

THE GATE CITY PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

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Keokuk, Iowa ... February 22, 1910.

The aeroplane hat is the latest. It is a high hat, of course.

It is still a question whether Ralsula is dead yet or again.

Good evening! What are you a candidate for—mayor or councilman?

A medical authority enumerates as the six essentials to health sunlight, air, water, good clothing, exercise and rest.

The Illinois supreme court is kept quiet by declaring unconstitutional the laws enacted by the legislature of that state.

In setting themselves up as upholders of law and order the Cairo mobs must make Old Nick blush for his lack of impudence and "nerve."

The Pittsburg barbers have advanced the charge of a hair cut to thirty-five cents. "This is scissoring!" declares the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

"Work" is defined by a writer in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat as anything you don't want to do. Noah Webster will have to look to his laurels.

A telephone is defined by George Fitch as an instrument invented to assist man in holding conversations and to hinder him from holding his temper.

A Missouri man, seventy years of age, has applied for admission to the state university. Apparently they never get too old in that state to want to be "shown."

The Chicago Board of Trade declares that it operates in the interest of the producer. This is possibly true. It must operate in somebody's interest, and it certainly doesn't conserve the interests of the consumer.

The more candidates there are for mayor and councilmen the wider the range of choice. Heintz was satisfied with "57 varieties," but it doesn't follow that Keokuk must be limited to that number. The more the merrier.

Emporia, Kan., adopted the commission form of municipal government last Friday by a vote of five to one. This makes three cities that have adopted the commission plan within the past week. The other two are Eau Claire, Wis., and Sioux City, Iowa.

The Democratic state central committee has been called to meet in Des Moines on Thursday of the present week to select a place of holding the state convention of its party. Des Moines, Council Bluffs, Ottumwa and Clinton are bidders for the convention and it will likely go to one of these cities.

Candidates for mayor and councilmen under the commission form of city government are circulating petition to have their names placed on the official ballot. The only feature of the situation worthy of note is that those least qualified for the positions are displaying the most activity in the canvass. Possibly they realize that such a course is necessary.

It is well enough to commemorate the anniversaries of the destruction of the Maine, but there will be general agreement with the view of the New York Tribune that the best possible form which a celebration of the day could take would be the raising of the neglected wreck and the rescue of the remains of the men who met their death in that mysteriously ill-fated ship.

Howard Rann advances the claim in the agricultural department of his Manchester Press that the man who will invent a corn planter which does not stutter will confer a greater benefit upon humanity than the one who patented the self-feeding scoop board. He holds that the planter with an impediment in its speech is responsible for more failures of the corn crop than any Kansas hot wind, which in its palmy days would cut the rust off a rock crusher. If you have one of those hop, step and jump planters, which has a choking spell every twenty feet, he advises that you telephone the junk dealer. He declares that it is as hopeless a proposition as the man who calls on the trade in a red vest and a breath imported from Louisville, Kentucky.

The state board of control reports that the cost of running the institutions is constantly on the increase. Figures for the last year show that the total cost of the fifteen institutions was about \$1,640,000. There are 8,500 inmates on an average and the per capita cost was about \$194, as against \$177 a few years ago. The increase in population has not been great. In the one item of purchase of provisions the last year the increase in cost to the state was over \$100,000.

Alex Miller reviews the political situation in his Washington Democrat and concludes that the outlook for the success of insurgency or Democracy, singly or in union, is not encouraging. For one thing, he says, "the Republicans have the most wonderful recuperative power of any political organization in the wide world." It doesn't seem to have occurred to Mr. Miller that the Republican party is the instrument chosen by Providence to carry out its purposes.

Woodbury county has just lost out before the state supreme court in a case involving payment to a doctor for attending smallpox patients. The board had refused payment on the ground that the local board of health had no right, whatever, to direct in a general way that the doctor should care for the patients but should have made a formal employment for each case reported. The supreme court finds that the services were performed and should be paid for and the county cannot take advantage of little technical matters.

Official word is being sent along throughout the operating departments of the roads controlled by James J. Hill that men who drink liquor are not wanted in their employ. "Do not employ drinking men," the order goes on to say, "if men now working under you drink, tell them they must stop or make way for men who will not drink," is the instruction given. It is the result of the investigation of a number of mishaps on these roads, where it has been discovered that the loss of property, life and limb has been the result of drinking by employees. To make sure of the elimination of drinking men the Great Northern has detailed a man who will do nothing but maintain a general supervision over the train operatives' personal habits. This is prohibition of a very practical kind.

A citizen of Haverhill, Mass., has a new plan for limiting drunkenness in that city. He does not propose to fire all the chairs out of the saloons and make everybody stand up and drink last. He advances the not unusual provision that there shall be no games of chance, no profane language and no lewd women in the saloons, and no sales to minors. Then come his own ideas: No saloon-keeper shall serve one person and receive pay from another; he shall not serve the same person twice in three consecutive hours or more than three times in twenty-four hours, and if the party of the second part should get drunk and commit any crime, the saloonkeeper who sold him the liquor which made him intoxicated shall be considered an accessory before the act, and punished with imprisonment not to exceed five years.

COUNTY ENGINEER PROPOSED. In a speech before the farmers' institute at Alden, Governor Carroll advocated the abolishment of the office of county surveyor and the creation in its stead of the office of county engineer.

He suggests this change in connection with the good roads movement, asserting that the services of a competent engineer should be so that proper systems of drainage may be instituted and proper grades established on all roads.

One of the worst objections to the present system of road making, he said, has been the entrusting of the work to unskilled and untrained road supervisors.

Further, the governor asserted that the first efforts of those interested in good roads should be directed toward getting better results from the expenditure of funds which are now collected under the statute for road purposes. Five million dollars are being spent, he said, and it is conceded that it is being used in a sort of haphazard way. With the right kind of road supervision and road work he believes Iowa people would be greatly surprised in the improvement that might be made in our dirt roads in this state.

NIGHT LETTERS BY TELEGRAPH. According to an order issued from Western Union headquarters in Chicago it will soon be possible to file a letter in an office of that company and have it delivered by mail the next morning at the point of destination. Fifty words may be sent at night in this way at the cost of a ten-word day message.

The order has not been made generally effective as yet, but a bulletin announcing it and giving details of the arrangement is expected any time. The night letters are to be in plain English and must be filed not later than midnight. The company reserves the privilege of mailing the messages at their destination, postage prepaid. Because so much of the telegraph system is left idle at night the new management has figured that at small additional expense these idle wires can be made to earn something and also accommodate the public. Messenger boy delivery, which is costly, is to be done away with by use of the postoffice. The "night letters" will be placed in the local postoffice at a point of destination in time

LIVING COST IS ANALYZED

Kansas Professor Says Increase Not Due to High Prices Alone, But Because We Have More Things to Enjoy and Pay For Them.

F. W. Blackmar, professor of sociology and economics at the University of Kansas, says in regard to the increased cost of living: "Invention, discovery, science and business organization have added greatly to the delight of living. Education and intelligence have multiplied the desires of the people. Every desire partly satisfied gives birth to half a dozen new ones. The standard of living is perpetually rising. The luxuries of yesterday become the necessities of tomorrow. The American life of today is far different from the life of twenty-five years ago. The more we have, the more we want. The higher the standard of life, the more it takes to satisfy the normal demands of the individual.

More Things to Enjoy. "The cost of living is not the result of high prices alone, but is also because we have more things to enjoy and must pay for them. We are going faster and must pay the cost of extra speed.

"Twenty-five years ago the farmer brought his apples to market and sold them at the door of the consumer or sold them to the grocer who delivered to the consumer. There was little cost attached to this and apples were not expensive. Today the agent of a cold storage plant goes to the orchard and buys the crop. The apples are barreled (increased expense), shipped to some central point (freight) placed in cold storage (expense of what the market will bear), shipped back to the town whence they came (freight), bought by the local dealer (margin of profit) and delivered to the consumer. The consumer pays the bill for this form of business organization. Is it any wonder that apples are dear? And it may be remarked that it makes little difference whether there are 500,000 or 1,000,000 barrels of apples in the state, or whether they come from Colorado, Michigan or New York; they cost about the same.

Consumer Pays for Conveniences. "But the consumer is paying for something besides apples. He is paying for the privilege of having fresh apples nearly every day in the year. This is a convenience and he pays the man who make it possible. This is true of all other fruits and of vegetables in a slightly different way. It is true of eggs. They travel a long way, go through many hands and frequently are somewhat travel worn. No doubt the storage people take the highest profit the market will bear when they dole out the commodities to the retailer. At least it is suggestive of their power when it is known that there are 11,000,000 more eggs in storage in January, 1910, than in January, 1909, yet the price of eggs in 1910 is nearly double the price of 1909. Waste and inconvenience to the individual are turned over to shippers, commission men, etc., and the consumer pays a good price for the convenience.

"Take as another instance, the question of breakfast foods. Corn meal is one of the most healthful and nourishing breakfast foods as well as one of the cheapest. Many people spurn it and buy roasted corn flakes or some other patent breakfast food at from three to ten times the cost of corn meal, because they are put up in appetizing form in a pasteboard box supposed to be insect proof. Several dealers, several railways and a large over-capitalized concern must be paid for the convenience.

Increased Delight Adds Expense. "As one more example of a different kind, take automobiles. It is estimated that 160,000 cars will be constructed in 1910, involving an outlay of nearly \$175,000,000 and a working army of many thousand men. To a

certain extent these cars will be used in a commercial way to satisfy business needs. However, they probably will not give a strictly economic return of over ten per cent on the investment. All the rest is devoted to the increased delight of living. They may add to health if their users keep on the upper side of the machine. This is a great economic expenditure to satisfy a new desire, but it gives little economic return.

Again, the telephone becomes a necessity. We save time and energy by its use. This is an economic saving. It simply brings business and increases economic production. Yet it must be paid for by the user and means an increased expense. If you can turn the time and energy saved into money, it is a good thing. But he must have an increased income to pay the bill.

Must be Proportionate Increase. "Instances might be multiplied showing how many things we now have to enjoy that formerly we did not have. We have a better life, but it costs more. There are important points to be observed from these examples. Armies of men who must have wages, great corporations with millions of capital must have interest, and thousands of promoters and managers who must have profits, are paid to provide the greater enjoyment, to satisfy increasing desires for a better life. Bankers, lawyers, traders, physicians, teachers, miners, preachers, business managers, transporters, manufacturers, etc., compose an ever increasing number to be fed and clothed by the products of the soil. Unless there is a proportionate increase in agricultural products, the latter are high. There has not been; therefore prices of agricultural products are at present higher relatively than prices of other commodities.

Another thing to be noticed is that the improved standard of living demands a continually increased outlay and a continually increasing income if the individual lives a normal life. It is impossible to satisfy all of the economic desires arising from this active, expanding, modern life. But certain of them must be satisfied in order that the individual shall have a normal progressive life—the chief aim of our civilization. To do this, income should keep pace with the cost of living according to an ordinary standard of living. Granted that a person can live no better today on \$1,000 per annum than fifteen years ago on \$500, he must have over \$1,000 now if he have any benefit of the increased standard of living—if his expanding desires receive any return.

Costs More Than Old Life. "Truly, this life costs more than the old life because we have the benefits of the achievements of the arts and sciences, of education and business organization, of invention and discovery. Suppose we say to a man, 'Live more simply and it will cost you less; give up the books, magazines, newspapers that you formerly did not have; take your children out of school and give them three months' schooling a year as formerly; exclude the musical instrument from the home; do not help pay the increased expense of church and charitable institutions; cut out the telephone; avoid the electric car; deny the nickel show and other forms of amusement; refuse to profit by modern medical and dental skill; buy last year's clothing for your wife and children; cut out the gas and electric lights; buy or make a tallow dip and then go to bed early to save lights; banish bananas, oranges and olives from the table; dispense with a hundred things you formerly did not enjoy, and you will in a measure reduce the cost of living. You will pay less for a poorer article called life.'

favorable, but it may not be long till everything will be topsy turvy as far as the Democrats are concerned, and peaches and cream for the Republicans. So we are making no plans for a Democratic victory."

It is stated that Judge H. M. Townner of Corning, candidate for congress in the Eighth district, will not resign from the bench to campaign. His terms of court are so arranged, it is said, that he can complete the court year and still have plenty of time to work in the interest of his candidacy.

Brookhart's Campaign. Columbus Junction Safeguard: Colonel Brookhart of Washington, who has been made believe that he has a fighting chance of being sent to congress from the First district, rushed into print recently with a shot at Howard A. Burrell and that veteran writer came back at him in the Washington Press last week with an article that took the hide clean off the would-be "statesman." If one-tenth of Burrell's statements are true "Brookhart's" chances of getting to congress are about as good as a hopeless sinner's chances of getting to heaven. Brookhart's candidacy is considered a joke by a lot of people, but he will get some support. A lot of the progressives in this county have told us they wouldn't stand for him and it is not probable that any large number of regular Republicans will fall over themselves to support him.

Home Baked Bread, Biscuit, Cake, Pastry. Fresh, Tasteful, Healthful, and Economical when made with ROYAL BAKING POWDER. Royal is the only baking powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar.

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Henry. When he finished he laid the pages of copy on the city editor's desk. He dragged a chair to a window, sat down and gazed moodily down at the crowds of people hurrying along the street below. Brand entered McHenry's office and faced the three men, his surprise in him testified. "From now on you sit here," creating as he saw from the attitudes of McHenry and Dupuy that a huge, rawboned, bronzed faced stranger apparently dominated the situation. (To be continued.)

Savings Deposits. MADE DURING THIS MONTH WILL RECEIVE 3 PER CENT INTEREST SEPTEMBER 1st 1910. The State Central Savings Bank. Corner Sixth and Main Sts. CAPITAL \$100,000.00 SURPLUS \$200,000.00

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.

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.