

# Red Cloud Chief.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA

## Nebraska Notes.

Nelson boasts of a daily newspaper, the Daily Nonpareil.

Two prisoners escaped from the tin city jail at Plattsmouth.

A new paper in Nebraska is the Trenton Republican, F. M. Flansburg, editor.

According to reports in Nebraska newspapers the congressmen are doing a big seed business.

Central City is the latest Nebraska town to take up the matter of establishing a canning factory.

Weeping Water will not have a saloon as long as the sentiment is as strong against it as it is now.

The average value of farm lands in Otoe county, according to the assessor's listing of bona fide sales actually recorded, is \$55.48.

The Hay Springs-Alcove Telephone company, with a capital stock of \$25,000, has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state.

Owing to the flood along the Platte bottoms the stores of the Fremont merchants have been cleaned out of rubber boots and like goods.

If a red-hot summer follows, the ice man would rather not be anybody else, the Nebraska ice crop, according to all reports, is unprecedented.

A committee of leading business men of Aurora have gone carefully over the matter of a canning factory, with the result that the matter will be dropped for the present.

J. J. Lamill, a farmer near Stanton, during the past two years sold upwards of \$15,000 worth of fat hogs, besides selling a number of gilts, and now has in his feed yards more than 500 Duroc-Jerseys.

Commenting on the disastrous damage by fire recently to the state capitol of Iowa and Wisconsin, a Wood River paper says: "If there is a possible danger of fire in the state house at Lincoln it should be looked after."

Harlan county land sells readily for \$50 an acre right along. Such land is along the rivers and raises big alfalfa crops to make the cows laugh, and the old brood sow put on a broad smile, and hogs \$5 plus at that.

Corn is in great demand at Broken Bow. While the market price is quoted at only 31 cents, it is retailing on the streets at 40 to 50 cents a bushel. The elevators get scarcely any as the local demand exceeds the supply.

The restaurant owned by Louis Beard on the north side of the public square in Humboldt, was entirely destroyed by fire. The fire started in the rear of the building and was caused by the explosion of a gasoline stove.

N. T. Shriner of Fremont, recovered about eight hundred of the 1,500 sheep swept away in the flood. The animals had taken shelter on a knoll which was surrounded by water. This reduces Mr. Shriner's loss to less than \$3,000.

The Hastings Country club has decided to make large improvements on its ground this year. At a recent meeting of the club it was decided to build a \$350-extension to the porch, lay two new tennis courts, improve the golf links and to add other field features. Also it was decided to purchase 35 acres more land for the use of the club. The land will be paid for from the sale of the new stock issued.

There is a notable decrease in the number of public sales in Nebraska. It indicates that the country has become settled up with a class of citizens who are going to stay; that the roving element is gone and there are bright prospects for the development of the country. There are some people selling out, but the majority of these are moving into the towns, while others have come to take their places on the farm and ranch.

In state papers is the familiar instruction: "Test your seed corn." And the injunction is always valuable and timely at this season of the year.

Spalding can boast of the best water plant of its size in the state. The reservoir holds 27,080 barrels of the finest water ever taken out of the ground. The well, having been put down to coarse gravel, has an inexhaustible supply of water, and a fifteen horse power engine that is attached to a pump that throws several gallons to a stroke, can not pump it dry. The mains are six inch pipes, with hydrants at every corner, which with an abundance of hose, makes a perfect system of fire protection.

The Hastings school board is dealing seriously with truancy. One of the members of the board, who had gone to the trouble to investigate the records and compare the last school census with the present enrollment of the city school, learned to his astonishment that there are in that city at the present time 1,027 children between the ages of 8 and 14 who are out of school. A truancy officer has been appointed. If no more than one-half of the 1,027 now out of school are rounded up, two or more additional teachers will have to be employed.

Don't spit on the sidewalks in Lincoln. Many visitors have been arrested for spitting on the walk and many have been fined. Strangers have sought dismissal on the ground that they did not know the law, but many were fined anyway.

The people of Lincoln will be asked at the spring election to vote bonds to the amount of \$25,000, issued for the erection of two school buildings in Lincoln, one eight room building in the Hayward sub-district at Ninth and Z streets, and one two-room structure in the West A street district at A and Folsom streets.

# "ALL CONFIDENTIAL"

## General Bristow Testifies Before House Special Committee

### HAS CONVENIENT LOOPHOLE

Damaging Testimony was Unearthed by "Clerk Hire Section" of the Postoffice Department

Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, in testifying before the house special committee on postoffice report claimed for himself responsibility for only the first seven pages of the report which was sent to the postoffice committee and said the other portions of the document were the work of other officials of the department.

The clerk hire section, he said, was prepared in the office of the first assistant postmaster general, and that part relating to leases by inspectors and others in his own department.

Mr. Bristow's testimony threw considerable light on all phases of the inquiry. He practically cleared members of congress from wrongdoing, touching the clerk hire section of the report by stating that it was the duty of the first assistant's office to ascertain the condition of the work in an office where an increase had been recommended.

The committee was in executive session part of the time General Bristow was present.

Mr. Bristow was asked particularly as to how the committee was to get possession of certain of the confidential exhibits connected with his report on the postoffice investigation. These exhibits have been kept secret because of their bearing on pending prosecutions. They were used in making up the report touching members that was submitted to the house.

Mr. Bristow told the committee the reports would be submitted to it for confidential inspection.

## INDICT WHISKY SHIPPERS

### Grand Jury at Wichita, Kan., Bring in a Big Batch of True Bills

The federal grand jury returned six indictments against Kansas City and Kentucky wholesale liquor dealers at Wichita, who are charged with violation of the prohibitory law. The method complained of is the shipping of liquors to fictitious persons and then allowing express agents to dispose of the packages to who ever wants them. The names of the dealers against whom true bills were found were not made public.

True bills also were found against Chauncey Depew, C. P. Dewey, W. J. McBride and W. J. Ratcliffe for enclosing government land.

Chauncey Depew and McBride were at the trial at Norton, Kas., charged with the murder of Burchard Berry, a fellow ranchman in a quarrel that sprung originally from land questions.

## UNIFORM INSURANCE RATES

### New York Meeting of Fire Underwriters Make Rapid Progress

The national board of fire insurance underwriters at a meeting held in New York came to an agreement with a committee of twenty persons representing foreign insurance companies by which all the fire insurance companies in this country will form a combination. Uniform rates are to be fixed for the same class of risks in all cities, uniform legislation in all states and cities is to be advocated and all technical work of all the companies is hereafter to be done by a central board instead of local, state or city boards, as has been the custom.

Old insurance men say that this is the first time the companies have been able to agree on plans, although the subject has been frequently proposed. "Had we agreed long ago," said a leading insurance man, "we would not now be seeing an average ash heap of \$150,000,000 every year in this country."

## Coining Gold for Japan

The Examiner says that the San Francisco mint is making United States coin for the Japanese government, gold being sent there for coining into money which will be used in the purchase of food and other supplies for the army and navy. The last two steamers from the Orient have each brought \$2,000,000 worth of gold bullion from Japan.

## Outlawed Bribery Charges

The statute of limitation has expired on all bribery offenses committed during the 1901 session of the Missouri legislature and there can be no prosecutions of legislators who have not been indicted during the three years just ended. The cases of State Senators Frank H. Farris, Charles H. Smith and Buel Matthews, who were indicted on charges of bribery, are yet to be tried.

## NEW LAND BILL

### Repeals the Timber and Stone Act—A Check to Grafting

The senate committee has reported favorably the Quarles bill to repeal the timber and stone act. No bill introduced in congress in several years has been pushed with more vigor by its friends, or fought more stubbornly by its enemies, than the original bill fathered by Senator Quarles, which provided for the repeal of the timber and stone act, the desert land act and the commutation clause of the homestead law. For two years, the committee on public lands has had the measure almost constantly before it and heated contests have been so frequent that they threatened many times to break the personal regard in which members of the committee always held each other. The last three meetings of the committee have been no exception.

Last year the committee reported the bill over the head of the chairman, Mr. Hansbrough, but he prevented its passage. This year a majority of one was against Hansbrough, but he refused to put the motion to report the bill. He then interviewed members of the committee individually, urging that the passage of the bill would upset land laws and turn to Canada the tide of immigration now building up the west, and declared that the homestead law was vital to the unimproved west. He suggested that a measure be introduced repealing the timber and stone act only. He won Senator Nelson to the same view and having a majority the bill was introduced by Quarles and approved by the committee.

## APPOINT COMMISSIONERS

### Judges Ames, Oldham and Letton Reappointed by Supreme Court

The three judges of the supreme court, Chief Justice Sias A. Holcomb, Judge S. H. Sedgwick and Judge J. B. Barnes, reappointed Commissioners J. H. Ames, W. D. Oldham and C. B. Letton to serve for a period of one year from April 10. The salary of each commissioner is \$2,500 a year. At present nine commissioners are serving. The last legislature extended the commission for a period of two years, nine to serve one year and two to serve two years from April 10, 1903. Now that the court has made its selection of the three to remain the others will retire from the commission. The retiring commissioners are Fawcett, Albert, Kirkpatrick, Hastings, Duffie and Glauville. Commissioner Oldham is a democrat and Commissioners Letton and Ames are republicans. Mr. Ames was formerly a democrat, but has been a republican since the campaign of 1896 and is registered in his precinct as a republican.

## CATTLE MUST BE DIPPED

### State Veterinarian Thomas Backed Up by Governor Mickey

State Veterinarian Thomas has begun a war on parasite skin diseases of cattle which the veterinarian has discovered is prevalent among most of the cattle on the ranges and Governor Mickey issued a proclamation governing the dipping of those affected.

Veterinarian Thomas holds that much good had resulted from the dipping and that had the proper formula been used in the making of the dip the diseases would have been wiped out entirely. He therefore in his regulations instructs that the dip shall be made of sulphur and lime. Owing to the lack of funds it is impossible to send an assistant veterinarian to superintend the work and therefore the governor instructs the sheriffs of the various counties to see that the regulations are enforced. The dipping is to be done during the months of April, May and June and none but the formula issued by the veterinarian is to be used in preparing the dip.

## Hearings on 8-Hour Law

The senate committee on education and labor has begun a series of open hearings on the eight-hour bill, which was reported favorably in the Fifty-seventh congress, and which is also pending before the house committee on labor. Daniel Davenport, representing the American anti-boycott association, was heard and Judge Joseph K. McCamer, representing steel industries, presented resolutions calling upon the secretary of commerce and labor for information concerning the number of hours now exacted on the government work.

## Snow Storm in Chicago

In a furious snow storm enough snow fell to make the total for the winter more than break all previous records in Chicago. The season several weeks ago was officially declared the coldest ever known.

## Noted Bishop Passes Away

The Right Rev. Louis Maria Fink, bishop of the Leavenworth diocese of the Catholic church, died at his home at Kansas City, Kas., of pneumonia. He had been hovering between life and death for several days.

## Attorney Summers Must Suffer

William S. Summers, United States district attorney of Nebraska, will be removed from office. President Roosevelt has informed Senator Dietrich and Editor Rosewater of the Omaha Bee that he would take such action against Mr. Summers.

# JOHN BURT

By FREDERICK UPHAM ADAMS

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## CHAPTER TWO—Continued.

Prince growled, John looked up the road.

"There's someone coming," he said. Jessie turned and saw Miss Malden approaching. She looked at her muddy feet, her bedraggled hat and her splattered blouse and skirt.

"I'll get an awful scolding," she said, half to herself and half to the boy. Then for the first time she scrutinized John Burt. She noted that he was well dressed; that he was not barefooted, like most farmer boys, and that he was handsome and self-possessed.

"Do you belong to the riffraff?" asked Jessie, lowering her voice so that the approaching governess should not hear her.

"Never heard of it," replied John Burt in a puzzled smile. "What is it?"

"I don't know," said Jessie; "but my papa don't allow me to associate with the riffraff, and I forgot until just now to ask you if you are a riffraff."

A look of pain came to the honest face of the boy. Before he could speak Jessie turned to meet Miss Malden.

"Why, Jessie Carden, what have you been doing?" With a cry of dismay the governess dropped an armful of flowers and surveyed the wreck of the sailor suit.

Jessie looked penitent indeed as she gazed at the muddy shoes and the torn stocking; but contrition is a feeble flame in the heart of a child.

"Never mind the old clothes, Govie," she said. "Watch me catch a crab! I can do it just splendid!"

"Jessie, lay that pole down and come away with me," said Miss Malden sternly. "How dare you play with a strange boy? What would your father say? Come with me at

course, he began practice in Boston, and his success was instantaneous.

For ten years after the death of his wife, Peter Burt conducted the farm of his forefathers. One after another of his sons and daughters, as they became of age, left the old home, never to return. One night after supper Peter Burt informed the remaining children that he was going to sea. He had bought an interest in a whaling vessel, and would sail from New Bedford in a week. To Sarah—the eldest of the children—he gave three hundred dollars, together with instructions concerning the management of the farm. He did not know how long he would be gone—it might be a year or it might be five. With some tenderness he kissed the weeping orphans, and tramped down the road in the direction of Hingham.

Five years later the Segroganet dropped anchor at New Bedford. None of the crew that went on with her returned. Peter Burt sold the cargo, paid off his men, disposed of his interest in the ship, and on the following day walked into the Burt farmhouse. He was greeted affectionately by his son Joseph, who for a year had lived alone in the old house. A week later the boy was sent to school in Boston, and Peter Burt began his solitary occupancy of the ancestral home.

Shortly before Peter Burt's return, Robert had married, and the old man was delighted when the young couple made a visit to the old farm. The following year John Burt was born, and Peter Burt journeyed to Boston to witness the christening.

Two years later Robert Burns Burt and his wife were instantly killed in a railroad accident. The train crashed through a bridge. It was winter, and bitterly cold. Of the fifteen passengers in the car occupied by Robert



once!" She gathered up the flowers and took Jessie by the hand.

"Good-bye, Prince! Good-bye, John Burt!" Jessie waved her hand gaily at her fishing companion as Miss Malden turned into the path leading through the woods.

"He was real nice, and you're awful good, Govie, not to scold him!" were the words that reached John Burt as he carried his basket of crabs to the wagon.

## CHAPTER THREE.

### John Burt's Boyhood.

For two hundred years the Burt house had withstood the blasts of winter and the withering heat of summer. Time had worked upon the rough exterior until it seemed like a huge rectangular rock, weather-worn and storm beaten. The small plateau on which it stood sloped northward to the sea. Rugged rocks to the west stood as a wall, frowning at the quiet beauties of salt marsh and cedar swamp below. To the south were patches of meadow wrested from wood and rock by generations of toil. Through this fairer section a brook wandered between banks festooned with watercress. Old settlers knew the locality by the name of Rocky Woods.

When Hezekiah Burt died, Peter Burt inherited the bold homestead in Rocky Woods. He was a young giant with the shoulders of a Hercules. At the age of thirty he took to wife the fairest maiden of the surrounding country, and to them a son was born and christened Robert Burns Burt. A year later the mother sickened and died. The grief of Peter Burt was terrible as his strength. For a year he remained a prisoner in his house; then returned to work, and for two years labored with the energy of a demon. His second marriage followed. He led to the altar the daughter of a poor farmer, and of this prosaic union seven children were born.

After fifteen years of work and sorrow the patient wife folded her tired hands, closed her weary eyes and sank into that sleep which awakens not to toil. If Peter Burt loved his second wife, he never told her so. If he loved her children, his expression of affection took a peculiar form. He made no secret of his favoritism for Robert Burns Burt, the only child of his first wife.

Robert was a boy of whom any father would be proud. At twelve he was sent to school in Hingham. At nineteen he entered Harvard, graduating in four years with honors. After two more years devoted to a law

elder Blake had purchased the old Leonard farm, and so had become the nearest neighbor of Peter Burt. There were several children in the Blake family, but this narrative has concern only with James, the eldest, a boy of John Burt's age.

The two farms were separated by a creek, which, at a place called the Willows, widened to a pool, famed as a fishing and swimming place. One June morning John was seated on a log spanning the narrow neck of this reach of water. He had laid a bass, when the cracking of twigs and the swaying of the underbrush on the farther side of the creek attracted his attention.

A moment later a boy emerged from the thicket. He surveyed John with an expression more of contempt than of surprise. The new comer was a tall, well-formed lad, straight as an arrow, quick and graceful in his movements. He also carried a rod, which he rested against the log; and for a few seconds he calmly gazed at John Burt.

"Hello!"

"Hello!" answered John Burt.

"Fishin'?"

"No; swimming," replied John.

"Think you're smart, don't ye?" responded the strange boy as he halted his hook. "Crazy Burt's boy, ain't ye? No objection to my fishin', have ye?"

There was a taunting sarcasm in his voice, and defiance in his air. Without waiting for reply he cast his line into the water.

"You can fish as long as you please on your own side of the creek," said John sullenly. For half an hour no word was spoken. John caught four bass during that time, while Jim hooked only eel grass. Then he cast his line across the pool, dropping it a few feet from John's line.

John Burt's face flushed angrily. "Keep on your own side!" he commanded.

"I'll fish where I darn please! This isn't your creek!" retorted Jim Blake with a defiant grin. "If it is, what are you going to do about it?"

As he spoke John brought his hook near the surface, and by a sudden twist "snagged" Jim Blake's line. With a jerk he whipped the rod from his opponent's hand. Young Blake was furious. John calmly towed the rod across the pool, unsnarled the lines, and threw the rod on the bank.

Obedying a boy's first instinct, Jim looked for a stone, but found none. Then he jumped for the log. Dropping his rod, John Burt also sprang forward, and they met in the center of the bridge.

(To be continued.)

## Spool Building.

There is nothing more interesting for an ingenious boy or girl. Given a lot of spools and a ball of florists' wire, so much can be done that it is impossible to give a detailed description. To collect spools is a much easier job than the old-fashioned practice of collecting buttons. Old buttons are sometimes valuable in piecing out a set, but empty spools are usually thrown away. A person of enterprise can always collect them, and the smallest and most insignificant is not to be despised. A coming architect can plan a house, and the builder of a suspension bridge can string his spools securely on wire and produce a complete and steady structure. Strong little taboretts may be made of them, if there is solid wood for the table part; the spools may be used for the legs and supports. A trash basket may be made of them, strung one on top of the other, with a wooden bottom, and lined with gay cretonne. The smaller spools make pretty picture frames, especially if painted white or green. They may be used in a hundred ornamental ways, they may be collected from a dozen different sources, and they are sure to provide amusement for innumerable rainy days.

## A Luxurious Bed.

An Indian potentate recently ordered from Paris a bed which will rival the rajah's bed in the Arabian Nights. It is of satinwood, richly carved, and ornamented with silver plates in response work, adorned with bouquets of roses, pink and corn, the rajah's coat of arms being placed at the head. At each corner stands a statue of a girl one French, one Greek, one Spanish and one Italian. Each is tinted according to the complexion of her race, and wears a suitable hued wig, either black, blond, chestnut or auburn.

These maidens have movable eyes, and their only ornament is a gold bracelet round one arm, which waves over the sleeper's head either a fan or a yak's tail fly flapper. The further enjoyment is heightened by an ingenious arrangement in the mattress, which, as soon as any one lies down, plays a selection of Gounod's airs.—Ohio State Journal.

## Steepest of Mountains.

Mount McKinley is known to be the steepest of all the great mountains of the world, and it is unlike most other great peaks from the fact that arctic conditions begin at its very base. The prospective conquerer of this immense uplift must pick his path over broken stones, icy slopes, sharp cliffs and an average slope of 45 degrees for at least 14,000 feet.

## Dogs That Smoke Pipes.

These two dogs, Dewey and Ruth, are the pets of a Minneapolis man. Their skill in balancing pipes between their teeth is but one of the many clever tricks they have learned. In justice it should be said that the pipes are never lighted, but the dogs enjoy them, all the same, and anybody who tries to interfere with the after-dinner smoke must watch for a fight.

## CHAPTER FOUR.

### James Blake.

John Burt was fourteen years old when he first met James Blake. The