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Keokuk, Iowa, April 22, 1909.

TAKE TIME TO LIVE.

O, it's grand and grand and grand and grand, And all to the treadmill give! O, it's wear out heart and body and mind.

And never take time to live! It's never take time to know a friend Or two, or read a bit Or an hour with the ones you love to spend.

But your cares steal into it. And can this be wise? Though you win the prize Is it not too grievous stress? Is the goal you end worth the rushing blind?

Past the fields of happiness? Need you plan and scheme even when you dream? Is the pay worth what you give? Let's go slow awhile now the world's amuse.

Let's take time, now and then, to live! —Kansas City Times.

It is a matter of common remark that Castro is badly handicapped by a lack of terminal facilities.

The prices of meat and bread continue to advance. Happily there is no law against sticking to buckwheat cakes.

A Missouri judge has ruled that a woman has a license to swear when she has to lead a drunken husband home at night. The number of capable judges in Missouri is increasing right along.

A commentary on marriage conditions in Chicago was offered one day last week, when two judges in that city granted sixty-seven divorces in a few hours. Most of the decrees were rendered "by default" and the cause was chiefly desertion. On the same day the marriage licenses issued in Chicago numbered forty-five.

There are epidemics at Hamilton and Fort Madison of the name disease now prevalent in Keokuk. In both those communities it is diagnosed as rubella and treated as such. In neither have there been any deaths from the disease. There never are any fatal cases of rubella, in sharp contrast to measles and scarlet fever.

Governor Haskell of Oklahoma has been acquitted on a technicality. His "innocence" is well hit off by an up-state country paper which says it is of the same variety as the small boy who was with the cat in an adjoining room. Hearing the howls of the cat the mother shouted, "Johnnie, stop pulling that cat's tail!" "I ain't pulling his tail," responded truthful Johnnie. "I am holding his tail and he is doing the pulling."

The railroads of the United States reporting for March show total gross earnings, according to Dun's Review, of \$28,112,795, showing an increase of 10.12 per cent compared with the same month last year. All of the railroads have not reported, but it is not believed that the percentage of increase will fall below that already shown. It is interesting to know that the earnings in December, 1908, showed an increase of 4.40 per cent, those of January, 1909, the same percentage of increase. February showed 7.71 per cent and March shows an increase of 10.12 per cent. The general prediction that better times are in prospect and the assurance that business is already showing marked signs of improvement, are confirmed by this increase in earnings.

Pneumonia is prevalent at this time of year and more people die of the disease in the spring than in any other season. One reason for this is that overheating is a potent factor in causing pneumonia. More cases are attributable to this than to cold. Apropos this the health department of Chicago has issued a warning that is applicable in Keokuk as in that city. The announcement is to the following effect:

At this season of the year the weather is generally mild but subject to sudden and pronounced changes; our houses are warmer, but the people are still wearing their winter "hannels and heavy overcoats. These conditions make for overheating and sudden chilling. People go about with undergarments dampened with perspiration. They experience a sudden change of temperature, the body becomes chilled and as a result pneu-

monia frequently develops. To avoid pneumonia get the fresh air habit.

The Charlton Leader is offering thirty cents worth of sugar to all subscribers who pay \$1 on subscription. It will probably hand out the lemons later.

It would seem to be high time for the almanac maker and the weather man to get together and adjust their differences. If they can't do any better they might at least agree on a modus vivendi.

Frank G. Moorhead has an article in the Technical World for May on "The Apple-Pie in Danger," in which a versatile and picturesque statistician is quoted as having figured out that if the apples harvested last year from the commercial orchards of the United States were converted into pies the army of bakers needed to do the work would turn out 6,150,000,000 of them, and that these placed side by side would make a path of almost 975,000 miles, enough to girdle the earth thirty-nine times. The total weight of this mountain of pastry is estimated at 2,250,000,000 pounds, including 6,150,000,000 pounds of flour, lard and other ingredients in the popular American after-dinner desert, requiring 154,166 cars of standard capacity to transport them from the ovens to the consumers. In 1903 45,000,000 barrels of apples were produced in the United States. In 1904 the yield was 360,000 barrels greater. Then in 1905 it dropped to 23,500,000 barrels, and in 1906 it increased to 36,130,000 barrels. The crop of 1907 fell off to 25,000,000, which was about the yield for the year 1908.

COMMISSION VS. LEGISLATURE. Col. S. A. Duke, an early resident of Keokuk now a civic and political leader in Arkansas, has an article in a recent number of the Little Rock Arkansas State Republican suggesting that the legislature of that state be abolished and its duties, together with those of the governor, be discharged by a state commission to be named for the purpose. Colonel Duke is moved to proffer this suggestion by two considerations: First, because of the great improvement in city government brought about by the substitution of the commission plan for the plan of government by city councils, and secondly, by the apparent want of sagacity on the part of voters of the state in the selection of legislators able to cope with the larger questions of state importance.

LAW ENFORCEMENT.

We print in another column today the text of the new law designed to abolish immoral resorts in this state. As will be seen it is quite drastic in its provisions, not only as regard the keepers and inmates of such resorts, but also property owners who rent premises for the purpose. Heretofore county attorneys and sheriffs, mayors and other peace officers have, tacitly at least, been allowed wide latitude for individual judgment in the enforcement of laws against immoral resorts, gambling houses and the like, but under new legislation designed to secure more general and more rigid law enforcement all option in the matter has been taken away from them.

With a view to calling the attention of county attorneys and sheriffs to the new responsibilities put upon them by recent enactments the attorney general of the state has prepared for publication the main provisions of the new law and they are being sent to the county attorneys along with letters requesting them to put them into operation immediately after they have gone into effect, which will be on the 4th of July next.

The most important provision of the new law pertaining to the duties of the county attorney is as follows: "It shall be the duty of the county attorney, first, to diligently enforce, or cause to be enforced in his county, all the laws of the state, actions for a violation of which may be commenced or prosecuted in the name of the state of Iowa or by him as county attorney, except such laws, the enforcement of which is exclusively enjoined upon others by statute."

Following is the new provision of the law as it affects the sheriff: "It shall be the duty of the sheriff, by himself or deputy, to preserve the peace in his county, to ferret out crime, to apprehend and arrest all criminals and in so far as it is within his power, to secure evidence of all crimes committed in his county, and present the same to the county attorney and the grand jury; to file information against all persons who he knows or he has reason to believe, have violated the laws of the state, and to perform all other duties pertaining to the office of sheriff or enjoined upon him by law. The sheriff shall, whenever directed to do so in writing by the county attorney, make special investigation of any alleged infraction of the law within his county, and report with reference thereto within a reasonable time to such county attorney."

At the same time that the legislature enacted these provisions it put a "clincher" on the statute books in the form of a "removal law," the gist of which is as follows: "Any county attorney, sheriff, mayor, police officer, marshal or constable shall be removed from office by the district court or judge upon charges made in writing and hearing thereunder for the following causes: "1. For wilful or habitual neglect or refusal to perform the duties of his office. "2. For wilful misconduct or maladministration in office. "3. For corruption. "4. For extortion. "5. Upon conviction of a felony. "6. For intoxication or upon conviction of being intoxicated."

Section 2. The complaint or petition shall be entitled in the name of the state of Iowa, and may be filed upon the relation of any five qualified electors of the county in which the person charged is an officer, the county attorney of such county, or the attorney general, and shall be filed by the attorney general when directed to do so by the governor."

It will be noted that these several new enactments leave no possible avenue of escape. The duty of local peace officers to abolish immoral resorts, gambling houses, and saloons conducted contrary to the provisions of the mulct law, is plain and imperative. The effect should be material improvement of the moral condition of Iowa cities and towns.

A Regular vs. an Insurgent.

Farmington News: A congressman who turns insurgent handicaps himself. Chas. A. Kennedy is one of the three representatives from Iowa who is in a position to accomplish some-

A FREE ROAD DRAG.

For the purpose of creating better roads in the vicinity Mr. J. C. Schee, a merchant of Farmington, offers in the News of that place to give free of cost one 2x5, twelve feet long, of oak, and one 2x6, four feet long, sufficient for a six foot drag. This offer is good for ten days and to the first ten farmers who do not now own a road drag. In making it Mr. Schee says: "This is an opportunity to get a road drag for a very small cost. The only thing that is required is two bolts twenty-four inches long, and one hour's work. Everyone should be interested in good roads from their home to the best town in the county."

Such public-spiritedness is worthy of great commendation. Mr. Schee is evidently in earnest in his desire for better public highways, as is attested by the fact that he is willing to show his faith by his works. It will not be his fault if the roads in the vicinity of Farmington are not greatly improved by the use of the drag. The farmers to whom he appeals should not permit him to outdo them in efforts to this end.

COMMISSION VS. LEGISLATURE. Col. S. A. Duke, an early resident of Keokuk now a civic and political leader in Arkansas, has an article in a recent number of the Little Rock Arkansas State Republican suggesting that the legislature of that state be abolished and its duties, together with those of the governor, be discharged by a state commission to be named for the purpose. Colonel Duke is moved to proffer this suggestion by two considerations: First, because of the great improvement in city government brought about by the substitution of the commission plan for the plan of government by city councils, and secondly, by the apparent want of sagacity on the part of voters of the state in the selection of legislators able to cope with the larger questions of state importance.

Colonel Duke's idea is to do away with the present form of legislative government and let the supreme court appoint a commission, of say six first-class men in their several vocations, subject to the approval of the governor, to sit as a state commission, with the governor as chairman, without a vote except in case of a tie. It is suggested that the governor's salary be raised to \$8,000 a year and that the members be paid \$5,000 a year and be required to devote all their time to the state. In order that all the people be represented it is further suggested that the selection of commissioners might be as follows: One first-class farmer, one first-class preacher, one first-class lawyer, one first-class doctor and one first-class educator. And they should be required, all of them, to bear first-class civil service certificates in their respective callings. Colonel Duke says in support of his proposition:

With such a board it might be possible to have laws of a general nature to cover nearly all the wants of the people. Local bills would be the exception as was contemplated by the wise men who made our constitution. But with the kind of material selected for our legislature it seems either that the ability to formulate general laws or to pass them when formulated is beyond their ability. And they resort to little local bills too small to attract notice or opposition, and thus drag out a miserable, if not disgraceful, existence for double or triple the time that is set by the constitution, costing the state \$150,000 to \$200,000, with very little to show for it. Whereas, my plan would cost \$30,000, and, I believe, would result in as great improvement in state government as has the commission plan in city government in all the people. Local bills would be the exception as was contemplated by the wise men who made our constitution. 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