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I am sorry to say that the gravest threats against our national peace and safety have been uttered within our own borders. There are citizens of the United States, I blush to admit, born under other flags but welcomed under our generous naturalization laws to the full freedom and opportunity of America.

Mr. Taft speaks with honest pride, with commendable admission of his personal interest in our unfinished Philippine undertaking. He labored well for his country, for the Filipinos, at Manila as the first and only civil governor—the more imposing title, "governor-general" he helped bestow upon his successors—all, without exception, honorable, able men.

al rivers and harbors meeting in Washington, that the use of the word "pork" in connection with appropriations for river and harbor work, is an injustice. He further said that "pork" must be dissociated with the rivers and harbors cause before that cause can win.

Henry Ford's peace party, now out in mid-Atlantic, is much rought up because the president of the United States dared to recommend a policy of preparedness as a means to assure peace.

The season is at hand when skaters fall through the ice and drown because they are unable to swim. It is a little short of a crime not to be able to swim.

Secretary McAdoo has little faith in the honesty of tax payers. He wants a greatly increased force of income tax collectors in order to ferret out the dodgers of whom he says there are a great number.

Our Philippine Muddle
Political Partisanship Bungling a National Task Which Should Be Taken Out of Politics

By PATRICK GALLAGHER
Editor of the Far Eastern Bureau; Founder and Former Editor of the Philippine Free Press

We have just witnessed the unpleasant spectacle of a distinguished and unquestionably sincere cabinet officer charging a former president of the United States with partisan bias, and the former president's plea is justification. Other less distinguished, less sincere political controversialists, damn or defy the acts of our present administration in the Philippines; the bewildered American having no special means of information on the subject which side is telling the truth and which side is not? The question is very easily answered.

Neither side is telling all the truth. In this matter of our present and past government of the Philippines both sides are fundamentally wrong. For seventeen years, the party out of power, if not the one in control, has made a political issue of the Philippines. Possibly, at first that could not be avoided. But it could, and should have been avoided in the framing or in the amending of the Philippine organic act.

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Mr. Taft properly blames Mr. Harrison for not heeding sufficiently the advice of experienced American officials, long on the ground, and for too summarily (in some cases) displacing able and successful pioneer civil servants before actual experience of the Manila governmental atmosphere could come to the aid of his better judgment and assist him to avoid mistakes, and injustices.

With the development of accuracy in long range firing, speed has become a big factor in the value of a warship. The ship with the longer range and the more speed can hammer its opponent to pieces without being touched.

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Don't let this excellent weather make you forget that Christmas will soon be here. Christmas is December 25 even if the weather is more like Indian summer.

Help keep the city clean during the holidays. Do not scatter waste paper about the streets.

MERIT SYSTEM AT JOLIET PLANNED
Joliet, Ill., Dec. 9.—Michael Zimmer, warden of the Illinois state penitentiary here, decided today to go to Sing Sing prison and study the merit system established by Warden Thomas Mott Osborne, with a view of putting into effect a similar system here.

PROGRAMS OUT FOR GRANGE MEET

ABOUT SIX HUNDRED OUT OF TOWN PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED NEXT WEEK.

FORTY-SIXTH SESSION

Iowa State Organization Will Gather At Armory; Headquarters To Be At The Hotel Ballingall.

Two hundred delegates and twice that many visitors will be in Ottumwa next week to attend the forty-sixth annual session of the Iowa State Grange, opening at the armory next Tuesday morning at 10:30 and continuing through Friday evening when a big banquet closes the meetings.

There are 120 subordinate organizations in the state of Iowa and their membership rolls include over 10,000 men and women. A. R. Blum of Ottumwa is the state organizer and he has been active in getting many of these into line throughout the state.

The full program follows: Tuesday, December 14, morning session 10:30. Open in fourth degree. Appointment of credentials committee.

Registration of delegates. Afternoon session — 2 o'clock. Music by a Wapello county grange. Appointment of committees.

Address of welcome — Mayor Fred H. Carter. Response — State Master A. B. Judson.

"Co-operation, City and Country," L. R. Clausen. "The Farmer and the Merchant," J. K. Dysart. "Our City," J. B. McCarroll.

"Better farming," Don E. Fish. County crop expert of Mt. Pleasant. "The Federal Reserve bank," M. B. ways had it. When I was a kid there was such a bunch of us in the family that there had to be three tables at meal times, and I always got the third one.

"What's hard about that?" "Why," said the friend, "it was fifteen years before I ever knew a chicken had anything but a neck."

DR. SPALLENBERGER
The Regular and Reliable Chicago Specialist, Will Be at Ottumwa, Ballingall Hotel, Thursday, Dec. 23 (one day only) and return every 28 days.

Office hours, 8 a. m. to 8 p. m. Fairfield, Monday, Dec. 20. Bloomfield, Tuesday, Dec. 21. Albia, Wednesday, Dec. 22.

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WOMEN who are WEAK, NERVOUS, and suffering from the many ailments peculiar to their sex, find that his advanced and scientific methods, save many surgical operations.

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GEORGE W. CREATH HAVING BIRTHDAY

PIONEER RESIDENT OBSERVES SEVENTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY AT ASHLAND.

George W. Creath of Ashland is celebrating his seventy-seventh birthday today. He was born in Madison county, Ohio, December 9, 1838 and at the age of twelve moved to Van Buren county, Iowa, residing near Milton.



Mr. Creath was fifteen years of age when his father passed away leaving him in bad financial circumstances. He made rails for the first money he ever had and was engaged in different work until November 1, 1857 when he moved to Ashland where he now resides.

Mr. Creath enlisted in the Fourth Iowa cavalry at his front gate, October 12, 1861 and was mustered into the service at Mt. Pleasant, November 2, 1861. He returned as a veteran December 20, 1863 at Vicksburg and was given his honorable discharge at Davenport August 24, 1865. M. J. Myers Creath, his wife, was born February 28, 1848 in Wapello county.

Announcements. Wednesday, December 15. Morning session 10 o'clock. Music. Report of officers. Resolutions offered without debate. Afternoon session 2 o'clock. Music. Reports of subordinate granges. Resolutions offered without debate. Evening session 7:30 p. m. Degree work.

First degree by Union grange. Second degree by Lincoln grange. Thursday, December 16. Morning session 10 o'clock. Music. Report of committees. Reports of subordinate granges continued.

Afternoon session 2 o'clock. Lecturer's conference. Evening session 7:30 o'clock. Degree work. Third by Monroe grange. Fourth by Riverside grange. Friday, December 17. Morning session 10 o'clock. Music. New business. Unfinished business. Afternoon session 2 o'clock. Music. Talks for the good of the order. Evening session, 6:30 o'clock. Degree work. Fifth by Mahaska Pomona. Sixth by state officers. Banquet.

While all of the business and ceremonial sessions will be at the city of the official headquarters for the visitors will be at the Ballingall Hotel. None of the meetings except Tuesday evening's will be open to the public. The rest are for members only.

RELIEF WORK TO BE CONSOLIDATED
Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.—Consolidation of relief work for European war sufferers was the aim of a conference held here today between Red Cross officials and representatives of American organizations directing relief efforts in the war zone.

The amalgamation plan developed last night at the annual meeting of the American National Red Cross and found ready acceptance. Heads of several independent relief societies pledged their support.

Under the plan, the Red Cross would have a more general supervision of relief work. Closer cooperation will develop more efficient administration of the work, representatives of relief organizations said.

GERMANS TO ISSUE BUTTER-FAT CARDS
Berlin, Dec. 9.—The federal council has authorized municipalities to issue butter and fat cards similar to the bread cards which have been in use for several months, to regulate the consumption of these articles. The ordinance, making this provision, which becomes effective January 1, also contains regulations under which it will be possible to reserve the cheaper butter and fats for the poor.

The commission organized by the council to equalize distribution of the butter supply is authorized to require local producers to sell part of their output, up to fifteen per cent of the total, for resale to municipalities where shortages exist.

MUNICIPAL JUDGE DIES. Chicago, Dec. 9.—Joseph E. Ryan, a judge of the municipal court of Chicago, died today at his home after a short illness.

The City's Greatest Store For Men

THE GOOD CLOTHES STORE

MARTINS

A Store for All the People 232-234 East Main, Ottumwa, Iowa

Funeral Directors and Embalmers

MR. and MRS. FRANK L. DAGGETT

ESTABLISHED FOURTEEN YEARS 126 West Second Phone 127

CALLS ANSWERED DAY OR NIGHT AFFILIATED WITH E. DAGGETT AND SONS

BIRTH OF NATION FILMS DESTROYED

Mason City, Dec. 9.—Some time during the hours between midnight and 5 o'clock yesterday morning the vault of the Cecil theater was broken into, six reels of "Birth of a Nation" films taken out in a trunk in which they were locked, carried into the furnace room below and there burned.

Ever since the show was billed here this city negroes have been protesting against it. Wednesday some of them endeavored to get out an injunction, but were not successful. Several negroes are now being held for investigation in connection with the affair. The general opinion prevails that negroes took this method of suppressing the performance.

Four of the reels were thrown into the furnace, while two of them were placed on the wall surrounding the furnace and fire set to them. There is evidence of an explosion where the two reels were placed. Under local management the show had a week's engagement here.

RED HEADED GIRLS ARE ON INCREASE

Iowa City, Dec. 9.—Statistics regarding the characteristics of the young women attending the university this year shows the number of red headed girls in school to be on the increase. Forty-four per cent of the girls have blue eyes, ten per cent grey, thirty-three per cent brown and thirteen per cent hazel.

The old story that girls resemble their fathers is illustrated by the figures which show 36 per cent favoring the male parent, thirty per cent resemble the mother, while fourteen per cent look like neither parent.

The average girl at Iowa weighs 117 pounds. Her age is 19 and she stands five feet four inches tall. According to the standard given by the authorities this makes the university girl a little below normal, as her weight should be 125 pounds.

WINTERSET TRIAL HAS BEEN STARTED

Winterset, Dec. 9.—The trial of Fred Meyer, charged with the murder of his young wife, began here. Witnesses told of the finding of the wife's body in an upper room of the Meyer home. It has always been the contention of Meyer and his mother, Mrs. Ida Meyer, that the young wife committed suicide.

Among the state's witnesses was C. E. Clayton, aged father of the dead woman. Huge crowds thronged the courtroom as an intense interest is being taken in the trial.

PLENTY OF YOUNG MEN IN GERMANY

Amsterdam, Dec. 9.—Replying to a statement in the French chamber of deputies that Germany last year called up the recruits of the class of 1916 and has now incorporated in the army all but one section of the class of 1917, a German official statement received here from Berlin says: "This statement is wrong. The class of 1916 has not even yet been wholly incorporated and the class of 1917 has not all been called up."

FIND DEAD BODY IN KNEELING POSITION

Council Bluffs, Dec. 9.—Miss Elizabeth McCreary, 44 years old, was found dead in her home, her body in a kneeling position in the bathroom. Her head and hands rested upon the side of the tub as though she were in prayer. That death was purely accidental is regarded as certain. A jet in the gas stove in an adjoining room, it is believed, was opened by catching on her dress and the gas overcame her.

NEIGHBORS HELP MAN.

Clarksville, Dec. 9.—Owing to the fact that Verne Connor received an injured leg by a fall recently, and has been confined to his home, about twenty of his neighbors picked his corn and stacked his fodder. They all took an interest in the work and every man did a big day's work.

LAD ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

Atlantic, Dec. 9.—William Lloyd, 20 years old, was accidentally shot and probably fatally injured by his boyhood companion, Tom Carey. The accident occurred near the Lloyd farm home. Young Carey has been hysterical since the accident and can give no coherent account of the shooting.

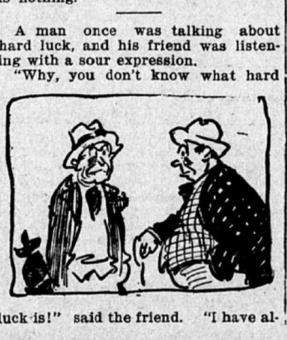
CLINTON MAN MISSING.

Clinton, Dec. 9.—Michael McNeely has been missing from his home here since last Wednesday. It is feared that he may have met with foul play, as he carried \$800 with him, the proceeds of the sale of his junk business.

Dinner Stories

While Abdul Hamid was still upon the throne of Turkey the president of the American Missionary college at Tarsus sent to New York for a large consignment of text books. In due time all except the chemistries came safely. At first the president could not find out what was the matter, but finally the commissioner of the port sent for him. "It is not for you to complain," said the officer, "but it is for you to give thanks to Allah that you did not follow your diabolical books into the flames. Here is one copy that we saved for a witness. Not all of its deadly ciphers could we read, but this is plain even to the eye of a babe." Pointing to the symbol, H2O, he read, with triumphant air and voice, "Hamid II. is nothing."

A man once was talking about hard luck, and his friend was listening with a sour expression. "Why, you don't know what hard luck is!" said the friend. "I have al-



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