

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

Postage prepaid: terms in advance. All subscription orders should give the P. O. address and state whether it is a new or renewal order.

THE GATE CITY COMPANY. No. 12 North Sixth St., Keokuk, Iowa.

THE GATE CITY is on sale at the following news stands: Hotel Keokuk, cor. Third and Johnson, C. H. Rollins & Co., 225 Main street, Ward Bros., 525 Main street, Depot News Stand.

Keokuk, Iowa, Jan. 6, 1910.

Nebraska farm products have increased in value 150 per cent in a year. Repeat the tariff law!

Don't let the quail starve. They will need food every day as long as the ground is covered with snow.

"What is so rare as a train on time?" asks the Spirit Lake Beacon. How about a business community that doesn't kick when the mails are late?

Down in Joplin, Mo., Billy Sunday has accomplished the remarkable feat of effecting the conversion of a mayor. And mirabile dictu, a Joplin mayor at that!

All but four of the 115 arrests made in Burlington during December were for drunkenness. There must be a lot of amateurs in that community.

In one day Peoria received 269 car loads of flour. "But what's the use?" petulantly exclaims the Herald-Transcript. "You can't burn flour." Nor drink it, either.

A Chicago man says that he intends to blow up the United States senate. He will be disappointed if he expects to frighten that body. It is used to being blown up.

The necessities of life continue to make greater and greater demands on the family purse. Last year Uncle Sam spent \$40,000,000 for diamonds and precious stones.

The post-card habit is all right for the department from a financial point of view, but it is mighty trying on the postal employees. The latter would gladly see it abandoned.

Iowa City has subscribed \$100,000 in aid of a proposed interurban between that place and Davenport. The testimony is conclusive as to Iowa City's enterprise and progressiveness.

The man these days who can go up and down the cement porch steps or get along on the sidewalks without floundering around needs no affidavits to keep him out of the jag cure hospital at Knoxville.

Instead of indulging in the usual social session on New Year's day Davenport Elks co-operated with the Ned Lee mission and fed some 700 poor, hungry children. The Elks are good fellows in more ways than one.

Web Byers proposes to let go of the substance of the attorney generalship to grab at the shadow of Walter Smith's seat in congress. The wisdom of such a procedure from a worldly point of view may well be questioned.

There is much complaint in the state over coal shortage and the railroad commission is in receipt of complaints of the railroads confiscating coal consigned to shippers in small towns. If the cold weather continues it is regarded as certain that there will be great distress in northwestern Iowa.

In New York city high finance in the milk business helps account for the excessive cost of living. It was shown at an inquiry into the affairs of the milk trust there that the other day that 75 per cent of the original \$20,000,000 capitalization of the "Borden" company was water. The amount of the latter in the milk is not stated.

A design has been approved for a monument to mark the grave of Miss Anna Pelley in the cemetery at Anna, Ill. It will be recalled that she was foully murdered in Cairo and the crime precipitated the recent lynchings there. The design is the figure of a young woman kneeling before a large cross, the base being a massive granite block. The monument will cost about \$600.

Moses was the man who really originated the commission plan, according to Rev. W. R. Coventry, of the Clifton Heights Presbyterian church. The commission system has been in existence ever since the beginning of time, says Rev. Mr. Coventry, and was introduced into church government in 1555, by John Calvin. It would seem that anything that has the approval of Moses and John Calvin should be worthy of a large degree of public confidence.

Before Webb Byers can beat Smith in the Ninth district, he must undermine Republican confidence in the Republican party and in President Taft. Commenting on this postulate, the Iowa City Republican says: "If he can do this, he can win. But so long as the people have confidence in President Taft and still believe in the old party, he will be permitted to continue his law office rather than to be given a seat in congress."

The Sioux City Journal observes that—

"An investigation has been going on down in the First Iowa district, but a way to get under Representative Kennedy has not yet been discovered."

Nor is any way likely to be discovered. Mr. Kennedy is firmly entrenched in the good will and confidence of his constituents, and those who seek to undermine him will do more harm to themselves than to him.

A German electrical engineer has proved to his own satisfaction that the ancient Jews, particularly Moses, understood electricity, and he argues quite plausibly that both the ark of the covenant and the altar which no one not garbed in the protecting dress of the priest could approach, were huge natural batteries. The St. Louis Star well says of the man and his idea:

He is almost as convincing as the miner who explained the spilling down of fire to consume the offering on the altar, in order to confound the priests of Baal, by saying that it was coal oil instead of water the prophet poured over it before he knelt down beside it to pray and touched it off with a match. Skeptical explanation by natural law of Biblical miracles is always plausible if enough allowance is made for the credulity of the incredulous.

In an address to the Grant club in Des Moines recently Herbert S. Houston of New York emphasized the fact that it pays to advertise, whether the one seeking publicity be a city or a private firm. As to the most effective and economical way of doing it, Mr. Houston said:

"There are, naturally, many ways, and I confess I belong to the group that believes that all advertising is good, but that some advertising is better than others."

"Genuine publicity spirit always brings a double blessing; one to the city in whose service it finds expression and another to the willing worker who is one of the dynamo in generating that spirit. To the newspaper this public spirit, of which it is the very life, brings growth with the city's growth, and it brings also increased business from general advertisers, who see in an advertising city a progressive community that will buy advertised articles."

WHAT'S THE ANSWER? For more than a week scores of St. Louis people puzzled their brains over the following apparently simple little problem:

"A stopped in B's drug store to get a \$5 bill changed. B couldn't change it and A then told him to give him \$1 and keep the \$5 until later. He did so. In the evening A stopped at the drug store and gave B \$4 and got his \$5 bill back. Did anybody get skinned? If so, who, and how much?"

Of course any bright reader of The Gate City can answer the inquiry off-hand.

SUFFRAGIST ON DEFENSIVE.

In a recent issue of one of the leading magazines a writer had the temerity to discuss adversely the question, "Shall woman have a voice in her own government?" To this Mrs. Oliver H. Belmont makes reply in a later number of the same periodical.

Mrs. Belmont's opponent had claimed that "anti-suffragists have ample evidence to prove woman suffrage in the four equal suffrage states a dismal failure." To this she replies: "Let them produce the evidence properly signed and authenticated. They never have done this, they never can do it, because such evidence does not exist." Another charge was, "Women are not fitted for holding office." To this comes the reply: "If this is true, why did the Anti-Suffrage Association petition Governor Hughes of New York to put women in such official positions as were under his control?" Further, "Wyoming, Colorado, and Idaho have had continuously women state superintendents of public instruction, and the four states have elected many county superintendents, treasurers, recorders, etc. Colorado and Utah have had a number of women legislators. Men are in the majority—why do they elect women if unfitted?"

Answering the charge that woman suffrage leads to divorce, Mrs. Belmont shows that in the two Dakotas and Oklahoma, where women have only a fragment of school suffrage, divorce is easiest; that Indiana and California, whose women have not a shred of suffrage, lead in the proportion of divorces; but that in Wyoming, Utah and Idaho, where women have the complete franchise, the proportion of divorces is smallest.

Another statement of the "antis" referred to is to the effect that public opinion has approved and sanctioned the demands of women for all the privileges they now enjoy, and that the reason they do not get the suffrage is because all the sixty years' effort has not succeeded in arousing large numbers of women to demand it or public opinion to sanction it. Mrs. Belmont comes back with the following assertion:

"On the contrary, the demand of women for higher education, better laws, and all the rest was infinitesimal compared with the demand they have made and are making for the suffrage. The public sentiment which now favors the enfranchisement of women is so great, contrasted with that which approved those other concessions, that

there can hardly be a comparison. \* \* From all these lesser gains the suffrage is as far apart as the poles. It means the altering of state constitutions, a fundamental change in the government itself, whose ultimate results the wisest cannot foretell. No board of trustees, no legislative body can bring it about, but every individual voter in the entire state can pass upon it. In secret he casts his vote and behind it is the prejudice of the ages, the natural disinclination to share one's authority. Opposed to woman suffrage are the powerful liquor interests of the country, the party machines, the immense moneyed corporations."

It will be gathered that Mrs. Belmont gives a good account of herself.

CANDY AND ATHLETICS.

The value of sweets as a part of the ration of a soldier is well known. Now the director of the gymnasium of the University of Michigan announces that sweets shall figure in the menu of the men in athletic training. They must be pure sweets, however, and the director declares that if this purity is assured they make good muscles, clear eyes, good complexions, good digestions, good men. The director's recommendation is backed by the leading coach of the school, who has gone so far as to tell the girls of the basketball team to eat all the pure confectionery they desire. This ruling ought to be exceedingly popular among the basketball teams of collegiate young women.

All Quiet in Iowa.

Sloux City Journal: Iowa newspapers warrant the statement that Iowa politics are at low ebb, the lowest known in ten years. There is mighty little adoat. The prediction is made in an authoritative quarter that there will be something doing before grass grows, but everything at present of an animated nature is under the snow. A Des Moines newspaper touched a keynote the other day when it said that what was wanted was more unrest among the people. The next point of necessity relates to stirring them up. At the present writing, attention is being given almost exclusively to other business.

The statewide primary elections will be held in June, but little movement is observable on the face of the deep. The effort to bring out a candidate against Governor Carroll met with only scattered and feeble response. The probability is that every state officer who wants a re-nomination and is willing to go to the trouble and expense required under the primary law can have it, without particular reference to whether he is insurgent or regular. For one reason or another the people do not care to take the initiative.

SHIPS FOR THE CANAL.

"How We Can Have American Ships for the Panama Canal," is the title of an important article in the January number of the North American Review by Bernard N. Baker, who urges immediate action on the part of the government lest the completion of the canal should find us without any merchant ships to send through it. He cites the fact that we have recently seen the great value of what might be called the traveling advertisement under our own flag—the cruise around the world by the American fleet. Thus we did in a big way what the British and German governments have been doing for many years, making their flags familiar in all parts of the world. It is suggested that the increase of our merchant marine carrying the flag to foreign ports would stimulate American trade in every direction. And it is especially worth while to consider the certain returns that would follow in South America. Mr. Baker goes on to say:

"Under the plan here outlined, we should enter upon a world policy with absolute fairness to every interest at home, and there could be no criticism of discrimination and favor in respect to any ports or places. All would be given equal consideration, which would be the only safe and sane policy for establishing the new lines. There are only two shipping lines today which have ships under the American flag in the over-sea trade, the American Line owned by the International Mercantile Marine and the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. There is also a short mail line to Cuba, Jamaica and Venezuela from New York. These lines should have full and just consideration for their present ships. There is one other steamship, the Minnesota, in connection with the Great Northern Railway between Seattle and the Orient. The Pacific Mail Steamship Company should not be owned and controlled by the Southern Pacific Railway. The railroad company should dispose of this, or at least no contract should be made which this line is so controlled. The government should not own the Panama Steamship Company operated as a commercial line, but should turn it over to some interest."

NOTES AND COMMENT.

"Peary is a big man now." Wonder if his bubble will burst?" says the Washington Press.

The Davenport Times says the fire has been lighted under the political kettle at Des Moines.

"Many a nifty man hasn't the nerve to look his coal bin in the face," says the Cedar Rapids Gazette.

The Omaha Bee calls attention to the fact that this is the year that brings the people of the United States to their census.

The Charles City Intelligencer predicts that the Ninth district is going to see the prettiest political fight this year it has ever seen.

A Chicago woman stole \$30,000 in order to secure a husband. The Rockford Star believes a 25-cent classified ad. would have done it.

"When Iowa gets to building roads that will be passable the year round the width of the roads will take care of itself," says the Hopkinton Leader.

Alimony demanded in the Brokaw divorce case leaves it a matter of doubt with the Monmouth Atlas whether it is a sentimental catastrophe or a case of high finance.

Nearly a million dollars in improvements was Iowa City's record in the year closing. This includes about \$200,000 for the university and a wing to Mercy hospital, costing approximately the same amount. The value of new residences is estimated at \$250,000.

"To a man up a tree it looks as if there will be nothing left for the regular Republicans of Iowa to do but fight or else get off the earth," says the Emmetsburg Reporter. "For our part we see no choice in the matter. The edict has gone out that so far as can be prevented no one but an insurgent will be tolerated in Iowa and that the Republican party of Iowa

must be but the instrument of insurgency."

"Narrow roads and a wheel tax—that ought to be the highway platform for 1910," says the Cedar Rapids Gazette.

An untrained horse in the scene of Sheridan's ride in "Shenandoah," being played by a stock company at a theater in St. Joseph, Mo., became struck with stage fright and charged the scenery. It first kicked over a "stone wall" and then stepped on several supposedly dead soldiers, who ran yelling from the stage. The horse was not subdued until the curtain was rung down.

Burlington Gazette: There are a couple of men in Keokuk just now, Engineer Hugh Cooper and his able assistant, J. P. Allen, to whom southern Iowa, whether or no the water project goes through, owes a tremendous debt of gratitude. These two are working like Trojans toward the success of this vast enterprise which means so very much to the future prosperity of this vicinity. In spite of rebuffs, disappointments and what not, they have labored with the one purpose to bring about the fulfillment of the project. Burlingtonians through the Gazette desire that these men should know that they are with their heart and soul in the hope that their efforts will be crowned with success, not alone because they know it means a deal to Burlington but also because they admire pluck and stick-to-it-ness.

And while we are on the subject the Gazette wants Judge William Logan and Alex E. Johnstone to know that they look pretty good to the people of Burlington, too.

IOWA HUMOR.

Helpful Hints to Farmers by Howard Rann in the Manchester Press.

In breaking a new road, after a heavy fall of snow, always locate it in as close proximity to a barbed wire fence as possible. This will give the family an exciting ride and stimulate the sale of shin plaster.

"Ship Us Your Hides" is the immortal advice given by an advertiser in certain agricultural mediums. If we thought we could get out of ours what we have put into it, we would. Another advertiser announces that he will pay "Cash for Skins." This is probably a grafting proposition.

A correspondent asks for a remedy for the poll evil in chickens. The poll evil is a half brother to the boll weevil, and got its start from the intrepid male bipe who always votes the way the ward boss tells him to. We never heard of a chicken having the poll evil. Our correspondent must have got the disease confused with the pip.

Next to the noise made by a slight draft, there is nothing more depressing than a windmill which squeaks on the stilly night like a wooden bed whose slats are out of alignment. It is not a pleasant job to climb the mizen mast of a windmill in a stiff breeze and a clinging fur coat, but it is preferable to waking up with the death cry of a hot box ringing in your ears. A wooden windmill with a bad cold in the head can put more men on a hard elder jar than a billet doux from the tax ferret.

One of the neatest, daintiest devices which we have seen for some time is the automatic hen fumigator. This is a tin receptacle filled with an anti-septic powder, and is designed to separate a hen from lice, mites and jiggers. The hen is placed inside the can in a sitting posture, with her hands uplifted to heaven, and a turn of the crank causes her to describe several graceful parabolas, while the powder drifts into her pores. They say that after a hen has taken this degree she will turn a back hand spring from the roof of the hennery like a contortionist with the snakes.

There is a popular superstition to the effect that the wasp has the most searching sting on the market, but the man who has been chased out of the back yard by a colony of honey bees knows better. The male bee has a retroactive sting which will go through a corduroy jacket like a sand burr through a gauze shirt. A trustful farmer of our acquaintance undertook to lead a swarm of bees into the hive with his bare hands and a seductive smile, and when they hooked his form out of the current bushes he looked like a pouter pigeon with the mumps. We would as soon place our trust in a mule with the ear ache as to put any confidence in the bee.

If you will sling a few loads of cooked feed into your hogs from time to time, you will get it back on market day. A good many people look upon the hog as an insensate hind, with the intellectual rating of a pair of deuces, but he knows the difference between an feed corn cob and a hot hypodermic from a feed cooker. You might as well try to put work on an eavesnout as to

suddenly confronted by a large lion, which stood directly in the path with mane erect and showing waving tail.

"At this terrifying sight my gun-bearers turned and ran, leaving me without protection. I ran, too. With huge leaps the lion overtook us and sprang at me, who, being stout, was unable to run as fast as the others. I fell flat and the lion overshot his mark, going completely over and beyond me. I rose and as he was about to spring again, ran quickly toward him and threw myself flat on the ground. Again he leaped over me.

"My gun-bearers had continued in their flight and I was left to shift for myself. Each time as the lion sprang I repeated my former tactics, until the brute fell exhausted to the ground and I made my escape.

"The next day when we were again on the trail I saw a huge lion performing strange antics through a glade in the jungle. I at once recognized the beast as the one responsible for my adventure of the night before.

"And what do you think he was doing? The creature was practicing short jumps."

Keokuk Water Power. Burlington Gazette: There are a couple of men in Keokuk just now, Engineer Hugh Cooper and his able assistant, J. P. Allen, to whom southern Iowa, whether or no the water project goes through, owes a tremendous debt of gratitude. These two are working like Trojans toward the success of this vast enterprise which means so very much to the future prosperity of this vicinity. In spite of rebuffs, disappointments and what not, they have labored with the one purpose to bring about the fulfillment of the project. Burlingtonians through the Gazette desire that these men should know that they are with their heart and soul in the hope that their efforts will be crowned with success, not alone because they know it means a deal to Burlington but also because they admire pluck and stick-to-it-ness.

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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 HAPPY NEW YEAR will be yours if you start right in the first week of the new year to SAVE MONEY and keep doing so! Money spent cannot be recalled, but a part of what you earn during 1910 can be saved weekly. Will you make the start? The State Central Savings Bank Corner Sixth and Main. Capital, \$100,000.00. Surplus, \$200,000.00.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY OF DEPOSITS IS GUARANTEED Keokuk National Bank AFFORDS EVERY FACILITY FOR DOING YOUR BANKING BUSINESS THAT ANY BANK CAN. 3 PER CENT INTEREST ON TIME AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS.

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

fatten a pig on food that lines his alimentary canal with frost. A pig which has been primed for a month with hot succotash and stewed Climax plug will swell up like a town dude at a country dance. The pig with a cold storage reservoir in place of a stomach will never strain the suspenders on a set of hay scales.

We then tackled the fellow who is laying brick on the new building at the college and asked him how much he was getting and he stated that 70 cents an hour was his wage. We suggested to him that such wages looked a little high but he said it only came to \$6.30 a day and that was not a bit too much. We next accosted a man digging a trench for some sewer pipe and he told us he was getting \$1.75 a day but had been offered \$2.50 by a contractor at Charles City. Isn't that pretty stiff wages for unskilled labor? We asked and he declared that he was none too much the way livings was. We then made the round of the contractors and found that they were paying carpenters from \$3 to \$3.50 per day. We asked a carpenter who thought \$2.50 big wages a few years ago if \$3.50 wasn't a little steep and he assured us that it was a very moderate wage. An expert cement mixer went rushing up the street but we hailed him long enough to ascertain that such fellows were getting from \$4 to \$5 a day and with a sardonic smile upon his face he gave us to understand that the price was very moderate. A plumber with hammer and tongs in hand was busy adjusting a water main and he said he was getting only \$3 a day. He admitted that he used to do the same kind of work for \$2 a day, but present prices were none too high.

We then made the rounds of the butcher shops, groceries, dry goods stores, clothing and shoe dealers, hardware men and druggists and inquired of each and all of them if they were not selling goods too high. They became very indignant and told us that their profits were very small considering the price they had to pay for everything.

And thus we discover that everybody is in favor of the present high prices. Nobody is getting too much according to the confessions of everybody visited and while living is extremely high there is no disposition anywhere to go back to the old time prices. Surely everybody should be happy these prosperous days.

Salt Cellars Most Anxious. That salt cellars were in use in the most remote times is well known, as salt dates back far into the night of time. Homer qualifies salt as being divine. Among the Greeks and Romans it occupied the place of honor at banquets, and among the wealthy salt cellars were handed down from father to son. During the latter part of the middle ages the salt cellar was the most conspicuous object on the table. It was always placed in the center of the long table at which the household gathered, my lord and lady, family and guests being at one end, and the servants and retainers at the other, and in this way one's social position was at once apparent, the "gentle folk" sitting "above the salt, and the yeomanry below it.

Concerning High Prices. Cedar Falls Record: The editor of the Record has been doing a little quiet work in the town of Cedar Falls and the country round about in an effort to locate the rascal who is responsible for high prices. We asked a farmer if he was getting too much for his cattle and hogs and he declared he wasn't. Then we asked him if he didn't think \$250 or \$300 pretty steep for horses and he said good horses were worth that price. He was just starting for town with a load of corn, some butter, a lot of eggs and a dozen spring chickens. We suggested to him that sixty cents looked pretty high for corn and that common dairy butter selling at the grocery for 30 1/2 cents was simply out of sight, while eggs at 25 cents a dozen at this season of