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BY FRANK P. MAC LENNAN.

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FULL LEASED WIRE REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

The State Journal is a member of the Associated Press and receives the full day telegraph report of that great news organization for exclusive afternoon publication in its columns.

The news is received in the State Journal building over wires that operate all day, busy through the entire day. A complete copy of the night report is also received.

Evidently Secretary Hay is convinced that the Golden Rule in diplomacy is not an iridescent dream.

Perhaps Uncle Chaucey Dewey will have a new joke ready to spring on the occasion of his approaching wedding.

England can secure peace in South Africa whenever she chooses to do so. All that is necessary for her to do is to move out.

The record of Athens who was buried alive six days at Kansas City has only been exceeded it is believed by that of David B. Hill.

It is to be hoped that the zeal of the postoffice department for the strict enforcement of law will not lead into assuming a position of censorship.

The beet sugar people will hold a convention in Washington, December 10. The cane sugar people will assemble their forces next Monday in the capitol.

The belligerents on the Isthmus of Panama seem to have concluded that if they must stop fighting every time a train approaches the railroad they might as well stop entirely.

All agree that there should be a check on the treasury surplus, but there will be so many plans offered that it is doubtful if any succeed except the old favorite—the appropriation plan.

One of the results of opening up a foreign market for American products is that consumers of anthracite coal are forced to pay an exorbitant price while the coal barons are so hard pushed to supply the European market that they have been compelled to refuse further orders for a time.

The announcement that Governor General Taft of the Philippines has been ordered home, in order that he may recuperate and regain his health, carries with it the suggestion that his health has become impaired, but there may be other reasons. The president's message is expected to suggest a new policy in the archipelago.

While European promoters are moving in the direction of supplying the connecting link of the railroad from Paris to New York by way of Berlin straits, the Pan-American congress is whirling up the rail route from New York to Cape Horn. A through ticket from London to the Horn without change of cars seems to be within the possibilities.

Mr. Oxnard, the head of the beet sugar trust, might play even with Mr. Havemeyer, the head of the cane sugar trust, by inducing congress to admit refined sugar free of duty. If raw sugar should come in free the beet sugar people would be ruined anyway, and therefore would have nothing to lose. When trusts fall out the consumer gets his dues.

Kansans who contemplate engaging in the beet sugar industry will do well to have a word with Mr. Havemeyer before expending any money along that line. The head of the cane sugar trust is contemplating the advisability of having congress remove the duty from raw cane sugar. Should he conclude to do this the beet sugar business will be badly crippled in consequence. It will be better to wait until Havemeyer reaches a decision.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

[From Collier's Weekly.] Promptly at the moment appointed for the convening of congress, a messenger from the White House will mount the steps of the capitol, carrying a very important document—Theodore Roosevelt's first message to congress.

The bearer of this precious epistle, Mr. O. L. Pruden, assistant secretary to the president, has delivered all the messages of presidents since the time of Grant—perhaps thirty messages all told, in ten administrations.

The document in the large envelope under Mr. Pruden's arm on this Monday, December 2, will have passed through more than one hundred different hands, and yet not more than a dozen persons, besides Mr. Roosevelt, will know what it contains. These privileged few include the White House stenographer, Private Secretary Cortelyou, and the members of the cabinet.

Why is the president's message so closely guarded? Why are its contents kept so profoundly secret? Principally to give all persons in any way interested in business ventures, or in the stock market, an equal chance. The policies recommended by the president in this message largely influence national legislation. Whatever he favors will send stocks up; that which he frowns upon will "bear" the market. Imagine the millions to be made in Wall street—using Wall street as a synonym for the whole financial and commercial world—if certain clauses in Mr. Roosevelt's message were to become known to certain individuals, because the matter became public intelligence!

LESSON OF AN ACCIDENT.

It has been many months since anything happened to appall the public as did the Michigan railroad disaster of Wednesday evening. Two fast passenger trains colliding in the open country head on at full speed suggests a scene of horror that no language can depict.

At once the question comes up, Is there not some way in which such accidents can be prevented? It is pertinent to say that, surely there is sufficient genius among railroad men to enable them to put into effect such a system of operating trains that will preclude the possibility of such affairs. Indeed, there is already a scheme which would apply excellently to every railroad in the country. That is what is known as the absolute block signal system. By this, when one train passes a station no other can do so until the first is reported by the next station. This has been tried on many roads, and when lived up to it is evident could have but one result, the prevention of all accidents resulting from the meeting of trains. The trouble has been with it that employes have in many cases failed to observe it absolutely. Operators have been allowed a little liberty, giving engineers and conductors of more than one train "permission cards" which allowed them to move within the same block.

Obviously this would in many cases hasten matters. And in railroad as well as in other callings expediency often becomes an important matter. But in violating such a rule as this there is bound to be more or less risk and in many cases the outcome of such disregard could only result in accidents costing the company in a few minutes more than years of strictly preventive measures would require.

That is treating the matter from the point of view of the railways, and is purely commercial. Besides that side there comes in the consideration that human life stands for more than all else. Whenever a railroad assumes the responsibility of transporting human beings it should reflect fully upon what that burden signifies. Since the employes are the ones standing for the company, it is they who should be constantly warned to avoid in every way risks which may entail loss of life. It is not to be thought for a moment that engineers and trainmen are going to hazard anything if they realize fully the meaning of a disaster. But like other people, they grow careless, negligent, and need sharp reminders as to conduct while on duty. The reading of an order seems to be a small affair, but upon the failure to perform it properly depend many of the blunders from which the worst accidents result. The use of intoxicants, it need hardly be mentioned, is strictly forbidden by nearly all, if not every one, of the railroads in this country. It is an old rule which cannot be too strictly adhered to.

The remark is often dropped that the railroads are too eager to increase speed, but this can have but little application to the matter in hand. It does not really make so much difference in results whether a passenger train is going 40 or 50 miles an hour. Time is the stuff of which men's lives are made. And if only the companies would exert themselves in the same manner toward the safe operation of trains that they do in building swift engines and fast track the number of casualties would be greatly reduced.

MAY RESULT IN GOOD.

While the decision in the stock yards case seems to have been adverse to the farming interests of Kansas, it may result greatly to their benefit. According to the reports from Washington the supreme court says that a legislature may, within reasonable limitations, regulate stock yards charges in general, though it may not attempt to regulate any particular specified company.

It seems peculiar that a body of legislators cannot see the difference between general and specific legislation. In this instance an effort was made to regulate the charges of the Kansas City stock yards company, while all other stock yards companies were allowed to charge whatever price they pleased. It would have been just as logical for the legislature to say that the Union Pacific Railroad company shall charge only two cents a mile for passenger traffic, but all other roads can charge as much as they please. The cases would be almost parallel.

But if the regulations are made to apply to all public stock yards alike, and are not confiscatory, according to the reported decision of the supreme court the law would be all right. If this is true it is quite likely that another stock yards law will be passed in the not distant future. The stock interests of Kansas are too vast not to be recognized in this manner.

And if stock yards companies can be regulated, why not other quasi-public corporations? Why cannot the rates of insurance companies, for instance, be regulated as well as those of stock yards? What would the United States supreme court say to a proposition of that kind?

PEOPLE WERE "EASY."

The success of the Webb City gang of foot race swindlers in finding suckers with money to throw away adds another chapter to the record of human frailties. It is almost past comprehension that strong and otherwise sensible men would squander thousands of dollars on such a well worn and gaudy scheme as the fake foot race. Still it is figured that these swindlers have secured in the past few months something like \$150,000 by means of their scheme.

It is reported that one man lost \$21,000, another \$8,000 and many others sums from \$7,000 down to \$2,000. These men did not do their business on a small scale. They were on the lookout for men with money and the individual with a few hundred was "passed up" as too trifling to bother with.

The organization is called "The Buckfoot gang" and the leader is "Buckfoot" Robert Boatright from whom the title is taken. Following is a brief outline of the plan of operations: The members would first get over the United States in search of victims. For instance, one would secure employment

in a town and apparently become a fixture in the community. He would beat all the sprinters in the vicinity and become the idol of the local sports. His confederate would happen along and a big race be arranged. It would be a swift one and would so whet the appetite of the victim that the latter would stake thousands on his "townsman." The next step was a trip to Webb City where "Buckfoot" does the grand finale, a part of which is often the gift of a ticket home. A part of the game was to induce the victim to put up money furnished by the swindlers themselves. When he sees that they are not "afraid" to risk their ducaats, he comes down handsomely himself. Then when the race is lost, he finds that he has "sacrificed" their money as well as his own. Usually the victim is a prominent business man or public official, who as a general rule feels that he cannot afford to "sneak," so he quietly pulls for home and says nothing.

There is nothing new in the plan except that it is on a larger scale than the customary "fixed" foot race with which everyone from Medicine Lodge to Troy is familiar. The American people must be willing victims to enable the Buckfoot gang to clean up \$150,000 by this means.

MORE PAY FOR POLICEMEN.

One of the odious things of Mayor Hughes' administration is the odious way in which the city's affairs are being executed, while the city's bank account is usually represented by an overdraft which draws \$4 per cent. There has been nothing that looked like real retrenchment since the mayor and his council took up the reins. The board of health has been allowed to have its own sweet will in the matter of spending the city's money, there have been additions to the regular force of city employes, thousands of dollars have been pledged for the pay of attorneys employed to assist the city attorney. The mayor secured a liberal increase in pay, and the councilmen shared in the division of spoils. Many other city officials felt the boisterous hand of the city council underneath their pay-checks.

In view of these facts, the policemen of the city will come before the council Monday night, and before the committee on ways and means tonight with a very good basis for their demand for an increase in pay from \$50 to \$55 a month. They will present arguments to the city council which will find it hard to ignore. "You have raised your own pay, you have raised the pay of the electric light plant employes, you are paying the firemen more than you pay us, and we claim to be entitled to \$55 a month. We have to buy certain kind of clothes, we furnish our own fireman's work nights half the time, and are on duty seven days a week. We face as great danger as the firemen do, and we face it constantly." This is the sort of argument which will be advanced by the police officers. What reply can the city make to such demands? There is none, except that the city finances are low, and they have been low ever since the new administration came into office.

After the pay of policemen is raised, the sanitary policemen will be entitled to a raise, also the street force and the engineering corps. Apparently, the heritage which the Hughes administration is preparing to leave to its successor is an inflated pay roll and an exhausted treasury. The ball has been started at the top of the heap. Let it roll to the bottom, and help out the men who need more pay, as well as the high officials in the city government.

OUR HOLD ON EUROPE.

[From the Chicago Record-Herald.] The beet sugar industry is certainly making a remarkable growth in this country, and it is in the usual order of things that its promoters should seek to retain the protection of a sugar tariff. But all agriculture should hardly be dealt with in the same manner, and there is no little confusion in what Herbert Myrick, chairman of the League of American Producers, says concerning the sugar trust and the contraction of our European markets.

If we admit that the trust is the chief agency that is working for free trade in raw sugar, and that there is a determined effort to open our ports to free tobacco, wool, cotton, rice, fruit, vegetables and nuts from Cuba, South America, the West Indies and the East Indies, the European market will still have to be considered as a separate subject, and it is certainly not contracting. Mr. Myrick himself has to admit that it has been increasing up to the present time though he afterward speaks as though contraction had begun. The fact is that there has been a steady expansion since 1899, and that all previous records have been broken in the last four years. The exports for 1900 were \$53,653,570; for 1899, \$784,989,957; for 1900, \$835,912,302; and for the first nine months of 1901, \$650,354,694. The last figure for nine months surpasses all previous records except the ones mentioned and those of 1897, 1892 and 1881. It is larger by 56 millions than the return for the corresponding period of 1900.

New European tariffs may check the foreign demand, but they are not framed with reference to our importations from the West Indies or South America. The German tariff, which is of agrarian origin, is aimed distinctly at American breadstuffs, a stupendous article of trade, which makes the beet sugar interest look almost infinitesimal by comparison. We might tickle the German agrarian, who in himself a beet sugar producer, by proposing a reciprocity of wheat for sugar, but this would not suit Mr. Myrick, who thinks that our manufacturers should reciprocate or abdicate in favor of wheat because they have been the greatest beneficiaries of a protective tariff hitherto. The manufacturers would reply, however, that their foreign market, which has grown marvelously, should be preserved, and the German agrarian would reply that his objectionable wheat could not be removed by American concessions to German manufacturers. It is far easier to satisfy these various competitors by cross-tariffing, and the real security of the American farmer will be found in the craving of the foreign statesman for wheat which cannot raise a foot enough for the home supply most import, and what he becomes of the beet sugar industry here, the farmer's European market, which is largely, by the way, in a free trade country, is not likely to contract except for occasional natural fluctuations, for many years to come.

THAT PROPOSED LOG HOUSE

The scheme to build a log house at the St. Louis World's fair as the Kansas building has been sprung by some yet untried humorist, Kansas might as well, or a little better, erect a state building out of adobe or marble as to build a log house. One would be as appropriate as the other.

If Kansas has a log house as the typical structure of the state then the inside ought to be filled with walrus hides, elephant tusks, lions' pelts, gatta percha, coconuts and sharks' teeth. Such a collection would be in keeping with the humor of the scheme. A special attraction for the second floor might be Mrs. Nation at work.

A house characteristic of the prairies would be a sod house but it is not necessary to perpetrate such an unsightly affair on the public. Kansas people are civilized. They live in houses, not in tree tops as an Englishman once supposed, and Kansas should be represented by a building of slightly architecture.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

[From the Chicago News.] A domestic broil gets a man in hot water.

Some people are prepared for any emergency, but they seldom become less foolish.

When you meet a man with a scheme, proceed to get in a hurry.

The man who owns but one shirt is, necessarily, short of change.

Turn about is fair play—to the small boy of the city—get-out.

Lots of people give advice freely because it doesn't cost them anything.

Many a man who tries to be a rascal finds he is only capable of being a fool.

An Irishman says there is no blessing like health, especially when you are sick.

Men sometimes become wiser as they grow older, but they seldom become less foolish.

When a woman has a headache it is natural; when a man has a headache it is usually acquired.

Don't think that by being miserable you will be any happier in heaven if you happen to get there.

A Cincinnati physician took some of his own medicine. The verdict of the coroner's jury was "Death due to unprofessional conduct."

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

[From the New York Press.] Women never believe a man appreciates the importance of his engagement unless he acts restless and rattled.

People who won't share one bit of their joy with anybody will share their misery with anybody that comes along.

Whoever is willing to marry a widow or not depends mostly on whether she is willing to make him widdy.

The advantage the man who lives in the suburbs has over his city friend is that he has to be home earlier, trying to find his way back to the city late at night.

A woman can have absolute faith in her husband, but she should believe that he believes that if he should lose the lock of her hair she would give him when they fell in love, he would lose all his luck too.

QUAKER REFLECTIONS.

[From the Philadelphia Record.] It doesn't take dynamite to blast hopes.

The love of money is what makes a man root.

Lots of fellows get cold feet waiting for dead men's shoes.

On the whole, the hostess is generally a high-strung individual.

The hero of the hoursometimes doesn't last much longer.

So far as football is concerned, the game season is nearly over.

What we consider necessities we often regard as extravagances in others.

You seldom see a person with a sunny disposition and a shady reputation.

A man may have the physique of a giant and still not be able to support a little wile.

Borrowwell—"Bones gets more eccentric every day." Harduppe—"Yes; he is actually paying his debts."

GLOBE SIGHTS.

[From the Atchison Globe.] A fool idea is all right if you can make it go.

Some applicants are now struggling to do without sausage.

When an old person is sick, don't say he "hangs on," say he lingers.

When a girl is in love, she doesn't usually do anything, anything well, not even looking pretty.

When a rich man takes a walk for exercise, a poor man can't keep his nose from going up in the air.

Science may never be for a dramatic criticism published under a head of "The Play's the Thing."

We advise you to eat all the kraut you can get in the season, and to avoid an attack of indigestion may be cured by spring.

An Atchison woman spent so much recently for oyster forks that her family will have to go without oysters all winter.

Opinions as to what is artistic will always differ. An undertaker thinks that a well preserved corpse is about as artistic as you can get.

Six hours after the world has proclaimed a man a hero, it begins to find out that any man would have done the same thing in his place.

Out in the country, when the barn is larger and finer than the house, it is a sign that the woman is so meek she wouldn't cry if stepped on.

When her kin come to visit her, a certain Atchison woman discharges her servant, and saves that much by making her visitors help her.

It is said that people have a "gift" for music, or for painting. Ever hear of anyone who had a "gift" for housework, or farm work, or anything else practical?

When a man dies who has worked hard all his life, we like to see the old fashioned obituary used that begins "He died in the arms of his Lord."

We are proud to see so many girls wearing auto cloaks on the streets; it gives strangers the impression that there is an automobile in every stable in Atchison.

A woman knows how hard it is to do without a new fall hat when all the other women are wearing them. Well, that's the way a man feels when he is doing without smoking.

Chicago and Return

\$16.00 via the Santa Fe, December 1 to 1 inclusive; good until December 8 returning. Four trains each day: Leave Topeka 2:50 p. m., arrive Chicago 7:30 a. m.; leave Topeka 4:40 p. m., arrive Chicago 9:00 a. m.; leave Topeka 12:50 a. m., arrive Chicago 2:15 p. m.; leave Topeka 4:47 a. m., arrive Chicago 9:00 p. m. Compare this with time of other lines.

BOOK NOTES.

One of the prettiest holiday books published this season is a new volume of poems by Paul Lawrence Dunbar from the press of Deed Mead & Co., New York. It is called "Candle Lightin' Time," and is made up of nine of the characteristic tuneful poems by the well known negro poet. He has no peers in the realm of negro dialect verse and his talents never show so brightly as in the book just issued. "Dat Ole Mare o' Mine" is brim full of the sentiment which is sometimes found in the attachment of a negro for his horse, while "Fisher" will strike a responsive chord in the heart of every one who has ever tried his hand at angling. When "Lias Went to War," is brim full of pathos. It tells a quaint homely story that will bring tears to the eyes of the reader. "A Spring Time Wooing," but probably the best thing in the book. It is delicately cast and is a pretty little story beautifully told. "Candle Lightin' Time," which is the title of the book will prove a never ending source of pleasure to children. One of the best things about the book is the illustration. The pictures are all cut from photographs and are brought out accurately the features in the verses. Added to this each stanza is entwined in a wreath of evergreen and the whole makes one of the most perfect books published this season by this popular firm. (Through Moore Book & Stationery company).

Marah Ellis Ryan writes of the Kootenai country in her latest book, "That Girl Montana," published by R. B. McNally & Co., of Chicago. "Tana," around whom the story centers, is a girl of sixteen, who has been forced by her father, Lee Holly, the most desperate man of the northwest, to disguise herself as a boy to aid him in his schemes. After his supposed death, she escapes to the tent of a friendly Indian chief, and is impulsively adopted as his ward by Dan Overton, known as the squarrest man in the country who scoffs at the idea of a sentimental culmination of his guardianship, as he knows that his wife whom he had married years before, but who has left him was still living. With the reappearance of Lee Holly in the camp where Tana discovers the lost gold mine, and his mysterious death, of which his father is suspected, the plot begins to unfold. There are a couple of other love episodes in the book and an element of comedy, but these are incidental to the story. The opportune death of Mrs. Overton just after her confession to Tana, allows a satisfactory conclusion of a readable volume.

"Polly in Fairyland," by Carolyn Wells, has been published by the Henry Altemus company, Philadelphia. A little girl or boy who loves fairies wants to go to Fairyland, and find out how they live there, what their houses are like, and what they do to amuse themselves, just read this book and be transported into the very heart of Fairyland itself. Polly, whose full name is Pollywinda, went there, and her adventures are graphically told. Unlike "Alice in Wonderland," she didn't meet queer, unusual creatures, but she visited the old Aladdin, Cinderella, and the Queen of Hearts in their palaces, and piloted by Puss in Boots, traveled over the whole realm, and became well acquainted with the heroes and heroines of Fairyland in their own homes. Then, of course, she called on the Three Bears in their woodland home, and also interviewed the Old Woman who Lived in a Shoe. And you'd never guess, if you weren't told, that a beautiful princess who was called "Scary" for short, was really Scheherazade, and she told some of her own marvellous stories for Polly's benefit. Polly also went to sea in the bowl of the Three Wise Men of Gotham, and, in short, every well-known personage of nursery lore easily helped to make her trip a success. And this delightful matter, told in Miss Wells' own crisp and original manner, with frequent interspersions of her rhythmic, jingly rhymes, goes to make up the gayest, jolliest child's book of the season.

A pretty juvenile book just published is "Happy Days for Little Folk," by the Frederick A. Stokes company, of New York. The stories and verses are by Mabel Humphrey and the color plates are after watercolors by Frederick M. Spiegle. There are also tasteful marginal illustrations. The little volume cannot fail to be of interest to all children.

Mr. F. Marion Crawford's new novel, "Marietta: A Maid of Venice," published by Macmillan, has run through four large editions since October 28, the day of its publication.

A special holiday edition of "The Crisis" is being prepared by the Macmillan company. The stories and verses will consist of a new portrait of the author never before published and reproduced in photogravure.

"A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, has been published in the beautiful Remarque edition by the H. C. Caldwell company, Boston. The dramatic story possesses perennial interest for young and old, and it never has been presented in more perfect form. Whether regarded as a ghost story, a character study, or a parable, the "Christmas Carol" is one of the most brilliant and absorbing tales in English literature.

"Elegy and Other Poems," by Thomas Gray, is one of the recent productions of the H. M. Caldwell company of Boston, in small, handsome, flexible binding. The "Elegy in a Country Churchyard" occupies as secure a place among English classics as "Hamlet" or "Paradise Lost," but some readers do not realize that several other poems by Gray are equally perfect and impressive. This collection contains all of Gray's verse which is really worth knowing.

VANDERBILT BABY NAMED.

Latest of the Lins Will Be Called William Henry.

New York, Nov. 30.—William Henry Vanderbilt, third of the title and latest of the line, opened his eyes on his first Thanksgiving day, a named baby. It was decided this morning that the son of Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt should be named both William and Henry, in honor of his great grandfather, and so keep up the name that has so long been famous and honored. And the name has best of love, not only for Cornelius Vanderbilt's sake, but because his eldest son, brother to Alfred Gwynne, bore the name for the 21 years of his life. The decision came after the name "Cornelius" had hung three weeks in the balance, this being the only other name suggested that was seriously considered.

Santa Fe Health Resort's Excursion Rates.

Phoenix, Arizona, and return, \$65.00, good for one month. San Antonio, Texas, and return, \$20.00, good returning until June 1. El Paso, Texas, and return, \$43.40, good six months. Dallas, Texas, and return, \$31.00, three months' limit. Hot Springs, Ark., and return, \$28.85, three months' limit. Excursion rates to other health resorts quoted on application. Address 3-90 p. m. Compare this with time of other lines. Agent A. T. & S. F., Topeka.

ART FRAMING. "You are certainly very reasonable in your charges; you deserve to do a large framing business," remarked a gentleman yesterday, for whom we framed a lot of fine pictures. We appreciate such compliments. Our strong point is in the quality of our work. We consider the price a secondary matter—that it is reasonable is to our credit. It accounts for the fact that we are doing the high grade framing for Topeka. Now is the time to think of your Christmas framing as we can give it better attention than during the holiday rush.

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