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December 31, 1909, next preceding the enumeration."
 To set aside erroneous impressions, it is explained, that nothing told the enumerator can be used to the detriment or damage of any person or his property, because the replies to enumerators are held by the census bureau in strict and absolute confidence and all census officials before entering upon their duties are obliged to take a solemn oath not to disclose except to the census bureau.
 The census bureau asks that all public-spirited citizens co-operate with any information they may obtain, except in dispelling the erroneous impressions, and this co-operation should be given. The forthcoming census must be full and complete, it is of vital interest to every community to see that its full strength is enrolled, and it is urgent that everybody should give full replies to the enumerators.

ADVICE FOR HOME CONSUMPTION.

Rev. D. S. Phelan, editor of the Western Watchman is quoted in a St. Louis address with a few epigrammatic utterances on how to make the home happy. He says:
 A kiss and a rose in your husband's lapel is a good investment for the day. It reminds him of you when he passes the millinery shop.
 Keep the family festivals, the birthdays and anniversaries. These little domestic occasions should be sacred in the calendar of your home. Don't forget when your children were born, so that you have to look in the Bible to see.
 Any husband can make his wife happy if he will. A wife can interest her husband if she will.
 Woman, don't be a vixen and a snapper at home and ladylike abroad.
 Man, reserve your saintliness for home use; not for the club only.
 Here's some good advice put up in neat packages, all ready for home consumption.

THE TRAVELING MEN.

The Commercial association showed its appreciation of the tolling work done by the traveling men and year after year by a loyal band of boosters when it entertained the Ottumwa traveling men Saturday night. The traveling men are the best boosters any city can lay claim to. Ottumwa is fortunate in having several hundred of these disciples of trade, carrying their samples of Ottumwa made goods over a wide territory and sending in the orders that keep the wheels of Ottumwa institutions turning.
 The traveling man has done much to make Ottumwa the manufacturing and jobbing center it has become. He has faith in the goods he sells, in the house he represents and in the city where his goods are made. He couldn't sell the goods if he lacked this faith and his career as a knight of the grip would be brief. You never see a traveling man who is a knacker. He is the best of boosters, and he makes his boosting count.

THE MAYBRAY CASE.

It is to be hoped that the government succeeds in convicting the Maybray gang, who are still on trial at Council Bluffs.
 For the future welfare of the "suckers," whose ranks, we are told, are being constantly swelled, the men with the "easy money" propositions should be put where they can't do any damage.
 Not that the Maybray victims are entitled to any great amount of sympathy. They went into the scheme and put up their money in what they knew was to be a "fixed" game. It developed, however, that instead of being "fixed" so that they would swindle some other person out of hard earned money, they were themselves left "holding the sack." They thought they were putting up sham money against the real money of other persons. It developed the Maybray gang's money was stage money and the victims furnished the real coin that ever appears in the transaction.
 It is too late to save these "suckers." They have gained their experience at heavy cost. But there is a generation yet unborn that will be looking for "easy money," and the government is confronted with the task of making it so hot for the "easy money" men that it will be hard to pick up any of this kind of currency hereafter. The "Mikes," present and future, must be saved from themselves.

CO-OPERATE IN THE CENSUS.

The census bureau has issued an appeal which it directs to public-spirited citizens for assistance in correcting some erroneous public opinions. "This was called forth," the bureau explains, "by the apprehension of a large element that their answers to the enumerators' questions will cause increased taxation, entanglements or injurious consequences to their persons and property."
 The information sought, it is explained, will be used solely for statistical purposes. It will neither be published nor used in any other way to disclose facts regarding any individual or enterprise. It is further explained that the census is not, never has been, and can not be employed to obtain information that can be used in any way in the assessment of property for purposes of taxation or for the collection of taxes, national, state, or local; for deportation proceedings; extradition measures; army or navy conscription; compulsory school attendance; child-labor law prosecutions; quarantine regulations; or in any way to affect the life, liberty, or property of any person.
 In further explanation the bureau states that the census inquiries are defined by act of congress and the questions on the schedules are framed in conformity with that act. The same questions asked of each individual and of persons must answer these questions. The question regarding persons is given as follows:
 "The name, head of family, color, sex, age, conjugal condition, place of birth, place of birth of parents, number of years in the United States, citizenship, occupation, whether or not employer or employe, and, if employe, whether or not employed at the date of enumeration (April 15, 1910), and the number of months unemployed during the preceding calendar year (1909), whether or not engaged in agriculture, stock raising, or other industry, and tenure of home, and whether or not a survivor of the Union or Confederate army or navy; and the name and address of each blind or deaf and dumb person."
 The following questions are asked regarding agriculture:
 "The name, color, and country of birth of occupant of each farm, tenure, acreage of farm, acreage of woodland and character of timber thereon, value of farm and improvements, value of farm implements, number and ranges, number of domestic animals not on farms and ranges, and the acreage of crops planted and to be planted during the year of enumeration (1910), and the acreage of crops and the quantity and value of crops and other farm products for the year ending

President Issues a New Proclamation on the Census

Washington, D. C., March 15.—President Taft in a proclamation issued today urges everybody throughout the United States "to answer promptly, completely and accurately all inquiries addressed to them by the enumerators or other employes," who will be engaged in the taking of the thirtieth decennial census, which work will begin one month from today. The proclamation follows:
 "Whereas, by the act of congress, approved July 2, 1909, the Thirtieth decennial census of the United States is to be taken beginning on the fifteenth day of April, nineteen hundred and ten; and
 "Whereas, a correct enumeration of the population every ten years is required by the constitution of the United States for the purpose of determining the representation of the several states in the house of representatives; and
 "Whereas, it is of the utmost importance to the interests of all the people of the United States that this census should be a complete and accurate report of the population and resources of the country;
 "Now, therefore, I, William Howard Taft, president of the United States of America, do hereby declare and make known that, under the act aforesaid, it is the duty of every person answer all questions on the census schedules applying to him, and to the family to which he belongs, and to the farm occupied by him or his family, and that any adult refusing to do so is subject to penalty.
 "The sole purpose of the census is to secure general statistical information regarding the population and resources of the country, and replies are required from individuals only in order to permit the compilation of such

general statistics. The census has nothing to do with taxation, with army or jury service, with the compulsion of school attendance, with the regulation of immigration, or with the enforcement of any national, state, or local law or ordinance, nor can any person be harmed in any way by furnishing the information required. There need be no fear that any individual person or his affairs will be disclosed. For the due protection of the rights and interests of the persons furnishing information, every employe of the census bureau is prohibited under heavy penalty, from disclosing any information which may thus come to his knowledge.
 "I therefore earnestly urge upon all persons to answer promptly, completely, and accurately all inquiries addressed to them by the enumerators or other employes of the census bureau, and thereby contribute their share to securing this great and necessary public undertaking a success.
 "In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.
 "Done at the City of Washington this fifteenth day of March, A. D. one thousand nine hundred and ten, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and thirty-fourth.
 "By the President, Wm. H. Taft."
 "Seal, P. C. Knox, Sec. of State."
 The proclamation is for the purpose of removing fears from the mind of some people who are of the opinion that information which they give concerning themselves to the census taker may be used in some way to the detriment of their personal or business interests. Against any such abuse, however, the government has thrown the strongest safeguards.

Derby Saturday with his brother, D. J. Scott and family.

J. C. Williby and son Will and wife, of Omaha, formerly of this city, are here for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Williby. They will go from here to Halsey, Neb., where they will reside.

Miss Myrtle Scott returned Saturday from a three weeks' visit in Houston, Texas, with Mr. and Mrs. Guy Graves, formerly of this place.

Mrs. L. W. Moffett and two children returned Saturday from a visit with her parents and other relatives in Pleasanton.

Mrs. G. M. Whitlatch of Pleasanton township, went to Osceola Saturday to visit her sons, J. L. and D. B. Long, and daughter, Mrs. Richard Foster.

Miss Jessie Coppenhafer, who is teaching in the Des Moines public schools, visited in Chariton Saturday with her mother, Mrs. Catherine Coppenhafer, who has been seriously ill, but is now improving.

Miss Hulda Brezy of Creston came Saturday for a visit in Whitebreast township with Mrs. J. S. Clark.

Miss Lillie Benson who received such serious injuries in a runaway Sunday week, has regained consciousness and is still at the hospital. The attending physician reports her condition as favorable at present and the young woman will recover.

Mrs. Ed I. Ramsay entertained a company of ladies in a very novel manner last Friday evening at the home of Mrs. Ramsay.

George Mock who has been the guest of relatives at Albia the past two weeks returned to his home at Hackley, Colo.

John Montgomery who has been a resident of Albia the past nine years has gone to Phoenix, Ariz., in hopes of benefiting his health.

C. A. Palmquist of Ottumwa was the guest of his Albia friends Sunday.

Britton Thomas has returned to Albia after several months' sojourn in Philadelphia.

OLIVET.
 Mrs. Wm. Druze spent Tuesday in Oskaloosa on business.

Mrs. Chas. Long of Oskaloosa was a caller in town last week.

Rev. Henry Carlyle filled his regular appointment in the M. P. church Sunday. There was a large attendance.

Clarence Bell the top boss at the mine is ill with a fever.

Mrs. J. L. Billings returned on Thursday from an extended visit with her daughter Mrs. Derris of Pella.

J. M. Ball of St. Paul was a business caller at the R. Williams home Saturday.

Several new men secured work in the mines last week.

W. B. Rogers was a business caller in Des Moines last week. He will locate there.

Samuel Channell spent Sunday with his family in Douds.

J. I. Thompson spent Saturday in Harvey.

BLOOMFIELD.
 E. B. Carroll visited Saturday and Sunday with his sister Mrs. Hiram Black and brother Rev. Lafe Carroll.

The case of the State vs. Ed Thackel and Mrs. Blanche Snoddy, charged with adultery, has the attention of the court this week.

The grand jury adjourned Saturday. Under special instructions from Judge Anderson to thoroughly investigate in the acid throwing affair, they worked for several days on that case, but failed to get definite information. The affair begins to look like it will add another to the already long list of unsolved crimes.

Paul Tomez of La Plata, Mo., visited Sunday with his parents, John Tomez and wife.

Mrs. Ellen Milligan and brother Jack Elder of Des Moines visited Sunday and Monday with their mother Mrs. Nancy Elder of Pulaski.

Andy Shields returned Friday from a business trip to Enna Mills, Calif. He visited on his return with his sister, Mrs. E. A. Childers of Cedarvale, Kans.

Harry Southern of West Grove is helping Agent Haney at the Burlington depot.

Prof. B. O. Spillman visited over Sunday with his brother W. E. Spillman of near Moulton.

Miss Anna Bargott who teaches the Kinney school visited friends in Ottumwa Saturday.

Chas. Young shipped an extra fine two year old jack to Madison, Mo., on

Saturday. It was sent by express and delayed the train forty minutes in leaving.

Mrs. Louisa Sloan of Mark visited Sunday with her daughter, Mrs. Anderson York.

Miss Margaret and family were the guests Sunday of John Collier and wife of West Grove.

P. C. Bond and family of West Grove made a brief visit Sunday with Mr. Bond's mother, Mrs. A. J. Bond who is at the hospital.

The Epworth League of the M. E. church will hold a St. Patrick's social Wednesday evening at the church.

April 2nd is the day the Iowa Wesleyan Glee club will be here, under the auspices of the Epworth league.

Methodist church choir practice will be held this week on Friday evening.

The K. of P.'s will stage the opera "Tycoon" in the near future.

Walter Davis is now the official correspondent for the Courier. Any one knowing important news will oblige him greatly by seeing or phoning him. He is now improving.

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morrow night and we will cross the bay to Willow Point, where the minister will marry us."

"Oh, won't it be romantic!" said Marjorie. "It will be moonlight and I will wear my white dress and my white hat with the pink roses that you like so well."

The moonlight shined through the vines brought out the gold lights in the girl's pretty hair. On the hand that lay in Phil's sparkled a little ring. He reverently kissed her.

"I wish your mother could attend your wedding," he continued after a silence, "but she will not consent, and eight years is too long to wait."

All the next day Marjorie Brant sang as she worked. Upstairs, on her bed, lay the white dress and white hat. In the closet was the suit case with her dainty belongings, packed for the first time without her mother's supervision. Now and then she ran up and tried on the hat, laughing to herself in the mirror and picturing Phil's face when he should see her.

"If you shut the windows?" her mother called from the kitchen, "will you close the windows? There is a cloud in the west, which means wind."

But Marjorie, excitedly combing out her curls in preparation for the wedding coiffure, forgot the injunction until the flapping of the curtains brought her out of her dreams.

"Did you shut the windows?" her mother called to her.

"No, but I will," answered the girl. Marjorie could hear the roar of the wind and the lashing of the waves, and knew that they could not cross the bay that night. She slowly continued her dressing, wondering how they would get to Willow Point.

She helped her mother with dinner, but ate little.

"Don't you feel well?" asked her father.

"I am all right, but I am not hungry," she replied.

Marjorie was to meet Phil at 8 o'clock. At 7:30 she went upstairs. In the darkness she pressed her face against the window. She could see nothing; the moon was hidden behind the clouds.

Wrapping a shawl about her, she stealthily descended the stairs and went out by the side door. Her light was not seen to the wind as she sped down the path.

"Phil," she called softly.

Then she felt his arms about her. "Where is your bag?" he asked. "We can't go in a boat; so we will drive. I have brought blankets; you won't be cold."

Marjorie slipped out of his arms. "I haven't any bag. I am not going, Phil."

"Not going!" he exclaimed. "Why not?"

"Oh, I couldn't go on such a night. Who ever heard of running away and getting married on a dark night?"

"What has the weather to do with our happiness?" he asked gently. "Don't you love me, Marjorie?"

"Yes," she whispered, then falteringly continued. "It was all going to be so beautiful, the moonlight and the water—and now there isn't any moon. When it grew so dark and windy, I felt that even the elements were against us—and I was not doing the right thing—running away from parents who have been so kind; so I came out to tell you. Oh, Phil," she sobbed. "I don't know what to do."

"My poor little girl," he said. "I don't believe I should run away with you. I am going into the house to ask your father and mother to let me marry you."

"Phil!"

"I can't go home without knowing something certain. Come."

As the two young people entered the sitting room Marjorie's father and mother stared at them in astonishment. The girl, cold and wind blown, slipped into a chair. Phil walked up to the table.

"Sit down, won't you?" asked Mr. Brant, hesitating, as he looked at the young man's stern face.

"No," said Phil. "I'll stand, Marjorie and I were going to run away."

"Run away!" exclaimed Mrs. Brant and her husband's fist came down on the table heavily. But as Phil told of his love, the older man gazed at him intently, visions of his own youth and courtship stirring him deeply. When Phil had finished he said:

"I understand that if it had not been windy tonight and Marjorie had not thought it was wrong you would have run away."

"I don't know."

"And what then?"

The young man's gaze met that of the older man's squarely.

"I should have taken care of her and kept her safe. I love her."

He was very earnest. The father seemed stirred by his uprightness and he turned to his wife. "Well, mother?"

"It is out of the question," she said. "Marjorie is only twenty. I shall not let her get married for eight years."

"Oh, mother!"

"Yes, and by then, Marjorie, you will know your own mind."

"I do know it," pleaded the girl. "You were married when you were twenty."

"Yes; but I was older. You are only a child. Now you run up to your room."

With a despairing glance at Phil, who stood looking stern and determined, she left the room. Her mother turned to the young man.

"I thought when I consented to the engagement that you would be satisfied. Now you are trying to coax the child to run away."

"I might have taken her," was Phil's answer.

The father, noting the set mouth of the young man, perceived the necessity of a compromise.

"Perhaps we had better talk it over, mother," he said.

"No," was the firm response. "I shall not let Marjorie marry until she is twenty-eight. That is young enough."

"But we were married when we were young and have been happy."

"What we did has nothing to do with Marjorie. It is no good your taking their part; I shall not give my consent."

Her husband saw that it was useless to argue, and held out his hand to Phil.

"I guess we shall have to do what



The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

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 Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*
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 In Use For Over 30 Years.



OPEN LETTER TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

Ottumwa, Ia., March 15, 1910.
 Editor Courier:
 Notwithstanding the contest for space in your issue of "People's Pulpit" for the much mooted "Sunday questions" I believe the Courier stands behind Ottumwa and its retail merchants enough to give space to the following open letter to the board of supervisors.
 It seems rather singular there should be a squabble between the members of the Y. M. C. A. and a few grocery stores. Here's the explanation: The wholesale man charges \$4.00 for a single case of concentrated lye (the regular retail price of \$1.30 per can) while you can buy the same case at \$3.50 from a retail store. Here's the explanation: With every five cases at above price, the "deal" gives you one case "free," reducing the cost to \$3.33 1/3 per case. Now, unless you want to stock right up into the grocery business, you can readily see where you would be at. Here is another illustration: California peaches, put up in gallon cans are now sold by jobbers at \$4.00 per case, while the County Farm, Mr. Jordan certainly is to be commended for his economical idea of handling county funds. Yet, in regard to above item, I believe Mr. Richard has the best of the argument. That to buy in Ottumwa is not only from a point of view of the retailer, but the common sense way to look at it, and further more, these supplies ought to be bought through retail channels. If there was a tendency of a "hold-up" then it would be another matter, but I believe Ottumwa has a set of men in the retail grocery business as fair minded as can be had in any county of the state.
 I believe our Retail Merchants' association ought to take the "booster" spirit of the Commercial association or the County Farm, Mr. Jordan certainly is, and to any individual or body of consumers, large or small, the advantage of doing business at home, and that a community is wise in its people if it commercially as well as otherwise.
 In making the statement that supplies for the county farm should be purchased from the retailer, I will first of all, all first class jobbers draw a strict line between dealers and consumers, being large or small; secondly; scarcely would there be any gain

Article	Jobbers present price	Retail store price	Gain through jobber	Gain through retailer
One sack West'n. gran. sugar (100 lbs)	\$5.55	\$5.50	.05	.10
One box shell oyster crackers (20 lbs)	1.80	1.50	.30	.40
One dozen carpet brooms	4.50	4.10	.40	.40
One case canned tomatoes (2 doz.)	1.80	1.50	.10	.10
One box laundry soap (100 bars)	2.40	2.75	.35	.40
One bu. navy beans (50 lbs.)	3.50	3.45	.05	.15
One barrel medium salt	1.35	1.40	.05	.15
One case matches (one gross)	3.50	3.35	.15	.15
One case concentrated lye (4 doz.)	4.00	3.60	.40	.25
One case gallon peaches (1 doz.)	4.00	3.75	.25	.25
Totals	\$2.50	\$3.35	.80	1.45

This list comprises a variety of staple differences between the two grains as seen by above figures are \$1.15, the amount saved (nearly 4 per cent) through the retail store.
 Any Ottumwa jobber will verify above wholesale prices (and their prices compare favorably with any out side jobber) and I will back up the retail column. These figures are not a frame up for this occasion, but are every day prices furnished to large down town consumers. There is nothing more inconspicuous about them than when one buys three cans of tomatoes at \$1.30 per can or 10c per single can. The quantity basis, you see also, applies to smaller purchases.
 For the county to take advantage of buying direct from jobbers it would first be necessary to buy in quantities that would compare with purchases of the larger groceries, secondly, employ a practical grocer buyer who should be in jolly touch with the wholesale markets.
 Now, laying aside loyalty to our home town, on a strictly economical basis I believe, I can further show the advantages of not only buying the county supplies in Ottumwa, but through the retail trade.
 Yours very truly,
 G. O. Nelson.