

THE GATE CITY PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

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DAILY BY MAIL: One year \$1.00, Four Months .75, Six months .50, One month .15

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THE GATE CITY is on sale at the following news stands: Hotel Keokuk, Cor. Third and Johnson, C. H. Hollins & Co., 229 Main street, Ward Bros., 225 Main street, Depot News Stand.

Keokuk, Iowa ... November 18, 1909.

The indications point to cold fingers before the corn is all cribbed.

The coal supply will be exhausted in fifty years, and then there will not be any mine explosions.

Lieutenant Peary is making progress. He has dropped all mention of Dr. Cook in his lectures.

Pork is now the highest in price it has been for thirty-seven years. No wonder it has a metallic taste.

Heredity will tell. Ruth Bryan Leavitt is lecturing at \$50 per and is credited with being a good talker.

The early bird may catch the worm, but it is the observation of the Omaha Bee that the early political state invites brickbats.

Sixteen inches of snow in North Dakota! Stand up for Iowa!—Sioux City Journal.

Six inches of snow in northern Iowa. Sand up for southern Iowa!

A Sioux City woman claims to have cured herself of consumption by eating twelve lemons a day for twelve days. The chances are that she had nothing worse than a bad cold.

The National Grange in session at Des Moines endorsed equal suffrage. When it comes to a matter of gallantry the theoretical agriculturists don't propose to be outdone by anybody.

If the Iowa suffragets persist in their announced program they should not fall to enlist the co-operation of Carrie Nation. Her methods coincide exactly with what they have in mind.

It is not possible to treat the hookworm disease surgically. There is no chance for it, therefore, to become fashionable with the public or to inspire enthusiasm in the medical profession.

According to a London paper, "at the recent aviation meetings there were several British aeroplanes on the ground." If they had been American aeroplanes they would have been in the air.

A Kansas hen has laid an egg bearing the prophetic inscription, "drought 1911." The St. Louis Globe-Democrat declares that this is what comes from operating a poultry farm in a prohibition country.

The Des Moines Register and Leader tells of a Wisconsin man who was deserted by his wife after he had consumed nine bottles of ketchup, one after another, and he has not been able to catch up with her since.

Speaking of what the Iowa hunter get for the dollar he pays for a license, an inquiry noted in The Gate City the other day, the Ottumwa Courier shrewdly suggests that it depends some on how well a hunter can shoot.

Papers throughout the state tell of dealers arrested for selling oysters diluted with water. Grocers and others should know by this time that the pure food law was made to be obeyed and that violations of it are a costly experience.

Wu Ting-fang is said to have lost interest in spiritualistic research. A spirit claiming to be that of his mother couldn't either talk or understand Chinese. Thereupon his disposition to believe in such manifestations vanished with the spook into thin air.

There is cause for rejoicing in the fact that Professor Holden has decided to remain in Iowa. He is an exceptionally valuable citizen and has by no means yet reached the limit of his usefulness. Iowa owes more to Professor Holden than it will ever be able to repay.

Cherry, Ill., the scene of the horrible mine catastrophe in which 300 miners were killed, was found by and named after Frank W. Cherry, who until two years ago was a resident of Des Moines, where he was known as a speculator and promoter. While a resident of Des Moines Mr. Cherry established the ill-fated mine and constructed a railroad from Davis Junction to Cherry—a distance of seventy-five miles. His interests in the mine

and railroad were afterwards taken over by the Milwaukee railroad.

A Dubuque lawyer has raised the point that public utilities should pay their share of county and state taxes. The matter is to be taken to the courts. Keokuk has only an academic interest in it, as it has never experimented with municipal ownership.

In a recent address on advertising Mr. George W. Johnson, a recognized authority on the subject, said that for advertising purposes bill-boards are all right in their place. He added that he had been told that they make excellent kindling wood. Their continued existence he said presented a disgusting and sometimes immoral problem.

The good brother of the Waterloo Reporter goes wrong after the following fashion:

"Speaking of the recent election The Keokuk Gate City lets loose this whoop for home: 'H. C. Baehr, mayor-elect of Cleveland, Ohio, is a former Keokuk man. You simply can't lose Keokuk! How about 'Pa' Belt? Isn't he a Keokuk man, and didn't he lose?'"

"Pa" Belt has been a Jacksonville man all his life, but he will be identified with Keokuk henceforth and will win.

A bill has been proposed and will doubtless be pushed during the coming session of congress which has for its purpose more thorough teaching of the science of agriculture in the common schools. It is called the Davis education bill. It proposes that congress make appropriations for the several states first for the training of teachers in agricultural science and industrial practice. Then later it would make additional grants to the states for giving such instruction in elementary schools and district high schools.

Adelbert Sumner of Waterloo is mentioned as a possible candidate for the Republican nomination for congress in the Third district against Representative Pickett. Mr. Sumner was for many years a political pupil of the late Senator Allison and is thoroughly representative of that eminent statesman's high quality of Republicanism. It is also urged in his behalf that he has extensive and intimate acquaintance with men and affairs at Washington which would make him especially valuable to the district. If Mr. Sumner should enter the lists an interesting contest would be assured.

Governor Carroll is engaged in making a thorough investigation of methods of securing good roads in other states with a view to making recommendations for Iowa, as that is the most important problem before the administration. He has asked especially in regard to the use of convict labor on the highways and has received a letter from Governor Shafrath of Colorado on this subject. The Colorado governor states that the system of working the convicts on the roads is found entirely satisfactory there. If their record is good they get long days off for each month put in on the public roads.

As showing the prices good Iowa land commands some recent transfers in different parts of the state are of interest. An eighty-three-acre farm two miles south of Shenandoah belonging to Elbert Read sold for \$208 per acre or \$17,250. M. S. Kirkpatrick sold his farm two miles south of Montezuma to John Bradley for \$176 per acre. The G. M. Stoughton farm of 429 acres four miles southeast of Osage has been purchased by M. J. Simpson for \$42,000. John Fritz bought the Henry Voss 75 acres northwest of Holstein for \$200 per acre. Only a few years ago \$100 was the topnotch price for Iowa farm land.

The question of the amount of food needed to sustain life in the arctic regions was heatedly discussed in the polar dispute. Harry Whitney, who spent a year shooting within the arctic circle, gives an idea in an article in the Outlook Magazine for December of what the Eskimo can do when he tries. He writes:

"I shall never forget the feast that these Eskimos had—when we next halted. I made a careful note of what six men consumed within three hours—seven hares, one seal, about a bucketful of dried walrus meat prepared by Dr. Cook for dog food while at Annotok, and two large cups of tea and four biscuits per man. A good part of the seal and all the hare meat they ate raw, like hungry dogs. I trained my camera upon them, but the Eskimo have a decided objection to being photographed while they eat, and out of respect to their wishes I desisted."

A national civic congress is to be held in New York City December 6th to 11th inclusive under the auspices of the American Civic Alliance. Invitations are extended to all the civic and other organizations interested in the public welfare to send representatives. The congress is called to consider and devise a means for coordinating our numerous civic activities throughout the country, and also to consider and devise a more effective method for the study and solution of our fundamental political problems. The congress will be independent, non-partisan in character, and open to all organizations interested in public welfare. It is believed that such an assembly in which all the civic and other important activities of the nation are fittingly represented will be able to accomplish a

great deal of good in the cause of civic betterment.

A food inspector in Chicago has been endeavoring to ascertain the composition of a mince pie. He has been going through a number of the mince-meat factories in that city and has found that something besides meat and apples get into the pies. He found dried apples, but they were mixed with dirt, and in the apples he discovered sand, leaves and strings. The apples had been imperfectly dried, and the wormy parts were not fully cut out. The factories were found to be dirty, the utensils filthy, and the employes that were making the mince were attired in unclean clothing. It has been suggested that the inspector ought to make the manufacturer of such material live on it for several weeks. Such punishment would eminently befit the crime. As there is no law against capital punishment in Illinois the courts could not rule that it was unconstitutional on that ground, but they might object to it as cruel and unusual. None the less the suggestion is a good one.

A NEW MILEAGE BOOK. The new mileage ticket book in which the coupons will represent cents instead of miles is a great improvement in the railroad ticket line, which all roads in the Western Passenger association will put into effect January 1. As each coupon represents two cents, the book will be good in states that have a maximum fare of two cents and in states that have a maximum fare of three cents. The conductor in collecting the fares from the mileage book, takes out the coupons as if he were collecting the fare in cash. The new interchangeable mileage book will be very valuable to traveling men especially, as it will save much time of purchasing tickets and will be good on all railroads connected with the Western Passenger association and the Southwestern Passenger Mileage bureau. The new book will enable a man to buy a ticket on one road, and if the owner misses his train his mileage book will be good to take the next convenient train even though it be a train of a different road.

The railroads that agreed on the new book comprise the lines between Chicago and Eastern Colorado, a territory which includes the roads connected with the Western Passenger association. The territory consists of the following states: The greater part of Illinois, all of Iowa, all Nebraska, practically all of Kansas, the greater part of the Dakotas, and eastern Colorado, several of the southwestern states, meaning all those that contain railroads connected with the Southwestern Passenger Mileage bureau.

The Chicago Tribune declares that some men would refuse to be angels here on earth even if they could get wings for \$4 a pair. "Every time an Iowan remembers that he lives in Iowa he ought to feel like shaking hands with himself," says Cedar Rapids Gazette. The Charles City Press declares that the progressive newspapers, those in the front rank of reform, are the biggest political liars in the country.

The Fort Dodge, Des Moines and Southern railway has placed an order for \$100,000 worth of new equipment, including 150 new cars. "Some movements must depend to a considerable extent upon bluster and noise, but equal suffrage will not be won this way," concludes the Spirit Lake Beacon.

It is the observation of the Dubuque Telegraph-Herald that many a man who is attending to his own furnace is now learning more about the black hand.

The Jacksonville Courier holds that the man who owns an automobile and can afford bacon for breakfast is deserving of a good rating in Dun and Bradstreet.

According to the Herald-Transcript, a Peoria man has named his motor boat "Accommodation" because when it stops anywhere there is absolutely no telling when it will go on.

An Indiana boy, aged seventeen, tried to rob a bank. The Washington Star suggests that he had evidently been reading some of the pernicious literature that gets into the state from outside sources.

The Girls' Christian hotel started by the Volunteers of America in Des Moines a few months ago, has proven so successful that an addition to the dormitories will soon be made in order to accommodate the patrons.

Theodore R. Timby, who claimed he invented the revolving turret of the famous Monitor, and that, accordingly, he should have received the fame history accorded to John Ericsson, died at the age of ninety-one in Brooklyn.

The Creston Advertiser agrees with Senator Cummins that the overcapitalization of corporations is an evil that should be remedied by legislation. This, the Advertiser believes, is one of the first tasks to which congress should address itself.

Duty as Test of Capacity. Goethe: Endeavor to do thy duty and they will know thy capacity.

Advertisement for Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder. Includes image of the product and text: 'Received Highest Award Chicago World's Fair', 'Made from Grapes', 'A Pure Cream of Tartar Powder', 'makes biscuits, cakes and pastry more digestible.'

Postoffice Receipts Show Business Gain

Increase of 6.31 Per Cent in the Revenues Indicates a Healthy Condition.—William E. Curtis Says Postal Statistics Clearly Set Forth Country's Growth.

William E. Curtis' Washington correspondence Chicago Record-Herald: The postoffice returns furnish the most accurate barometer we have of the condition of business. If a man or a firm is not doing anything they do not use the mails, but when they are busy they have to buy stamps and a return is made of every one that is sold. Hence the sales of postage stamps are an index of the condition of business, and during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909, the receipts from that source were \$184,967,815.46, an increase of \$11,593,103.44 over 1908. The second-class postage paid in money amounted to \$7,236,058.70, an increase of \$285,551.95. Third and fourth class postage paid in money was \$3,229,741.85, an increase of \$395,797.90, and the revenue from box rents in the postoffices throughout the country was \$3,946,259.71, an increase of \$112,956.16 over the previous year.

There was a falling off in various other sources of revenue, the most conspicuous being that from the money order business. During the last fiscal year there was a decrease of \$188,000 in the amount of domestic money orders issued and a decrease of \$12,310,759 in the amount of foreign money orders issued. The revenue from this source was \$3,417,625.36 for the year, showing a decrease of \$260,130.06 from 1908. The total revenues of the Postoffice department for the fiscal year 1909 were \$203,562,383.07, being an increase from the previous year of \$12,083,719.56, or 6.31 per cent—a very healthful sign of the restoration of business from the panic of 1907, which was felt even into the first and second quarters of the recent fiscal year.

The only way to explain the falling off in the money orders is on the theory that the foreign-born element in the United States had not sufficiently recovered from the hard times of 1907 and 1908 to afford sending any part of their savings to the old folks in the countries from which they came. But when the December returns are in we shall be able to judge more accurately of their financial condition because they are in the habit of buying more money orders to send to their parents, relatives and friends across the water at Christmas time than at any other season of the year.

There has been an enormous increase in the amount of money sent to Europe in that way. Thirty years ago the value of foreign money orders was little over two millions of dollars. Twenty years ago it was twelve millions. Ten years ago it was a little less than fourteen millions, while in 1908 it has reached the enormous sum of \$88,972,288, without considering the amount of money that was carried by returning immigrants, sent by bank drafts, through the steamship companies, in currency and in other ways. Every returning immigrant carries his savings with him, and a million dollars or more goes to Europe in that way every year. I was on a steamer once when steerage passengers for Ireland alone brought more than \$7,000 in American money to the purser to be changed into English money. On another occasion, before we landed in Genoa, the steerage passengers, almost entirely Italians, brought about \$5,000 to be changed into the currency of their country.

During the last ten years \$498,883,915 has been sent abroad in money orders alone, practically the entire amount being the savings of the foreign-born population in the United States remitted to their parents and other relatives, or for investment. During the fiscal year 1908 the sum of \$88,972,288 was sent, but as I have already told you, there was a falling off to \$76,662,629 during the recent year.

Advertisement for Burlington Route: 'Go Somewhere This Winter', 'Now is the Time to Plan for Your Winter Trip', 'No matter where you are going, whether to California on one of our personally conducted Tourist Car Excursions, to Mexico, to Florida, to the Mediterranean, across the Pacific or Around the World, I can quote you rates and give you information which will be of service to you. Let me help you plan your trip and if I haven't the folders and printed matter, you want I will get them for you.'

Advertisement for The State Central Savings Bank: 'Two things necessary for success: 1st. A Firm Determination. 2nd. A Savings Account in the The State Central Savings Bank', 'Both are within your grasp. Call and open your account. \$1.00 will do this.', 'CAPITAL, \$100,000.00. SURPLUS, \$200,000.00.', 'William Logan, President. Geo. E. Rix, Vice President. J. F. Kiedalsch, Sr., Vice Pres. C. J. Boer, Cashier. H. T. Graham, Ass't Cashier. H. Boyden Blood, Ass't Cashier.'

Advertisement for Keokuk National Bank: 'Affords every facility for doing your banking business that any bank can', '3 PER CENT INTEREST ON TIME AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS', 'A. E. JOHNSTONE, President. F. W. DAVIS, Cashier. H. L. CONNARD, Vice Pres. H. W. WOOD, Assistant Cashier.'

Advertisement for The Keokuk Savings Bank: 'is equipped to transact any business demanded of a well organized bank.', 'ONE DOLLAR WILL START A SAVINGS ACCOUNT', 'A. E. JOHNSTONE, President. F. W. DAVIS, Cashier. H. L. CONNARD, Vice Pres. H. W. WOOD, Assistant Cashier.'

Advertisement for Iowa State Insurance Company: 'Oldest Company in the State Keokuk Iowa Incorporated in 1855', 'Insurance written since organization \$229,563,567.47', 'H. R. COLLISSON, City Agent'

of registered letters and packages, the postal employees of our government handled more than a billion dollars in cash, and yet the total loss by fraud, by theft, by fire and all other causes was only \$38,050. I do not believe any other business is handled as carefully and so honestly, notwithstanding the carelessness of the public. The dead letter office receives between 13,000,000 and 14,000,000 letters every year, which either bear an incorrect or insufficient address, or are left in the street letter boxes without postage stamps. The amount of money found in these letters varies from \$35,000 to \$40,000 a year, and it is increased annually. Taking into consideration the increase in population the carelessness of the letter writing public is growing rapidly. During the last ten years the number of dead letters have more than doubled, while the population has not increased more than 10 per cent, and the amount of money found in dead letters was three times as great as it was ten years ago. Notwithstanding all our public schools, colleges and universities, and our boasted advance in civilization, the public grows more and more careless in its correspondence, and the largest number of dead letters are those which are incorrectly addressed. The use of postal cards during the last few years has nearly doubled. The post card craze has possessed the entire population, and that is one of the largest sources of revenue. The number of postal cards carried through the mails last year was nearly a billion. The increase in registered letters has also been very rapid. Ten years ago the number was a little more than 16,000,000; last year the total was more than 40,000,000. There are now nearly 40,000 rural delivery carriers who are paid \$35,000,000 a year for carrying the letters

—Read The Daily Gate City.