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ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT.
Two of the important features of the annual report of R. C. Barrett, state superintendent of public instruction, are the comparison of salaries paid teachers in Iowa with those paid in other states and the noticeable falling off in attendance of our public schools.

Regarding the salaries of teachers, that subject has been quite thoroughly by the press of the state during the past year. Though the consideration already received resulted in a slight increase, there is still room for improvement, if the teachers in Iowa are to receive pay equal to that of persons in similar occupation in other states.

Reference to Mr. Barrett's report shows that in the matter of salaries paid to women teachers Iowa stands at the bottom of the list with an average of \$30.17 per month. As to the pay of men teachers, but four states, Ohio, Missouri and the two Dakotas pay lower salaries than does Iowa, the average in this state being \$43.66 per month.

	Males	Females
Ohio	42.00	\$37.00
Indiana	66.80	48.00
Illinois	64.55	54.18
Michigan (1900-1901)	48.68	36.68
Wisconsin (1900-1901)	53.33	39.62
Minnesota	53.56	37.21
Iowa	43.66	30.17
Missouri	42.07	42.89
North Dakota	42.70	37.12
South Dakota	40.03	33.52
Nebraska	49.15	38.51
Kansas	44.24	35.55
Pennsylvania	44.92	33.78
New Jersey	87.15	52.06
Connecticut	99.29	44.51
Rhode Island	116.01	51.99
Massachusetts	51.99	51.99

The report shows that while the population of Iowa is increasing the school population is surely decreasing. During the year 1900 the maximum attendance in our public schools was reached when the teachers reported a total attendance of 566,223. In 1901 the number of pupils had fallen to 562,662 and again last year there was a drop to 560,173. But the decrease does not stop here. This year there was an enrollment of only 550,202 pupils reported in Iowa showing a loss of more than 10,000. Commenting on this feature of the public schools, Superintendent Barrett says:

"It is a favorite theory of some that as literacy and learning increase the size of the family decreases. It may be that we in Iowa have reached the stage when the phase of life is making itself felt and that the tendency now is actually toward smaller families. Another factor—and this I feel sure has something to do with the case—is that in the last few years, large numbers of families have removed from Iowa. The tendency is for persons who have large families to begin to look for more land to divide up among the children. Iowa land has increased enormously in value, until it is more difficult for a head of a family to acquire a large farm. He looks to the cheaper land of the frontier, and this means an exodus."

MOVE IN RIGHT DIRECTION.
The banquet to be given by the women of the Ottumwa Hospital association next Friday evening, at which the question of a hospital for Ottumwa will be considered, is a move in the right direction. The object of this gathering is not to ask for contributions to the hospital fund, but to give an opportunity to present to the people of this city the hospital project in such a manner that it will be more fully understood by them than heretofore. At this gathering the work already done by the hospital association in Ottumwa will be presented by those who have been closely connected therewith. The needs of this city for enlarged and improved hospital accommodations will be thoroughly explained by those competent to judge in this matter. The equipment of the thoroughly up-to-date hospital and the workings of such an institution will also be presented by those who have had experience in this work.

The lack of general information regarding hospital work among many people of Ottumwa has long been recognized and it is the purpose of this banquet to give those who attend such information regarding the work that they will be enabled to rightly judge as to the necessity of the city in this connection. With this in view a large number of invitations have been issued by the committee. The people of Ottumwa should co-operate with those in charge of this work to the extent, at least, of being present on this occasion. With the larger understanding of the scope of this movement that will, naturally follow such a gathering,

it will be much easier to judge concerning the best course to pursue that the city may eventually secure what it needs in the way of a hospital.

This matter is deserving of the careful consideration by all citizens of Ottumwa and the Courier would bespeak for the movement such support as each individual is able to give.

PHILIPPINE TARIFF QUESTION.

In view of the recommendation made by President Roosevelt in his message and the feeling of many members of congress regarding the closer commercial relations between the United States and the Philippines, it is almost certain that this matter will receive considerable attention during the regular session of congress. A bill has already been introduced by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts proposing to admit all articles, (the growth or product of the islands) free of duty, except sugar and tobacco, upon which it is provided in the measure that 50 per cent of the duties of the Dingley law shall be collected.

Among the supporters of such a program is Senator Foraker of Ohio, who is quoted as saying that he believes there should be free trade with the Philippines as there is with Porto Rico. Replying to the criticism on such a course that it might provoke a general discussion of the tariff question, the senator says: "It might be well for the opportunity to be offered for the republicans to go on record and reassure the country, on the eve of another presidential election, that its policy in congress is to preserve the industrial stability which has been established under republican legislation. It might not hurt us to let the democrats give an object lesson of what they would do to the tariff, in the way of smashing industries causing the shutting down of plants and idleness of labor, if they should get into power."

In a general way these are the sentiments of the rank and file of the republican party throughout the country. There is a confidence with the abundance of facts to demonstrate the wisdom of their policy the republicans in congress would make a good showing in such a debate. There appears to be a tendency among the democrats to again make the tariff an issue in the coming national campaign and such a discussion would only serve to strengthen the cause of protection among the voters of the country. Concerning the question of tariff concessions to the Philippines, there is and probably always will be differences of opinion among the members of the republican party. It is reasonable to suppose, however that after a careful canvass of the question the republicans in congress can be relied upon to make such concessions and refuse to make such other concessions, as may be advisable and deemed necessary for the proper enlargement of the Philippine business.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Directness of speech regarding the many important policies of national moment, characterized the message of President Roosevelt, submitted to congress at its opening session Monday. The President's word of congratulation to the country on the amount of substantial achievement which has marked the past year, both as regards our foreign and as regards our domestic policy, was a fitting preface to the detailed discussion of the important questions that follow.

Touching first upon the work of supervision of the great corporations of the country, President Roosevelt expressed the belief that the preliminary work of the bureau of corporations has demonstrated the wisdom of its creation. He recognizes that both corporations and labor unions have done beneficent work, and he declared it to be the purpose of the government to administer the laws with justice and impartiality to one and all.

A large portion of the closing part of the message was devoted to the Panama affair and set forth at length the various incidents which have transpired since the refusal of Colombia to ratify the treaty and culminating in the ratification of a canal treaty by the new republic of Panama.

Announcement is made that the state department has taken steps to making bribery an extraditable offense. This is an important step and one that should be consummated as speedily as possible.

A number of pertinent recommendations were contained in the message, chief among which are:

- Economy in appropriations.
- The appointment of a commission to investigate and report upon the needs of the country for a merchant marine and means to accomplish its development.
- The proper regulation of immigration laws to prevent the entrance of undesirable immigrants.
- A revision of the tariff duties on Philippine products.
- The further strengthening of our navy and the establishment of a naval base in the Philippines.
- The grant of authority to the secretary of the treasury to deposit custom receipts as other moneys.
- The extension of the purposes for which \$500,000 was voted to enforce the trust and interstate commerce laws, so that part of the money may be used in probing the postal and public lands frauds.
- The above recommendations together with many others are deserving favorable consideration by congress and it is probable that at least a part of them will receive attention.

CLEWS' FINANCIAL REVIEW.

There has been a continuation of the better tone in the stock market for the past week, the upward movement being stimulated by a class of buying that heretofore has been wanting. "These conditions," says Henry Clews in his review of the week ending December 5, "do not yet appear to have run their course. It appears that strong interests have unquestionably given the market stable support. The renewal of the gold imports has also had considerable effect. Nearly \$3,500,000 gold was engaged last week for importation making a total for the

season of \$13,000,000." Mr. Clews thinks that the international situation has also distinctly improved, causing a better tone in financial circles.

Another satisfactory element in the gold situation seen by Mr. Clews is that we are accepting actual payment for our products instead of using our credits abroad as was done in the years 1901 and 1902. He says further:

"Then it will be remembered our borrowings abroad were rising higher and higher until foreign bankers began to hesitate, even when considering our magnificent resources. Then we kept our bank reserve in as good shape as possible by borrowing heavily abroad where it could not be easily detected. Now we have very largely liquidated these foreign loans, so that our financial situation has improved much more than indicated by our local bank statement. This illuminating document still shows loans at a very high figure and reserves very low. Unquestionably, the banks need to improve their exhibits in this respect; and yet it is important to bear in mind that the situation is much better than such comparisons with last year suggest. The wholesale liquidation of the past eleven months has materially cut down the over-extension of credit which existed."

Upon the railroads doing a profitable business have been centered the greatest activity. Considerable amounts of the better class of railroad securities have been absorbed by shrewd investment buyers which were unduly depressed by the forced liquidation of the past few months. It seems that the monetary situation is entirely satisfactory. Rates of interest are expected to remain firm until after the January disbursements, when it is expected easier conditions will prevail.

"Indications point to increased speculative activity for a period largely the result of reaction after extreme depression. There is no likelihood, however, of any extreme advances, but rather a gradual evening up of prices after the leaders have risen to their limit. Purchases should therefore be made with discrimination and profits secured on good advances."

The reorganization of the Ottumwa Musical club into an association for the purpose of establishing a strong chorus was a move in the right direction. There is an abundance of musical ability in Ottumwa, and with the enthusiastic co-operation of every one possessing such ability, Ottumwa can have a chorus that will not be surpassed by any similar organization in the state.

Based on the federal laws there is no ground on which Senator Smoot can be legally expelled from the senate. The petition for his removal has failed to bring a charge against him that they can substantiate by facts.

Iowa did pretty well when it came to those congressional committee appointments. Iowa congressmen have demonstrated their ability to handle the business of the house to the best interests of the nation.

The "bad man of the east" is liable to get into trouble after all. It is reported that Consul Davis was assaulted and insulted in a recent riot in Alexandria, and that in consequence he has hauled down the flag from the American consulate, and left the city.

The new Advertiser-Gazette at Creston is accomplishing the most sanguine hopes of its promoters as a newspaper and meeting the expectations of its patrons. This merger gives the people of Creston a paper of which they may well be proud.

Work on the dam is being pushed with all possible dispatch. Ottumwans will appreciate this fact, as the speedy completion of the repairs will mean a more adequate water supply.

If President Roosevelt is looking for a good man to succeed the Hon. Eugene Ware as the head of the pension department we would refer him to any number of Iowans.

The meeting of the republican national committee is the next event of importance at Washington and the report of its action will be awaited with interest.

If that hospital banquet next Friday evening is not a success it will not be on account of the lack of enthusiasm on the part of its promoters.

Keep talking about that hospital proposition and when the time comes make good what you say by substantial support.

What will Bryan's followers think of the manner in which he is hobnobbing with royalty during his European tour.

Watch the advertising columns of the Courier for suggestions as to what to buy for Christmas presents.

Did you read the President's message? If not, read it. It will do you good.

Now watch the reports of Sunday school attendance for a big increase.

There wasn't anything the matter with that message.

SMOOT WILL REMAIN.

Washington dispatch to the Pittsburg Gazette.—A member of congress discussing the case recently said: "You can put it down as a fact that Senator Smoot will not be expelled. His case will hinge upon two questions: First, whether he is or was a polygamist; and second, whether his oath to the church is more binding than his oath of office. I am certain that his enemies will be unable to prove the charge of polygamy. I was out in Utah this year and talked with many Gentiles about this case, and they unanimously agreed that there was no foundation for the charge of polygamy. As to Smoot's allegiance to the church hierarchy, the very article of faith that he has mentioned will be produced to show that the church in no way interferes with the validity of an oath as senator. With these two

charges out of the way it is my belief that Smoot will have smooth sailing. Of course, there is strong prejudice all over the country against the Mormon church, and opposition to its gaining influence in politics, but this prejudice, no matter how well founded, can not serve as a ground for Smoot's expulsion. That question must be decided by law, and, for this reason, I am certain that Smoot will stay in the senate."

RICH MEN'S CHILDREN.

New York Times.—Mr. Carnegie is not always profound in his generalizations, but he is never dull and rarely uninteresting. In his speech at the dinner of the St. Andrew society on Monday evening he said: "I pity the son of a rich man. The child of a millionaire can never know the true meaning of a mother and father." There is a great deal of sentiment in this homely statement of the speaker's own experience. The sons of rich men are usually envied and those of them who are to be pitied. The social conditions surrounding them are mostly of the kind which unfit them for any useful service in life and deprive them of the incentive of ambition to be anything other than the sons of their fathers. Their pleasures are so concentrated and intense that before youth is past they become blasé and those of this class who distinguish themselves by the full utilization of their opportunities are conspicuous by reason of being exceptions to the rule.

IOWA PRESS COMMENT.

The Marshalltown Times-Republican observes that men may smile at President Roosevelt's strenuousness, but they never question his honesty.

As to the charges against General Wood, the Brit Tribune says: "He did not gain his preferment by prejudice, favor nor accident. He was a doer, and he is an 'iser.' They can charge all they want to but will find Wood all right."

"The year 1903 seems to have been great for watered stocks, watered city councils and watered rains," remarks the Mason City Globe-Gazette.

"We Iowans do well by our educational institutions, but we could do more with advantage and profit," in the opinion of the Glidden Graphic.

The Algona Upper Des Moines-Republican believes that the voters are opposed to the biennial elections proposition and that, in view of that sentiment, they would resist to the question. "Furthermore," the Algona paper adds, "the provisions of the constitution seem to imply that an approval of the legislature amounts to an approval of the measure. The understanding is that the legislature does not approve it."

"So far as the people of Iowa are concerned, they are possessed of ample means and are able to build their own roads," says the Des Moines Capital, arguing against a federal appropriation for that purpose. "If they have not built them it is simply because they are not yet prepared for them. When the question is more pressing they will act. The people are not getting away from the road problem because of accomplishment. It would cost so much money to rake good roads in a state like Iowa."

Bloomfield News-Republican.—The biennial election amendment will be before the members of the Thirtieth general assembly for passage, and should it receive consideration, the amendment will be voted upon at the next general election by the voters of the state. Much discussion is being indulged by the press of the state, as to the duty of the coming general assembly. If they should refuse to pass the amendment, that would end the matter; if they pass it, it then goes to the people and will be decided by them. There are many voters who voted for the amendment before, who will vote against it if it should be submitted to them. The amendment is a good one in short terms of office and frequent discussion of public affairs. Long tenure of office does not belong to a republic. The life of this government will be best preserved by turning new blood into the channels of progress.

NO MORE HOLIDAYS NEEDED.

Burlington Hawk-Eye.—Representative Smith yesterday introduced a bill making President McKinley's birthday, January 29, a national holiday. No journal has a higher and more devoted reader than the memory of the lamented president than has the Hawk-Eye; but this paper hopes that the bill will not pass. This country already has enough, if not too many, holidays. Several of them have been so changed in their observance as, notably, Decoration day, as to fail to fulfill their original purpose. There are other and better ways of honoring the memory of William McKinley than by setting aside his birthday anniversary as a national holiday. As a holiday it would be given over to the national holiday that perpetuates Lincoln's fame; the luster of his life finds more enduring remembrance than a playday can impart.

The multiplication of national holidays is to be deprecated, it has been said, with much pertinence, that the American people are too intensely devoted to business, that they need more rest and recreation, and relief from the high pressure of business and professional cares. There is truth in the proposition. But additional holidays do not meet the requirements. It is rather fewer hours of labor each day, or the weekly half holiday, or some other respite of greater frequency than the annual holiday can give. Of greater deliberateness, less of rush and worry within present hours. A national holiday does not afford the remedy a nervous people require to maintain the highest standard of national vitality.

George Washington is not remembered because of his birthday anniversary, but because of his deeds, his patriotism, his lofty character, and the sublimity of his career. It is not the national holiday that perpetuates Lincoln's fame; the luster of his life finds more enduring remembrance than a playday can impart.

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CANNON IN THE RIGHT.

Chicago Record-Herald.—Speaker Cannon is perfectly right when he takes the attitude that the senate's methods are unfair to the house and a disgrace and an injury to the country. He is perfectly right, also, in attempting to force the senate to adopt new methods. The body ought, of course, to be made rational in many more matters than the appropriation bills, but if Speaker Cannon can bring to his senses in this one matter alone his firmness as a statesman will be assured. Mr. Cannon has the full support of the public. The uglier the senate gets in its insistence upon its "rights," the more emphatic will the public become.

A DOMESTIC PROBLEM.

Fremont Tribune.—Some day science will evolve a method of dressing a 5-year-old boy without losing one's temper. The boy's stockings were never put on without his toes spangling out and cutting in them; and his underclothing gets twisted till it requires a sailor to unknot it; and the buttonholes on the waist get so enlarged the buttons come unbuttoned as fast as they are buttoned; and all the time the little rascal boy is wriggling and writhing as if he were dancing the can-can or had the colic. The mother who rests with the restless youngster until it gets big enough to don his apparel deserves a medal she never gets for her patient endeavor.

STILL GROWING.

Pittsburg Gazette.—The efficient headlines of the Washington Star embellishes an article written by an old friend, William Elmer Curtis, descriptive of the King of Spain, with a caption declarative that "Alfonso is every inch a king." However, it will be recalled he is not very tall, though as he is yet young he may grow some more, and it is to be hoped he may continue to grow in wisdom and understanding as well as in inches and thus justify the spirit of the complimentary reference.

A LITTLE USED COURSE.

Denver News.—President Hadley of Yale says the young man who wants to prepare for politics should begin with journalism or law. Still, a brief course in a seven day in the week kind of religion might not be a bad starter.

NEBRASKA FORGETTING WEBSTER.

Lincoln Journal.—In our thoughtlessness we are apt to forget that John L. Webster is a candidate for vice president. Should he fall of the nomination let us not forget him because of the apathy of his friends here at home.

THE NOMINATION SEEKS THE MAN.

Pittsburg Gazette.—While Mr. Cleveland has left a clear field so far as he is concerned, it is to be observed that eminent democrats are not bumping against each other as a rush to get on the presidential nomination cinder path.

FADS AND GOOD FORM.

Chicago Tribune.—There are people who have no fads. They are the most rigid, the most arid, the most uninteresting people in the world. Why is it that "good form," while it does not violently offend, yet seldom fails in the long run to bore?

THE PROPER TIME.

Kansas City Journal.—The time to pluck a presidential boom is when it has reached its zenith and is liable to slump. Mr. Cleveland understands these things.

A GREAT CONCILIATOR.

Ringold Record.—A church paper solemnly suggests that President Roosevelt has won a most enviable reputation as a conciliator. The paper suggests further that the President has not been as yet severely tested. He has merely had to deal with

Dr. B. A. STOCKDALE
WILL BE AT
Ballingall Hotel,
OTTUMWA,
Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1903
From 8 a. m. to 5 p. m., ONE
DAY ONLY—Returning
every four weeks.



Pay When Cured.

It is the perfect confidence we have in our treatment that warrants us in adopting the above terms. We do not require any money (except pay for medicine) until a perfect cure is made.

Dr. Stockdale's reputation for curing chronic diseases is unsurpassed by any other specialist in the state. He is thoroughly reliable and invites any who are interested to investigate his standing, both financially and professionally.

He positively cures Chronic Catarrh, Diseases of the Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat, Lungs, and Kidneys, Dyspepsia, Constipation and Rheumatism.

Men who are suffering from nervous and physical debility, a positive guarantee to cure.

Blood and Skin Diseases and Diseases of Women. Consultation Free and Confidential.

ADDRESS,
Dr. B. A. STOCKDALE
Citizens National Bank building,
Des Moines, Iowa.
To see Dr. Stockdale in Des Moines office, call Mondays and Saturdays.

millions and aid miners and the editor would like him to try his skill on the average church choir. That test would tell the tale.

IT'S GREAT CONCESSION.

Cedar Rapids Gazette.—Do not try to hurry the senate. That dignified body made a great concession to the progressive spirit of the age by indicating the date on which a vote would be taken. This action amounts to almost a revolution in the parliamentary affairs of the upper branch of congress.

SEEM TO BE.

Nashville Banner.—The Chicago Chronicle asks: "Are metals alive?" When gold and silver are made into coins they can get away at a lively gait.

GLAD WE'RE ALIVE.

Washington Post.—After reading General Bristow's report, one wonders why the grafters in the postoffice department let us down so easily.

THE FELLOW WHO CAN WHISTLE

The fellow who can whistle when the world is going wrong.
Is the fellow who will make the most of life.
No matter what will happen you will find him brave and strong—
He's the fellow who will conquer in the strife.

The fellow who can whistle when the whole world seems to frown
Is the kind of man to stand the battle's brunt;
He's got the proper metal and you can not keep him down
For he's got the sort that's needed at the front.

The fellow who can whistle is the fellow who can work
With a note of cheer to vanquish plodding care.
His soul is filled with music, and no evil shadows lurk
In his active brain to foster grim despair.

The fellow who can whistle is the "trump" card of the deck.
Or the "whip hand," in the parlance of the street;
No petty cares nor trifles can his buoyant spirit check
For a sunny heart can never know defeat.

The fellow who can whistle—he is built on nature's plan,
And he cheers his toiling fellowmen along.
There is no room for pessimists but give to us the men
Who can whistle when the world is going wrong.
—Sidney Warren Mase in Lippincott's.

In Horseless Town.
We sing the song of the horseless town
And the streets so sweet and clean,
With never a fleck one's clothing to speck
And no whiff of gasoline.
When the whispering whirr of the wheels will kiss
The ear like a silent caress
For noise will be banished and all be bliss
In that city that we shall bless.
We will move our goods by a motor van,
Our cars they will run like oil,
And the cheapest van of the pushcart man,
Will be pushed from a boiler's coil.
Oh a wonderful, joyful city 'twill be,
When each motor will motor for itself,
And we'll take old Dobbin, our hearts a-throbbin'
And lay him away on the shelf.
—The Automobile Magazine.

A Card.
We, the undersigned, do hereby agree to refund the money on a 50c bottle of Greene's Warranted Syrup of Tar if it fails to cure your cough or cold. We also guarantee a 25 cent bottle to prove satisfactory or money refunded. F. B. Clark, W. W. Ennis, W. D. Elliott, W. R. Beck, S. V. Sampson, Agency, Ia.