

THE GATE CITY PUBLISHED BY THE GATE CITY COMPANY

D. F. Skirvin, Manager

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Keokuk, Iowa May 7, 1915

"I LOVE YOU, DEAR." A scent of violets in the air, And singing birds, A beauty new born, fresh and fair, Too deep for words, A little maid with floral crown On hair of gold, And blushing cheeks where lies the kiss, Of lover hold, Whose boyish lips a story tell Into the ear, As bending low, he whispers soft, "I love you, dear!"

The breath of roses in the air, And lilacs sweet, And sunny sky of azure blue The morn'g doth greet; A maiden crowned with womanhood, And robed in white, With smiling lips, and in her eyes A tender light, Before the altar proudly stands, And answers clear The one who whispers soft and low, "I love you, dear!"

A whirl of snowflakes in the air, A cold, gray sky, Where scudding clouds and wintry winds, Go sweeping by: A woman with a crown of years On silvered hair, And faded cheek, where youth's fair bloom Once lingered there, Beside the heartstone knits and rocks, While someone near Bends low his whitened head and says, "I love you, dear."

—Dollor Day, May 8— THOUGHT FOR TODAY. A poet without love were a physical sad not a physical impossibility.—Carlyle.

—Dollor Day, May 8— Philadelphia dispatches tell of a woman who had her husband arrested for calling her a chicken.

—Dollor Day, May 8— St. Louis shoe factories report that business is picking up handsomely, more hands are going to work, and the prospects are sunny on all sides. Not a touch of war order in the report.

—Dollor Day, May 8— Mrs. Arvilla Howard of New York is a professional party woman, superintending children's parties, arranging programs and in every way making it pleasant for the children and saving the mothers trouble.

—Dollor Day, May 8— According to the science of jurisprudence, as interpreted by a Philadelphia court, a lobster is not an animal, and may be pinned to a show window of a lobster palace without fracturing the law against "cruelty to animals."

Biggest Wash A Mere "Trifle" With "SKITCH"

"SKITCH" Means Wash-Day With the Wash-Beard Left Out—"SKITCH" Saves the Rubbing, Saves the Clothes.



One 10-cent package of SKITCH knocks all the rub out of seven wash-days. SKITCH is a marvel, it simply slashes the dirt out of dirtiest clothes without wearing the fabric. You put three teaspoons of SKITCH in a hot or cold water and then you can do up your housework or sit and rest, in twenty minutes your clothes are ready to blue and hang on the line. A ten-cent package of SKITCH does seven washings and on each one SKITCH saves enough soap to pay for a whole package. SKITCH won't injure the finest fabric ever woven. You can eat it, SKITCH is so harmless. Get a 10-cent package of SKITCH and throw your washboard away. For sale at all grocers, Hans Fichtenberg, 211 Grand Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

Tomorrow is Dollar Day in Keokuk. Let everyone work to make the event a big success. The merchants are ready. If you failed to get a copy of last evening's Gate City containing the Dollar Day advertisements of the business men, be sure and secure one and then your shopping will be made easy.

—Dollor Day, May 8— Kate Kendall, former congressman from the Ninth district, says he has no intention of making the race for governor. He says that Cossou, Thorne, Allen and Harding seem to be the strongest men so far mentioned for the place. Mr. Kendall said he had received many letters asking him to make the race for governor but that he had declined to do so.

—Dollor Day, May 8— Stephen Graham says that the Russian peasant woman has little or no housework to do, as there are no beds to make, all the family sleeping on hay in the barn or on mats on the floor. There are no stockings to darn, as they all go barelegged, and no dishes to wash, as they all eat out of one dish and take the meat in their fingers. All the cooking is done in one pot, meat and vegetables being cooked together. Mothers do not bother about their children and practically all the housework they have to do is to sweep out the room once in a while.

—Dollor Day, May 8— MOVING TIME. The Aurora Beacon-News prints the following editorial on moving, which we reproduce for the benefit of our unfortunate readers who are compelled to pack up their household goods and hie on the first of May: "A young man walking along the street carrying his mother-in-law's enlarged picture in one hand and an ax in the other ought not to arouse any particular comment at this time of year. The young man probably has no evil intent. He is merely toting those things he most cherishes by hand since he could not possibly cram them into the moving van. "I move, you move, he moves. The spring unrest is now on us and manifests itself in a desire to change landlords. We desire greatly to try another gas meter. We feel the need, perhaps, of locating in another house where the rent may be higher but the borrowers fewer. We long for a change in bathrooms, for a different looking cellar. "The last June's bride is also infected and is now face to face with the crisis of the first move. She is yet so new to the science of home management that she is compelled to label the nutmegs to distinguish them from the pepper. Her experience is so limited that our sympathy is divided between her and the lost children of Belgium. "How often, in that torn-up house, will she cry herself to sleep on a roll of untacked carpet and dream of mother. How she will wish she was back in those stilted days when Harold still brought her bouquets, and the alarm clock held no terrors for her! How she will long for the old order of things when mother ironed the shirt waists and left her to dream how she and Harold might keep a bright red auto!

"We see her separated for the first time from her husband, when each makes a field bed where possible among the boxes, crates, canned fruit and new chairs. And the crash of a flat iron falling from the piano in the still night echoes like the crack of doom through the vacant rooms. She dreams uncanny dreams of Indians and robber knights and starts up at their imaginary cries. But the cries, she finds later, only emanate from her brave husband, whose feet, in his sleep, have fallen off the ironing board into the caudex.

"Bag in time they got settled. The 'God Bless Our Home' motto is in place over the parlor door and the lost minute hand of the clock has finally been found. Peace finally abides. Then they learn two things—never to pack the stove legs with the crockery and to buy a home of their own, a real home with flower beds, garden, vines and trees, a home to come back to instead of moving away from."

—Dollor Day, May 8— THE WORLD FIGHT ON "DOPE." In discussing the Harrison anti-narcotic act and the results of its enforcement, which commenced March 1, the American Review of Review reminds us that the full significance of this admirable step toward a higher social efficiency can hardly be appreciated unless we keep in mind the corresponding movement on the international scale. It refers to the opium treaties, in which our government has had the honorable position of leader. Thirty-four nations have now joined in this drug prohibition enterprise. Its history goes back to 1907, when, by the instance of the United States proposals were made to all the governments principally interested to form an international commission on the opium question. As a result of these suggestions, such a commission met at Shanghai in 1909. Two of the three American delegates were Dr. Hamilton Wright and Bishop Brent of the Philippines. Both of these men have been leaders in the movement. Dr. Wright already having world-wide reputation as an expert on tropical diseases and habit-forming drugs, while Bishop Brent has come into touch with the spread of the opium habit in the Philippines in a manner that quickened his interest in the subject and convinced him that its suppression would be one of the greatest boons that could be conferred upon the world at large.

What the United States has done in Cuba, in Panama, in Porto Rico and the Philippines it is doing in a wider sphere through its moral leadership of the great movement to save mankind from a degrading vice.

—Dollor Day, May 8— John Bull's Apology. Chicago Evening Post: Great Britain apologizes to Chile for sinking the it's very nice, but it reminds us of that man in yesterday's paper, who ran off with another woman, and then came back with two theater tickets 'to square things."

Economy, Policy of Administration FOUR MAIN POINTS IN MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Activities of the Present Administration During Past Year Outlined by Moorhead.

NEED GREATER POWERS

Efficient Administration of the City's Business Made Impossible Under the Present Laws.

Four main points, all of vital interest to the citizens and tax payers of this city, are taken up by Mayor S. W. Moorhead in his first annual report of the activities of the city council. The financial condition of the city, the new bridge, the river front, and the need of greater powers for the city administration of the state are the four points. The following is his report in full: I take pleasure in submitting herewith reports of the activities of the present city administration in its several departments during the first year of its existence. Effort has been made to make them as full and explicit as possible with a view to giving the community all the information available concerning the condition of municipal affairs. This has necessitated longer reports in some instances than usual, but it is believed that this is more than compensated for by the value of the information they contain. Could certain facts and events have been foreseen, notably the repeal within the last few months of the Iowa mulct law, the official program for the year would probably have been modified in certain particulars, but as this was impossible changed conditions had to be met as they arose. Measures of economy were promptly instituted wherever possible in order to bring the expenses of the municipality within the amount of its lessened revenues. More remains to be done along this line as soon as arrangements can be perfected to lessen the cost of administration without seriously crippling the public service.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

The condition of the city's finances is set forth very exhaustively and clearly in the report of the superintendent of finance. It shows that all current bills have been paid and other liabilities met as they came due. There was, however, a burden of nearly \$6,000, inherited from the previous council. Owing to the loss of the mulct tax after January 1st next, there will be about \$6,000 less revenue during the current year. To meet the financial condition thus presented is the problem to which the council is giving its best thought. One thing is certain. The most rigid economy is absolutely necessary. Fixed expenses must be reduced to the minimum, regardless of who is affected thereby, and street and other improvements must be limited to the cash available for their payment. Every effort should be made to get the city out of debt and then to keep it out. This cannot be accomplished in a single year, or even in two or three years under the lessened revenues occasioned by the repeal of the mulct tax, but it can be brought about in time if effort is steadily, earnestly and persistently directed to that end.

THE NEW BRIDGE.

Early in its existence last spring the council entered into negotiations with the Keokuk & Hamilton Bridge company relative to the western approach to a proposed new structure across the Mississippi river at this point. The Bridge company plan the erection of a double-decked bridge costing between \$300,000 and \$400,000 to take the place of the present bridge. The council took the position at the outset that any change in grade or in the general character of the approach must be in the nature of an improvement over the present one and that the city should not be at any expense whatever by reason of the change. It adhered steadily to this position throughout the negotiations and in the end secured an arrangement highly advantageous to the city. From the western end of the bridge proper will be a viaduct which will cross the railroad tracks and Water street at the elevation of about twenty-nine feet, landing at a parapet in block five. Thence to the east line of First street will be a modern street to be known as Bridge street, with sidewalks fifteen feet wide on each side. The city will construct this street, but the cost will be met by the bridge company. The money for the purpose has already been advanced by the bridge company and the right-of-way deeded to the city. In consequence of the foregoing arrangement the 10 percent grade on Main street from Water to First street will be avoided and in its place will be a grade of only 2.40 percent.

The great gain to traffic of all kinds thus assured need not be dwelt upon. In this connection I earnestly recommend and urge that as soon as the finances of the city will permit, right-of-way be secured from the extension of Bridge street diagonally across lots 10, 11 and 12, in block twelve to a junction with Main street directly east of the property owner and occupied by the Bloom-Coffey company. The grade of the viaduct and of Bridge street to First was planned with this ultimate end in view. The extension of Bridge street to this point would afford a 2.40 percent grade all the way from the bridge to within 150 feet of the top of Main street hill. The present grade of Main street between First and Second is 11 percent. Avoidance of as much as possible of this steep declivity is greatly to be desired.

RIVER FRONT.

Great credit is due our predecessors in office, particularly former Mayor Elder, for reclaiming the river front from the railroads and riding it from the foot of Bank street to the unsightly structures which marred its appearance. With a view of continuing the good work the present council has entered upon a systematic system of river front improvement. Already considerable progress has been made and more is planned for the near future. As evidence of its interest in the matter and its willingness to co-operate with the city the Mississippi River Power company contributed \$5,000 in cash to the river front improvement fund. In addition to this sum the city raised \$8,139.23 by taxation. After some delay in negotiations owing to the absence of the owner from the city, the council secured the earth above grade on a portion of the high bluff on the block bounded by Second and Third, Des Moines and Carroll streets. There were many men and teams out of employment during the winter and early spring. These were given employment removing this earth and depositing it on the river front between the bridge and the Streckfus line warehouse at the foot of Main street. About \$3,350 was expended in this way. Approximately one half of the earth to be removed remains in site. This is being reserved until next winter when it is anticipated the demand for employment on the part of the poor and needy will be greater than it is at the present time.

Under the direction of the engineers of the war department the river channel is being deepened at the steamboat landings from the bridge southwestward up to the harbor line which is some distance out in the river even at low water mark. The bottom of the river in this vicinity is solid rock. This is being blasted out and loaded on barges. Through the courtesy of Major Thompson, engineer in charge at Rock Island, and Major M. C. of this city, in charge of local river work, the rock thus taken from the river is placed at the disposal of the city and is being unloaded along the river front on the land side of the harbor line with a view of affording needed protection to the earth fill which will be gradually extended into the river.

The general plan of river front improvement in view contemplates a public park between the bridge and Main street extended; a sloping levee for the use of present day steamboats from the foot of Main street to the

foot of Bank, and a vertical sea wall from the foot of Bank street to the foot of Timea, equipped with a traveling crane for the speedy and economical loading and unloading of freight barges. With the completion of the Panama canal the time has come when the cities in the upper Mississippi valley must seriously and immediately consider the practical use of the Mississippi river for freight transportation if they are to compete successfully with the cities of the Atlantic seaboard for trade on the Pacific coast or in foreign countries. Their home trade, even, is seriously endangered by the changed conditions brought about by the effects of the canal. There is not an important manufacturing, commercial or agricultural interest that is not directly affected. All-rail rates to the Pacific coast are the same on the principal commodities from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and other eastern cities as from Keokuk. Though many miles nearer, we possess no advantage over eastern cities on the all-rail movement of commodities to or from Pacific coast terminals. To obtain ocean rates our manufacturers and merchants must pay all-rail rates to the Atlantic seaboard. Against such odds successful competition is impossible. Relief from this state of affairs is to be obtained only by making the Mississippi river an actual carrier of commerce. The situation admits of no delay. In order to bring this matter directly and forcibly to the attention of the people of Keokuk a public meeting will be called at an early day at which the subject will be discussed at length and receive the attention it deserves.

HOME RULE.

One of the urgent needs of the time is a larger measure of home rule for Iowa cities. As the law stands, municipalities have only such powers as may be specifically granted them by the legislature. This is the rule everywhere, but it is wrong both in theory and practice. Cities, as well as states, should have inherent powers and not be dependent upon some higher authority for their powers of government. Justice and wisdom alike dictate that they should enjoy every right not specifically taken away by the legislature and should have untrammelled control over those things which concern them alone. No state legislature, however good its intentions, is qualified to deal intelligently with municipal problems arising in Keokuk and other Iowa municipalities. It is simply impossible for a heterogeneous collection of law-makers at Des Moines to foresee all our needs or make iron-clad provision in advance for emergencies that may arise. The result is a waste of legislative time and effort and the substitution of inefficiency for efficiency on the part of the municipality. It is devoutly to be hoped that the day of leading springs for Iowa municipalities will soon be a thing of the past. It would be bad enough if the law only restricted the extent of their powers. But it goes further than this and prescribes also the manner in which the powers granted may be exercised. To quote the words of a modern authority on the subject, "The law not only tells municipalities what they may do, but also insists on telling them usually in great detail, how they shall do it. The result is an exceedingly inflexible system which frequently prevents municipalities from dealing with their problems in the wisest manner, and constantly tends to throttle initiative and resourcefulness among municipal officials." Complaint is heard from time to time of municipal inefficiency, but the fact is that municipalities have never been given a fair chance to develop a high standard of efficiency. On the whole they have done very well, in view of the restrictions imposed upon them. The wonder is that they have done as well as they have, restricted as they have been, by an unyielding rule to the same methods of procedure regardless of size, local needs or individual peculiarities.

The refusal of the Thirty-sixth Iowa general assembly recently adjourned, to permit Iowa municipalities to readjust their tax levies, so as to increase the general fund, without exceeding the total levy prescribed by law, is certain to embarrass quite seriously Keokuk and a number of other cities throughout the state. This is the fund out of which the police, board of health, salaries, rent and miscellaneous expenses of the municipality are paid. The repeal of the mulct law reduces the income of this fund almost one half, and the law prohibits any increase in the tax levy of ten mills. There is therefore no way of making good the deficiency. It has been suggested as a way out of the difficulty that valuations be increased. But valuations are too high already, and any increase for city purposes would at the same time correspondingly increase the taxes for state and county purposes. There is a general belief, rapidly growing into a conviction, that Keokuk already pays more than its just share into the state and county treasuries. And addition to this large contribution would be both unjust and burdensome. Very respectfully, S. W. MOORHEAD, Mayor.

BIG PREPARATIONS ARE BEING MADE

Fort Madison Knights of Columbus Prepare for Tri-City Meeting on Sunday. Preparations for the meeting at Fort Madison of Knights of Columbus from Keokuk, Burlington and Fort Madison are being made. The Democrat has the following comment on the preparations for these sessions day after tomorrow: Grand Knight J. J. Datin and the various committees have practically



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Faust Spaghetti is also easy to digest. It's a cheap food, too—you can well afford to serve less meat when you have Spaghetti. Write for free recipe book.

MAULL BROS., St. Louis, U. S. A.

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