

The Herald.

By The

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1914.

THE EDITORS.

The editors are coming to Houston in April. That is to say a national association of newspaper men from all over the United States will assemble at that time. The men who will attend that convention are masters of their craft—the most difficult of all crafts is master. Therefore they have seen men and cities. Otherwise there could be no mastery of the newspaper business. To know men and cities is part of the curriculum. They are hard folk to astonish. It is not easy to show them something they have not seen. At a certain point in his career the trained newspaper man like the Roman exquisite of old time longs for a new sensation, yearns for a genuine surprise. However, unlike the Roman exquisite, his yearnings lie in the direction of things which may be enjoyed on the aesthetic side of his nature.

This brings us to the point where Brownsville is concerned. The average man attending that meeting has never seen the Lower Rio Grande Valley in April. He has that astonishing experience before him, provided the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce, will and can persuade the entertainment committee at Houston to bring him here. Bring him for his proper enjoyment. Bring him for the good of his soul; for he is sometimes falsely accused of skepticism in matters that relate to the great trans-Jordanic regions that lie beyond the outer rim of this world; let him see the Brownsville country in April and he can easily believe in Paradise.

SPEED ORDINANCE.

If the speed ordinance is not valid the proper thing to do is to frame another that is valid. It will be a comparatively small matter to frame one without the objectionable features, or the objectionable omissions, which characterized the other. We must not allow people to be run over by careless or incompetent drivers. It is no credit to our humanity to allow that sort of thing. The Herald does not feel called to act either as judge or jury in the case before the court at the time the ordinance was declared invalid. Only the court and the jury could settle that matter after a hearing of the evidence in the case. No one wants any innocent man punished in cases where men have been maimed by careless, incompetent, or intoxicated drivers, no one wants any guilty man to escape. Human life is too sacred to be sacrificed wantonly just to create joy in the breast of the joy rider. We should say that the announcement that the ordinance is invalid has created an emergency where by the lives and limbs of men are daily placed at the mercy of the reckless and unfit persons who undertake to drive automobiles through the thickly crowded streets of the town. It is to be hoped that the town council will frame another ordinance without unnecessary loss of time. The fact that we are without laws on the subject has now become generally known, and that knowledge will not tend to make careless drivers more careful, or reckless drivers less reckless. Some breed wunner of a family may be deprived of his earning power in a moment and be maimed for life; some family may be deprived of the mother; some household may be deprived of a cherished darling, even between council meetings because of the criminal carelessness of some one who cares more for his own present conveniences than he does for the lives or limbs of human beings on the street. No laws will make men absolutely safe from accidents; but such protection as laws can give the people deserve and should have; and they should have it without one hour of needless delay. It is up to the mayor and the aldermen to place a good, sound, sufficiently drastic ordinance between an endangering public and loss of life or limb. This implies no criticism of the man who drew the law or the committee who recommended it or the council who passed it. In this big country we have hourly experience of ordinances and statutes that fail to stand the test of the courts. As a rule there are enough people concerned in any act of legislation whether in Congress or in the town council to dilute the blame so that it rests evenly on the shoulders of all who have to do with it. Human wisdom, as applied to acts of legislation, has several limitations. In this case the real question is, "How soon may we expect a no-speed ordinance?" In this matter the town council is hereby encouraged to break all speed records.

WITH THE EDITORS

The latest census reports show that here are 15,693,645 fowls in this State and about three-fourths of them are egg producers. The annual production is 17,845,047 dozen eggs, with a fair value of \$11,942,516. The yearly poultry production is 25,956,356 fowls valued at \$7,481,165.—El Paso Herald.

The weekly news letter sent out by the agricultural department says that there was considerably more than an average yield of potatoes in the country last year and that there is no apparent reason for excitement over the supply. There ought to be enough potatoes for all, and they should be sold at a fair price, and the inference is that some one has been cornering the market. Can it be that Tammany has been getting in its fine work in the potato fields?—Utica Observer.

Wood alcohol is now said to be a cause of blindness and therefore to be dreaded by workmen who use varnishes, in which it is employed. Cases have been cited in which the fumes of wood alcohol have caused death. The New York Medical Record notes that recently in New York a man engaged in varnishing the inside of large storage beer vats was rendered totally blind as the result of inhaling the fumes of a varnish in which wood alcohol was the solvent. Similar cases in other breweries have been reported. There is neither reason nor excuse for such accidents. Denatured alcohol is cheaper and safer for all industrial uses, the Record says. The employment of wood alcohol in liquors is a crime.—Exchange.

Why did the Chicago police arrest on a fake charge one of the hero matinees who captured a Russian battleship, the Potemkin and whom the czar's government is hounding? Romanoff methods should not be able to reach any American policeman.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Agamemnon Schliemann, son of the discoverer of Troy, is to be Greek minister at Washington. A higher compliment to the classicism of Dr. Woodrow Wilson could hardly have been paid by a friendly power.—Brooklyn Eagle.

The farm must be more profitable before we can expect for it to furnish more comforts and conveniences for the home. Make your plans to produce more and get more for what you produce. Then you will have more with which to improve your farm.—Farm and Ranch.

CLOSER TOUCH.

With the inauguration of Judge Thomas J. Freeman as president of the New Orleans Association of Commerce, there has been conceived a campaign to bring that vast empire of wealth known as the State of Texas into closer relationship with New Orleans. Judge Freeman is himself a Texan, chief counsel of the Texas & Pacific railroad, and president of the International & Great Northern, and no one appreciates better than he the possibilities of trade between Texas and New Orleans.

Judge Freeman sounded the keynote in his inaugural address.

"We are backed by an intelligent press, willing to go the limit for civic and commercial advancement, but when I look at the columns of these great city papers and see nothing that would indicate that we are taking advantage of that great empire that lies next door to us I wonder that we should neglect such a golden opportunity."

That empire is Texas, an empire with business crying for us to come and take it. Unfortunately it seems that we have stirred up some antagonism with our neighbors, and St. Louis, Chicago and New York are getting the business that we should have. Let ports have their competitive fights and differences, but let the two States stand together. Louisiana has much that Texas wants and Texas has much that Louisiana wants, and we should have a better commercial feeling between the two great States.

Judge Freeman's knowledge of the trade conditions in Texas will furnish the New Orleans Association of Commerce with the ammunition for a systematic campaign to build up commercial feeling between the two great States.

With an organization that includes six well financed bureaus the association is now in a position to undertake such a campaign with every prospect of success. The Wholesale Merchants and Manufacturers' bureau has already bound to this market the merchants of Louisiana and Mississippi, through buyers' conventions and trade excursions, and this rich empire to the west offers an inviting field for further enterprise. The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce at Washington has recently established a branch in the Association of Commerce building in recognition of New Orleans as the commercial center of this section, and there is no doubt in the minds of the informed that one of the regional banks will be located there. New Orleans, with a population that exceeds the combined population of Dallas, San Antonio, Houston and Galveston, is the largest wholesale market in the South and the Association of Commerce will strive to divert in that direction the trade that is now going to St. Louis, Chicago and New York from Texas.

So long as the American people spend \$200,000,000 on moving pictures, \$100,000,000 on candy and \$1,000,000,000 on liquor, they should not expect a \$50,000,000 reduction in the tariff to count for much in lowering the cost of living.—Houston Chronicle.

With hogs selling at 8 cents a pound on foot and pork going at a bit, we are at loss to understand why the farmers of this section do not indulge more extensively in that industry. Surely they can not find anything that will produce a greater profit for the investment and time expended. "Raise more hogs" is advice that ought to be heeded. Also the farmers should remember that there are dollars in diversification.—Jacksonville Progress.

The San Benito Light says, and we think so too, "If the cabbage prospects are as good this time next year as they appear this time this year we think we shall quit arguing with folk that want advertising for nothing and go to raising cabbage."—Harlingen Star.

Just to show that Aransas Pass is all that is claimed for it in the way of climate, it may be said in passing that a party of business men went in bathing January 1. The swimmers were watched by parties in shirt sleeves. And as a matter of record it may also be said in passing that a party of bathers took a dip in the briny at New York on the same day, but they were watched by parties clad in ulsters and fur coats.—Aransas Pass Record.

HEALTH POINTERS

AIDING THE INJURED.

In cases of burns or scalds ascertain quickly whether the injury is slight or not. Call a surgeon quickly for severe burns. In slight injuries of this nature let the water out of the blister by piercing low on the side with a needle that has been passed several times through a funnel and wiped on a clean dry cloth or piece of surgical cotton or washed in an antiseptic solution.

Avoid salves except such as are prepared by physicians. Patent salves too often contain ingredients that are extremely poisonous or are carelessly prepared. Always bear this in mind and avoid them as you would a plague.

For slight burns the simplest and most efficient remedy is common baking soda dissolved in water; as much soda as the water will take up. Apply with cotton or clean cloth and cover the wound with clean gauze to exclude the air. Always cover the burns and scalds as quickly as possible.

Pain is caused by the air reaching the burned spot. In the case of a small or of a severe burn it is well to immerse the burned spot in cold water. In the case of severe burns quickly remove the clothing and immerse the entire person in cold water.

Keep small burns in cold water until no pain is experienced when taken out. Flour is an old remedy, also wood ashes, but both are good things to avoid, since they are as liable to be the wrong kind as they are to be the right thing to use.

Burns are of three kinds and can easily be distinguished. Simple burns do not destroy the skin and simply reddens the wound; in such cases the two remedies mentioned above are sufficient. When the skin is blistered carion oil or pure olive oil may be placed on the blister and covered.

When the skin is destroyed do not wait to do more than immerse the patient in water, or if this is impossible on account of location cover the wounded part thoroughly with clean clothes and secure the services of a physician without a moment's delay. This applies in burns covering a small area as well as more extensive ones.

Accept the judgment of your eyes quicker than the advice or suggestion of strangers. The average stranger, in attempting to render aid to a person, will almost invariably attempt to allay the fears of relatives rather than assist the wounded.

Treat sunburns as you do all other burns. All burns from acids should be treated by surgeons no matter how slight, also it is well to resort to a surgeon in cases of slight burns on the face or neck, which may cause disfigurement unless properly attended to.

In case of bruises where the skin is broken cleanse as in cuts. If the skin is broken apply cloths wrung out in very hot water. Bandage all bruises with water. There are other things that may be used, but there are so many things that should not be used that the safest thing to do is to use only water to avoid misakes.

Small children are prone to push small particles up their noses. In cases of this kind do not poke anything in the nose trying to get it out, but tickle the nostril with a piece of thread, or a feather to induce sneezing. This will usually remove the substance. When this fails the only thing to do is to call a physician.

For sunstroke remove the patient to a shady place and lay him down with head level with the rest of the body. Loosen all of the clothing and pour cold water over the head and face. Rub the body with ice and apply ice packs. Apply heat to the extremities.

SCIENTIFIC FACTS

(The paragraphs in this department today are clipped from the Scientific American.)

The latest part of the world to fall a victim to the daylight saving fallacy is British Columbia, where the provincial legislature has been petitioned to advance the standard time now in use one hour from the first Sunday in April to the third Sunday in October. In support of this petition it is stated that British Columbians now sleep during three hours of daylight in summer.

The gold mining companies of the Rand field, South Africa, have been experimenting with electric blasting with a view to reducing the danger of miners' phthisis, a disease which is very widespread in that region, and is laid to the fine dust resulting from blasting. By using electric systems the firing can be done from the surface and the air can be cleared of the fine dust before the miners need to enter the min.

The New York Edison company has perfected an apparatus for eliminating the smoke and cinder nuisance at its great Waterside station, New York. The smoke from the boiler plant, laden with soot and cinders, is driven at high speed through a sheet of water, by means of which practically all of the material which constitutes a nuisance is deposited in a big water tank. The recent test showed an average efficiency of extraction of 95 per cent.

It is believed that about 70 per cent of all carpets now woven in Persia contain at least some aniline colors. The Persian government some years ago prohibited the use of aniline dyes, in order to maintain the prestige of the carpets made in that country, but now merely imposes a tax of 6 per cent on the value of exported carpets in which these colors are used. The United States is believed to be the largest purchaser of Persian carpets.

Experiments in Electroculture carried on by the United States Bureau of Plant Industry during the past year have not had encouraging results. Electrically treated plots of wheat gave an increased yield of only one-half bushel per acre above that of the check plots. In 1912 an increase of two bushels per acre was obtained. None of the experiments conducted by the bureau has so far indicated that electroculture is practicable from a commercial standpoint.

According to the Army and Navy Journal, the new gun mounted on the Ersatz Worth and battleship "T" is a Keppel 15-inch piece, presumably 45 calibers in length, which weighs seventy-five tons and fires a projectile of 1,667 pounds with a charge of 531 pounds of smokeless powder at an initial velocity of 2,789 feet seconds, and with the resulting enormous muzzle energy of 96,380 foot tons. The possession of such a gun means the ability to hit hard and accurately at very extreme ranges.

The marine meteorological charts heretofore published monthly for each of the oceans and for the Great Lakes by the United States Weather Bureau have been discontinued, and hereafter the only charts of this character issued by the government will be the pilot charts of the hydrographic office. The Weather Bureau will, however, continue to collect meteorological log books from mariners all over the world and to work up the valuable data they contain, subsequently turning the digested material over to the hydrographic office for use on charts.

Considerable agitation has been stirred up in London, following the address delivered before the Institution of Electrical Engineers by Prof. G. Klimenber, on the subject of electricity supply in large cities. He compared conditions in Berlin, Chicago and London, showing that in the first two cities only six power stations are used in each city, whereas in London there are sixty-four, and he showed how much more economical it would be to employ a few large stations. He suggested the substitution of a large power station for twenty-five of the existing stations.

Representative Hobson, in explaining to the House why he considered that the United States was only a third rate power, referred to the fact that our present small navy, merely in the performance of its police duties, would have to guard 30,000,000 people and \$37,000,000,000 worth of property that were concentrated along our seaboard and actually within gunshot of a hostile fleet. He stated that America has more lives and property exposed to such attack than all the rest of the world combined.

As a result of the Smoke Abatement conference held in London in 1912, and of the permanent committee for the investigation of atmospheric pollution regular and systematic observations of soot fall were begun October 1, 1913, in the various London boroughs and twelve other important towns and cities in Great Britain with the standard instruments devised by the committee. Baile W. B. Smith, who has charge of this work in Glasgow, recently visited the United States and endeavored to interest the municipal authorities at various places in this country to undertake similar observations.

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