

THE GATE CITY PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

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Keokuk, Iowa ... November 21, 1909.

"SEND ME."

Not mine to mount to courts where seraphs sing, Or glad archangels soar on outstretched wing; Not mine in union with celestial choirs

To sound heaven's trump, or strike the gentler wires; Not mine to stand enrolled at crystal gates, Where Michael thunders or where Uriel waits.

But lesser worlds a father's kindness know; Be mine some simple service here below

To weep with those who weep, their joys to share, Their pain to solace or their burdens bear;

Some widow in her agony to meet; Some exile in his new-found home to greet;

To serve some child of Thine, and so serve Thee— Lo, here am I! To such a work send me!

—Edward Everett Hale.

Only thirty-two days until Christmas. It is none too early to buy them.

The price of cocktails in New York has been raised to twenty cents. Down with the tariff law that enhances the cost of the necessities of life!

By manning a line of hose at a midnight fire General Grant, the Omaha Bee points out, is again exposing himself to criticism for heading a cold water brigade.

The editor of the Allentown Democrat says he dreams every night that Pennsylvania has gone Democratic. He neglects to state what he eats at bedtime to cause such a nightmare.

The Thanksgiving proclamation has been called an enabling act, preliminary to the Thanksgiving dinner. However apt the designation, it can never take the place of a reliable digestive agent after the meal.

An Atlanta editor announces that he will no longer advise boys to stay on the farm, since hookworm and pellagra have been discovered. As the boys have not been taking the Atlanta editor's advice the situation is not likely to be radically changed.

Illinois reports a total of 12,209 miles of railway, of which 1,061 is electric. When the same ratio between electric and steam roads has been reached in Iowa this state will enjoy transportation facilities second to none.

A Texan visiting in Jacksonville is represented by the Courier as explaining that President Taft drew enormous crowds in that state because a Republican is a curiosity down that way. The inference is that Texans are a curious lot.

In these days of profitable farming it is interesting to recall Horace Greeley's experience. On his own confession he fed \$80 worth of fodder to \$16 worth of hogs and sold the pork for \$36. That is what Horace knew about farming.

According to a current newspaper paragraph, the name of Smith has been traced back to the time of the third Ptolemy, 227 B. C. He was not a sculptor, but a brewer and seller of beer. So far as known Smith did not run up against a consent petition.

Every Christmas purchase made now will relieve by so much the crush in the stores and the overworked employees later on. Early shoppers serve their own interests also by taking advantage of the larger stocks and better conditions for buying. Intelligent people should not need to be urged to begin making their holiday purchases at once.

The state supreme court has decided that lands held as an endowment by public libraries cannot be taxed, as libraries are educational institutions. The case was that involving land belonging to the Kendall-Young library at Webster City, which Wright county had taxed. The same court has also decided that the sloughs and bays along the borders of the rivers of Iowa are not a part of those rivers and the Iowa fish and game laws extend over these bays. The case was one from Jackson county, where two

men were fined for destroying a seine seized on a bayou. The court holds that the main stream must be regarded as the river proper.

The national grange in session at Des Moines went on record as favoring the improvement of public highways in preference to the development of the deep waterways. Members declared that improvement of market roads is of far more importance than that of boulevards for rich automobilists. Resolutions favoring the adoption of more practical courses of study in colleges and high schools were also adopted.

The present bright, cool weather is all right—just what is needed. The warm, wet weather which preceded it was causing the corn to mould wherever cribbed in any large quantity. In many places the unhusked corn is down badly and wherever the ears touched the ground the grain was being spoiled by the warm weather and dampness. The present seasonable weather also signifies much to the merchants. It means active business for them and the free circulation of money in all branches of trade. Labor, too, can be profitably employed, and altogether weather conditions call for congratulations and thankfulness.

The controversy over dancing at Ellsworth, Iowa, has subsided. Neither side has given up, but both sides have determined to quit fighting. The Cedar Rapids Republican says of the affair and its cause: "The whole affair has been supremely silly. Dancing is bad for those who believe it is bad and it is all right for those who believe it is all right. There will be plenty of persons who danced in heaven and there will be plenty of persons who did not dance in the other place."

Now watch Billy Sunday take the editor of the Republican to task for this utterance. In the Reverend William's view the dance is a specially greased chute leading directly to hades.

It now turns out that Herman Rider, the president of the National Publishers' Association, and other members of the junta of big newspapers which have set out to ruin Taft, Cannon and other Republican leaders, offered to support Cannon for speaker, if he would work with them to secure print paper from Canada free. Of course Cannon and the other Republican leaders refused to enter into such a deal. The Iowa City Republican in speaking of the matter well says:

Now the big newspapers and a lot of swelled headed little fry, are against Taft and Cannon. The big newspapers are sordid and have nothing to guide them but selfishness. They are unreliable as newspapers, and without principle. At least this is the case with most of them.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

In a recent editorial article on the spread of the "new idea" in municipal government the Boston Herald says that municipal administration must be a local problem, to be determined in view of local conditions, but the spread of the new idea in municipal administration can not be ignored by any city which is struggling to relieve itself of the incubus of inefficient and wasteful administration. Details in the application of this new idea vary under different local conditions, but three fundamental principles are recognized in what is so commonly known as the commission plan of government. These fundamental principles are defined as follows:

First is the simplification of the municipal organizations, which serves the double purpose of aiding intelligent selection by the voting and avoiding the confusion of official power and responsibility. Second is the unification of the city into a single voting body, emphasizing the community of interest of the whole city instead of the diversity of interests of the various wards, and, moreover, establishing a single line of responsibility in place of the double, and sometimes triple, lines which characterize municipal administration under the old forms. The third essential is the elimination of partisan politics and the recognition of the citizen as a stockholder in the municipal corporation.

STRINGENT LEGISLATION.

What was known originally as the Hepburn-Dolliver bill and later as the Littlefield bill was enacted into law by the last congress and will go into effect January 1 next. The new law relates to the shipment of liquors from one state to another, the labelling of packages containing liquor and collections on such packages. It is quite stringent in its provisions and drastic in its penalties, and the railroads, express companies and common carriers generally are acquainting themselves with it and preparing to obey its requirements.

As to the transportation of liquor the law provides that any officer, agent or employe of any railroad company, express company or other common carrier, "who shall knowingly deliver to any person other than the person to whom it has been consigned, unless upon the written order in each instance of the bona fide consignee or to any fictitious name, any spirituous, vinous, malted, fermented or other intoxicating liquor of any kind which has been shipped from one state, territory, or district, to another, shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than two years, or both."

The section relating to the collection of the purchase price of the liquor effectually prevents any C. O. D. business, or payments through sight drafts through banks, or other

schemes used to get around state laws.

The statute makes it illegal for any railway company, express company or common carrier to collect, in connection with the transportation of liquor, the purchase price of the liquor or any part of it before or after delivery, from the consignee or any other person, or in any manner act as the agent of the buyer or seller of any such liquor. A violation of this section carries with it a penalty of not more than \$5,000.

Another section does away with the shipping of liquor in plain packages, or in packages with misleading labels on the exterior. It requires that every package must be plainly marked, showing the name of the consignee, nature of the contents and the quantity contained in the package. A violation of this section means a fine of not more than \$5,000 upon conviction.

The purpose of the law is to prevent as far as possible the shipment of liquor into prohibition communities. To what extent it will operate in the interests of temperance remains to be seen.

BETTER LIGHTING NEEDED.

One of Keokuk's urgent needs is better lighting of Main street from Third to Twelfth during the evening hours. Other cities are moving in the matter of illuminating their principal business thoroughfares and Keokuk must follow their example if it is to maintain its reputation as a progressive community. Des Moines was the first city in Iowa to make its streets attractive in this way, with Davenport a close second. In the latter city the enterprising merchants in the "300" block on Brady street have led off, and it is expected that in the course of a few months the whole downtown district in Davenport will be attractively lighted.

The equipment necessary for such special street illumination is not elaborate or expensive. Five electrolites to a city block are sufficient to flood a street with light. The electrolites are set upon substantial posts and the more ornamental they are the better the effect. As they are in use for only a few hours each evening the cost of electric current is only nominal. But regardless of the matter of expense, such illumination of business streets has come to be a necessity unless the city is to suffer by comparison with others of its class. The extent to which a community is lighted at night, especially in its business district, has come to be a measure of its enterprise and prosperity. Every step in the direction of better lighting is an attestation of public-spiritedness and progress and presumptive evidence that the city is forging ahead as rapidly as its rivals.

Brilliant illumination of business streets is not all outgo and no income. It is a valuable form of advertising appreciated by home people and visitors alike. It brings returns in public appreciation of the enterprise of the business community and in a larger volume of trade. There are nine blocks between Third and Main and Twelfth and Main. Who will move first in this important matter—the merchants in the 300, the 400, the 500, the 600, the 700, the 800, the 900, the 1000 or the 1100 block? The Gate City is prepared to print their names in capital letters in black-face type and commend them as cordially as it knows how. It is up to the merchants on Main street to decide for themselves which of them shall have the honor of leading the movement for a brighter and more beautiful Keokuk.

A GOOD CHEER SOCIETY.

A young lady in New York, Miss Theora Carter by name, recently conceived the idea of organizing a society of Good Cheer, to be composed of young ladies who would devote a portion of their time to helpfulness and the promotion of cheerfulness among those in need of such ministrations. In line with her ideas such a society has been organized by a group of young women in that city under the law of New York. The earnest young workers composing its membership aim to cheer the sick and especially the convalescent, to give a touch of joy to those lives that have been brought low through sickness, to find the "stranger within the gates" who may be very much in need of cheer and to promulgate and promote cheerfulness among all classes of people. For some time they have made it a part of their every day life to visit boarding houses, hotels, hospitals and private residences where the sick were convalescent and by distributing flowers, books, magazines and good cheer, have assisted many people back to rugged health and real life.

Miss Carter, the founder of the society and leading spirit among these young ladies, became sick while attending post-graduate classes in Chicago and mapped out the work of the society while convalescing. She is now devoting her ample income and time to the society and has inspired such a spirit of cheer among her young associates in New York that many have joined in the work. Many lodges have been formed and others are ready for organization. It is proposed to institute lodges in all the centers of the country to work with physicians in aiding and assisting the convalescent and to bring before the entire people the necessity for good cheer at all times. One of the mottoes of the society, printed on hangers and cards and distributed among busi-

NOTES AND COMMENT.

A contemporary voices the wish that a bore would go away as quickly as a ton of coal does.

"The man who has nothing to do has the hardest job of the whole bunch," says the Estherville Vindicator and Republican.

According to the near-philosopher of the Sioux City Tribune, a pessimist is a person who has lived with an optimist and found the pace too rapid.

It occurs to the Des Moines Register and Leader that with George Washington's portrait on the new nickel some conductors might hesitate about knocking down street car fares.

"Of course" remarks the Sioux City Journal, "Colonel Bryan would hate to see his friend Gompers go to jail, but it will have to be admitted that the colonel could use the incident to good advantage in his business."

"Some of these days," predicts the Hampton Chronicle, "the inventor will come along who will offer the farmer a machine that will really husk corn. And then the farmer will need but one more machine, and that will be a contrivance for saving time in cutting off coupons."

The Davenport Times says the attractions of life on the farm will not be complete until the rural school systems are made better and the highways are so improved that they may be traversed rapidly at all times of the year. "Muddy roads," adds the Times, "are the greatest single pres-



Thanksgiving

Cash or Payments Schell-Demple Furniture Co. Main, bet. 6th and 7th

Special Thanksgiving Sale of Dining Room Furniture and Dinnerware

You will want a new piece of furniture, a dinner set or a new range to cook the Thanksgiving turkey. We are showing the largest and best line ever offered by us and the values are the best in Keokuk.

Beautiful \$25 and \$30 Dinner Sets for \$19.50

These are in the new Pope-Gosser china of which we are making a special Thanksgiving display; entirely new shapes; conventional decorations in pink and blue with coined gold band and rim. Different from anything ever before placed on the market.

\$12.50 Dinner Sets for \$8.75

In high grade near china, nearly as translucent as imported china, beautiful floral decorations, delicate pink flowers with vine and leaf ground, a charming combination—all handles and knobs full gold traced, 100 pieces—\$12.50 value for \$8.75

A Thanksgiving Offer in Carving Sets

A fine new line of game, steak and turkey carvers from \$1.50 up. Ask to see our special 3-piece stag-handle carving set at \$2.95

\$14 for American Quarter-Sawed Oak Buffet; valued at \$18

A very neat design cabinet-work good and high-class finish. \$16.20 for a genuine quarter-sawed Oak Buffet that is good value at \$20.00 \$35.20 for a handsome Colonial design, genuine quarter-sawed oak buffet valued at \$45.00. Has 48-inch top—hand polished and high-grade cabinet work.

\$10.80 for a China Closet; valued at \$15.00

Solid quarter-sawed oak, bent glass doors. \$22.50 for Mission china closet, a \$30.00 value; bent glass door; glass panels on sides and end—generous in size.

\$8.50 for Dining Table; val. \$12

Made of solid oak, easy smooth running slides, round top, 10-inch pedestal. \$27.00 for a heavy, massive, 48-inch round top extension table; all quarter-sawed and hand polished.

ness houses, is, "Cheerfulness is an asset."

A tented city in New Mexico has been planned for incipient consumptives, and a number of New York's wealthy men will give over their yachts in the summer for several days in order that excursions may be taken along the Hudson.

The society is not a charity. Those who join must give a portion of their time and, where that is impossible, they are expected to give way to others who are ready to do work in person. One of the strict rules of the society is that young ladies in visiting must go in pairs or groups and must study sanitation and hygienic rules. This is a commendable work and it should have liberal encouragement and support.

QUESTION UNSETTLED.

Supreme Court Sharply Divided on Civil Rights of Negro.

DES MOINES, Nov. 20.—Plainly the construction of civil rights statutes in Iowa is not finally and fully settled, for the supreme court in the Des Moines case wherein Mrs. Bell, a colored woman, appealed to the civil rights statute, became not only divided but divided so sharply that attention must be called to the division. The woman had been denied a cup of coffee at a pure food show, and the court held, opinion by Deemer, that it was a private transaction and that distributor of the free coffee could make whatever discrimination he desired. "The company could refuse to serve any person no matter what his color, for any reason or no reason," said the court, and then added:

"There can be no doubt plaintiff was humiliated but it was one of those social humiliations which the law does not undertake to prohibit. It is such as is likely to befall any race or any kind or condition of men. Our social distinctions are arbitrary and sometimes extremely exasperating, but the law has no remedy for them."

In his dissenting opinion, Judge Evans, who is joined by Judge Weaver, would construe the law liberally, saying:

"The majority opinion is professedly 'divorced from sentiment' but the statute is a statute of sentiment. It had its origin in sentiment and draws all its life therefrom. It does not deal with ordinary property rights. It is a form of chivalry of the olden days. It is an embodiment in statutory form of the sympathy of the dominant race for the weaker race in its struggle for the higher levels of citizenship. The struggle is strenuous at best. Perhaps no race that has aspired to the recognition of higher civilization has ever carried a heavier load of disadvantage. This was the situation that appealed to the framers of the statute. It was framed in language broad and comprehensive. Its manifest purpose was and is to protect this burdened race against the further burden of public discrimination and humiliation. It does not attempt to deal with social rights nor is there any question of social rights involved in this case, nor was the humiliation of the plaintiff a mere 'social humilia-

ent day handicaps of people living in the country."

Although Billy Sunday is telling Cedar Rapids people most minutely how to find their way to heaven the Iowa City Republican would wager heavy odds that most of them will keep out of heaven just as long as possible.

In the view of the Louisville Courier-Journal the most courageous American is not the mighty hunter who plays hide and seek with bull elephants, but the Massachusetts man who lives in Walt Whitman's old home and frankly says that he never read a line of Whitman's works.

Officials of the state veterinary surgeon's office fear that there is an outbreak of microbacillus in the northern part of the state, and Dr Paul O. Koto, state veterinarian, has hurried up there. The disease is one that affects the mouth of sheep and is said to be of a serious nature.

The supreme court held that where a man disappears from home and is gone for seven years, with no word from him, that fraternal order in which he has insurance, must pay the beneficiary under the policy the full amount of the policy, the assumption being that the member is dead.

The Carroll Herald takes this shot at the Iowa legislature: "The proposition to pension school teachers was prominently discussed during the educational meeting at Des Moines last week. It was claimed in the discussion that Ohio had such a provision for its superannuated teachers. Our prediction is that it will be a long time in the future before Iowa will take such a step forward. But it would be more creditable than to be begging pensions of Carnegie to such a degree that the legislature would change the name of a state institution to become eligible. The action of the legislature in changing the name of the state normal school to get in on Carnegie's charity roll was shameful."

Coon Club at Alexandria. Delta Sun: To offset the Southern Bear club the Northern Coon club has been organized in Alexandria. The officers of the new organization are: E. R. Roberts, Chief Hunter; John Wood, Keeper of the Hounds; John Siew, Official Tree Climber; J. E. Shoemaker, Keeper of the Scaps. The first hunt of the season was held Thurs-

day night and the trophies consisted of two coons, one opossum and a pheasant.

THE HOME MINISTERS.

Iowa City Republican: The Cedar Rapids Republican wants to know what Cedar Rapids ministers will preach about after Billy Sunday is gone. They will have several things to preach about. There will be evils to condemn and subjects to discuss, the same as there always have been. But it is not in preaching where the minister does the most good. When Billy Sunday has rolled his six or seven thousand dollars and carefully placed the money in a safe place after the Cedar Rapids donations, he will pass out of Cedar Rapids and its affairs. They will still be overworked and poorly paid. They will visit the sick, pay tributes to the dead and comfort the mourner's. They will marry the young, advise those who call for advice and go right on trying to make the world better and the people happier. Whatever people may think of their theology, there is no denying the devotion to mankind shown by the ministers. When others turn away, the minister can always be reached by those in distress. All honor to the good men who go about doing good. They will live and be doing their part long after Sunday's sensationalism has been forgotten.

BIG LAND TRANSACTION.

Kahoka Gazette-Herald: Since our last issue the J. T. Townsend Land Co. has negotiated the sale of the old Abel Morris farm of 608 acres to Geo. Egley. This splendid estate belonged to the White heirs and passed at \$70 per acre. Also the Geo. Egley 130 acre to Eugene Beard at \$80 per acre. Also the Geo. Egley 95 acres known as the G. C. Barnett place to W. E. White at \$95 per acre. In as far as there is a certain connection between all these deals the whole constitutes by far the largest land transaction ever consummated in Clark county, in point of dollars. More acres are involved than in any similar transaction of recent years.

AN UNNECESSARY QUALIFICATION.

Ought a farmer to own an auto? From The Gate City's point of view it all depends on whether he needs and can afford one or not.—Keokuk Gate City.

SO FAR AS IOWA AND ILLINOIS FARMERS ARE CONCERNED, WHAT IS THE USE OF PUTTING IN THAT LAST QUALIFICATION?

—Burkington Hawk-Eye.

tion' as indicted in the majority opinion.

plow!