

THE GATE CITY PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

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Keokuk, Iowa, December 19, 1909.

Illinois papers are explaining to their readers that it was the parole law, and not the payroll law, which the supreme court of that state has been considering.

The rule is to speak nothing but good of the dead, but it is at least allowable to remark concerning the late King Leopold of Belgium that nothing in his life became him like the leaving it.

Carrie Nation may have made an impression in Washington. A correspondent writing from there reports that only eighty-three corkscrews have been ordered for the ninety-two senators.

December 1, 2 and 3 were warm, and everybody knows what the weather has been since. The first three days of December rule the winter—just as the Democratic party rules this country.

In her testimony in her suit for divorce Mrs. W. Gould Brokaw told how to be unhappy on \$30,000 a year. It is very evident that the theory that a woman can't be a genius will have to be relegated to the cannery.

The Louisville Courier-Journal ventures the prediction that this will not be so messageriferous a congress as those which Theodore Roosevelt kept constantly at the processes of digestion. Both congress and the country can worry along all right without the multiplicity of messages of the past four years.

Prompted by a desire to be eminently fair and candid the Macomb By-Stander concedes that it may be as Mr. Hobson says, that this country is in an absolutely defenseless condition, but just the same it gives notice with patriotic fervor and a vibrant ring to its voice that no blasted foreigner can walk on Uncle Samuel's coat tail with impunity. That's what!

Peoria distilleries consume sixty cars of corn a day. Part of the resulting product is used in the arts and sciences, but most of it is consumed as a beverage. Its manufacture and sale as such will continue as long as there is a demand for it, and there will be a demand for it until a new generation comes on the scene without the appetite of the present one. Educate the young to avoid the use of alcoholic stimulants and the liquor problem will be solved.

The Columbus Safeguard says: "A woman inquired of us the other day when we thought a certain young couple would 'jump the broom stick,' and for a minute we were puzzled to know what she meant. Do you know?"

Certainly. Jumping the broomstick was once an accredited form of marriage ceremony under the common law. It was as binding as any other form if the parties thereto were free to marry and entered into the contract in good faith in the presence of witnesses. So says tradition, at least, and it is believed to tell the truth.

There were fewer sales of property for delinquent taxes in Delaware county this fall than in any other county in Iowa. The total receipts were \$25.94, of which \$4.79 was bid merely to clear up title to the land. The balance of \$21.17 was bid on a fractional eighty-acre piece. All the Iowa tax lists were light this year, but this is the best showing that Delaware or any other Iowa county has ever been able to make. Despite the "increased cost of living" that we hear so much about nowadays, Iowa people are experiencing less difficulty than usual in satisfying the tax collectors.

In Des Moines they have about given up in despair the hunt for a candidate for a fight on Governor Carroll. There is not a man in reputable politics who could be persuaded to undertake that sort of a warfare within the party. In commenting upon the matter the Cedar Rapids Republican says with truth and force:

"It is a cut-throat proposition in politics to undertake such a fight and they will not be able to find anything more than a cut-throat politician to undertake it. The Des Moines Tribune greatly laments the failure. It pretends to believe that it means virtual abandonment of all that certain men have been fighting for. But that is so silly that it will not appeal to any sane Republican, no matter to what faction they have belonged in the past."

It is announced from Chicago that it has practically been decided by the managers of leading western railroads to run special trains for the purpose of carrying the enormous tonnage of express packages which will flood the railroads during the last week before Christmas. If the plan is carried out the railroads will begin running the special express trains four or five days previous to Christmas and will continue them as long as necessary, even to Christmas day itself. It is said that heretofore the express business has been so heavy during the holiday period that all the passenger trains carrying express have been delayed by reason of the extra work of loading and unloading at stations. This has disarranged the passenger and freight service. If the railroad managers carry out their present intention fewer people in the territory served by their roads will be disappointed in the receipt of their Christmas presents this year.

THEN AND NOW. A man who taught school in "the 50's" tells an interesting story of a Christmas treat he gave to his pupils in a district school on the banks of the Wabash. On coming to the school house he found the doors and windows locked and barred and the pupils within—boys and young men mainly—protesting that they would not let him in until he brought a jug of whiskey. After some fruitless discussion the teacher finally accepted the ultimatum and in a short time returned, holding up in one hand a gallon jug and in the other a bag of sugar. The doors flew open. One boy ran for a pail of water. The teacher emptied half of the water and poured the whiskey and sugar into the pail and stirred it. It is needless to say that as the boys drank they expressed their hearty approval of the teacher and his up to date methods. Now, fifty years after, you will find the grandchildren of those boys in the same district drinking in instruction on scientific temperance. Conditions are very different from what they were half a century ago.

A TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT. There is trouble among the suffragettes, serious trouble, and all on account of Mrs. Pankhurst who came to this country to instruct the sisters how to conduct a militant campaign. The matter has just come to public attention through an attack on Mrs. Pankhurst by Mrs. Sofia Loebinger, editor of the American Suffragette. The latter has come out flatly in her paper and declares that the English woman has come to this country, not in the interest of woman suffrage, but for the dollars and cents she will be able to accumulate by reason of her visit. Mrs. Loebinger is very bitter in her denunciation of the English woman leader, and among other things, says:

"The disappointing conviction has been forced upon the more aggressive workers that she came here primarily actuated by selfish interests. She seems not to care so much for the cause of suffragism in America as for American dollars. Moreover, she has identified herself solely with the wealthiest suffrage workers and those of the leisure classes. She said she came here as much to study conditions as to wage a campaign, but she never offered her services free to the East Side working girls' movement nor came once among them. Even when paid well, she would go no further than to rehearse her experiences with her followers in England. She has taken up cordially with her old opponent, Mrs. Harriet Stanton Blatch, but she has not vouchsafed a single courtesy to the National Progressive Woman's union, which is the greatest organization of them all."

Go it, Mrs. Pankhurst, go it, Mrs. Loebinger!

WHITE IS RIGHT. William Allen White, the well-known editor of the Emporia (Kas.) Gazette, has an article in a recent issue of his paper that contains truths which should be read and pondered over by people who patronize mail order houses. He takes a turn at those who buy hats, neckties, cook stoves, dry goods, clothing, agricultural implements, and various kinds of supplies in Chicago or St. Louis, who send their women to these cities by train to buy tailor-made suits, etc., or send their orders to mail-order houses and thus escape contributing their share to the prosperity of their home city. Some people in Keokuk do this, as well as some in Emporia, and The Gate City hopes all such will read what Mr. White says and be influenced by it. Following is an excerpt from his article:

"The man who buys his goods of a mail order house, and expects his neighbor in Emporia to buy goods of him, or to buy labor of him, is economically a leech. He is sucking industrial blood out of the town and gives none back. He sends his products out of town like a Chinaman, and he has no more right to a standing in the community than a foreigner. We are all neighbors industrially in this town, and the man who sends away for his goods, is not one of us. He is an enemy of our industrial system, and deserves no man's support in Emporia."

"The fact that this is economically wrong is recognized by the mail order houses themselves. They protect their customers as thieves by offering to keep people from knowing where the mail order houses have no 'tags' on their goods. They say in their catalogues that none of their goods are marked and that no one knows where they were bought. If it is proper to hide the place of purchase of an article it is wrong to buy the article at that place. Only the man who stands in the shadow to see where he got anything he has. There is such a thing as 'tainted' dry goods, 'tainted' groceries and 'tainted' furniture. All of such

that are not bought at home, of men who befriended you, of men to whom you owe a living, are 'tainted' because they come unfairly. It is time to change and get together. It is time to begin to reform ourselves and not our neighbors, by buying everything at home, whether the neighbors do or not. And now is the time to begin. Mr. White is right. He tells the truth and it should be heeded by those who are building up fortunes for the mail order houses at the expense of home merchants and the prosperity of the community.

WATER AND POWER FOR LOS ANGELES.

The city of Los Angeles, Cal., is carrying out a combined water supply, irrigation, and power project which the water board of that city characterizes as "one of the boldest schemes for providing a municipal water supply ever undertaken by a city." It embraces the construction of 240 miles of aqueduct at a cost of \$24,500,000. Mr. Burt A. Heiny contributes to the current number of the Engineering Magazine an interesting account of the plan, construction, and purposes of the aqueduct, in a note to which the editors of that publication state that, while it is their "strong belief" that it is not one of the functions of government, whether state or municipal, to undertake projects of the kind (if private funds are available, the Los Angeles scheme "appears to be an exceptional instance, owing its extraordinary success to an exceptional personality." The editors say further that they believe "that to the man, rather than to the system, the admirable results achieved must be attributed, and that they deserve publicity as a model and standard to be striven for elsewhere." The man referred to is Mr. William Mulholland, water superintendent of Los Angeles. Mr. Heiny writes:

"Five years ago scoffers looked upon the project as the phantasmal scheme of William Mulholland, a scheme made impossible by the tremendous difficulties to be overcome. Today three thousand men toiling in the heat of the Mohave Desert, the panting and puffing of a dozen steam shovels and the clank and clug and whirl of machinery are evidences that the chimera of five years ago is at the present moment very much of a reality."

The project was the direct result of Los Angeles' crying need for a larger domestic water supply. This need led to the discovery of the Owens river, 250 miles to the northward, in the heart of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, as the source from which this necessity might be procured; and the scheme was made possible financially by the opportunities of irrigation and of the development of electric power. It is proposed to construct within the next five years 240 miles of aqueduct and to deliver through this into the San Fernando Valley, at the mouth of which Los Angeles is situated, 250,000,000 gallons of water every twenty-four hours. For nearly the whole distance the route lies through an absolute desert which offers no food for man or beast, and little, if any, water. The article goes on to say:

"For sixty miles the survey runs through a mountainous district, 300 to 1200 feet above the floor of the desert, where Nature in her wildest mood has created a topsy-turvy land of rocky buttes, needle peaks, and caprons seared by volcanic fires and carried deeply by storms of sand and rain. For five miles the way leads beneath the Coast Range of mountains. Before the city's engineers began their stage coach of the days of '49 and the saddle-horse formed the only means of conveyance and communication."

To obtain possession of the required water the city purchased 140 square miles of territory in the valley through which the Owens river flows, and the work has now been two years under way. Of a projected steam rail road 120 miles across the Mojave desert, eighty miles are in operation; more than one hundred miles of well-balled road, some of it blasted out of solid rock have been built; and ninety miles of pipe lines have been laid to insure an adequate supply of pure water wherever the aqueduct forces are engaged. To save the manufacturers' profits on cement, of which 1,180,000 barrels will be required, the city has gone into the cement business and is now operating the only municipal cement mill in the world, with a capacity of 1,000 barrels a day. Telephone lines connect the various camps with the aqueduct headquarters in Los Angeles. From 2,000 to 5,000 men are employed on the works; and these are well housed and well fed and are watched over by a corps of physicians. Mr. Heiny gives the following particulars concerning the aqueduct system:

"Five large reservoirs are to be constructed, one thirty-five miles above the intake to impound flood waters, another sixty miles below the intake for clarifying and storing the seasonal discharge, a third at the foot of the Coast Range in the Antelope Valley for regulation when the power plants are in operation, and two in the San Fernando Valley for impounding and distribution purposes. This system of reservoirs will have an aggregate capacity of 174,250,000,000 gallons. The first twenty-two miles is a canal fifty feet wide and ten feet deep. The size and shape for the remaining distance are determined by the natural conditions. The average size is twelve feet deep, of monolithic concrete construction, covered for the major distance with slightly curved top of reinforced concrete heavily grouted. There are twenty-two miles of canal, 124 miles of concrete-lined conduit, and above for the remaining distance are determined by the natural conditions. The average size is twelve feet deep, of monolithic concrete construction, covered for the major distance with slightly curved top of reinforced concrete heavily grouted."

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where it is to be used for irrigation or domestic purposes. To meet the cost the city of Los Angeles has issued bonds, taxing itself at \$88 per capita. The city is called upon to defend in the courts its right to do its own work. "A restraining suit was filed by contractors in which it was alleged that it was contrary to the city charter, and that the work could be done cheaper and quicker under private contract than by force account. In refuting these last arguments, the city filed its cost data sheets, wherein it was shown that not only was the work being carried on at a smaller figure than the engineer's estimates, but that this was less than one-half the bid of the lowest contractor." As the daily capacity of the conduit is to be 240,000,000 gallons, and the domestic consumption of the city is only 35,000,000, a large capacity will be available for irrigation purposes and for the supply of cities in the immediate vicinity of Los Angeles. The date set for the completion of the aqueduct is the spring of 1912. NOTES AND COMMENT. George Fitch holds that first babies are an exception to the rule that we are all born equal. The way to get even with the telephone and telegraph merger is to do less talking," suggests the Hardin Republican. "We all talk too much, anyhow." The Burlington Hawk-Eye makes the point that it is too late now to tell anybody that "Christmas is coming." Everybody is financially and commercially conscious of the fact. It is sensibly suggested by the Marshalltown Times-Republican that the best way to make \$150 an acre land worth \$250 an acre is to raise \$250 worth to the acre on \$150 land. A woman reader writes to the Jacksonville Courier that she has located the nearest man in that city. He is attacked with rheumatism in the shoulder annually at just about the time the first furnace fire has to be lighted in the fall and the attack continues until late in the spring. In the interim and also in the morning and evening Mrs. Mean Man fires the furnace.

Your Earnings Go into a bank whether you put them there or not. If you spend all your earnings someone else deposits them. It's better to do your own depositing in an interest account in The Keokuk Savings Bank

A Savings Pass Book Presented on Christmas Day to your son or daughter will serve two purposes: It is very acceptable as a gift. It will instill in their minds habits of thrift and saving. You are invited to call that we may explain the details more fully. The State Central Savings Bank CAPITAL \$100,000.00 SURPLUS \$200,000.00 William Logan, President. C. J. Bodt, Cashier. Geo. E. Rix, Vice President. H. T. Graham, Ass't Cashier. J. F. Kledaloch, Sr., Vice Pres. H. Boyden Blood, Ass't Cashier.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY OF DEPOSITS IS GUARANTEED Keokuk National Bank AFFORDS EVERY FACILITY FOR DOING YOUR BANKING BUSINESS THAT ANY BANK CAN. 3 PERCENT INTEREST ON TIME AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS service by directing attention to great abuses and in this day and generation it requires something sensational, something exaggerated, to attract and hold public attention. But that they are a set of liars, utterly without scruple in misrepresenting those upon whom their mud batteries are turned, there is no question, and the public service they perform is incidental to the work of putting dollars in their pockets.