# The Democrat.

BRONSON & CARR, Publishers.

MANCHESTER, - - IOWA.

Cuba wants a competing cable. We should think she would.

Henceforth let no dog ope his mouth. The Juke of Marlboro' has been on the firing line.

Most of our so-called orators are merely persons with exaggerated vocabularies.

If sluggers can talk too much, isn't the same true of box parties in other stages of life?

Astronomers are busily searching for another world. And yet this one seems to be more than people can readily handle.

It is well that information is not more general as to what the devil would do. The world is wicked enough as it is.

A young woman died after eating eighteen plates of ice cream. Young fellows will scarcely use this incident as a horrible example.

Budd Doble's wife is suing for a divorce. The gentleman with the catarrhal name has not been prominent before the public lately.

The smart New York dressmakers are now engaged in advertising their business by instituting suits against the wives of the millionaires.

Despite the influence of Lord Salisbury, the whipping bill has been defeated in the House of Commons. The interest in flogging is flagging.

A New York doc says that making beds and sweeping floors is as good a variety of gymnastics as women can enjoy. The horrid old thing!

Corea would probably be willing to give Russia the slice of territory the latter demands if she were not afraid that it would only serve to whet the bear's appetite for more.

Confidence men never miss an opportunity of enforcing the rule that a fool and his money are soon parted. A good plan for visitors in a city is not to place confidence in a stranger until the "roll" is placed in a bank.

William Waldorf Astor has been practicing with the sword since he became an English subject, and is now reported to be a match for the best duelists in Europe. Perhaps he expects to come back and dare some of the people who scoffed at him a while ago to step out behind the smokehouse.

A Connecticut farmer is going to build a Garden of Eden on his place. The name of the lady who is to play Eve to his Adam has not been given out, but whoever she may be let us hope that she will not show a lack of breeding by wearing a low-necked dress with a long train at breakfast.

German soldiers get a ration of sugar; so do British and French soldiers when on duty in the tropics. And now, by advice of the medical staff and with the approval of army officers, the United States Commissary Department has been shipping many tons of confectionery, put up in pound packages, for the use of our soldiers in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines.

Prof. Sheldon, of the Boston University, says that if a grand inquisition should get after the clergy three-fourths of them would be convicted of heresy upon some point. Another Eastern divine says that Dr. Sheldon is too modest in his estimate, and that nine-tenths would be more nearly right. The point is of less importance than the palpable fact that the average pulpit heretic refuses to be honest either with himself or the people to whom he ministers as the representative of a certain creed. Why should the ministerial profession be exempt from the laws of candor and moral honesty that are considered essentials in all secular callings? If this is an age of heresy let the heretics stand up and be counted like men. The cause of true religion would gain rather than suffer from the showing, although a good many comfortable pastoral berths would necessarily become vacant.

In one of the statistical divisions of the Department of Agriculture in Washington may be seen a machine resembling a typewriter, which multiplies and divides with unerring accuracy and with great rapidity. Give its operator a multiplicand of six figures and a multiplier as large, and he will write them out as upon a typewriter; then be turns a handle a few times, and before the onlooker knows what is going on the product is written out before him. The machine performs examples in division with equal ease. Does any one of our young readers fancy that he sees in this invention an emancipation of boys of the twentieth century from the vexation of the multiplication table? Alas! that is too much for him to hope. Nobody seems to have devised a machine for adding common fractions of different denominators, although many a young school boy has concluded that this is one of the "long-felt wants" of the day.

Several agricultural newspapers, among them Wallace's Farmer and Hoard's Dairyman, comment upon the decline of dairying in Iowa. The general reason given is the high price of calves. The failure of Iowa to cultivate dairying interests would be a great mistake and would mean a serious loss to the farmers. As Hoard's Dairyman says, no branch of farming promises better return than dairying when carried on with scientific attention to the business and with regard to all economies, as well as the best utilization of the resources at hand. The importance of modern methods, however, is shown in nearly every locality by the amazing range of cash returns per cow. In Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois the farmers have been paying more attention than ever to dairying and have reaped corresponding financial benefit. In Iowa, however, they have yielded to the temptation to sell their animals for slaughter. The agricultural papers are convinced that the Iowa farmers will find in the end that their policy is wrong.

If the present tendency to carry things to the extreme continues it will not be long before checkers and tiddle-de-winks will be the only "sports" which can be safely indulged in or patronized without first taking out an accident insurance policy. Boxing has degenerated until it has become simply an alias under which toughs and pluguglies pommel each other under police protection, with now and then a man killed outright in the ring by way of variety. Horse racing is merely a gambling game, with special trains running out to some remote point in the country, where in an old tobacco shed or other building odds are laid and bets made on races which are supposed to be run in New Orleans or San Francisco. Foot ball as sometimes played is more brutal and dangerous than prize fighting. Baseball is purely a commercial pursuit, with no more sport in it than is to be found in a grocery store. Now wrestling has reached the point where he is the champion who can break his opponent's ribs and crush the life out of him. It no longer suffices to bring two shoulders and a hip or two hips and a shoulder to the mat in order to win a fall. Now after the man is down it is necessary to fall on him with all your weight, and if you weigh 300 pounds so much the greater is the glory of your victory. No wonder the Filipinos are surprised that their great national sport of cock-fighting should be forbidden under penalty of arrest.

The use of 8,500 gallons of oxygen in saving the life of a pneumonia patient in New York the other day is an incident worthy of more than passing notice considering the great apparently increasing mortality from this disease. That doctors are less successful in coping with this disease than with almost any other ailment, save cancer and consumption, is evidenced by abundant statistics. During the seven days of a recent week there were 159 deaths from pneumonia in Chicago, while in other cities the mortality from this cause is proportionately large. It seems to be generally recognized by physicians and laymen that when a sufferer from pneumonia reaches a certain crisis in the development of the malady he is beyond medical aid and all hope is abandoned. He simply suffocates while medical science stands by in helpless impotency. It is very clear, even to the laymen, that medicine will not reach the inflamed lung tissue and that pouring medicine into the stomach of a pneumonia patient simply impairs vitality and retards the recuperative efforts of nature. Pure, life-giving oxygen is wanted, not drugs. Aside from the mild medication necessary to reduce fever and stimulate heart action the need of the patient is for a process that will impart oxygen to the blood and enable nature to heal the inflamed tissues of the respiratory organs. The restorative efficacy of oxygen in the treatment of pneumonia has been demonstrated by physicians in such numberless instances that a failure to resort to it may be characterized as almost criminal. It is true that it has not always saved lives, but how many physicians have used 8,500 gallons of oxygen in the treatment of one patient? In the New York case the number of cylinders of oxygen used each day increased rapidly as the disease developed. On the day when the crisis was reached and passed twenty-two cylinders, each containing 100 gallons of the gas, were used. In all eighty-five cylinders of gas, costing $425, were used, and the patient is now recovering. Is a life worth 8,500 gallons of oxygen? The earth is full of it; there is no limit to the supply. The New York experiment suggests the use of much greater quantities of it in each particular case than was ever before attempted by physicians.

**Giant Trees of California.**

The recent attempt of a lumber manufacturing firm to obtain possession of the great tree groves of California for the purpose of converting them into merchantable lumber has directed attention anew to those wonderful products of nature. Few, however, have a very clear idea of the magnitude of those trees, many of which have a diameter of fifteen feet, while a number have been found measuring upward of thirty.

The famous group known as the Mammoth Grove of Calaveras, containing about ninety large trees, stands in 38 degrees north latitude, about 4,870 feet above the sea, between the San Antonio and Stanislaus Rivers. According to Vischer it was discovered by a hunter in 1852, but it had apparently been visited before, as the date 1850 is cut on one of the trees. The bark of one of the finest trunks was foolishly stripped off to the height of 116 feet and exhibited in New York and London. It is now in the Crystal palace. The tree, known as the "mother of the forest," soon died. At the base it measured ninety feet in girth and the dead tree was 321 feet high. A prostrate trunk in the neighborhood is eighteen feet in diameter 300 feet from the base.

Some trees in the Mariposa grove rival these in size. One measures 101 feet round the root and a cut stump is thirty-one feet in diameter.

**Fortune in Postage Stamp.**

It is of interest to stamp collectors to know that the most valuable stamp in the world is one lately discovered—a one penny postoffice Mauritius, for which recently £1,000 was paid in London. W. H. Beckitt bought it from a stamp dealer, who placed a value of £1,500 on it at first.

It will be of further interest to know what prices have been paid for stamps of this class, which are very rare and are at long intervals on the market. A Mr. Tapling, whose collection is now owned by the British museum, paid £85 for a "one penny postoffice" in 1882. In 1890 £200 was asked and obtained for a two penny stamp of the same class at the London exposition. In 1893 Stanley Gibbons paid for a pair of unused ones and two penny stamps £680. In 1897 Jules Bernichon paid 49,000 francs for a pair of these stamps in Paris.—New York Herald.

**She Was Lonely.**

An American girl who was engaged for service by a West Philadelphia family, being directed to leave a candlestick and candle in the lower hall for the master of the house, amused herself by paring a potato into candle shape and sticking a clove in it for a wick. This she made ready with several matches for her employer, who, having turned out the gas, spent five minutes in vainly trying to light the potato candle. Then he stumbled upstairs in the dark and asked his wife to explain. She called upon the maid servant, who replied that it was so lonely there she wanted to be turned off the next day, when she would get her whole week's wages, and so she adopted the candle expedient.

**Well Qualified.**

Dobbs—Did you see about that baggageman who claims to have discovered a sure cure for influenza?

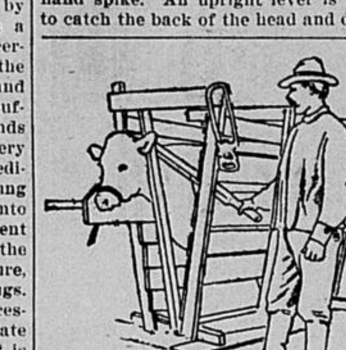
Bobbs—He ought to know how to check the grip.—Baltimore American.

It's unwise to judge a man by the umbrella he carries until you find out who owns it.

**A Dehorning Cage.**

A convenient and easily constructed dehorning cage is shown in the accompanying cut reproduced from the National Stockman and Farmer. The dimensions of the cage are as follows: Six feet long, 6 feet high, 3½ feet wide at top in front and 4½ feet wide at top at back end. Bottom or foot board 1 foot wide, with seven cleats 1½ inches thick, 1 foot long, nailed across it to keep cattle from slipping. Foot board two inches thick, and rests on three 2x4 inch cross pieces 4 feet long. To these are bolted upright pieces 7 feet long, 2x4 inches, for nailers for sides of cage. Across the top of cage are used two strips 1x4 inches for each set of upright, bolted one on each side of upright. The inside of this frame is boarded up with inch plank of convenient widths. The lower 2½ feet should close enough to prevent animals putting their feet through the cracks.

On left side, 3½ feet from bottom, should be used a board one foot wide, and one foot longer than the cage. In this bore two one-inch holes four inches from sides of board. Through these put a piece of rope and tie on outside. This loop is put over the animal's nose and drawn tight by the use of a hand spike. An upright lever is used to catch the back of the head and draw



DEHORNING CAGE.

it to the left side of cage. This upright should be a strong 2x4 inch, 9 feet long, bolted to bottom cross piece near the right side, the upper end slipping back and forth between the cross pieces that hold the tops of the two front uprights in place. This lever is thrown to the right when open for the animal to enter. As soon as the head passes it is pushed to the left side and fastened as tight as required by a small iron pin slipped through the cross pieces at top back of it.

As soon as the head is fastened a hand spike is slipped through the cage back of the animal, and another over the neck to hold the head down. These remain in place usually without holding, the operator standing in front while taking off the horns. The smallest animal having horns up to a bull weighing 1,830 pounds has been dehorned in this sized cage. Animals weighing up to 1,200 pounds pass right through the cage when the holding lever is thrown back against the right side. Cows heavy in calf and larger animals back out of the cage.

**Raising Broom Corn.**

Broom corn is easy to raise and care for if a man will exercise good judgment. Plant in rows four feet apart; plant about eight pounds of seed per acre. If the seed is clean a common corn planter can be so arranged as to plant the proper quantity. The corn should be thinned out until the stalks stand about two or three inches apart in the row, or, if very good land, would not hurt to let it stand a little thicker. Cultivate as common corn. When the brush is at its best, or, rather, when the seed begins to turn from its light color, and before the brush begins to turn red, it should be cut in haste. Walk between two rows, reaching as high as possible; break the stalks down, breaking both rows as you go, and break both toward you. When you have gone around this way (four rows), take your knife and start back the way you came, cutting the brush off, leaving a stem of about six inches. When you have a handful of brush, break a few stalks down just behind you, so the stalks will be between you and the two rows you first broke; lay your handful of brush on this, as it protects it from the ground; put what is convenient on this, and make more to suit. On the two other rows you can use these piles also. When the day's cutting is done, if there be any likelihood of rain, gather up your brush and make a good bottom with stalks; lay your brush on this in two piles, with heads together; cover over good with stalks, and your brush is safe. But if the weather is favorable, let it lie for one day and night, and then gather up. After a few days your brush will be cured and have a fine green color. Haul in when convenient, and stack in as large piles as you like, and, if dry, it will keep safe and sound.—Lee McConnell, in Farmer's Advocate.

**Wheat Bran.**

The farmer who grows wheat can make a good profit in selling his wheat, and buying wheat bran to feed out. The pound of wheat will nearly pay for two pounds of bran, and the bran, if sweet and in good condition, is worth more per pound to feed to cows in milk, those soon to calve, to growing young stock, sows in pig or for sheep before lambing, and while lambs are with them, than the whole wheat would be. If it is not fattening or heating enough at other times the wheat can be sold and corn bought, and still leave a balance in the pocket. It is much like selling the butter fat from the milk, and feeding calves or pigs on skim milk, which is better for them, and has not so high a selling value. If more fat is wanted a little linseed meal or flaxseed tea will give it at less cost than butter fat. Almost anything that has a place on the table will sell for more than it is worth to feed to animals, as they care less for looks and delicacy of flavor and more for the nutritive qualities than does mankind.—American Cultivator.

**Paying for Land with One Crop.**

It is sometimes boasted by Western farmers on rich prairie land that with favorable seasons they have been able to clear as much money from their first good grain crop as the land originally cost them. That is, however, usually because the land was bought at so low a rate that to make one crop pay all the original cost might not, after all, leave much, if any, profit to the farmer. The breaking up of prairie sod so as to fit it for producing a crop costs more than the land did at first in many cases. But to make old established and valuable farms pay their cost in crops of a single year is a different matter. It is most often done in growing fruit. A New Jersey farmer bought a cultivated farm well stocked with fruit of all kinds for $2,200. Last year he sold from it $2,450, or $250 more than the whole farm cost him. Besides fruit he grew and sold vegetables, milk and the other products of ordinary farmers. All of these added to his income and increased his profits. He had doubtless a favorable year for fruits, but, as the New York Farmer says, the question what profit a farmer shall make depends more on the man than on his crops or location. It is not uncommon for market gardeners to grow crops that exceed in value the land which produced them, and it is sometimes done by farmers who grow potatoes and cabbages.—American Cultivator.

**The Size of Seed.**

The size of seed bears directly upon the crop produced. It also tends to influence the strain for good or evil dependent upon the size of seed selected. It is claimed that almost without exception the largest and heaviest seed tend to produce the largest and most vigorous plants. The lighter seed may germinate, but the seedling is so weak as to succumb to any sudden change in weather conditions. Experiments are reported as showing the manifest superiority of large, heavy seed over the smaller light ones in the case of radishes, amber cane, Kaffir corn, barley, oats, sweet peas, winter vetch and rye. A series of experiments with rye grass seed in Germany showed that the number of seed capable of producing plants increased with the increased weight of the individual seed.

**Fumigating Poultry Houses.**

Remove all nests, roosts and everything that is portable, put a pound of sulphur in an iron pan, with some burning coals, place the pan in the middle of the house and close up the doors, windows and all other openings, letting them remain closed for two or three hours. Afterward paint the roosts and nest boxes thoroughly with coal tar, and whitewash the house both inside and out with lime. A spraying pump is very useful to get the lime wash into the crevices in the roosts and walls. It is beneficial to add some carbolic acid to the lime wash. Once a house is thoroughly freed from vermin it is easy to keep it so by attending to it regularly and whitewashing it frequently.—O. G., in Epitomist.

**Working Roads.**

In sections where the highway is worked or filled in, either by the use of the grader or old dump scraper, the plowing should be done just as soon as the frost is out of the ground, turning the furrow toward the beaten path. This early plowing allows the sod to partly decay, and if plowed again a few days before placing in the road it will be in fine, mellow condition to handle in the easiest possible manner. Do not on any account work the road by putting in more earth until settled weather arrives. In most sections this is after the middle of May. The use of a heavy field roller upon the newly filled in earth is of a great advantage. Passing over two or three times is none too often.

**Butter Flavor.**

The flavor of butter, it is very evident, depends principally upon the proper ripening of the cream and upon the absence of bacteria, says the Stockbreeder's Magazine. Thus the washing of butter in a granular condition with pure water is a matter of far-reaching importance, for if this is neglected the butter will contain milk, sugar and bacteria. Chemical action brought about by the latter will hasten decomposition of the butter. The enemies that have to be dealt with in the dairy are invisible and therefore all the more difficult to wage war against. It is only unremitting care and constant and almost scientific cleanliness that will prevent their development.

**Growing Barley.**

Why is not barley grown more frequently in New England? It will grow where oats will, is sowed about the same time, and the average yield is nearly as large as oats, while it is much more valuable as a feed for swine and poultry. Our Canadian neighbors think barley almost indispensable for feeding purposes, but it is many years since we have seen it growing in any of the Eastern States, excepting as it sometimes comes up among the oats when the seeds are mixed. In such cases farmers think the oats are no less valuable for feed, and perhaps more so, than would be oats unmixed.

**Sow Some Orchard Grass.**

Timothy is most commonly sown with clover, despite the fact that it requires two to three weeks longer to grow than clover does before it is ready to cut. If orchard grass were sown, the hay would be better, because the orchard grass and clover are both ready for cutting at the same time. The orchard grass is apt to grow in bunches the first year, but as clover is a biennial it dies out after it has seeded, and the orchard grass will then extend and occupy the whole surface the same as timothy or June grass would do.

**Snake-Bitten Stock.**

Cattle or horses are usually bitten on the feet. When this is the case, drive them into a mud hole and keep them there for a few hours. If bitten upon the nose, bind the mud upon the injured spot in such a way as not to interfere with the breathing. Soft clay mud I believe to be an excellent application for snake bites on persons. I have known it to draw ivy poison from the system, and have been assured that it has drawn the poison in cases of snake bites.—E. L. Russell.

**Remedy for Cutworms.**

Mix paris green with what millers call "shorts" or middlings. Use just enough paris green to give a slight green color to the "shorts" or mixture. Dampen slightly and then scatter over infested places. The worms prefer it to any plant. After eating it they die.

**When Lime Is Needed.**

Lime may prove to be a wonderfully good thing for some soils. If the land is acid, lime is always beneficial. Buy it when it is cheapest. The amount to apply will depend altogether upon the character of the soil.

**Pruning Peach Trees.**

Peaches should be pruned as the buds begin to swell, as at that time the fruit buds and leaf buds can easily be distinguished one from the other.

## THE HAWKEYE STATE

**NEWS OF THE WEEK CONCISELY CONDENSED.**

**Fugitive Assumes a Clever Disguise—New Building for Iowa College—New Railway Mileage in the State—Fire Loss at Turin.**

A. D. Morlin, wanted at Jefferson for embezzlement, has been arrested at Council Bluffs. Last October A. D. Morlin, the trusted agent of a large grain firm at Jefferson, resigned, and an examination of his books revealed a shortage of about $4,800. A week later forgeries to the amount of $1,800 made their appearance. Morlin took an unusual course to make his escape. He is a man of good appearance, well educated and used to living as a gentleman, but as soon as he left Jefferson he assumed the wearing apparel of a laborer and was shipped to Montana by an employment agency. He worked in Montana and Wyoming as a common laborer, finally drifting to Omaha, where he worked in the mines and to Iowa, working with the surface gang on the Northwestern railroad.

**Iowa College Branches Out.**

Iowa College at Ames is to have a new engineering building and the State architect is busy preparing the specifications. The plans call for a four-story structure, entirely fireproof, to cost $150,000, exclusive of the equipment. The functions of the engineering department are of especial value to industry. Other colleges have done work of this kind, but only in a half-hearted way. Iowa College is the first big school to take it up with a fixed purpose and a definite plan. The department's experiments with paving brick, for example, have been of vast service to manufacturers and the public generally has been benefited by securing cheaper and more durable pavement for streets.

**New Railroads Built in Iowa.**

The secretary of the executive council has completed a statement showing that the net increase in the length of railroads in Iowa for the past year was 718.96 miles. Of this the Minneapolis and St. Louis built 73.56 miles, the Wabash 28.27, the Iowa Central 38.70, the Gowrie and Northwestern 24.25, the Davenport, R. I. and Northern 35.10, the Ft. Dodge and Omaha 131.02, the C., M. & St. Paul 82.24, and the Iowa, Minn. and Northwestern 141.018. Smaller increases in the number of miles were made by other of the Iowa roads.

**Village of Turin Suffers Heavy Loss.**

The entire business district of Turin was destroyed by fire. The loss will exceed $10,000. The insurance is about $5,000. The fire, which originated in a mysterious manner in the general merchandise store of H. C. Christman, was well under way when discovered. The town has no fire protection and the efforts of residents were as impotent as they were energetic. The business houses of the place were practically all within one block, which was swept away.

**Church Census of Iowa.**

The church census of Iowa will be taken May 25. That means the entire number of church members in the State will be ascertained. The work will be completed in one day, although Iowa is densely populated. The counties and cities are divided into districts with a superintendent at the head of each. Ten hours will be sufficient time to finish the work. State Superintendent Mitchell of Eldora has charge of the census.

**Despondent Man a Suicide.**

Nimrod Utterback, a well-to-do farmer living about two miles south of Sigourney, ended his life by hanging. Mr. Utterback went out to the barn in the morning to do his chores, and as he was gone longer than usual the family began to miss him, and his daughter-in-law in going out to look for him found his body suspended in the barn, cold in death. He had been in ill health for a long time, becoming very despondent.

**Child Hanged by a Fence.**

At Pocahontas the 3-year-old daughter of Fred Bishop while playing on a straw stack fell off and in some manner her head was caught between the rails of a worm fence, where she hung until discovered by her father. A doctor was summoned, but all attempts to bring her back to life were unsuccessful.

**State Items of Interest.**

A rich coal deposit has been found on the farm of James Doggett, near Centerville.

The new M. E. Church at Mt. Vernon will be dedicated June 3.

Peter Burke, who was shot recently in a fight at Camanche, will recover.

The prospects are good for Creston securing the location of a first-class mill.

The corner stone of the new Episcopal Church at Chariton has been laid.

Mrs. L. Troutner, an old lady of Colo, dropped dead at her home there.

Mrs. Peter Kearney of Dubuque tripped on a sidewalk and fell, breaking her arm.

The M. E. Church at Ackley has purchased and is putting in place a finepipe organ.

About seven hundred students are enrolled this year at Cornell College, Mt. Vernon.

The general store of W. Benthein, at Durant, was destroyed by fire. The loss was heavy.

A stone pile is being advocated at Des Moines on which prisoners can be made to work.

The B., C. R. & N. depot at Dows was entered by burglars and a lot of railroad tickets stolen.

The house of James Walsh, three miles from Bristow, was burned, with a loss of $2,500. One child was so badly burned that it died.

A bucking broncho threw John Wyborney of Rock Falls from his cart, seriously injuring him.

A petition is being gotten up by the farmers north and west of Ryan asking for a rural mail route.

Four railroad damage suits will be tried during the May term of the District Court at Des Moines.

Ackley has three damage suits pending against it for injuries sustained by falls on defective sidewalks.

H. L. Cutts and his daughter, Mrs. S. J. McFarland of Dubuque, were badly bruised and injured in a runaway.

Mrs. Van Ostren, wife of a prominent farmer near Belmont, tripped while carrying a boiler of hot water and fell into the boiler headfirst and was fatally scalded.

A most grewsome discovery was made at Muscatine by the river men. It was a human arm, washed from the Mississippi by the action of the waves, and landed high and dry on the levee.

The 7-year-old daughter of David Bentley was burned to death near Waukon Junction before the eyes of her father. The latter had started a bonfire of a brush heap and the little one was playing around it, tossing sticks into the flames. Suddenly her clothing was ignited.

The smallpox situation at Marshalltown has grown so serious that all the churches, schools, theaters and clubs have been closed and all public gatherings prohibited. Most of the cases are light, but several are severe.

"Tug" Wilson, an eccentric and poverty stricken old man, tired of the world and its ways and attempted to commit suicide by drowning himself in the Cedar at Waterloo. He waded into the water to about knee depth, then attempted to put his head under. Two or three times his resolution failed him, but he finally fell forward into the stream. His actions were seen and he was rescued in time to be resuscitated.

Mt. Vernon is to have a new creamery.

A postoffice has been established at Velmar.

The mulct petition failed in Osceola County.

A postoffice has been established at Northam.

A water works plant is being advocated at Dumont.

A new savings bank has been organized at Waterloo.

P. A. Mullin has been appointed postmaster at Warsaw.

Springville is free of debt and has $300 in the treasury.

Mason City is now estimated to have a population of 8,660.

The Rock Island Railroad is building a mile track at Grinnell.

The anti-bill board crusade has been started in Fort Dodge.

The eighth stucco factory is to be established at Fort Dodge.

An emergency hospital has just been completed at Fort Dodge.

The authorities at Des Moines are weeding out liquor joints.

The postoffice at Solomon has been discontinued; mail to Strahan.

Nearly five tons of dead fish was taken from the reservoir at Tama.

Valley Junction has voted in favor of erecting a new school house.

There is talk at Des Moines of establishing a stock exchange building.

Charles Ellis of Corning was instantly killed by flying rock while blasting.

A creamery company with a capital of $3,500 has been organized at Halbur.

Two store buildings on the public square at Algona were destroyed by fire.

A movement has been started at Council Bluffs to close all the gambling dens.

Hon. Welcome Mowry of Tama is suffering from a severe attack of heart disease.

Peter Mohler of Kirkville dropped dead in his home, though apparently in good health.

The Graves livery barn at Des Moines was partly destroyed by fire. Loss about $1,000.

A strong effort will be made to lift the debt hanging over Western College at Toledo.

The Keokuk and Western Railroad has started work on a roundhouse at Des Moines.

In Dubuque Jacob Grill, despondent from chronic illness, cut his throat with a razor.

The smallpox scare at Oskaloosa is over, and quarantine has been lifted from the hotel.

Council Bluffs is being overrun by tramps, between 400 and 500 visiting the city daily.

The City Council of Algona raised the assessment on one estate from $16,000 to $90,000.

The Northwestern road will lay 90-pound steel rails between Bertram and Mt. Vernon.

Rev. Olds has tendered his resignation as pastor of the Christian Church at New Sharon.

Dr. E. C. Bliss of Grinnell was thrown from his buggy in a runaway and severely injured.

H. D. Boynott, a resident of Maxwell, has disappeared from his home in a mysterious manner.

The State Auditor has chartered the Waukee Savings Bank, which has a capital of $10,000.

James King, a farmer residing near Tama, fell dead while in the act of unhitching his team.

Farmers in the vicinity of Nodaway are losing stock by a disease which takes effect in the throat.

The 1-year-old son of William Metcalf of Morningside fell into a tub of water and was drowned.

The Northwestern Iowa Veterans' Association will hold a reunion at Rock Rapids June 19 to 21.

The store building of Levi Helm, at Rock Falls, together with its contents, was destroyed by fire.

The treasurer of Jefferson County will further reduce the bonded indebtedness of the county this spring.

Iowa's coal output last year was 5,265,480 tons, an increase of 646,638 tons over that of the previous year.

About forty game law violators were arrested at Dickens by the fish commissioner, and every one fined.

W. D. Powers of West Bend has been secretary of the township school board for thirty-two consecutive years.

The residence of B. F. McClellan, at Vincent, was destroyed by fire. The fire originated from a defective flue.

Butler County has over one hundred miles of railroad, which will be assessed next year at about $2,500 a mile.

A company has been organized at Hiteman for the purpose of promoting musical and literary culture in Iowa.

Fred Fisher of Waterloo, a brakeman on the Illinois Central, is in jail charged with attempting to murder his wife.

The eleventh annual convention of Hardin County's Sunday schools will be held at New Providence May 18 and 19.

The comptroller has approved the application to organize the First National Bank of Chelsea, with a capital of $25,000.

Five hundred and seventy-five cars of stock passed through Clinton one night recently, going east over the Northwestern.

W. O. Ransom, a well-known young man of Burlington, surprised friends by volunteering to nurse a negro quarantined for smallpox.

The young son of John Byers, who resides between Williams and Dows, was accidentally shot through the hand, the bullet lodging in the thigh.

Mrs. J. P. Hocks and little daughter escaped from death by poisoning through eating a castor bean.

The Northwestern has commenced improvements at Ames and has about six hundred men employed in and around that town.

Mrs. S. Chesley of Des Moines has sued Mrs. Clara L. Greene for $5,000 damages for alleged slander and defamation of character.

The comptroller of the currency has authorized the First National Bank of Crystal Lake to begin business with a capital of $25,000.

H. E. Smith, an aged farmer residing near Alton, was run down by a train and killed.

The board of supervisors of Iowa County have contracted for the collection of back taxes.

The Commercial National Bank at Waterloo has increased its capital from $50,000 to $100,000.

The canvass of the saloon consent petition in Plymouth County has been finished and shows more than the required number of signatures.

The Citizens' Bank of Mediapolis has filed an amendment to its articles of incorporation increasing its capital stock from $25,000 to $50,000.

A State convention of colored people was held at Des Moines and the Iowa State Negro Council organized.

An 11-year-old boy of Mason City vaccinated his sister with the aid of a razor and some machine oil in order that she should not miss school.

The 3-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. George Johnson of Dexter drank some carbolic acid which was in a bottle it was playing with, and died in less than two hours.

The Des Moines and Northern Iowa Railroad has filed articles of incorporation, with the intention of building a road from the south line of the State to the north line.

## IOWA DEMOCRATS

**Adopt a Platform and Name Delegates to Kansas City.**

Des Moines correspondence:

The Democratic State convention compromised on the money question by indorsing W. J. Bryan and the Chicago platform without specific reference to silver at a ratio of 16 to 1. Jeremiah B. Sullivan of Creston was temporary chairman and Douglas Deremore of Waukon permanent president of the convention. Mr. Sullivan was given applause in response to his denunciation of trusts and imperialism and his indorsement of William Jennings Bryan for President. Nowhere in his speech did he mention 16 to 1.

The convention was the largest held by the Democrats of this State in recent years, nearly 1,000 delegates being present. The prevailing sentiment was for Bryan and the delegates were instructed to vote for him at Kansas City. In the framing of the platform the more conservative element prevailed. The Chicago platform is indorsed, but the ratio of 16 to 1 does not appear in the resolutions.

A pro-Boer resolution was adopted and a motion providing for a collection of money for the Boer relief fund was carried. A small sum of money was taken up in the convention and ordered sent to A. Van Osterhaut of Orange City, the secretary of the Pro-Boer Association of the State.

**Platform Adopted.**

The platform as adopted denounces imperialism, compares the Philippines to the revolution of our fathers and holds the protective tariff responsible for the trusts. The resolutions indorse the action of the Iowa House of Representatives in denouncing the Porto Rican tariff and demand the nomination of William Jennings Bryan at Kansas City. Following is the text:

"The Democracy of Iowa invite the cooperation of all friends of civil and personal liberty and equal rights and who are in favor of the maintenance of constitutional government as founded by the fathers and make the following declaration of principles in support thereof:

"We reaffirm our unqualified allegiance to the principles set forth in the Democratic national platform adopted at Chicago in 1896 and, recognizing William J. Bryan as the greatest living exponent of those principles, we demand his nomination as the standard bearer of Democracy.

"We are opposed to the single gold standard and denounce the action of Congress in attempting to establish it and in retiring the greenback currency from circulation and in surrendering the sovereign power of the Government over the money of the country and the placing of this power in the hands of banking corporations.

"We denounce trusts and combinations in restraint of trade and the protective policy of the Republican party, upon which they are founded, and demand legislation that will relieve the people from their burdens promptly, thoroughly and effectively.

"We deplore the adoption of the recent Porto Rican measure, which the people and the press of all parties have branded as a violation of American pledges and of the constitution and as a stain upon American honor, and we heartily commend the action of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly of the State of Iowa in adopting by unanimous vote a resolution opposing the Porto Rican tariff.

"We condemn the imperialistic policy of this administration as fraught with danger to the best interests of our country and destructive of the principles of liberty guaranteed by the constitution, and we condemn its course toward the Philippine Islands as un-American and contrary to the principles that our fathers maintained against the tyranny of Great Britain during the war of the revolution.

"We, as citizens of a republic, extend our sympathy to the citizens of the South African republics in the gallant fight they are making for the right of self-government, for life, liberty and home.

"We favor the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people."

The following were elected delegates:

**Delegates at Large.**

For delegates at large to the Kansas City convention—Cato Sells of Vinton, Charles A. Walsh of Ottumwa, John S. Murphy of Dubuque, George Baker of Davenport.

Alternates—Edward B. Evans of Des Moines, Avan Wagenen of Sioux City, L. T. Genung of Mills County, Daniel P. Stubbs of Fairfield.

The delegation to Kansas City is confidently claimed by the conservatives. They declare there is no doubt whatever that it will be in favor of giving a subordinate place to the money question in the 1900 platform and to pushing the newer issues into prominence. In view of this feeling a "sound" money man, Mr. Parsons of Rock Rapids, himself a delegate from the Eleventh district, moved, just before the adjournment, that the delegation to Kansas City be instructed to act as a unit in all matters. The motion carried with a vigorous chorus of yeas.

**State Items of Interest.**

Another bank will be opened at Pierson.

The Iowa Central has put in a new Y at State Center.

The new opera house at Thornton has been completed.

An eight-year-old Marshalltown girl has fallen heir to $60,000.

The Odd Fellows at Hartley have made a contract for a new $2,500 hall.

A. G. Thompson, a leading hardware merchant of Cedar Rapids, is dead.

The citizens of Victor will add materially to their school facilities this year.

It is now expected that Muscatine will have its opera house ready by September.

Miss Elizabeth Heber was drowned in eight feet of water at Dubuque, while attempting to get out of a skiff which capsized.

The curfew ordinance is being enforced at Creston, and all children must be off the streets at 9 p. m.

The store of W. P. Chase at Des Moines was entered by burglars and guns and fishing tackle valued at about $300 taken.

Twenty pharmacists passed the last monthly examination before the State board of pharmacy commissioners at Des Moines.

The eleventh annual convention of the Hardin County Sunday School Association will be held at New Providence May 18 and 19.

A telephone and telegraph company with a capital of $100,000 has been organized at Jefferson.

The farmers in the south of Hillsdale have petitioned for the establishment of a rural mail delivery service.

Frank Schwab, a retired farmer, residing near Dunlap, has just died of blood poisoning, as a result of a scratch.

Anjulia Williams of Harlan brought suit against Peter Fahn of Earling for breach of promise and was awarded $1,500.

E. J. Bailey of Chillicothe was killed near Osceola by falling off his train while acting in the capacity of brakeman on the Burlington.

George A. Duncan, ex-Mayor of Burlington, was knocked senseless and badly burned by the explosion of a lamp.

The Methodist people of Sigourney are contemplating the erection of a new church edifice, the same to cost $8,000.

Two coal offices in Burlington were broken into recently by burglars and their safes blown open. No money was found.

Joseph Beeber, a track watchman in the employ of the Burlington, was killed while riding a railway velocipede. A fast passenger train struck him.

A young girl named Rooney was kicked at Dubuque by a vicious horse, sustaining a badly broken arm. Her brother was kicked in the breast at the same time.

**In an Emergency.**

Stings and bites—Apply diluted ammonia or moistened saleratus.

Convulsions—Cold water to the head, loosen clothing, place in a hot bath for ten minutes from 87 degrees to 90 degrees.

Sprain—Place member in very warm water.

Cough—A tablespoon of glycerine, or hot milk for violent paroxysms.

Burns—Equal parts of lime water and linseed or sweet oil.

Nose-bleed—A peice of brown paper in top of mouth; press tongue against it.

Cramps—From constipation, hot drink; from chill, a mustard poultice over seat of pain.

Fainting—Place in a flat position; camphor or ammonia to nostrils; loosen clothing.

Poisoning—Take tablespoonful of mustard or salt in cup of warm water.

Place on your medicine cabinet or shelf bandages, court plaster, hot water bag, goose oil, a bottle of camphor, ammonia, arnica, turpentine, bismuth, magnesia, castor oil, epsom salts, mustard, etc.

**How to Make Good Soup.**

In making soups of all kinds, the slow, even prolonged simmering, not boiling, must be observed, as all essential to the good result. It is because our cooks and housewives can not, or, rather, will not, understand this rule, that the soup of the average American household is a mere pretender to the name. It is not enough, as certain blunderers seem to fancy, to keep the consntituents of the broth hot for several hours; it must cook incessantly, never stopping for a moment's time. Furthermore, all the water needed for the soup should be put into it at the beginning; a serious loss of flavor is risked if more water has to be added during the process of cooking.

**Mutton Broth.**

A nutritious and excellent mutton broth is made in this way: Cut into small pieces about two pounds of the neck of mutton. Crack the bone and cover with two quarts of cold water. Heat slowly and cook two hours, skimming it well when it first commences to boil. Add two level tablespoonfuls rice, one small onion and a little salt. At the end of three hours season to taste and serve, removing all the fat with a soft paper, or allowing it to cool, then removing the fat.

**French Eggs and Spinach.**

Poach as many eggs as you may require and let them get cold. Then flour each egg, dip into a rich batter and fry a golden brown. Cook some spinach, press it through a sieve, return it to the saucepan, add to it butter, pepper, salt and a squeeze of lemon juice, and make very hot. Place the spinach on a long dish in a mound, place the eggs in a row on this and pour round a good brown gravy.

**Dried Beef with Cream.**

Creamed dried beef is all right if prepared properly. Melt a tablespoonful of butter in a hot saucepan; in this heat thoroughly one-half pound of dried beef; add one-half pint of milk, thickened with a teaspoonful of flour, dissolved in a little water. Nutmeg is sometimes pleasantly used. Serve hot. If the beef seems to be too salty it may be put in cold water over night.

**To Make Hard Soap.**

Take twelve gallons of soft water, add six pounds of soda ash and three pounds of unslaked lime; let it come to a boil and then put in jars; let it stand one day to settle; put back in kettle and add twelve pounds of grease; boil five hours. Let it stand one day and then slice out in cakes the size wanted. Add a few drops of sassafras oil or oil of burgamot to perfume it.

**Rice Pudding.**

Wash three tablespoonfuls of rice. Soak it in one pint of milk for one hour. Let it stand in the oven until the milk is absorbed, then add one cupful of milk, three tablespoonfuls of sugar, a piece of butter the size of a walnut, one-half cupful of stoned raisins, a pinch of salt and a grate of nutmeg. Bake one hour and a-half and serve hot with hard sauce or butter.

**Chowder.**

Slice one peck green tomatoes, six green peppers, six large onions, strew cup of salt over them. Set over night, turn off the water and put them into a kettle with vinegar enough to cover them. Add one cup sugar, one cup horseradish grated, one tablespoon cloves, one tablespoon cinnamon, one tablespoon allspice. Cook until tender.

**Soda in Sour Milk.**

A point too often lost sight of even by experienced housekeepers is that in using sour milk the proportion of soda should be lessened as the acidity of the milk increases. Newly soured milk which is thick requires a level teaspoonful of soda to each pint of milk, while thin and quite sour milk needs but a saltspoon of soda to a pint.

**Maple Sugar Cake.**

Cream one cupful of sugar with one-half a cupful of butter. Add one whole egg and the yolk of another, beaten, one scant cupful of milk, two cupfuls of flour sifted with two tablespoonfuls of baking powder. Bake in a biscuit tin or in two deep jelly tins from twenty to twenty-five minutes.

**For the Housekeeper.**

Cover plants with newspapers before sweeping.

Egg shells burned in the oven and placed upon the pantry shelves will keep bugs away.

Clothespins boiled a few minutes and quickly dried once or twice a month become more durable.

To give a good oak color to a pine floor wash in a solution of 1 pound of copperas dissolved in 1 gallon of strong lye.

Mahogany furniture should be washed with warm water and soap; an application of beeswax and sweet oil upon a soft cloth, and polished with chamois, gives a rich finish.

To set delicate colors in embroidered handkerchiefs soak them ten minutes, previous to washing, in a pail of tepid water in which a dessertspoonful of turpentine has been stirred.

A cooking teacher's test for the frying point of hot fat is to drop in it a small piece of bread. If the bread browns on both sides while forty can be counted it is the right temperature for cooked foods like croquettes, fishballs, etc.