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Mr. John L. Rendall of Des Moines and the Lee county board of supervisors were permitted to have their say in these columns yesterday. Here with the regular gospel is resumed.

The Wisconsin college of mines has abolished the towel because it is unsanitary, and now the pupils dry themselves with large sheets of paper. There is something more than a possibility that the rage for asepsis will be carried to ridiculous lengths.

The Harvard boy wonder has evolved the idea that radium is the proper motive power for air ships and would propel them at tremendous speed. This paper is inclined to agree with the St. Louis star that with \$100,000,000 worth of radium behind it most anything would get up pretty tolerable speed.

Dr. J. W. Kime of Fort Dodge favors abolition of the state board of health and the appointment instead of one health commissioner with full power. The suggestion has a rocky road ahead of it. For one thing, there is a suspicion abroad among the doctors of the state that Dr. Kime would like to be that commissioner.

The Virginia house of delegates, by a vote of 54 to 37 refused to ratify the income tax constitutional amendment. The membership of the house comprises eighty-six Democrats and fourteen Republicans, so that the Democrats are at fault. This is the first defeat of the amendment, three other states having ratified it.

There is talk to the effect that the Pennsylvania railroad intends buying the Santa Fe, and by combining it with its own lines, form an entirely independent transcontinental system that will be an active competitor of the Hariman roads. In such event there will be some lively bidding between the two great systems for the trade of the Pacific coast.

Congressman Crumpacker of Indiana has the right idea of the Payne tariff law. In accepting renomination he told his constituents that the law in question has already shown its capacity as a revenue raiser, and time and experience will vindicate its wisdom as a prosperity producer. The Taft administration was endorsed by the convention, as was also the new tariff law.

Statistics show that there are 125,000 employees in the automobile plants against 1,200 in 1898, while the parts makers give employment to 40,000 more. Not even the giant Standard Oil and Steel trusts can quote figures which will compare with those of the automobile industry; that is, in so short a period of time, it is America's most wonderful business in many respects.

Instead of favoring the abolition of the state board of health and the appointment of one health commissioner with full power, as proposed by Dr. J. W. Kime, of Fort Dodge, Dr. G. H. Sumner, secretary of the state board of health, would strengthen the board by making the governor an ex-officio member. The governor, the attorney general and the secretary, he further suggests, might constitute the executive committee, which could get together promptly in cases where there is need for immediate and drastic action. Dr. Sumner asserts that the Iowa board of health has a system which is second to none in the country.

There is still another Richmond in the field,—that is to say a new candidate for congress in the First district—on the authority of the Washington Democrat, which thus tells about him: "He hails from Stockport, down in Van Buren county, where Slaterman Brookhart comes from. Brookhart, you know, who is a reformer. Mr. Howard is a farmer and says he has only a limited education. He lived in Nebraska a few years and has been for Bryan first, last and all the time. He says he will make speeches over the district if he is nominated. He also worked at the carpenter trade. He has one boy who is in the excise man's office in Columbus, Ohio, and three children are in Chicago. He was born in Clark county, Mo., and the house he was born in still stands there. He left a petition here and you may sign it if you want to do so. He got only one signer Thursday. Mat Donahay signed it."

The Dubuque Telegraph-Herald having claimed that the rule upturned in the house at Washington "had applied for twenty years," and that, although not until recently had any Republican voice been heard against it, the Democrats in the house had "kept up eternal protest against it." The St. Louis Journal calls the turn on it very promptly and effectively. "Let's see," ruminates the latter paper: "Twenty years ago this fall the Democrats elected a majority in the house of representatives. Judge Crisp was elected speaker in 1891 and again in 1893. The Democrats had at least two chances to overturn the rule, but their 'eternal protest' was not heard. They did overturn the rule concerning the counting of a quorum, but they turned it back again when they found themselves also in possession of the presidency of the senate."

The Journal concludes that no Telegraph-Herald is simply practicing on the art of talking through its hat. In the view of the Omaha Bee, what the Pittsburg council chamber really needs is a liberal application of the most powerful disinfectant known to criminal science.

THE HOUSE RULES. The Washington correspondent of the Omaha Bee recalls that "Cannonism," as it is called, is not a new cause or complaint. Thomas B. Reed was denounced when speaker of the house just as energetically as Cannon has been denounced during last year. Reed controlled the committee on rules with an iron hand, but even Reed does not appear to have been the originator of his methods of shaping legislation. He took his cue from Lieut. Gov. David B. Hill, who believed his eyes rather than his ears when called upon to decide in the New York senate whether or not a quorum was present. The Reed rules were, in turn, adopted almost verbatim by the house which succeeded that over which he presided and in which Mr. Crisp of Georgia was the speaker, and it was not a far cry from Crisp to Henderson when the latter took the gavel as a successor to the former. The necessity for such rules is thus pointed out by the Bee correspondent: "There must be a committee on rules, there must be some means of deciding whether a bill shall be considered or not before it reaches the voting stage, otherwise all sorts of measures would be brought forward and rushed through without adequate consideration. There is scarcely a score of members in the entire house who ever have taken time to consider every measure upon which they are called upon to vote. Consequently the majority is generally guided by the report of the committee from which the bill is reported or by the attitude of the committee on rules. If it was necessary to discuss and explain every provision of every measure which is called up for action in the house very little would be accomplished, and for this reason the committee first considers all bills and then the committee on rules decides whether or not the house shall have a chance to vote upon them."

Naturally this method keeps in the background many measures in which individual members are deeply interested. They lay their inability to secure the legislation for which their constituents ask to the committee on rules, which in the past has meant to the door of the speaker. As to conditions in the future the correspondent writes: "From this time forward after he shall have appointed the committees at the beginning of a congress—and it is natural to assume that the committee on rules will continue to exist without the speaker—that official will have little to do aside from presiding over the house. Of course, he will be consulted, but he will have no vote, and all complaints which may be made will have to be directed against some other than the presiding officer of the house. It remains to be seen what the effect will be upon legislation and whether or not those members who have advocated all sorts of legislative vagaries will be any better off than they have been in the past."

NOTES AND COMMENT. It is the observation of the Quincy Herald that some people act twice before they think. A Galesburg lover is said to have written to his sweetheart: "I would rather listen to you chewing gum than hear Caruso sing." The Creston Advertiser says that whatever else can be said of Cannon, it is at least true that he is strong and courageous and honest. Dr. J. F. Clark of Fairfield has taken out nomination papers as Democratic candidate for congress in this district at the primaries to be held in June.

If the Quincy Herald is to be believed, the average man isn't as good as a girl thinks he is before she marries him, nor as bad as she thinks he is afterward. Colonel Watterson sagely remarks that "to one who has read a little history, and witnessed the making of a great deal of it, in point of fact, has attained to years of discretion—maybe, in his own conceit, to years of reflection—dog fights seem, somehow, less important than they were."

A belated pun, with Andrew Carnegie as the victim, is being circulated at Washington. The iron master was on board a ferryboat at Norfolk on the day the President visited that port. Something went wrong with the compass. The captain appealed to the mate. The mate examined the compass and said: "I guess it must be attracted by that steel magnet over there."

Davenport's Water Power. Davenport Democrat: It means a great deal to Davenport, that work has actually commenced on the Davenport Water Power company's project, Monday. Men and teams are busy now with the grading preliminary to blasting, at the upper end of the proposed canal, the mouth of Duck Creek. For half a century, or perhaps since the white man first found his progress up the Mississippi nearly barred by the current of the rapids at the foot of which the city of Davenport is located, men have had visions of the mighty power that flowed unharmed past this spot, and the wonders it might accomplish when held in leash. The city felt that it might congratulate itself when enterprising Davenport men secured the right to develop the water power here. Now that work has been actually commenced on the project, we have double cause for gratification. The completion of their task will later be the cause of general rejoicing. What it will mean to the future of Davenport is beyond estimate. Incidentally, the ordinance of the

company, permitting it to use the streets and alleys of the city under ample restrictions, will be submitted to the voters of Davenport. It should not lack a full and hearty endorsement by all who want to see Davenport put in a position where it can offer inducements to factories to locate here such as have never been in the power of the city before.

THE LESSON OF THE WRECK. The Combination of Mistakes and Bad Judgment That Cost so Many Lives of Iowans. Marshalltown Times-Republican: The cause of the wreck is not located. Perhaps the most plausible explanation is that a light tender, intended to be hauled, not pushed, rose under the pressure behind, buckled, jumped, or whatever way its wheels were lifted, high enough to swing the flange over the rail, and leave the track. The technical cause of the wreck is incidental to this particular case. The reasons for the awful loss of human life appear to be evident. The enormous death rate among the passengers of that ill-fated Rock Island train seems directly attributable to the make up of the train, the doubled engines and the fact that these engines were backing. The rate of speed was normal, about twenty-five miles an hour, but the train was so arranged that serious accident meant a holocaust. When the derailment came the steel mass of two heavy locomotives, supplemented by a solid Pullman jammed across the cut and made an immovable barrier. Between it and the heavy Pullmans in the rear the smoker, "ladies' coach" and mail cars were ground as between upper and nether millstones. There was no possibility of escape for these flimsier cars. They broke like egg shells between the steel dam of locomotives and the irresistible rush of the heavy steel constructed Pullmans. The wonder is, not that the dead outnumbered the wounded, but that any lived.

Had the make up of the train been carefully arranged against the contingency of wreck on a strange road; had the engines been faced as they should have been; had this train been run in sections, each with its engine, the probabilities are that no wreck would have occurred, or in event of wreck few lives would have been lost. The conclusion is inevitable. The officials know what happens when trains made up like this one was made up go in the ditch or pile up in a cut. But the trains were late passengers must be sent on the mails were delayed. They took a chance. Chance won the cast of the die and the ditch along the right of way ran ankle deep in blood.

Morally, a crime has been committed, for the carelessness which joggles with human lives is criminal. The telegraph operator who carelessly throws trunks together is indictable; the conductor who misreads or carelessly neglects train orders comes within the scope of the criminal code. The manufacturer whose machinery has by reason of neglect or carelessness or greed become man-killing is morally, if not legally, a criminal. The make up of that wrecked train is the main reason for the terrible death rate. It was careless, morally at least, it was criminal. If no statute covers it then the code of Iowa needs amplification.

One Swallow Doesn't Make a Summer. Washington Democrat: The Democrat hopes it is not unthankful for small favors but it cannot join in the general prediction that the election of Congressman Foss of Massachusetts at a special election last week is a sign that the Democrats will sweep the Republicans aside this autumn. On the other hand, it does not indicate anything except that a hybrid, renegade Republican has been elected to congress owing to a lot of local conditions that we out here do not fully understand. And still, we do not deprecate the victory, but we see no sign in it. We have elected a Democrat to the legislature from Washington county. We elected Hod Willson and we elected Warren Stewart from whom no better Democrats are alive, and this refers to both of them, but that did not make the county Democratic. We have a Democratic sheriff and will have another when we elect "Bridget" McCarty as we are sure to do, but we are not fool enough to say that it will make the county Democratic.

The conditions that made Foss possible are various and while we believe the dissatisfaction with the Payne tariff bill helped, it did not do it all and what would help in Massachusetts will not help in Iowa. With hogs ten cents on foot and eggs eighteen cents a dozen, corn fifty-five, hay \$11, we do not expect Iowa farmers to raise much thunder about the tariff bill or anything else. And when we say that, we know what we are talking about. The farmers come into the Democrat office every day and they say: "What do we care who holds office as long as we get the prices we are getting? We are not running for office. Let the politicians fight but give us good times." Will they pay much attention to politics as long as these conditions remain?

O yes, we know you will say this is standpatism and if urging our party to keep its head and not go crazy and go chasing after false gods and raising false issues is standing pat, we plead guilty. If begging our people to vote for our own candidates and avoid progressives under the guise of friendship who come as sheep but

are ravening wolves, we then plead guilty also. And we say also that the election of Foss is not the election of a Democrat. He is merely a disgruntled Republican. He is a sorehead, who could not run the Republican party, and he sulked and walked out and off the reservation and the other sore heads in his party and the Democrats elected him. There is no Democratic victory about it. We urge Democrats to avoid entangling alliances. This was the advice given by Washington in his farewell address when he was talking to a newly conceived, struggling country that was in the experimental state but it was good advice. It is good advice for us as Democrats. There is a good time coming but it will not come till we quit chasing after the gods of Bellal.

We must quit following false prophets who wear sheep's clothing but within are ravening wolves, if you will allow us to repeat the figure of speech. Stand by Democratic democracy as promulgated by Jackson and then we will win and we shall deserve to win. We are glad Foss was elected but we do not believe it indicates anything as to this fall's elections. It is not even a straw showing which way the wind is blowing.

Heroic Treatment. Little Willie wore his stockings inside out, a habit shocking. To correct his naughty whim, Mother turned the hose on him. —Woman's Home Companion. Willie didn't seem to care; Smeared some roof paint on his hair. Father, though his right hand tingled, Merely had the lad's hair shingled. —Chicago Tribune.

Willie managed then to lose His three dollar pair of shoes. "You won't need them now," Pa cried As he tanned the youngster's hide. —Peoria Herald-Transcript.

FRANKLIN. Died, at her late home in this town Tuesday morning at 6 o'clock, March 22, 1910, Mrs. Dorathea M. Ohning, aged 70 years, 6 month and 7 days. The departed, nee von Alm, was born in Wietendorf, Hanover, Germany, September 15, 1839. In 1859 she joined her heart and hand in her native town with her late husband, Fr. Ohning, who departed this cruel world two years ago last October. The family came direct to Primrose in April, 1873, where they resided until 1874, moving to Franklin, where they erected a fine new home, in which both resided until their end. The deceased was up and around as usual until the 19th inst. when she complained of feeling bad on account of the grip. Medical aid was at once given, while Sunday morning she ate a hearty breakfast and seemed to be in her usual spirits with the exception of being weak, when all of a sudden a setback occurred about 10 o'clock Sunday, from which she never survived. She is survived by one son, Fred H., who had it very hard, during this bereavement, as his wife was very low and not expected to survive for many days. The mother was preceded by her husband, one son, two daughters and four grandchildren. The funeral took place from her late residence Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, which was largely attended. The floral tribute was elegant. The remains found their last resting place in the city cemetery beside those of her husband Rev. J. F. C. Trafter officiating.

The following class graduated with high honors Friday evening: Anna Schreiner, Olga Krebill, Matilda Krebill, Bertha Wilhelm, Elmer Dickson and Armen Trezler. Prof. Ledsham deserves much credit for the success. A small shower of rain fell here Friday night. Mrs. L. Schaeffness of Ft. Madison visited friends here Saturday. She will move to Kahoka, Mo., shortly. Emma Haezger made a trip to Ft. Madison, Friday. Mrs. Phil Hohl, formerly of this community, is not expected to survive. She is a patient in one of the Burlington hospitals. Jacob Halfman and his young bride returned home Friday, this being a great surprise to his many friends. A short time ago he claimed going to Topeka, Kansas, instead he went to Keokuk, from where the couple sneaked to Kahoka, Mo., and were married Wednesday. Yesterday was town election, but not much interest taken, as only one ticket being in the field. The following officers were elected: Mayor, Fred H. Ohning; assessor, August Fey; treasurer, H. P. Seyb; council men, John Blacksmith, O. J. Weber, Wm. Schneider, A. H. Laisy and J. P. Dickson. Mayor-elect Ohning states that as soon as qualified, he will marry the first couple gratis.

DONNELSON IOWA. Mrs. Kate Taylor was a Keokuk visitor the fore part of the week. Henry Mehl is visiting his son Clyde and wife at Agency, Iowa. Ed Slicher of Centerville is visiting home folks. Mrs. William Grant and daughter Madeline were Farmington visitors Wednesday. Miss Alma Bank and her friend, Miss Goldie Busch of Mt. Pleasant,

were over Sunday visitors in our city the guests of the formers parents. Miss Lillian Crosley of Webster City, Iowa was a business visitor in our city Thursday. Miss Ella Newman of near Alexandria, Mo., is visiting relatives in our vicinity. Mr. and Mrs. D. Retior were Ft. Madison visitors several days the past week. Mrs. H. E. Barnes and daughter Winona visited with Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Barnes near La Crew Wednesday. Mrs. A. Halfman passed through our city Thursday enroute to her home in Fort Madison from a short visit in Farmington. Mrs. M. H. Helue and Miss Amanda Wahrer visited with Miss Emma Bergethold Friday. Mrs. R. Klugler returned home Wednesday from a several days visit near La Crew. A crowd of young folks enjoyed a pleasant evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hulsebus Tuesday. Mrs. Peter Trump of New Boston visited at the Chris. Seyb home Saturday evening. Quite a few of our young folks attended the graduation exercises at Franklin Friday evening. L. E. Barnes was a Keokuk visitor Thursday. A crowd of young folks enjoyed a very pleasant time at the home of

Mr. and Mrs. Chris. Seyb Saturday evening. Mrs. Charles Krehbell and children visited with her parents near Franklin Friday. Mr. and Mr. E. C. Seyb visited at the Chris. Seyb home several days the past week. Miss Mary Fisher of Ft. Madison was an over Sunday in our city. Mr. and Arthur Hirschler and son David visited in Burlington and Mt. Pleasant Sunday and Monday. B. H. Ketchum of Farmington and P. N. Funk of Ottumwa came to our city in an automobile Thursday. George Lutz left for North Dakota Wednesday where he has a home-stead. His many friends here wish him success.

Theatrical Superstition. An umbrella opened on the stage is supposed to bring bad luck, and many actors would hesitate about wearing new shoes on the first night of a play. The evil effects of new shoes are said, however, to be averted by wearing them on the wrong feet; in fact, any player who makes this mistake in the hurry of dressing regards it as a good omen not to be disturbed. Whistling on the stage during rehearsals is believed to insure a frost on the night of production, and in operatic circles a yellow clarinet in the orchestra is held to bring about the same dire result.



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