

THE GATE CITY PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

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Keokuk, Iowa, November 23, 1909.

"Ladylike Hooligans" is the latest name for the suffragettes. It was a woman, of course, who invented the epithet.

The New York zoo has just acquired a kinkajou from Cotacacocas. Now let the paragraphs do their worst.

The roller towel has come under the ban as a germ disseminator and disease breeder. This means that the roller towel must go.

The question, "How old is Tom Watson?" has been asked, and the unanimous newspaper reply is, "old enough to know better."

A Kansas woman wants a divorce because she says her husband hurled "epitaphs" at her. Some relative of Mrs. Partington, evidently.

A Boston woman has declared that it is more important for girls to learn the care of babies than to learn algebra. What's the matter with them learning both?

A Wisconsin man claims to have discovered a mysterious force rubbing through the atmosphere and proposes to apply it to running machinery. The Council Bluffs Nonpareil suggests that he has probably struck one of the hot air currents that keep the political machines going.

H. A. Dyer of Mason City has announced his candidacy for commander of the Grand Army, department of Iowa. He is now president of the North Iowa Veterans' association and past post commander, past assistant adjutant general and junior vice commander department of Iowa, G. A. R.

Bank exchanges last week at all leading cities in the United States were \$3,177,661,694—a gain of 1.3 per cent. The smallness of the gain is accounted for by the fact that 1908 was a "presidential" year and that previous to the election business always falls off and exchanges are reduced, while after that event is decided there is a corresponding expansion in activity, which is reflected in increased bank exchanges.

Glenwood, the shire town of Mills county, has shipped 516 cars of apples this fall, thus breaking all local records. Of these 209 cars went out in October, giving the Burlington road the best month's business it ever had at Glenwood. The Mills county apple crop as a whole is estimated at 1,000 car loads. In addition to large shipments from other towns, there are many apples in cold storage at various points in the county. Some of the Mills county apples put on the market brought \$10 a barrel.

The current number of the Iowa Health Bulletin, edited by Dr. E. L. Thomas, soon to retire, contains what is virtually an attack on the laws of the state and the present board. The laws relating to sanitation and vital statistics are declared to be bad. The present board is called to task for neglect of duty and the fact that too many of the members devote no time to the board. The secretary suggests a reorganization and creation of a sanitary board of three members. The secretary was recently supplanted by another for good and sufficient reasons and is now nursing a bad case of grudge. He isn't a practicing physician and should never have been appointed in the first place.

In discussing the suicide of a professor at the University of Illinois for no better reason than that his baby cried and distracted his thoughts, the Peoria Herald-Transcript considers at some length the relative value of large and small colleges. One thought in particular to which it gives utterance is worthy of more than passing notice: to-wit: that the small colleges still teach wisdom, while the large schools impart knowledge, and too often leave their students distended with information and entirely guiltless of instruction in the science of right and creditable living. In view of all the facts in the case, doubt is expressed if the sum total of results produced in the student body in several of our great schools is not for the worse. The view is a discouraging one, but it is not without warrant.

The Sioux City Tribune reports that they don't taste any better since we quit calling them "batter cakes."

STOPS ONLY UNLAWFUL SALE.

The state supreme court, in an important decision handed down last Saturday, declared that a person who had violated the mulct law and been permanent enjoined from selling liquors, can nevertheless resume business provided he complies with all the requirements of the mulct law, such as paying the tax in advance, obtaining consent from the city council and from the property owners. He need not, under the decision, get another written statement of general consent. The court holds that it is only the unlawful selling that is punished and that one who complies with the law is selling lawfully, in junction or no injunction.

The principle announced will not have much practical effect, however, as the legislature has since passed a law which forbids anyone from selling liquor for five years after having been enjoined.

COAL WASTE IN LOCOMOTIVES.

In a recent interview published in the Des Moines Register and Leader Hon. J. G. Berryhill suggested that if the people of Des Moines would economize as do the railroad companies the sooty smoke that hangs over the city, especially during the winter months, would vanish. In the same connection he recalled that not so many years ago—in fact, not more than eight or ten—locomotives were permitted to belch forth great clouds of dirty smoke about stations and while in motion. A keen railroad man realized that the smoke was unconsumed carbon. He argued if the locomotive was fired differently this carbon would be utilized to generate steam and effect a large saving to the companies. So, instead of allowing the firemen to "bank the fire box to the doors," as had long been the custom, and allowing the exhaust to shoot tons of unburned coal out the stack to fall unused by the side of the track, this man suggested that the coal should be spread lightly over the coals on the grate. This, he argued, would result in more complete combustion, and, in addition to giving greater energy for the generation of steam, would effect considerable saving in coal bills. The result was thus stated by Mr. Berryhill:

"The experiment, as I recall, was tried first on the old Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern. The results were so amazing that it was estimated the new method would effect a saving of \$30,000 a year. Other railroad managements took up with the new plan, and today one never sees a cloud of suffocating smoke pouring from a railroad locomotive. Now, what I started out to suggest was that if people would pay more attention in their home to effecting more complete combustion of their coal supply they would not only get better results, but they would effect a very material saving in coal bills and incidentally rid Des Moines of one of its greatest blemies—coal and dirty soot."

Notwithstanding the large saving that has been effected in the use of coal in locomotives, as pointed out by Mr. Berryhill, there is still plenty of room for improvement, as appears from some facts just made public by the United States Geological Survey.

According to the findings of the survey, ninety millions tons of coal—one-fifth of the total production of the country—were consumed by the 51,000 locomotives in the United States in 1906 in hauling freight and passenger trains. This fuel cost the railroad companies \$170,500,000. This enormous consumption of coal by the railroads led the Geological Survey through its Technological Branch to conduct a series of tests on a locomotive to determine whether or not there could be a saving to the country in the amount of fuel used, and the results have just been announced in a bulletin of the survey.

Professor W. F. M. Goss, now dean of the University of Illinois, who had charge of the experiments makes the statement that of the total 90,000,000 tons of coal used, 10,680,000 tons are lost through the heat in the gases that are discharged from the stacks of the locomotives; 8,640,000 tons are lost through cinders and sparks; 5,040,000 tons are lost through radiation, leakage of steam and water; 2,880,000 tons are lost through unconsumed fuel in the ashes; and 720,000 tons are consumed in starting fires, in moving the locomotive to its train, in backing trains into or out of sidings and in keeping the locomotive hot while standing. Professor Goss says that under ideal conditions of operation much of the fuel thus used could be saved, and it is reasonable to expect that the normal process of evolution in railroad practice will tend gradually to bring about some reduction in the consumption thus accounted for. The loss represented by the heat of discharged gases offers an attractive field to those who would improve the efficiency of the boiler. The fuel loss in the form of cinders passing out of the stack is said by Professor Goss to be very large and may readily be reduced. A sure road to improvement in this direction, he suggests, lies in an increased grate area. Opportunities for incidental saving are to be found in improved flame ways such as are to be procured by the application of brick arches and other devices. It is also suggested that losses may be reduced by greater care in the selection of fuel and in the preparation of the fuel for the service in which it is used. It is not unreasonable to expect that the entire loss covered by this item will in time be overcome. The fuel which is lost by dropping through grates and mingling with the ashes is a factor that depends on the grate design, on the characteristics of the fuel, but chiefly on the degree of care exercised in managing the fire. More skillful fir-

ing would save much of the fuel thus accounted for.

Professor Goss points out that locomotive boilers are handicapped by the requirement that the boiler and all its appurtenances must come within rigidly defined limits of space, and by the fact that they are forced to work at very high rates of power. Notwithstanding this handicap, it is held that the zone of practicable improvement which lies between present day results and those which may reasonably be regarded as obtainable is not so wide as to make future progress rapid or easy. Material improvement is less likely to come in large measures as the result of revolutionary changes than as a series of relatively small savings. It is apparent that the utilization of fuel in locomotive practice is a problem of large proportions, and that if even a small saving could be made by all or a large proportion of the locomotives of the country it would constitute an important factor in the conservation of the nation's fuel supply.

STARVATION WAGES.

Consul-General Griffiths of London, making report on the question of labor and wages in Great Britain, shows that wages have been falling on the average during the year and that there is an increased number of persons who are receiving a poor relief. In other words the industrial situation becomes more acute rather than less so as time goes on and the legislators of the country debate interminably their budget.

Mr. Griffiths shows also another thing which is not devoid of interest in this country; that is, that the women receive a smaller rate of wage than men even where they turn out the same amount of work as men do in the same trade. In many instances the earnings of women are less than half those of men and the average full-time earnings of workers in dress-making, tailoring, boots and shoes, hats, gloves, corsets, bonnets, etc.—is \$7.23 a week for men and \$3.28 only for women. It is no wonder that all the economical questions with regard to employment and wages, hours of labor, old-age contingencies, are more and more pressing to the front in England.

Incidental to this showing the Buffalo News very properly urges the comparison between wages abroad and wages of skilled workers in this country, and points out from every line of investigation how essential it is that industry in America have a certain level of protection against the competition of those who under pressure of numbers work for so much less wages than are paid in our own country.

NOTES AND COMMENT.

A man named Looney has been declared insane at Kewanee, Ill.

A St. Louis woman fell in love with a man she saw eating tacks in a side show. It has been suggested that probably she reasoned that he'd be lenient toward her cooking.

Justice Brewer thinks that woman suffrage will not check the number of weddings. "No," comments the Omaha Bee; "the suffragette is determined to rule man, even if she has to marry him."

A professor at Illinois University killed himself because he was annoyed by the crying of his baby. As the Peoria Herald-Transcript well says, this shows the sad results of specializing in science and entirely neglecting common sense.

The state supreme court has upheld the law in Iowa that dangerous machinery must be kept covered so as to protect workmen. The case came from Bremer county where a man operating a planer was badly injured and brought suit. The court held that it was sufficient that it be shown that the machine was not properly covered and protected, for the fact of its dangerous character was beyond question.

"Can a man with a job and a family produce enough from one acre to supply the needs of his own table and add materially to his income? Can he, still holding his job, and using an hour in the morning and two hours in the evening, earn enough to pay for the acre, feed the family without wearing his fingers to the bone; have a better home, with more healthful surroundings, pure air, clean food untouched by alien hands in dark places, and be happy?" asks Charles Dillon in the issue of Harper's Weekly for November 20th. The answer was supplied by a year's cultivation of a "trial acre" in western Missouri, and the net income for the year amounted to \$1,106.85. It was not more than an average year for crops, either.

Hardly Ever.

Central City News-Letter: Did you ever see a set of corn huskers go at their work with as much energy and vim as two opposing teams of football players wade into each other?

Circumstantial Evidence.

Everybody's Magazine: A witness in a railroad case at Fort Worth, asked to tell in his own way how the accident happened; said:

"Well, Ole and I was walking down the track, and I heard a whistle, and I got off the track, and the train went by, and I got back on the track, and I didn't see Ole; but I walked on, and pretty soon I seen Ole's hat, and I walked on, and seen one of Ole's legs, and then I seen one of

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Ole's arms, and then another leg, and then over on one side Ole's head, and I say, My God! Something must happen to Ole!"

Why the Farmer Should Be Thankful.

Frank G. Moorhead in Iowa Homestead: As another Thanksgiving season approaches it is well for the farmer to take stock of what the year has brought him. There are times when nothing needs more urgently to be done than to sit down and quietly reflect over the things which have happened, and to prepare, with meditation, for the future.

Since last Thanksgiving Day the average farmer of the grain belt has seen his holdings increase. He has passed through another prosperous year. God has smiled on the land and in the sunlight of His countenance the crops have ripened. Man went forth in the spring and tickled the earth that Nature might laugh her harvest in the autumn. There were obstacles to be overcome; some days were dark and overcast; and the plans of men went "aft a-gley," but in the end the farmer rose supreme. It is meet that he should sit down some autumn evening and remember and return thanks. "Lest we forget" should be the rallying cry of the Thanksgiving season. Man is all too apt to forget that it was not alone his own individual efforts which brought him good fortune.

But bounteous crops are the material things of life and the farmer should no more be thankful solely for them and take no heed of other things than he should think of Thanksgiving only as a day on which to eat turkey. He should be thankful that the world is rapidly coming to give the farmer a higher station in life; that the day of "only a farmer," has passed, never to dawn again. He should be thankful that his sons and daughters are finding more and better schools near at hand so that they need not go into the town and city, probably never to return to the old home. He should be thankful that the old, unsanitary schoolhouses are being replaced by sanitary, light buildings; that the days of "readin', 'ritin' and 'rithmetick" have been supplemented by elementary agriculture, domestic science and manual training in the public schools. He should be thankful that the campaign for better roads has borne fruit; that rut and chuck-holes are giving way to smooth, level boulevards. He should be thankful for the road dyes and the strength and skill to use it. He should be thankful that the inter-urban gives him speedy communication with town and city; that the mail carrier brings the letters and papers to his very door; that the genius of man has harnessed the forces of electricity and made it possible for him to talk into a box and his words to carry many miles. He should be thankful that science has discovered how to make two blades of grass and two ears of corn grow where but one grew before. He should be thankful that it is a good world and that man, having made this discovery, did not keep it to himself but passed the word along that millions might prosper because of the knowledge of one man.

Yet, after all, these are still the material things of life and there remain others for which the farmer should be thankful. He should be thankful that he is straight and strong, with wit to work and hope to keep him brave. He should be thankful that it is given to him "to love the things of earth; ripe fruit and laughter, lying down to sleep." He should be thankful that he is able to do a needed share in the world's work and that in doing it he can derive pleasure and profit therefrom. He should be thankful for a serene heart, for comfortable comrades, for cheerful work and the knowledge that as he sows and reaps the world is fed from his bounty and men across the seas who know him not rise from the table satisfied because he has done a good work well. He should remember the words of the poet:

I thank Thee that the sight of sunlight lands And dipping hills, the breath of evening grass— That wet, dark rocks and flowers in my hands Can give me daily gladness as I pass. He should be thankful that he is not shut up between four walls in the midst of the great, cruel, devouring city. He should be thankful that he can come and go attended only by Nature, asking no man his pleasure and bending the knee at no man's

command. He should be thankful that it is given to him to walk bareheaded through the twilight holding the hand of her who has taken his name and given in return all that she has. He should be thankful that a miracle, before which the miracle of ripening grain is as nothing, has been wrought and that there has come into his life a realized, physical part of himself, a lad or lassie who looks on him as the wisest and best and greatest being in all the world, one who knows everything and can do anything. He should be thankful that the dark angel has not crossed his threshold and laid a silencing finger on the lips of any of his loved ones. He should be thankful for what he has, even remembering that which he once had but no longer possesses. He should be thankful that he is living in the best day of the best age of the best country that time and the world have ever known.

This is simply a fragment of the index of the volume which every farmer should take down and read some night of the Thanksgiving season. It is a marvelous volume and all who read it find different pages, seeing only a part that the others see. The volume is closed most of the year, but even though it tells a story which brings the tears to the eyes and the choking sob to the throat it should be opened and read. There is a chapter there on thankfulness, even though many of the pages are blackened with sorrow and disappointment. This is the season to turn over the cruel bitter pages and read the one chapter and thank the ever-lasting God for what is good and for the escape from what might have been worse.

Helpful Hints to Farmers.

Howard Rann in Manchester Press: The only place where dry farming is practicable is in a prohibition community. You might as well try to milk a cross-grained heifer with a pair of wire pliers as to apply the dry farming principle to land around Dyersville, for instance. Montana is the ideal state for dry farming. It gets so dry there that a man can't pucker his lips to kiss the dried girl. This is a great drawback to immigration. The only drinks served are bran and shorts, and a heavy dew will flood the cellars. There is about as much demand for umbrellas in Montana as there is for ice picks in India. It is a great country for the man who fattens steers on shredded sawdust and tallow powder.

The farmer who can't steer a riding corn cultivator without stripping all the corn hills in sight ought to hire out as chauffeur to a milk wagon. We never could see why cultivator manufacturers insist on equipping their machines with a corrugated seat which makes a new pair of overalls look like an embossed replica of a premium ham in his relief. Corn cultivating looks pretty soft to the outsider, but after you have galloped over a forty-acre lot for sixteen hours on the promenade deck of a care-free cultivator, your vertebrae will develop a set of cramps which you can't straighten out with a stump puller.

The horse which has contracted the runaway habit might as well be led out behind the hog house and filled up to the soft palate with BB shot. After a young horse has run away once and scattered the remains of a \$37.50 top buggy along the highway, he will never settle down at the rudder of a disc harrow and do a day's work without kicking the eyelids of the whiffletree. You can't cure him with a wire bit or a season of prayer, either. Nothing will stop him save a clip over the head with a dull axe, delivered in transit. We would rather have a horse with the heavens and the string halt than one which can't walk unless it is under the influence of chloroform.

One of our readers writes us as follows: "My hired man has a large, male hookworm imbedded in his system, which makes him so indifferent that he fed a young pig through the corn sheller the other day by mistake. What would you do to effect a cure?" The case is hopeless. The hookworm is harder to eradicate than an attack of ingrowing measles. If your hired man has the genuine, southern white trash hookworm, he will never look a day's work in the

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Wants it Done Right. (It is reported that amateurs are barred hereafter from writing life insurance.) I want no amateur to write My policy of life insurance; No dilettante to recite In halting words the trite assurance. For me the well trained man of guff Who holds me with his glittering optic The while he lifts a line of stuff That's strange to me as Greek or Coptic;

Who patters figures by the mile That have for me no rhyme or reason, And makes my slightest nod or smile A peg to hang a further "wheezy" on; Who passes me his fountain pen And says, "Just sign your name—this space, sir. Thanks! Call me up and tell me when You'd like to see the doc. Good day, sir!" —B. L. T. in Chicago, Tribune.

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