

## The Norfolk News

Congress will open in time to adjourn for the holidays.

The Boers are making a good deal of trouble to the British for a subdued and subjected people.

The Madison Chronicle of this week is printed in an illuminated cover in honor of Thanksgiving.

They are getting some swift ways across "the pond" also. Mail matter is now sent from Paris to Berlin in 35 minutes via the pneumatic tube.

There appears to be some prosperity for the laborer in California. The Chico Valley Champion reports a scarcity of help to pick and market the ripening orange crop.

It is said that the turkey population was reduced by 6,000,000 on account of Thanksgiving. The population will be still further depleted if not practically annihilated about Christmas time.

The Chambers Bugle is of the opinion that about the only position which has not been offered Mr. Bryan is the presidency of the United States. On the contrary this "sit" has been emphatically refused him.

The World-Herald talks of "the men who own and control congress." It was quite clearly demonstrated about a month ago that the people own and control congress and not papers like the World-Herald and politicians of the same brand. That is what hurts.

Say, when talking about Christmas gifts, perhaps the folks at home would appreciate a year's subscription to THE NEWS above anything. It would be a constant reminder of your thoughtfulness and convey to them items of interest with each issue. Call early and avoid the rush.

The millers and grain dealers of Kansas have taken steps to improve the quality of wheat grown in that state. They will send to Turkey for a cargo of Russian-Turkey seed which they will deliver to Kansas farmers at cost. It is a good idea and might be successfully employed in other states.

The mayor of Grand Island has examined a number of alleged small pox cases about that city and officially announces that, with but one exception, they are nothing but the common, ordinary itch. Governor-elect Dietrich will undoubtedly lend his testimony to the fact that the itch is prevalent in the state.

There are brutes in this country that could give the most barbarous savage points on cruelty. A Kentucky man recently ran a red-hot poker down the throat of his 2-year-old step-daughter, the child dying from the effects of the torture. Such feuds are scarce, however, and will be scarcer if justice can overtake them.

Dick Croker has been "up against it" himself. Upon his arrival in England the Tammany chieftan was assessed \$5,000 for the privilege of visiting that country, this being an income tax on \$100,000 levied on account of the Boer war. It is supposed that his victims in New York will smile to themselves and feel like asking "How do you like it, Dick?"

During the campaign just closed the citizens of Pawnee county were determined to get at the foundation of the fusion stories in circulation concerning Mr. Dietrich and a delegation of ministers was sent to Hastings to ascertain the truth. Pawnee county gave Mr. Dietrich a plurality of 472 votes, which will readily indicate the results of the investigation.

Senator Hanna has again declined to be a candidate for president in 1904 and announces his intention of retiring from politics on the expiration of his senatorial term. Mr. Hanna has more than once demonstrated that he is a sensible man and that he does not want to be burdened with the responsibilities of the presidency in his old age, is not his least sensible conclusion.

The democratic governor of Minnesota has ignored Chas. A. Towne and offered the senatorship made vacant by the death of Cushman K. Davis to Loren W. Collins, republican. The appointment is only good for a short time as Senator Davis successor will be elected by the incoming legislature. Nevertheless Mr. Towne would probably have appreciated the honor of a seat in the senate, if only for a short time.

John R. Hays made the best race of the four defeated republican candidates for congress in this state, Robinson winning by only 175 plurality. In the fourth district the fusionists won by 507 plurality, in the fifth by 354 while in the big sixth Kinkaid only lacked 209 votes of beating Neville, the fusionist. In the first and second districts Burkett and Mercer, republicans, won easily by pluralities of 2901 and 1470 respectively. —Pierce Call.

The United States treasury now holds more gold than at any time in the history of the country, the accumulation

being \$474,108,330. Under republican policies the gold coin in the country has increased at the rate of about \$100,000,000 a year. With a record like this to look back upon four years hence it will be utterly useless for the opponents of that party to present a business proposition to the people with any hope that it will receive favorable consideration.

Great Britain is in need of more money and will probably be compelled to borrow it from the United States. The old mother country is undoubtedly great but when in need of money she has to get it where she can and the large heap of gold is now within Brother Jonathan's domains. It hasn't been so long since opposite conditions prevailed, but they are not likely to be so again. This country has the resources and the gold and it will be surprising if its wealth does not increase rather than diminish.

The following from the Omaha Daily News is a pretty strong recommendation of one of McKinley's cabinet officers, coming as it does from an independent journal when the heat of political battle has died away: "Secretary Hay continues his highly successful efforts to give the United States a commanding position in the Chinese concert. His course has been misunderstood in the United States and willfully misrepresented abroad, but it remains the most humane, as well as the most practical among the many proposals."

What is to be done with Bryan is a question now agitating the minds of many politicians. The democrats who have persistently averred that his policies mean defeat do not want him and the populists do not want him although there is no question but that he is more of a populist than a democrat. The gentleman will probably settle the question himself when the time comes. In the meantime it will afford some opportunity for political gossip to conjecture as to where he will land. He has been very quiet since the late disaster but is likely to arouse and prove quite a lively atom before the bat's eye of 1904 is on.

A new lot of "food cranks" are injecting their opinions into the discussion of the eating problem. The latest sect advocate uncooked foods exclusively.

At a recent banquet in Chicago the menu of the these dietitists consisted of raw oysters, raw shrimps, onions, radishes, nuts, raw cracked wheat, compressed wheat bread, and peanut butter. Nothing that has been in the reach of a fire is permitted on their tables. The main question that agitates the average editor is how to get food at all—cooked or uncooked—and he will bet his best straw hat which has been carefully laid away for next summer that if a piece of apple or mince pie or a nicely browned turkey gobbler hoves in sight he will reach out and take it uncooked, dietary to the contrary notwithstanding.

Since the returns are all in it is quite interesting to review some of the pre-election prophecies of the fusionists. Away back in 1896, April 30th, Senator Allen read the handwriting on the wall and on the floor of the senate pronounced the doom of the republican party as follows: "In 1900 the republican party, dejected and broken as a result of promises unfulfilled and expectations unrealized, will disappear, never, in my judgement, to reappear on the horizon of national politics again. In 1900, as sure as the sun shines, as sure as there is a God in Israel and loyalty in the hearts of the American people, the republican party will go out of power and it will be dead politically than Julius Caesar has been declared to be in this chamber, for all time." The senator evidently had a badly mixed horoscope and what he read to be the republican party must in reality have been the fusionists. With this correction the prognostication reads quite accurately.

Madison county stands seventh in the increase of population in the state since the census of 1890. That year the population of the county was 13,669. The census this year shows its population to be 16,976, an increase of 3,307. Its population in 1880 was 5,589. Madison, with a number of other agricultural counties, has kept the state from showing a decrease in population. In padded districts and western counties there has been a falling off from the record of 1890. Fifty-five counties show a total increase in population of 87,928. Thirty-five counties, containing most of the more densely populated districts show a decrease of 78,299. The net increase for the state is therefore but 8,628, as shown by the census. If the truth had been told 10 years ago there would have been a much larger increase. The returns also show that the Third congressional district is the largest in the state in the matter of population, the figures being 214,019. The Sixth district, largest in area, is the smallest in population, containing 164,365 people. It is therefore possible that the districts will be rearranged. But for the padded returns of the larger cities in 1890 Nebraska would have a good showing. The figures show that northeast Nebraska is growing rapidly, the people realizing that it is one of the best districts of the state. It is the garden spot of the west and bound to advance.

Plant a holiday ad in THE NEWS and harvest a crop of patronage.

It will be at least four years before the factory chimneys swear off on that smoking habit.

The price of eggs is also showing an upward tendency and if the thing continues a bombardment of decayed hen fruit may be deemed an honor rather than a disgrace—that is if the price is any object.

Cotton was \$25 a bale in 1896 while it is now worth \$50 a bale, an advance of \$14 since election. There must be some kind of a trust among the southern cotton planters, but the producer is not likely to kick.

There is not much question but that a couple of republicans will be elected to represent Minnesota in the United States senate. That party only has about 90 majority on joint ballot, and two senators to elect.

During the past year Nebraska has sold her surplus products to the amount of \$173,000,000. Nebraska is all right, especially under a republican administration, and the people realize it. Nebraska may not be able to feed the world but she can take care of her share of it.

Congress meets today and with the preliminary activity shown by the members the prospects are that it will at once enter upon its important duties and accomplish much from the start. The committees and leaders have been in action some time preparing matters to be submitted to the two bodies.

The Omaha News has it that when drunk a Frenchman wants to dance, a German to sing, a Spaniard to gamble, an Englishman to eat, an Irishman to fight and an American to make a speech. With this to guide all you have to do to determine a man's nationality is to get him drunk and mark his characteristics.

Farmers in parts of California are discouraged about their best crops. For several seasons past they have been having failures owing to a lack of rain, some reporting that they have not received enough to pay for cultivation. Under the present contract Nebraska is likely to again take first rank as a sugar beet producing state.

The New York Journal says of President McKinley's annual address: "The showing of the message is one to make Americans proud of their country, notwithstanding the European talk of 'feebleness' and 'vacillation' by the United States." Now if the World-Herald would say something sensible and patriotic there might yet be some hope for democracy.

A Connecticut millionaire, Robert M. Bruce of Greenwich, must be an entirely original person. He recently appeared before the board of assessors of that town and asked that his assessment be increased 50 per cent. It is understood that all millionaires there will be raised in the same proportion. If this fad would strike the wealthy people in all parts of the country there would be cause for rejoicing in many a state and bailiwick.

Another step has been taken toward the building of the Nicaraguan canal, Secretary Hay having signed a treaty with the minister of that government whereby all the rights and privileges necessary are granted. At last it is becoming evident that the "passage round the Horn" will become ancient history. It is a long step forward in the development of this country and the advantages to trade and commerce will be marked.

One of the first results of McKinley's re-election in the Philippines was when 2,200 natives laid down their arms and took the oath of allegiance to the United States, the oath being administered by a priest. This was all in one particular portion of the island. It is confidently expected that others of the rebels will not be long in following their example and the Philippine rebellion will have passed into history long before Mr. Bryan will have another opportunity to create a "paramount" issue.

The additional crime of transmitting yellow fever is now laid up against the pestiferous mosquito. The action of drilling into a person's epidermis is an ample death warrant but when the little brute injects yellow fever virus along with its drill it is carrying matters a little too far and if it can be sentenced to death before the drilling experiment begins there will be few to mourn. They are not distributing much yellow fever in this part of the country these days but the coming generation of the insects will doubtless be made to suffer just the same.

The Gordon Journal has some items that indicate that the wire trust, the oil trust and the sugar trust are not the only "pebbles on the beach." They are as follows: "A member of the hay trust was in town the other day, selling a medium grade of upland hay for \$8.00 a ton. Talk about salt trusts and sugar trusts, did you ever see anything that beat the hay trust? \* \* \* A farmer was in town the other day with a load of hay and a town cow swiped a few cuds,

and the farmer wanted to charge the owner of the cow \$3.00. He said he was hay this year. It comes nearer being greenbacks."

The isthman canal commission has made its report in which it favors the Nicaragua route as the most practical, although it will cost several million dollars more to complete it. The route will be shorter than via Panama by about 400 to 500 miles between San Francisco and important ports on the Atlantic. The aggregate cost of construction will be more than \$200,000,000. They figure on a depth of 35 feet and a bottom width of 150 feet. It will require from eight to ten years to complete the work. It will be 186 miles from ocean to ocean and will take about 33 hours for a vessel to pass through. The proposed canal will allow the passage of the largest ocean vessels. It is a gigantic work, but Yankee push, pluck and ingenuity can accomplish the task.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat has figures proving a mighty growth in republicanism in the transmississippi states. Official returns from 15 states including six in this region give McKinley a total of 8,536,122, against 3,494,542 in 1896, and Bryan 2,921,719, against 2,937,306 in 1896. The republican gain in the 15 states is 41,588 and the democratic loss is 15,587, a net republican gain of 57,107. This gain comes entirely from states west of the Mississippi. The net republican gain in Missouri is 20,907; in Nebraska, 21,388; in Arkansas, 36,349; in Oregon, 11,100; in Wyoming, 4,812 and in Utah, 53,173. The total republican gain in the six transmississippi states reported officially is 147,729, McKinley gaining 71,617 and Bryan losing 76,112. It is a remarkable repudiation of Bryanism in the region that gave it birth.

J. Sterling Morton's Conservative is very well pleased with the appointment of Dr. Teal to the superintendency of the Norfolk hospital for the insane. That paper commenting on the appointment, says: "If Governor Dietrich appoints as good men for all offices as Frederick Teal, of Omaha, his superintendent of the hospital for the insane at Norfolk, the people will have slight cause for complaint. In this appointment due consideration was given to merit and special fitness. Doctor Teal is a young man, scientifically equipped for his position and was highly recommended for the place by the medical men of Omaha. Governor Dietrich will in the end accomplish much more, politically, for his administration by continuing to exercise the same kind of discrimination in appointments than he could by following the example of his predecessor, who made party loyalty alone the basis for political preference. An honest, efficient, and competent administration would prove a wonderfully effective argument among the people of this state for the continuation of Governor Dietrich's administration. Give us a bright, capable, efficient educator for the Blind Institute."

The President's Message. President McKinley has delivered his annual message to congress, the substance of the document being presented to readers of THE NEWS with today's issue. As is usual with the president's communications, this is straight to the point and recommends action on important questions confronting this government in a statesmanlike manner.

A considerable portion of the document is devoted to the Chinese question. It is shown that the policy of this government has been toward the strengthening and modernizing of the celestial kingdom, with no idea of landgrabbing entering therein. Its chief aim seems to have been to protect its property, the lives of its citizens and discourage future outrages, with the ultimate object of an open door to trade and the placing of China on an equality with modern nations where all people of whatever sect or nationality are safe to go and come as they choose in times of peace.

The president favors a suggestion of the Belgian government looking toward the control of the liquor traffic with uncivilized peoples. This suggestion will undoubtedly receive the approval of all temperate people.

Some action to prevent lynchings is also favored.

Action looking toward the early completion of an interoceanic canal is urged, such action to be of a character that will remove existing objections. The Philippine question is reviewed at length and a disposition is shown to continue the present policy in those islands until congress shall have made other plans. The rights of self government in the islands shall be extended as rapidly as possible, the purpose being to give the reins of government into the hands of the natives whenever they lay down their arms and give evidence of an ability to make and administer laws in accordance with a civilized idea. Until the rebellion shall cease the government will, as in the past, be largely military.

The president favors legislation to preserve just and amicable commercial relations with foreign countries and the extension of the principle of reciprocity. A reduction of \$30,000,000 in internal revenue taxes is advocated, which will undoubtedly be made so that the masses will receive the benefit. A cable from

San Francisco to Hawaii and Manila is favored.

Authority is wanted for an increase in the standing army to 100,000 men, if necessary and argument is made that it is necessary although the increase is likely to be largely of native troops in the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico.

The requests of the secretary of the navy for new vessels, more officers and men and a statue to Admiral Porter are recommended to be granted. A plea is also made for the establishment of a national naval reserve and a grade of vice admiral.

A reapportionment of representatives in accordance with the new census is recommended.

Many other questions of national importance are handled in a masterly manner and a program for congress is outlined that will require the thoughtful and earnest consideration of members during the time it is in session, with small opportunity for idleness.

The message is concluded with the very important recommendation that economy be exercised in regard to the appropriation of public funds.

### CLEANING HOUSE.

Situation at the Capital Regarding Politics, Appointments, Etc.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 5.—(Special Correspondence)—The last week has been a very lively one at the capital for the reason that the applicants for places under the incoming administration have been on hand to look after their interests. The announcement that the heads of state institutions will select their own subordinates has relieved the pressure somewhat.

It is conceded by all republicans that Chairman Lindsay of the state committee deserves something handsome, and that his appointment as private secretary to the governor is only temporary. He was looked upon as the right man to help the new governor past the stormy period of the first six months. As a party move, the selection is regarded a most wise one. It is possible for a private secretary to make or mar the political future of a governor, a fact which Governor Poynter now realizes to its fullest extent.

The act of a fusion supreme court in killing the state board of transportation as soon as it was certain that fusion job-holders could no longer derive their living from it, was a thoroughly selfish performance which will, however, strike a responsive chord all over the state—a very unusual situation.

There is a very strong hint that other state boards are in danger of being lopped off by the coming legislature. The barber's board is laughing stock everywhere. The state oil inspection has long been known to be a fraud, perpetuated to make easy berths for political strikers. The fact that no oil is really inspected, that certificates of fitness have been pasted on vinegar barrels, and that the whole system is used to prevent competition in the oil business in Nebraska, justifies a message from the governor abolishing the "bureau." It is quite possible such a message will be sent in.

It is now apparent that the incoming state officials have concluded to make a "clean sweep" when it comes to making state appointments. They think that the state has been so far scandalized by the people who have held jobs during the past four years, that it will be no mistake to jump them all out of office and try a full new set, both upper and lower.

In the meantime there is a disposition to see to it that the useless employees in the various departments are not appointed, and this disposition also reaches toward the legislature, as is learned from the members who have visited this city in the past week.

The contest for speakership of the house is beginning to warm up. The general belief is that it will be settled entirely outside the senatorial fight, and that the legislature will be organized along thoroughly business lines, rather than as an adjunct to the senatorial struggle.

The secretary of state, realizing the need of a "clean sweep," has bought fine new carpets for the legislative halls. He wanted the new men to have new things to walk on, and besides he wanted to exercise his last privilege of buying things with the people's money.

The state committee has concluded to keep open through the winter, so as to have things ready for the coming campaign. This move is noted with satisfaction from all quarters, as it is certain to be productive of good results. The work which was done last winter and spring by the old committee aided in the splendid detail organization which was effected in the campaign just closed.

The claim of certain counties that they saved the election of Governor Dietrich is becoming the subject of much amusement. There are others entitled to credit. Without Lancaster county, Dietrich would have been lost. Gage, with its fourteen hundred majority, saved the governorship. If the splendid majorities in either Burt or Pawnee had been reversed the man from Adams would have been lost. Custer county furnished enough gain to save him, while Holt and Thurston, or a dozen other combination gains did the business. The claim of exclusive credit by one county deserves to be classed with the celebrated story of "the man who killed the bear."

Legislative members and visitors who came to see the winter performance, will have more than usual difficulty in securing quarters. Lincoln is pretty well filled up with the natural increase in population in the last two years, and desirable rooms which heretofore have been at the disposal of the legislative contingent, are nearly all taken. The wise ones who expect to spend the winter here are already looking up locations. ADAM GRANGER.

### EXPULSION FOR TURF FRAUD.

Board of Review Investigates Extraordinary Case of Faking at Rushville.

Chicago, Dec. 6.—The board of review of the American Trotting association yesterday investigated one of the most extraordinary turf frauds ever perpetrated and at the close of the inquiry issued an edict of expulsion against the following persons, all residents of Rushville, Ind.: W. A. Jones, James Williams, W. J. Wilson, Harry Jones, John Sall, W. W. WIP son, J. S. Vance, J. D. Hiner, C. F. Vance, C. B. Lore and R. F. Scudder. The offense for which these people were put outside the pale of reputable turfdom is the "faking" of an entire day of alleged trotting and pacing over the Rushville track on Sept. 16, 1899, procuring the admission of summaries of the same in the official records of the association, as well as the Year Book, and then selling and otherwise making use for gain of the horses alleged to have made fast records on the day in question.

### LOP OFF \$40,000,000.

Ways and Means Committee Agree on Bill of Reductions in War Tax—Abolish Revenue Stamps.

Washington, Dec. 6.—Chairman Payne of the ways and means committee yesterday introduced a bill reducing the taxation under the war revenue act, after the Republican members of the committee had agreed on the form of the measure and the articles to receive the reduction of tax. It is intended to have the full committee act on the bill today and to put it through the house before Christmas. The bill provides an aggregate reduction estimated at \$40,000,348.

The estimated reductions in detail, as given out by Payne, are as follows: Beer, \$9,832,712; cigars, \$3,180,764; special taxes (section 2), commercial brokers, \$138,281; custom house brokers, \$8,167; circuses, \$11,744; theaters, \$47,178; exhibitions, not otherwise provided, \$84,218; total special tax, \$287,389. Schedule A—Bank checks, \$7,000,000; certificates of deposit, \$200,000; drafts, inland, \$500,000; promissory notes, \$3,500,000; postal orders, \$602,000; foreign bills of exchange, \$100,000; export bills of lading, \$100,000; express receipts, \$1,200; telephone messages, \$315,000; bonds of indemnity, \$250,000; certificates other than of profits, \$200,000; charter party \$100,000; broker contracts, \$100,000; conveyances, \$3,000,000; telegraph dispatches, \$300,000; insurance, \$3,000,000; leases, \$200,000; mortgages, \$500,000; passage tickets, \$200,000; power of attorney, \$100,000; protests, \$25,000; warehouse receipts, \$250,000; total schedule A, \$22,242,000. Schedule B—\$4,548,283; less wines, \$900,000—\$3,648,283; legacies, charitable, etc., \$500,000; grand total, \$40,000,348.

### TWO TRAMPS' TRAGIC END.

One Murdered and Dragged on to Track, the Other Stabs Himself When Caught. De Soto, Mo., Dec. 6.—Two unknown men lie dead at Blackwell, Mo., the result of murder and suicide.

Last night the men, supposed to be tramps, asked permission to sleep in the boiler room of C. V. Segar's sawmill. One of the men was about 50 years of age and the other about 20. Early this morning the young man was found dead on the railroad track with his skull crushed and part of his clothing missing. It was evident that he had been murdered in the sawmill and dragged to the railroad track and laid across the rails. A posse of citizens started in search of his companion, who was caught about five miles out and brought back to the scene of the murder. When accused of the murder the old man drew a knife and stabbed himself in the heart, death resulting instantly.

### STOCK SHOW CROWDED.

Maddened Bull Causes a Panic Among the Spectators.

Chicago, Dec. 6.—A maddened bull that had escaped from his keepers while being driven from the judges' ring yesterday at the International live stock exposition caused a panic among several thousand spectators. When the animal gained his freedom he lowered his head and made straight for the crowd. In the wild scramble for safety three men and a little girl were unable to get out of the way and were thrown to the ground by the infuriated beast. None were seriously injured, however, and the bull was captured by cowboys before he could do any further damage.

The attendance at the exposition was enormous and it was estimated that during the day between 50,000 and 60,000 persons passed through the gates.

### TELEGRAMS TERSELY TOLD.

Mrs. Abby Sage Richardson, dramatist and literary critic, died in Rome.

Roy M. Chamberlain has been appointed collector of internal revenue, district of Hawaii.

The Amalgamated Association of Meat Cutters and Butchers' workmen, in session at Cleveland, elected M. Donnelly of Omaha president.

W. J. Zuhl, who kidnaped his two children at Antigo, Wis., has been placed in jail at Wausau and the children have been returned to their mother.

M. Schnaebele, whose imprisonment by the Germans at Metz in 1887 nearly led to war between France and Germany, died at Nancy Wednesday of apoplexy.

Fire destroyed the structural iron works of Mesker & Co. and Lowenthal's commission house at Evansville, Ind., \$110,000. Fireman Gottlieb Surbeck was killed by a falling wall.