

THE GATE CITY PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

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Keokuk, Iowa, May 10, 1914

THINGS LONG PAST.

She came to the shadowy place In the woods alone The house stood there and the trees Where the path had gone.

She parted the wild white rose By the shattered door As one who in dreamland goes, To return no more.

She passed up the old oak stair, And from lattice pane Looked down on the garden there As a child again.

She heard the swift-rushing feet And the whirring wings Of a thousand dim and fleet Unearthly things.

Only a mother can distinguish between the mischievousness of her boy and the badness of the boy next door.

When Thorne and Brandies fall out then the railroads might have a chance.

Any way the peace negotiations will give Bryan an opportunity to fill his chautauqua engagements.

The fellow who said that Iowa is the ideal place to make money and California the ideal place to spend it evidently lived in both places.

Francis Wiley Jones, inventor of telegraphic appliances, who originated the pantoplex system of sending sixteen messages on one wire, died recently at West Palm Beach, Fla.

It is clean-up days in many of the cities and towns in the United States. General Punston would like to have a clean-up day in Mexico.

While President Wilson continues his watchful, waiting Mexican policy the Mexicans are mining the railroad between Mexico City and Vera Cruz, which means more danger to Americans if the march inward is ordered.

The George Washington statue which was pulled down in the city of Mexico two weeks ago was erected by the American colony and was dedicated in 1910 in honor of the 100th anniversary of Mexican independence.

This necessity for a get-together movement appears to be more than local, judging from the visit made to this city last Monday by the Iowa boosters. There is no denying that Iowa should have closer co-operation and less legislation.

At the personage who she went forty years ago as a bride, Mrs. Mary Sims, wife of Rev. Josiah Sims of the Congregational church, died in Nevada City, Cal. Mrs. Sims' record for continuous residence was unequalled by any minister's wife in California.

Ljbj Yast, grandson and successor to the late King Menelik as king of Abyssinia, is 13 years of age, unmarried and bears no resemblance to the pronounced negro type of his grandfather. The semi-Caucasian cast of his features is probably due to the Gallic blood in his veins. He dresses in Abyssinian garb, but is said to be a very wide-awake young man. He is well-informed on the affairs of the great powers as they affect his country, speaks a little French and has among his counselors more than one European.

It will soon be time for cities and towns to make arrangements to celebrate the Fourth of July. It is time now for the committees having the arrangements in charge to see that the day is celebrated safely and safely it will be best celebrated if no injury befalls those who celebrate.

In London has been established the Church of the New Ideal, which admits no men to its membership. The minister is Rev. Hatty Baker, who gives as a reason for the church "the spot-making advance in the self-consciousness of women." There are 204 women on the church register.

One of the I. W. W. heretics in New York, a Miss Edelson, escaped the hunger strike in Blackwell's island jail, but it didn't work. Finding the feeding has sympathetic about her fasting, she tackled the grub at the end of twenty-four hours and is now tame enough to eat out of hand.

A Chicagoan, returning from Mexico as a refugee, says the trouble with grape-vine diplomacy is that "it begins nowhere and ends nowhere." He wants mass meetings called in every city in the land to urge Bryan to resign. The mass meetings will be held in November, for there's "nothing doing" in the resignation line.

C. A. Potter, who is a candidate for railroad commissioner, is being enthusiastically boosted by his many friends over the state for the office to which he aspires. They say that Potter is the right man for the right place. Too often we elect men to office who are not fitted for the position. In the case of Potter, he fills the bill.

Arnold Bennett is already celebrated for his versatility as a writer. Now comes the announcement by The Century Magazine that Mr. Bennett is also a skilled navigator. He has spent many vacations on the North sea, sailing without a crew on his little sloop, the "Veisa." The June Century, a travel number, will contain the beginning of Captain Bennett's narrative of personal adventure, "From the Log of the Veisa."

GETTING RID OF GUNMEN. The best way to get rid of the gunman is to get rid of the gun. It is not a short and easy way, but it is the only one that gives any promise of a substantial reduction in the American homicide rate, says the Chicago Record-Herald.

Our gunmen begin as gunboys. They reach the gun period early in life, as if they were brought up in a pioneer community on the edge of the wilderness. Some of the gunboys who are notably precocious become boy bandits and rise to the rank of professional gunmen. Others, after having acquired the habit of carrying a gun, escape the rank of the professionals, but having the gun handy, shoot somebody to emphasize an argument or because they didn't know it was loaded.

There are killings in play by young children, there are killings at saloon socials, there are killings of innocent bystanders and of the wrong men by mistake because the ready revolver splits away so nimbly when all you have to do is to pull the trigger. The revolver should be put under the ban like poisonous drugs. It is really entitled to much less consideration because the drugs have a value as curatives whereas the revolver's one harmless use is that of shooting at a mark. It is worthless as a weapon for wild game and achieves its only distinction when the mark and the game are human beings.

LIVE STOCK INCREASES ON NATIONAL FORESTS. Figures showing the number of live stock for which the secretary of agriculture has authorized grazing permits for the ranges on the 169 national forests during the year 1914 have just been made public.

KINDERGARTEN PROGRESS. In ten years kindergartens in the United States have grown from 3,344 kindergartens with 265,906 children to 7,557 kindergartens enrolling 564,189 children, according to a bulletin issued by the United States bureau of education. Notwithstanding the encouraging increase in schools and pupils, the great majority of children are still without the advantages of kindergarten training. Only 5 per cent of the children of kindergarten age—4 to 6—were in kindergartens.

Much constructive work must be done," declares Miss Myra Winchester, of the kindergarten division of the bureau, reviewing the figures. "The child of kindergarten age is so young, so impressionable, so incapable of defending himself against the faulty words and actions and mental attitudes of the teacher, that means must be devised to eliminate or at least diminish the number of faulty teachers. Standards of requirements as to personality and academic and professional training must be raised and maintained, for the surest guarantee of the extension of kindergartens is good work done by good teachers."

Miss Winchester traces the path of progress in kindergartens from private philanthropy to public support. "First there were private kindergartens, regarded as more or less of a luxury for the well-to-do. Next, good men and women began to provide charity kindergartens for the poor and neglected children, churches, settlements, kindergarten associations and mill owners, gave and continue to give glad and generous support to such kindergartens. Then as a direct outgrowth of the work of the kindergarten associations, there have evolved training schools for kindergarten teachers; the state legislature has been induced to pass a bill making it legal to institute public-school kindergartens; local boards of education have partially, then entirely, taken over the care and education of little children, and finally state and city normal schools have incorporated the kindergarten training schools, making them into a regularly integrated department."

The bureau's bulletin on kindergartens gives complete statistics for private and public kindergartens throughout the United States, so far as these were reported; together with opinions of superintendents, supervisors, and teachers as to the results of kindergarten training in their communities. The bulletin is illustrated with photographs of real kindergarten children in real kindergarten activities.

THE MEXICAN ROADS. The Laredo to Saltillo road, regarded by army officers as the best as well as the shortest military route to Mexico City, will present unexpected difficulties to an invading army, according to a statement issued by the American Highway association, the clearing house of the road movement in America, at the Washington headquarters today.

Within a few weeks, the season for rain will begin in Mexico, and owing to the failure of the officials of that country to maintain their roads, many of the highways will become impassable. There are three routes by which an invading army might enter Mexico, the one starting at Laredo, which avoids the long desert; another by way of El Paso; and the third by way of Eagle Pass.

According to the statement of the American Highway association, the roads in Mexico are in such bad condition that the hauling of artillery over them will be very difficult, especially after the rainy season sets in and the highways become bays with mud.

With the exception of the valley of Mexico and a few mining regions, there are few improved roads in the state. In most sections they are little better than the unimproved earth road and very little work is done either in repair or maintenance, except as is absolutely necessary for immediate traffic.

In the state of Chihuahua, where Carranza and Villa have their political headquarters, a government appropriation, amounting to only \$1,500 in cold cash each year, is made with a view to keeping the roads and bridges in repair. On the haciendas, which in some instances are larger than one of our counties, the necessary roads are crudely maintained by the owners merely for their own convenience.

The laws of Mexico provide that the roads be at least thirty-six feet wide and that they be repaired each year. Failure to comply with these provisions entails a double fine on the offending parties, the fine being paid, theoretically, in either labor or money. There is no attempt to enforce this law, and the roads are given little attention.

In Cuba and the Philippines, the first work that was required from the army, after sanitation had been accomplished, was the improvement of the roads. The Philippines had no road system when the American army landed, but now there is a very modern system to be found in the islands. The advance of civilization, according to the American Highway association, usually can be gauged by a nation's highways.

Forest botanists recognize only one cypress in the United States. Its range extends from Delaware southward around the coast into Texas and up the Mississippi valley to Illinois and Indiana. It is one of the few cone-bearing trees which drop their leaves in winter. The heartwood of cypress is noted for its decay-resistant properties.

The Chinese national conservation bureau is considering reforestation at the headwaters of the Yellow river. The government report shows that this will ameliorate the torrents and cause a more regular flow from the now denuded uplands. It is acknowledged, however, that this reforestation may not have an appreciable effect within the lifetime of the present generation.

The Peace Commission. Des Moines Capital: The peace commissioners are going to meet in Canada on the 18th of May. Their sessions will be held at Niagara Falls. It will be easy to come across. The peace commissioners, who handled the conclusion of the Spanish-American war held their sessions in Paris, and their labors lasted six months. Peace commissioners are never in a hurry. It is evident that Secretary Bryan can fill his chautauqua engagements during the coming summer, and the various bands of rebels in Mexico will have a good rest. During these events Uncle Sam ought to be getting plenty of powder and ball and the national guard ought to be drilling as often as twice a week.

Disorder at Home. Omaha World-Herald: There seems to be a spot in Colorado that would not be out of place in Mexico just now.

The Real Thing. Kansas City Times: While attention is fixed on Mexico the real war seems to be going on in Colorado.

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FOREST NOTES. There is a considerable amount of yew in California, and makers of bows are seeking material there for archery sets.

Western yellow pine cones, to the amount of 6,377 bushels, obtained on the Bitterroot national forest, Montana, yielded 9,482 pounds of seed. The average cost of the extracted seed was 41 cents per pound.

Results from western white pine plantations three seasons or more old show an average of 97 per cent success. On average white pine soil planting can be conducted for from \$5 to \$6 per acre.

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Mother's Day. Quincy Journal: As the second Sunday in every month of May has been designated by special act of congress to be observed annually and perpetually as Mother's day, it should be observed that the date for this year falls on Sunday, May 10. In the history of the country, there never has been another anniversary elected for general observance that has appealed more strongly to the good sense, calm judgment and particularly to the hearts and finer feelings of the American people.

At its very inception the great masses fanned its flames, arousing warmth in devotions to best principles of manhood intensifying the movement in popular favor among all classes of people. From the humblest home in the land a wholesome inspiration touched key notes awakening responsive chords carrying echoes through all classes in all communities continuing to draw timely applause until finally its music was heard in halls of congress.

In an assembly presumably consisting of ablest and brightest intellects of the nation an appeal for an approval and sanction of such a day from the nation's representative, met with most cordial co-operation and a date was fixed and determined upon to remind men of their best and truest friend, urging fitting recognition of obligations which never could be too generously repaid or fittingly recognized.

On last year it was noted that the president of the United States, members of his cabinet and leading men of the nation took pride in revering memories of their mothers by wearing the customary white flower. Next Sunday the outward and visible sign of filial obedience and proper devotion to service and memory of mothers will consist in wearing the emblem of a white flower. And while this custom is truly admirable and commendable from all points, there are still countless other ways in strewing roses of remembrance for the one called mother. If away from home on the day every son and daughter should not fail to write a letter to mother. If living daily at home it should not be difficult to anticipate and provide some special gift that would be acceptable and delightfully appreciated by the mother. If the mother has passed the vale a visit should be made and flowers of remembrance reverently placed upon the silent mound marking the last resting place. Then it should be hoped that such visitors would linger at hallowed spots until some expressions from the voiceless shore could be recalled giving hope and encouragement and especially admonishing

for faithfulness in all duties and responsibilities of life. Indispensable. St. Louis Globe-Democrat: There will not be any real war until the Missouri mule arrives on the ground. What is War? Mitchell-Republican: It is just a bit incongruous for the president of the United States to say to the people of Mexico that it is no war when his soldiers are shooting down the soldiers of Mexico.

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