

# Webster City Freeman

ESTABLISHED IN 1857.

WEBSTER CITY, IOWA, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1915.

NO. 30.

## LECTURE ON HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Rev. H. L. Haywood Delivers Interesting Address on Famous Author.

A fair sized audience was present Sunday night at the Universalist church to hear Rev. H. L. Haywood deliver a lecture upon Henry David Thoreau—poet, naturalist, author. Rev. Haywood first read several pages from "Walden," Thoreau's greatest work and followed the reading of this by a few sidelights upon Concord, Mass., the New England town which was the abode of so much literary genius about the middle of the last century. So many great men and women have come out of Concord, that one needs must pause and look into the reasons why this small town, then with a population of about 2000 souls, now the size of Webster City, produced so many geniuses. It was then and is now, a town of old families, old customs, and a deep pride in hereditary succession. In 1853, Ephraim Bull developed the Concord grape for which thousands bless his memory. Here dwelt Nathaniel Hawthorne, whose Mosses From an Old Manse were written in Concord in the manse itself. Here dwelt the Alcott family of small means and large ambitions. Bronson Alcott was both friend and neighbor of Thoreau, and his daughter, Louisa May Alcott, with her Little Men and Little Women, will be known as long as there are little men and little women. Here Margay Fuller edited the Dial, Ellery Channing, Dr. Ripley and the sculptor, D. C. French, lived and walked and talked together. Emerson's grandfather built the old manse above mentioned and wrote in it his first book upon "Nature." Concord was a hotbed of abolitionists and the slavery question was in those days ever present and many a runaway slave was taken in for food and shelter by the Thoreau family into which Henry David was born. Thoreau was born in July, 1817. His father was a small, deaf, taciturn, grave man and his mother entirely the opposite. She was bright, loquacious, witty, which attributes cropped out in Thoreau many times. Henry Thoreau was a born stoic. He was a quiet, sturdy silent boy and his playmates nicknamed him "The Judge." He was as courageous and independent as an Indian and took his punishment like one. He liked hard things, but the silent, cold reserve with which he surrounded himself, was only on the outside, for his heart was as sensitive as a girl's. He loved poetry and until he was thirty wrote much of it. Some of it is very fine. He was an ardent student of the Greek poets and Milton was his favorite author.

When he was seventeen years of age, his father and aunt put their slender purses together and Thoreau went to Harvard. His school days were much broken into by ill health and that may be the reason why he graduated with no distinction. Perhaps the preachers of Harvard had too much to do with the educational part. He did not warm to preachers and once said he liked the chickadees better than the D. D.'s. A genius may often be said to gain an education in spite of schools. Stevenson was a failure in school, and so were many others.

Thoreau made lead pencils after he left Harvard. He was an adept at the trade, for which there was then no machinery. He could put his hand into a box and bring out a dozen pencils with unflinching accuracy. Then he tried teaching school, but was a failure. During all of his various experiments he was continuing steadfastly in the habits of things, observing, reading and writing. He took some of his essays and poems to Margaret Fuller. She said they were like the rugged hills with no vegetation thereon. If Margaret Fuller did not recognize his genius, Emerson did, and the friendship which grew up between them was as beautiful as that of David and Jonathan. Like Emerson, Thoreau became a Transcendentalist, which was neither a religion nor a philosophy, but yet containing much thought of both. He seceded from the church and instead of going to hear Dr. Rip-

ley's fratiles and secondlies, he began taking long walks on Sundays, almost always in the direction of Walden pond, which was then also a rendezvous for tramps. Of course pious Concord was shocked at this.

When he was about 28 years of age, he got permission from Emerson to go into his wood lot and cut some birch saplings with which to finish off a rude shanty bought from an Irish section hand. He borrowed the ax from Bronson Alcott and Alcott afterwards said he returned the ax, sharper than it was when he borrowed it—an unusual proceeding. Here in this rude cabin he lived for two years and two months in blessed solitude, not as a hermit or a recluse, as the Encyclopedia Britannica would have us believe, but in close companionship with his best friends and in closer companionship with great nature. He would sit on a log in front of his shack for hours, motionless, apparently doing nothing, but he was thinking, thinking, and his mind was reaching out after the things of the mind which fade not. The little creatures of the wood, the raccoons, squirrels, snakes and birds, came to know him as one of their own and crawled around him, feeding out of his hand. There in his little cabin of solitude he wrote "Walden," his most enduring monument. This was the experiment of a man of literature. He was not a scientist, although he was endowed with powers which would have made him a rare naturalist. He was no book worm—he loved books too well for that. Thoreau loved profoundly—but few people. His greatest emotional crisis was the hanging of John Brown. That is explainable through Thoreau's great passion for justice. For the first time in his life he could not sleep. Thoreau would allow no one to talk to him about the next life, he said one world was enough for him, but he had no contempt for life; upon the other hand, he was serenely sure of immortality. Tuberculosis claimed him at last, like it has so many of his stamp—Keats, Stevenson, Sidney Lanier and many others. During his illness he was as he had lived, stoic, uncomplaining, and was full of life to his last breath, which came May 6, 1862. Ellery Channing, the poet, wrote the inscription for the silver plate upon his casket, and he penned the following: "Hail to thee, oh man, who hast come from the transitory place into the imperishable."

What Thoreau longed to write was sentences—sentences which would be like Roman aqueducts, which would be like tongues of flame and burn themselves into men's souls. True, he was short on the social side. He was more at home in solitude than in society, but there is in him that quality which is like the acrid taste of the wild crab apple, the tonic astringent quality which enters into our being like iron, to rebuke us for easy living and self indulgence.

## G. S. DUNLAP SELLS JEWELRY BUSINESS

Fred D. Downard, Monona, New Proprietor—Mr. Dunlap Continues Optical Business.

G. S. Dunlap has sold his jewelry business to Fred D. Downard of Monona, Ia., and the latter gentleman will take possession of the stock as soon as the invoicing, now under way, has been completed. Mr. Downard arrived here yesterday from Monona. He is an experienced jeweler and will continue the business as it has been conducted heretofore. Mr. Dunlap has sold the jewelry department because his optical business has grown to such proportions that he desires to give it all his time. He retains the optical room and one show window with which to conduct his half of the business.

Ralph Bringolf, who has been employed in the repair department of the Dunlap store for two months, has accepted a position as watchmaker and salesman with the firm of Lewis & Van Sickle in Des Moines and left for the capital city this morning.

You cannot understand how a black cow can eat green grass and give white milk, but you do not refuse to drink the milk.—Sunday.

## CROOKED CREEK TO THE SCRAP PILE

So Says Receiver Sam McClure Unless Road is Allowed to Borrow Money.

Fort Dodge Chronicle: Receiver Sam McClure of the Crooked Creek railroad, running between Lehigh and Webster City, said yesterday afternoon that he would ask Judge Henry T. Reed, who will convene federal court here Tuesday, to give him permission to borrow \$20,000 to \$30,000 to rehabilitate the road. If that amount is refused him, he declared that he would recommend the "junking" of the property.

## AN EXCELLENT MUSICAL PROGRAM

Chorus Choir of the Congregational Church Delights Large Audience.

The sacred concert given by the chorus choir of the Congregational church Sunday night, assisted by Mrs. Earl E. Mason, violinist, and Miss Edna Wohlhuter and Mrs. Emma Cash-Towle, vocalists, was an excellent one. Some high class selections were on the program and all were interpreted in a capable manner. The special numbers by Mrs. Towle and Miss Wohlhuter and the violin obligato by Mrs. Mason were delightfully rendered. The duet by Miss Hester Huff and Harold Maxon, the selection by Miss Ruby Whitman and the choir with violin obligato, and the double trio by six young lady members of the choir, deserve high praise. The Hallelujah Chorus from the Messiah, the climax of the choir numbers, was a very creditable performance.

Rev. Metcalf gave a brief and interesting talk illustrating the mode of rendering church music in the ancient temples of worship before our modern musical instruments were in use.

A large audience was in attendance and the excellent program greatly enjoyed by all.

## LOCAL GROCER BUYS CANNING INDUSTRY

T. B. Kearns Purchases Canning Factory of J. W. Hawk—On East Side.

T. B. Kearns, of the Kearns grocery on Seneca street, has just purchased the east side hot house and canning factory of J. W. Hawk, together with the two or three acres of ground which make up the tract near the factory. The deal carries with it all equipments of the factory. Mr. Hawk will manage the concern and it will open up next summer. The factory closed down about six years ago and has not been in running operation since. It is the intention of the new owner and manager to only can what may be produced upon the five or six acre tract, which includes the acreage in this deal and other land lying near by.

Mr. Hawk is an expert market gardener and is also proficient in the canning of tomatoes, the putting down of pickles and sauer kraut, and the making of chili sauce, catsup and several relishes. A new building is already under way for the housing of a horse radish department which will supply not only this grocery store, but other concerns of the city.

No more will be canned, at least this coming season, than may be raised right on the ground, but future seasons it is hoped to build up by degrees a canning industry that will be worthy of home patronage.

The one hot house will be used during this winter for the starting of thousands of cabbage, lettuce and other spring plants which will ma-

ture for the earliest marketing. Another winter it is planned to build another hot house which will be large enough to raise lettuce, onions, radishes, celery and tomatoes for local use. As matters now stand these delicacies may only be obtained in Des Moines, Davenport, and a few other Iowa towns, and when they arrive at local groceries are frost bitten or crushed often times. The price also is double what it should be and it is the intention of the new managers of the combined hot house and canning industry to produce these winter luxuries for home marketing.

Webster City is large enough to support such an industry herself without going outside of the city to ask for support. The vegetable gardens of the vicinity produce vegetables and fruits that rank with those of the much boasted soil of the west and have a much finer flavor.

**Study Club Meeting.**  
The Municipal Study club will meet this evening at 7:30 o'clock in the court room for organization, instead of the city hall, as previously announced. Officers will be elected and the body of men placed upon a substantial basis for study this winter.

About one hundred and twenty men of the city have received circular letters in the past week inviting them to join this municipal study club. At this night's meeting the Chicago Respiratory company will have a demonstrator here with a life motor which is in use by many of the best equipped city departments. This life motor is superior to the pulmotor which was the first trial invention of its kind. Next was the lung motor, and the third and best was the life motor. This motor is used in cases of asphyxiation and drowning or suffocation of any kind. It is hoped that a large crowd will be in attendance tomorrow evening.

**Boosters Win.**  
Mueller's Boosters football team played the Kamrar Juveniles at 2 o'clock Saturday in Riverside park. The score was 9 to 0 in favor of the Boosters who put up a fast boy's game worth seeing. The Kamrar youngsters were accompanied by one of the Kamrar ministers and several of the fathers of the youths. The lineup for the Boosters: L. E. Cunningham; L. T. Sheldon; L. G. Leonard; C. Parkhurst; R. G. F. Williams; R. T. McFarlane; R. E. Mikkel; R. H. A. Williams; L. H. Froning; F. B. E. Olmstead; Q. B. Clark. The next game will be played on Saturday afternoon at Kamrar.

**Real Estate Transfers.**  
Geo. W. Lee and wf to A. B. Stables—qd—lots 13 and 14, blk 5, M. & H. addition, EHSw—\$2,500.00.  
David J. Hook and wf to E. M. Adams—wd—lot 12 and east 20 ft lot 11, O. & W. addition, W. C.—\$4,400.00

## BIG LAWSUIT REPORTED SETTLED

Hanson & Tyler Auto Co. and Willys-Overland Co. Reach Basis of Agreement.

Fort Dodge Chronicle: Attorneys for the Hanson & Tyler Auto company met this afternoon with the attorneys of the Willys-Overland company and the National Bank of Commerce of Toledo and it is reported that a basis of settlement agreeable to both parties was arrived at.

The case grew out of the suit filed a year ago to recover from Hanson & Tyler \$70,000 for cars delivered. Hanson & Tyler immediately filed a counter claim of \$112,000. They claimed damages because the Toledo company had breached their contract with them.

The case was entered for trial at the term of federal court commencing in this city Monday.

Yesterday's Register and Leader contains a picture of the new residence recently erected in Des Moines by C. D. Hellen, a former well known local citizen. It is an eight-room bungalow of dark red brick and green stucco, and the Des Moines paper says it is one of the most attractive residences on Kingman boulevard. The Hellen moved into the new home the first of September.

## SERMON ON THE PRODIGAL SON

Dr. Smith Gives Exposition of the Greatest Story Ever Written.

At the Baptist church Sunday night the preacher began by asking, Why did Jesus tell the story that we call, "The Story of the Prodigal Son," or the three stories of the fifteenth chapter of Luke? Jesus had been dining with Publicans and men who were called sinners by the Pharisees, and they were trying to hold him up to scorn—"Look at him, he goes out to eat with men who are sinners." They could not speak a good word for Jesus because he went to eat with sinners, but our Lord knew where to find his people. He turns here upon his accusers and tells these four wonderful stories in which he points out that there are four ways of being lost, as the sheep, the coin, the boy who went away, and the son who staid at home. Some are lost, he says as the sheep which strayed away from the shepherd; some like the coin which rolled away into the dirt; some like the son who left home of his own volition; and others like the boy who was selfish, proud and envious. The shepherd went after the sheep, the woman hunted for coin, but no one went after the boy—he was a being of free will—he belonged to a higher order.

You will notice that in the experience of this boy that there are five steps down. The first is Alienation.—a man is sinful and lost when his heart is alienated from God. His heart was in the far country when he began to long for it, although he did not go away for a long time afterwards. Then came Deterioration—he went rapidly downward in an evil course. His thoughts were wrong and then his acts were wrong. "As a man thinketh in his heart so is he." That which is in your heart is the thing you will do in the dark. Now comes Expiration—exiled from home by his own conduct. Getting far from God's love and all else that is good. The Prodigal was entirely away from his father's house, his fortune was soon wasted, and he was in want. Satan brings him to Starvation—he would be glad if he could get even a share of the food of the swine which he is hired to tend. At last comes Degradation—a Jew compelled to feed hogs. Down to the bottom and the bottom fallen out. When your heart is in the far country, your feet are soon there and then you must suffer the penalties.

Now observe the steps upward out of his lost and wretched condition. First there is—Reflection. When we get down beyond human help, then we may turn to Christ, and thank God he is always ready to forgive. If men would only stop and think, they would turn to Him. The second step is—Resolution. I will arise; I will go; I will say; I am no more worthy. When you get that personal pronoun "I" in the right place in your mind, then the next step will follow, which is—Action. After the resolution the next thing was to get up and go home. Then comes—Opposition. Some of you know about this. You are not Christians because you are asking, "What will the folks at home say?" "What will the friends in my social set say?" The Prodigal found his opposition right in his own home. But the Father met him and there is—Reconciliation. His father kissed away his sin. True he will get a crop for the wild oats which he has sown. He cannot repair his abused body. But the father saw him as far off as he had gone from home, and you cannot get so far away that God ever forgets you. This father is a picture of the loving heart of God. He puts upon the wanderer the robe of a prince—the ring with the seal of confidence and authority—the shoes of a noted guest—and gives him the seat of honor.

The older brother—the Prodigal who never went away—did not repent and he was lost. He is the legal prodigal who is guilty of lying, hatred, and envy. He called himself a galley slave, he would not own his redeemed brother, he refused to attend the feast. Sins enough to send him to the doom which Jesus said awaited the Pharisees. You are not



Kenosha-Kloped-Krotch Union Suits  
For Comfort, Quality, Durability and Value

One smooth, single thickness throughout the crotch. No buttons, folds, wrinkles or seams between the thighs.—Elastic cuffs on sleeves and legs. All weights and sizes. We use a patented calliper and measure your body length, not merely your chest. \$1 up to \$5.00 per suit.

**Chas. T. Smith & Son**  
Head-to-Foot Outfitter

lost like the sheep or the coin, but like the Prodigal for you may come back if you will, or like the other son, you may refuse to repent, and be lost. You can come home by giving yourself to Christ. By so doing you will make your home happy, you will have the peace of God in your own heart, and there will be joy in the presence of the angels of God.

## THE CLUB CALENDAR.

The Royal Auction Bridge club meets with Mrs. Geo. E. Younkee Wednesday afternoon at 2:30.  
Mrs. George Ambrose, who resides west of town, will be hostess to the O. E. W. club on Wednesday afternoon.

The members of the Wednesday club will be guests of Mrs. G. T. Chamberlin Wednesday afternoon at 2:30.  
Mrs. Ella Burleson will be hostess to the members of the Thursday Card club at one o'clock luncheon on Thursday.

The Thursday Needle Work club will meet on Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Jennie Ainslie.  
The One O'clock Auction Bridge club will meet with Mrs. M. J. Mattice on Wednesday for one o'clock luncheon.

The Bridge club which was to have met with Mrs. Harry Carson this week will not meet until next week.  
The Campfire Girls will meet Wednesday night at 7:30 o'clock in the north club room in the basement of the library. Dr. Berg will address the girls at this session upon the "Care of the Teeth."

**Autos Collide.**  
Yesterday afternoon some unknown driver of an automobile ran into the car being driven by Wm. Greenwood near the Briggs' farm, south of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood were both in the car, a Ford, and had noticed for some time that a man driving a heavy car was directly back of them. He would slow down and then speed up, narrowly escaping running into them several times before he finally did collide with them. When the machines were stopped the front wheel of the heavy car was locked with the rear wheel of the Ford and it had pushed the Ford car ahead of it for some little distance.

Fortunately none of the occupants were thrown out, although Mrs. Greenwood sustained a severe nervous shock. The heavy car had both lights and one wheel broken, the glass windshield and three springs broken and the car was scratched badly. The Ford only received a bent fender. The driver of the heavy car did not care to reveal his identity and Mr. Greenwood was glad enough to get off so fortunately that he did not press the question.

**Operation on Eye.**  
H. L. Graham, residing six miles south of town, will undergo an operation for the removal of a cataract from his left eye today in Des Moines. Mr. and Mrs. Graham left yesterday morning for the capital city.

## SENATOR KENYON IN THE CITY

Swinging Around the Circle to See the People—With the Larrabees.

Senator Kenyon, Senator Larrabee and Charlie Larrabee of Fort Dodge were in the city yesterday. They came over from Fort Dodge by automobile, and went to Stanhope in the afternoon. They are simply swinging around the circle to meet friends and acquaintances. The old friends of Senator Kenyon in this county are always glad to meet him and to know that he is getting along well and enjoying good health.

**"The Menace of Socialism."**  
Peter W. Collins will lecture in this city on Monday evening, Nov. 22, at the armory opera house. His subject will be "The Menace of Socialism." There will be absolutely no charge for admission and a cordial invitation is extended to all.

In speaking of Mr. Collins' lecture in Keokuk on Oct. 24th, the Daily Gate City of that place says: Peter W. Collins in a pointed and well balanced address on "The Workers in Industry and Their Protection," delivered at the Grand theatre yesterday afternoon, under the auspices of the De LaSalle council, Knights of Columbus, and before a packed house, said that if the workers were to progress, socialism has to be abolished, child labor would have to be stopped, better and safer working conditions would have to be secured and labor legislation would have to be passed by the states of the union, especially to relieve the burdens of the working woman who is to be the mother of the coming generation. Mr. Collins handled his argument in a masterly way and there was no wasted energy; every point had its place in the frame of the structure he pictured. The large audience heard the speaker with rapt interest.

**Hare and Hounds Chase.**  
The Campfire girls Friday afternoon indulged in a "hare and hounds chase" which began at the court house park at 9 o'clock. The hares—comprising one half the girls of the Campfire—scattering a trail of corn which wound about through the north part of the city and ended up in the Kendall Young park. About ten o'clock the hounds also started from the court house park, taking up the trail of the hares, and after about an hour's chase, leading over hill and dale, found their waiting Campfire members around a huge bonfire in the Kendall Young park, where wienies and marshmallows were roasted—a jolly ending to the morning's game participated in by the fifteen gathered girls.

Miss Helen Derr, who recently underwent a serious operation, has returned to her work as office girl for the Brown skate factory. During her absence her work was done by Miss Neva Garrick.