a New York dinner in his honor that "ignorance is a stimulus to the imagination, while cramming the mind with theoretical or book knowledge destroys its normal functions of observation, reflection and of giving out in an original form, a creation of its own. Books are therefore dangerous things, unless handled with discrimination." He says the aim of schools and colleges should be to pay more regard to individual powers of mental digestion and that no one can expect in a single lifetime to read a tenth of the books constantly referred to as "indispensable to a cultured mind." In that case one's mind would no longer be one's own, but a pale and cosmopolitan reflection of standard authors.

TO PREVENT FIRES. The Missouri Fire Prevention association, an organization of citizens of that state in and out of the fire insurance business, has just completed the formulation of a code of rules for preventing fires, which it is now circulating as widely as possible. The code is to be printed on the reverse of the association's stationery. The rules are simple and such as can with advantage be followed by householders as well as factories and mercantile establishments. C. W. Crossan of this city, manager of the Iowa State Fire Insurance company, is a member of the executive committee of the organization. The code of fire-prevention rules is as follows:

A large part of the fire waste is directly due to untidy conditions and other faults of management. Carefully inspect your entire premises daily. Ashes should be kept in metal receptacles and never in paper or wooden barrels or boxes. Oily rags or waste should be kept in standard metal waste cans and contents removed and burned each night. Rubbish should never be allowed to accumulate in or near buildings. Spittoons should be made of metal and never contain sawdust or other combustible material. Gasoline, naphtha and other volatile oils should not be kept in building. Gas brackets should have rigid fixtures; where swinging brackets must be used, all exposed woodwork should be protected with sheet metal, leaving an air space. Metal bells should be placed over gas jets on low ceilings. Steam pipes should be kept clear of all wood and other combustible material. Open fire holes should be protected with sheet iron, or, better, be bricked up. Electricity, when improperly installed, is hazardous; lamp cords should not be hung on nails or wrapped around any piping; paper shades should never be used. Stove pipes should be run direct to brick chimneys and never through floors or partitions; protect floors under and about stoves with brick, cement or sheet metal.

Stairways should be kept clear at all times; never place any stock or shelving on stairs. Aisles of good width should be maintained at all times; never pile stock in front of windows or against doors, as it handicaps the firemen in case of fire. Fire doors and shutters should be closed every night, and stock should never be placed so as to hinder the ready closing of these fire stops. See that all fire extinguishing apparatus is in good working order. Paper or rags saturated with printer's ink will produce spontaneous combustion. Damp lamp black will spontaneously ignite. So will slack and pulverized coal and charcoal when wet. Never use parlor matches; use safety matches, they cost no more. Requiring all doors to swing outward, especially in public buildings, may prevent the loss of many lives. All buildings over two stories in height should be provided with fire escapes and standpipes for fire department use.

TRADE AND FINANCE HALT. Henry Clews writes that so far as trade and finance are concerned affairs are at a relative standstill. On all sides there is a disposition to wait for fresh signs of encouragement and to postpone important negotiations until confidence becomes more settled. Among the causes of this hesitating spirit mentioned by Mr. Clews are (1) a too violent recovery after the panic, (2) the uncertainty connected with tariff revision, and (3) the high prices of many commodities which check consumption and discourage future contracts. On the other hand, he suggests that two important offsets must be taken into consideration, (1) the prosperity of our agricultural classes, and (2) the great abundance of cheap money. Between these conflicting influences, which almost counterbalance each other, there is a period of vacillation that may continue until one set of

MORE SIMPLIFIED SPELLING Simplified Spelling Board Chooses Many Victims and Condemns Them to Death.

Breathes there a man with soul so dead Who never to himself hath said This is my own, my native land; Whose hart hath ne'er within him burnd

As home his footsteps he hath turned— That's the way it will look after this, for the Red Council has put forth another edict. That is to say, the simplified spelling board has issued another list. This is its third and by far the most sweeping of the three. It is so sweeping, in fact, that if it were generally put into effect it would come pretty near putting a new face on printed English—a face new to these times, at all events, for the philological Reds aver for the most part that they are merely reverting to original spellings employed by various old masters of English, all the way from Caix to Vaughan.

The guillotine is to fall first on those unfortunate members of dictionary society that have in their insides the dipthong ae, in which the a is silent and the dipthong is pronounced as short e. In these cases the victims will be led blindfolded to the scaffold and the knife will fall on that mute amid the approving shrieks of the maddened simple spellers. Citizen Brander Matthews waving the tricolor and leading the cheering, while the headsmen—beg pardon, headsmen—does his grim office—pardon again, offs.

To the shrieks of the victims def ears will therefore be turned and there will be none to mourn their death, while those that still survive will go about filled with dread of what the future holds in store for them. Hereafter people will shoot fessants and up in New England they will sleep in feather beds and in old-fashioned bedsteads, while the boys that have gone to the city to live will revisit the old homestead instead of the old homestead that they have loved so long. At the alters it will be dededs that will worry the managers and when the hastening thousands endeavor to catch trolley cars they will lose their belts, without which even wealth is of little use.

"Our Father who art in Heaven" give us this day our daily bred." Is the new reading. People will be slain with weapons and will wander in meadows where peasants labor and redly produce sweet, returning homeward at set of sun with heavy, laden footsteps, while of the all around no-account who perishes it will in future be written that he went well.

Sharpening up his knife after all these silent a's have been attended to, the headsmen will next fall upon the silent e in such words as "heart" and "hearth." But perhaps the most frightful mortality of all will take place among those numerous wretched preterits and participles ending in ed and pronounced d. Thus, for example, burnd and turnd and carnd. The Council of the Reds maintain that away back in the palaeozoic age philological speaking, when words ended in ed they were so pronounced, that is, like the ed in editor, and that it was not until the nineteenth century that words thus spelled came to be pronounced with the e silent. Attention is also called to the "neat and succinct appearance of the simplified

forces overcomes the other. Mr. Clews adds that just which will prevail cannot be told at this juncture; but that it is sufficiently plain that a period of waiting can do little harm; in fact, may do much good, so long as the undertone remains as sound as it now is.

THE CURRENT MAGAZINES. Leading articles in Outlook for February are "Along the American Riviera," by Charles Frederick Holder; "Adventuring Among the Fijis," by Ralph D. Paine; "Gathering Sap in the Sugar Bush," by R. R. Salows; "A Second-Class Trip to Spain," by E. C. Allen; "The First Families of Chicago" (continued) by A. C. Laut; "Under the Ditch in Texas," by Emerson Hough; "Truck Farming in Florida," by E. P. Powell, and "The Orphan of Soudrough City," a story, by Robert Dunn. The number is excellently illustrated.

Leading articles in the Review of Reviews for February include "Italy's Exhausting Emigration," by Walter E. Weyle; "The China that Is," by David Lambuth; "Government Solves the Smoke Problem," by John L. Cochran; "Ik Marvel, Man and Writer," by Joseph B. Gilder, and other important papers. The department devoted to "The Progress of the World," as usual, is worth the price of the magazine in itself.

Perhaps the weightiest article in the current number of McClure's Magazine is an excellent appreciation of the late Grover Cleveland, the title being "Cleveland the 'fan.'" The author is George F. Parker, who enjoyed the friendliest relations with the President. Of special scientific value is "Work at the Rockefeller Institute," by Burton J. Hendricks, and "The Scientific Solution of the Liquor Problem," by Henry Smith Williams. "Our Navy on the Land," is the title of a paper by George Kibbe Turner, and

forms of the words ending in ed, as reduced to simple d." Behold therefore the neat appearance of nabd, ribd, sobd, bagd, sneezd, whizd, clubd, dogd, kild, mand, grievd, speld, spild, pend, dreamd and dweld.

The theorists also declare that audent authority may be found for such spellings in the writings of Caixon, Spencer, Hooker, Sidney, Lodge (not Henry Cabot), Sylvester, Drayton, Shakespeare, Jonson (which is not a simplified way of spelling Johnson), Heywood, Seiden, Wither, Milton and a lot of other writers who, as is well known, displayed a high degree of jound carelessness as to how they spelled the same word, including in some cases their own names, in a pleasing variety of ways.

Wherefore rooms are henceforth to be aird, prisoners will be build out, spades will be caid spades, baseballs will be duhd, terrors will be feard, glasses will be fld and draind, envelops will be gumd, or sauld, be, murderers will be haugd or put to dehd in some simplified way, skirts will be hemd, lives will be livd, potatoes will be peeld, oars will be puld, eyeglasses will be rimd, suckers will be skind, words will be simply speld, water will be spild, outcries against all this sort of thing will be stild, though modest criticisms may be uttred and the sedge will be withered on the lak. And these are only samples.

Then there are those objectionable words that have for many years insisted on ending in ice and being pronounced is. They are going to get it, and get it hard. If they insist on continuing to be pronounced is they are jolly well going to be spelled that way, too. "Open thy lattis love," the poet will hereafter be compelled to sing, while Lincoln will be quoted as having said, "With malis toward none." Servants will give notis, the doctor will apply a poultis, soldiers will be court-martialed for cowardis, misers will use dentifris and will be advised to practis what he preaches. A person who entertains prejudis will be prejudist and the man with the yellow skin or a dark outlook on life will be jaundist. And by the way, though this appears to be beside the point, lettuce is to be lettice from this date on.

Further there are those malefactors ending in v preceded by e or r and with the final e silent. This group of evil doers has long been regarded with sinister looks by the Council of the Reds and its time has now come. All the members of this group now lose said final e's, which become invisible as well as inaudible. Didn't Milton write, "ourselves?" Of course, he was blind and his writing was in part done by others, but the Council of Reds frequently quotes his spelling as authority for placing various individuals on the list of the condemned. And there will now be absolv, resolv, valv, delv, bivalv, carv, starv, curv, nerv, dissolv, and lots of others just like those.

That's all for now, say the Reds, but the dictionary is swarming like an angry beehive, for nobody knows where the next blow may fall. All the forty-five members of the simplified spelling board and the 186 members of the advisory council who voted at all voted in favor of the latest list. No mercy was shown.

T. B. Bancroft describes "An Audience" The most attractive article in the Bohemian for February is an account of "The Cartoonists of the Middle West," by Raymond Roy Olson, with portraits and reproduced cartoons. The work of George W. Rehs, Ralph Wilder, E. Donnell, Perry J. Carter, J. N. Darling and others is described as significant and popular. The number contains also an account of "How and Where Tobacco is Grown," by Carl Werner, and there are other special articles and stories.

with Abraham Lincoln." The fiction is led by Mrs. Humphry Ward's serial, "Marriage a la Mode," and there are six short stories. The World's Work for February is an unusually good number, several of its articles being of such substantial quality as to demand the attention of thoughtful readers. Booker T. Washington has a significant paper called "A Cheerful Journey Through Mississippi," which is, naturally, an optimistic study of the negro problem from the most eminent of negroes. "A Farmer Whose Son is Also a Farmer" is the suggestive caption of an article by Edward Berwick, Lieut. Col. J. H. Patterson describes "Hunting the Rhinoceros and the Hippopotamus in Africa"—a sport which is soon to be taken up by an eminent statesman—and there is a thorough article dealing with "The Night Riders," by Edward A. Jones. John D. Rockefeller describes "The Difficult Art of Getting," and there are other valuable contributions by C. M. Keys, O. F. Lewis, Elisha H. Talbot and others.

Any one who ever spent a weekend at a great fashionable country estate will appreciate the delicious humor of Frederic Arnold Kummer's novel "Mr. Buttles," published complete in the February Smart Set. Mr. Buttles, himself, is the butler of

Everdun Towers, and conceives and carries out a scheme for organizing the upper servants into a corporation and getting the perquisite business down to fine points. Lord Everdun's magnificent home becomes thus merely a splendid hotel. Guests come and go, enjoy themselves and are politely fleeced, all unconscious of the corporate arrangement of which they are the victims. Of course complications arise, and there the naive rogues of Buttles stands out as a splendid character study. The story is far above the average of periodical literature. The delineation of Buttles' character may almost be said to suggest the best work of Dickens.

Mark Twain on the New Planet. [The astronomers of Harvard have observed "perturbation in the orbital movement of Neptune," such as might be caused by the presence of a new planet in the vicinity.]

Mark Twain, in Harper's Weekly: I believe in the new planet. I was eleven years old in 1846, when Leverrier and Adams and Mary Somerville discovered Neptune through the disturbance and discomfort it was causing Uranus. "Perturbations," they call that kind of disturbance. I had been having those perturbations myself, for more than two months; in fact all through watermelon time, for they used to keep dogs in some of the patches in those days. You notice that these recent perturbations are considered remarkable because they perturbate through three seconds of arc, but really that is nothing; often I used to perturbate through as much as half an hour if it was a dog that was attending to the perturbing. There isn't any Neptune that can out-perturbate a dog; and I know, because I should just love it if I can't have a constellation.

Fatal Auto Accident. CHICAGO, Jan. 30.—There was one fatal auto accident today, one man being killed and one injured on account of the blizzard here. Telegraph telephone communication badly crippled.

Street Car Takes Tumble. CINCINNATI, Jan. 30.—12 passengers were seriously hurt this morning by a street car plunging over a fifty foot embankment. The motor man died.

—Read The Daily Gate City.



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