

THE GATE CITY PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

C. F. Skirvin, Manager

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Keokuk, Iowa, March 8, 1914

A FEW THEORIES. It's not so much the song, I guess, As what is in the singer

That makes the music in our hearts In tender accents linger.

The worth is not in what we give, But in our thought behind it;

The giving spirit crowns the gift Because love has designed it.

It's not the words we speak that count In promising or pledging;

It's what we do by active deed With neither halt nor hedging.

And if our lives are some day judged It won't win much attention

To say we did much wrong, but, then, We had a good intention.

—Arthur Wallace Peach.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY. Our grand business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand.

—Carlyle.

Villa says he never went to school a day in his life. We had suspected as much.

New York policemen are to be instructed how to shoot. This is all right, but there seems to be still greater need that they be taught whom to shoot.

Dorothy Dix says the woman demands of the man she loves that he be a cash register, sweetheart, philosopher and slave. Hence the increasing number of divorces.

Lincoln Beachey was so frightened by his recent narrow escape from death that he solemnly resolved never to make another flight—until he got his machine fixed.

It is predicted that we will have another all-summer congress. In that event the country will be afflicted with less fervid oratory in the fall campaign. This in itself will go far toward compensating for a continuous performance at Washington.

Three more candidates are out for the democratic nomination for supervisor for the 1916 term. They are John Rald of Pilot Grove, R. S. Pease of Mt. Hamill and George Weishaar of Primrose. Prospects are good for a lively scrimmage for the coveted honor.

The Mexican refugees under guard at Fort Bliss have all been washed and vaccinated. These were new procedures to most of them and may have far-reaching results. They may take the habit back with them and set a good example to the rest of the Mexicans.

At one ferry on the Tigris river the toll is as follows: For a poor Arab, two cents; for a prosperous Arab, four cents; for a soldier, ten cents; for a pilgrim, twenty cents; for a European, eighty cents. At this rate an American would be expected to pay several thousand dollars.

A western Iowa paper reports that "John Rigby, the man who fell in the city well, is getting along nicely and will be out in due time." This is all right for John, as suggested by the Iowa City Republican, but in the meantime how about the people who have to drink the water?

The superintendent of a western normal school disagrees with Rear Admiral Chadwick's assertion that the predominance of women in the public schools has produced a feminized, emotional and illogical manhood. "I think it would be desirable to have more men teachers in the public schools if we could get good men. But I would rather have children taught by a clear-headed, forcible woman than by a sissy."

Mrs. Julian Heath, president of the Housewives' League in New York, said the other day that the domestic science courses in the schools are all tommy rot. "They teach cooking only," she said, "and have no real bearing on problems that are confronting the public school and college women. What we need more than cooks are wives taught how to spend to the best advantage the money that comes into the home."

The Donnellson Review remarks that "If Keokuk and Donnellson keep on expanding there won't be much territory left between the two towns in time." The Keokuk idea is not to leave any ultimately.

Mrs. Clarence Baxter, chairman of the civics and health department of the Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs, has issued a pamphlet which tells of the work of her department, as endorsed by the State Federation. She has sent copies to the five normal schools of the state and the Missouri State University. A general clean-up in May, an August campaign against weeds, a continuous fight against the fly, physical examination in the schools, making sightlier the billboards, improving railway surroundings and improving rural school-houses, are some of the things suggested in the bulletin.

DOES NOT INTERFERE. The Dubuque Times-Journal had an editorial paragraph the other day to the following effect:

Owners of steamboats on the upper Mississippi have gone to Washington to be present at a conference of the board of supervising engineers. They are expected to register a protest against the effect of the Keokuk dam on navigation. The rivermen claim the dam is interfering with navigation. Although the Keokuk dam undoubtedly interferes with navigation, it is feared it is now too late to secure any relief.

The statement that the Keokuk dam interferes with navigation is a pure assumption without foundation in fact. Objection to it on this score is confined for the most part to a few steamboat men who are suffering from a chronic grouch nurtured by the mistaken belief that they own the Mississippi river. The whole trouble had its origin in the fact that some of them could not get their boats through the new lock here last spring as early as they wished owing to its incomplete state at the time. For this inconvenience they were amply compensated later in a financial way. But they still cherish their grudge, and probably will continue to do so until Keokuk and other river cities withdraw their influence in favor of river improvement, which some of them are strongly tempted to do because of the attitude and conduct of these same steamboat men.

So far from being an interference with navigation the Keokuk dam is a distinct aid to it. As the result of its construction there is substituted one lock and forty-odd miles of slack-water navigation for three locks and a narrow canal that made navigation exceedingly slow and difficult. Under present conditions there is a saving of at least two hours in traversing that part of the river formerly known as the rapids. As to conditions below the dam it is sufficient to say that as much water flows through the turbines and over the spillways every twenty-four hours as flows into the lake above the dam in the same time.

SANITATION OF THE COUNTRY. Both physical and moral conditions have been supposed to be far better in the country than in the city. Persons whose opinions are based upon facts rather than poetry are coming to doubt the moral superiority of the rural districts, and the death rate in cities has been reduced below that in the country. Representatives of the farming regions were in Albany the other day urging the appointment of sanitary officers and visiting nurses for the farming regions.

As pointed out by the Philadelphia Record, the rural population does not need a corps of sanitary policemen, but some elementary instruction in sanitation. In town every man's drainage and ventilation is at the mercy of his neighbor's, and sanitary officials are needed not so much to compel people to take care of themselves, as to restrain them from injuring others. In the country every man can control his own drainage, ventilation and water supply, and what he needs is instruction. It could be given through the country newspapers, through the children at the public schools, and in lectures in town halls, school houses and in homes in neighborhoods remote from these.

It is rather difficult to keep a house in the country warm, and therefore the windows are nailed in to keep out every breath of air. Of course, the atmosphere of the house is breathed over and over till it is highly injurious, and if the germs of disease are in the respiratory organs of one member of the family they are soon distributed among all the members.

The house drainage is often allowed to fall very close to the house. It is conducted just outside the walls. The sanitary accommodations are usually of the crudest character, usually involving much personal exposure or else so placed as to taint the atmosphere of the house. The well is apt to be extremely convenient; often it is very close to the house, and therefore to the cellar, and not uncommonly it is pretty close to the pig pen or the barn or a more objectionable object.

Of course, conditions are not so bad as they were 50 years ago. In this vicinity it is not uncommon to find a farmhouse provided with a perfectly-appointed bathroom and with a water supply that is at a safe distance from every source of contamination. Within the last generation a great deal of instruction in hygiene has been given. In the cities the application of this information is mostly compulsory or official. In the

ITCHED AND BURNED TERRIBLY

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383 No. Union St., Aurora, Ill. — "My ailment started with a little pimple and it always itched and burned terribly. I scratched it and in a few days my face was all covered with sores. It ran up to my eyes and the day after I could not see out of my right eye. I was unable to get any rest. I couldn't go to bed, being afraid of getting the clothing all soiled, although I had my face all bandaged.

"I was given two jars of salve but it kept getting worse. It was something like a running sore because every time I used some of the salve I had to wrap bandages around my neck to keep the water and pus from running down my body. After I had the trouble two months my mother told me I should try Cuticura Soap and Ointment. I wrote for a sample and in a few days I received these and washed my face with the Cuticura Soap and put on some Cuticura Ointment and the next morning my face felt cool and somewhat relieved. After using the sample I bought some Cuticura Soap and Ointment at the drug store. I followed this treatment just twenty-six days and after using one cake of Cuticura Soap and two boxes of Cuticura Ointment I was cured." (Signed) George Miller, Jan. 1, 1913.

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country it is voluntary and individual. Naturally more progress has been made in the cities, and they now show a better death rate than the farms do. But as the natural conditions for life and health are infinitely better on the farm than in town, the fact that the town is getting the lower death rate now shows how imperative it is for the farming population to arouse themselves and provide for their own drainage, ventilation and water supply.

THE MATTER OF TAXES.

There is a good deal being said in Iowa newspapers these days about the increase in taxes this year. Fired with a commendable zeal to let those supposed to be responsible for the increase know just what he thought of them, the editor of the Washington Press hopped on a train the other day and went to Des Moines. He had the executive council in mind as the object of his wrath and proceeded to "jump" on that body with both feet. Did he get away with it? We let him answer in his own words:

"What do you think they said. Well, they just pulled a table out of the desk and showed us that the farm values as sent to them from Washington county were \$81.14 per acre, and they reduced them to \$73.93. Did you notice that word 'reduced.' Well we ducked. We had no more business with the executive council on the tax question. We have heard several hundred men turn the air blue for miles around with the choicest old English cuss words now in circulation, because the executive council had increased farm values in Washington county. We never denied it. We thought it was true and got bumped. The raise was all made by local authorities and the executive council actually reduced it by \$8.11 per acre. But keep in mind these are not our tax articles. We are now simply sounding an alarm to get the taxes reduced for next year if you want them reduced."

The editor of the Press concludes that the whole trouble is that we all know how to be governor but none of us know how to be trustee. "This tax business is more than three-fourths handled right here at home so let us begin at home where the big trouble arises." This is good, plain, practical advice. The fact of the matter is that nine-tenths—and in some cases a larger proportion—of taxes are levied by local school, town or city and county boards. Everybody should understand this and then everybody will place the responsibility for increased taxes exactly where it belongs.

A NEW RECORD FOR IOWA.

Iowa is now in the billion dollar crop class, according to a report just published by the state department of agriculture. The statistics on live stock show that Iowa's live stock on January 1 was worth \$470,272,000. The field crops for Iowa in 1913, together with the poultry, wool and dairy products, amounted to \$522,474,227. The total value of farm products together with that of farm animals show Iowa's farm products and live stock on January 1, 1914, were worth practically \$1,000,000,000. This establishes a new record on the value of Iowa farm products and live stock. The total figures for Iowa livestock are only a little in excess of last year's, being \$470,272,000, as against \$459,396,000, but the total farm products amount to \$522,474,227, making the total value of live stock and farm products \$992,746,227. The report says:

"No other state in the union approaches this remarkable record of the Hawkeye state. Iowa leads in so many products and in so many kinds of livestock that the sum total for the last few years has surpassed other states in a marked degree. Iowa is coming to be a great draft horse state. Horses are high in price and run up into money so that Iowa's horse industry is now the most val-

uable of any of her live stock industries. "The total value of her horses on January 1 was \$186,912,000. She had a total of 1,534,000 valued at an average of \$118 per head. Illinois ranked second of all the states in the union in the number and value of her horses, having 1,497,000 valued at \$159,161,000. Texas is third, Kansas fourth and Missouri fifth in number of horses, but in value Ohio is third and Missouri fourth."

The exhibit is a gratifying one and should tend to increase state pride. The wealth of the state is increasing at an unprecedented rate and its progress along all worthy lines is in keeping with the development of its material resources.

JUGGLING NAVAL FIGURES.

Secretary Daniels has asserted to the house naval affairs committee that the navy of the United States is superior to any afloat, excepting only that of Great Britain. Japan's is not nearly so powerful; Germany's strength has been exaggerated.

The naval affairs committee found these facts significant. The figures in the navy year book for 1913 had made the United States navy appear inferior to Germany's. Why? Was the purpose to get more ships? The congressmen brought out that the year book instead of giving the United States thirty-six battleships built and building, compared with Germany's thirty-nine, should have credited the United States with thirty-nine battleships of heavier total tonnage and armament than Germany. They also developed that the navy statisticians have this year for the first time taken out of the dreadnought class the battleships South Carolina and Michigan, which have dreadnought armament and have put into the German dreadnought class four ships of 11-inch gun armament. The year book's comparison gives Germany thirteen dreadnoughts and the United States seven, while the congressmen insisted that the correct figures should give Germany and the United States nine dreadnoughts each.

It appears, too, that the tonnage of twenty German battleships was from 10,974 to 12,991, and that of twenty-seven American battleships the smallest was 11,346 and the largest 16,000 tons. The American ships are vastly superior in armament.

Why are we told we need more battleships in order to compare with Germany and Japan? Are facts deliberately mis-stated?

Secretary Daniels is convinced that there is a world-wide armor plate trust. As a result, he has told the house naval committee that the war department in its efforts to balk the exorbitant exactions of home battleship plate producers, has been unable to get a bid from foreign manufacturers.

"Though you cannot establish it," the secretary told the committee, "there is no doubt of an armor plate trust all over the world. That is to say, the people abroad who make armor plate will not come here and submit bids because they know if they do our manufacturers will go there and submit bids. They have divided the world like all Gaul into three parts."

THE PSYCHICS OF WOMAN.

American civilization is becoming effeminate, says Rear Admiral F. E. Chadwick in the current issue of the Educational Review, and blames woman. The hand, or better still, the brain, of woman lies heavy upon our civilization, he says. We have allowed woman to monopolize the teaching profession, and it is as a teacher that she is crippling our national life. The best answer we have yet seen to this is that of the Chicago Tribune, which admits that there is no disputing the statement of the rear admiral that woman's hand and brain lie heavy upon our civilization, and goes on to say:

Woman is a revolutionizing factor not only as a teacher but as a worker, as a producer, in industry, in the world of business and in the professions. Everywhere she forces a readjustment of things and conditions. It is true that woman monopolized the teaching profession in the elementary and even secondary schools. It is equally true that it would be desirable to have more men teachers. It is time the teaching profession were placed financially on such a basis as to attract more men into it.

Feminine influence on civilization began nearly 2,000 years back, when the Carpenter of Nazareth turned itinerant preacher. It is as old as christianity, and distinguishes christian civilization from heathen barbarity and Moslem stagnation. Yes, even long before the advent of the Nazarene the prophet cried out against the purely masculine civilization of bloodshed and slaughter and predicted the day when "they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

The day dreamed of by the prophet, the day of warless, slaughterless civilization, is, alas, still far off. But is not the awakening of woman and her "meddling" with public life and affairs "bringing it nearer? Is not the "psychics of woman" the rear admiral assails so fiercely in reality the psychics of humanity?

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