

EDITORIALS

OPINIONS OF GREAT PAPERS ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS

Country and City.

APAPER published near the southern boundary of Missouri speaks of the great advantages to farmers of the telephone where it has been introduced. The improvement, it is remarked, "places city and country in immediate communication, rendering unnecessary four-fifths of the trips that have been made on country roads." Highways may be muddy and weather stormy, but the world can be rung up according to the necessities of the moment, facilitating business and social life, and saving an immense amount of time and effort. A marked tendency of the age is to bring the country into closer touch with the centers of population. Electric roads are multiplying and make their way into neighborhoods that could not hope for steam lines. Rural free delivery of the mails is moving onward with great strides. Over 20,000 routes are in operation. Missouri alone has 1,200. Farmers get their letters and the daily newspapers delivered almost at their doors. Each day's events reach the country promptly, and the old rural isolation is disappearing. Means of ready travel grow better and keep on extending, and the good roads organizations gain constantly in active support.

Within a dozen years electric transit in the cities has more than doubled the area suitable for town residences. Cities themselves are spreading farther into the country, of which suburban sections are a pleasing modification. Labor on the farm has been rendered easier by ingenious machinery. All whose memories stretch back to pioneer days can bear witness to the enormous advance toward bringing country and city closer together. Progress in that respect proceeds at an accelerated pace. Going to the city or taking a run into the country is a commonplace incident. How far the space between will eventually be annihilated is beyond the range of conjecture, but the old lines of separation are disappearing in so many ways that the future relations of country and city are full of hopeful interest.

They is a reflex side to the drift of the population to the cities. Love of country life is a natural and general feeling. The merchant who comes to the city as a youth to make his fortune often returns to the country when he retires, and dreams of doing it all through his business career. He would hardly be willing to admit the deep tenderness of the memories of the old farm. All the remoteness of that quiet nook has passed away. You can "ring up" the farmer of to-day and find that he is abreast with the current news and that he has it in printed details, thanks to the rural delivery carrier.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Leap Year Over Half Gone.

WE do not wish to urge anyone to rash and precipitate action, but it is our duty to call the attention of young ladies, and, indeed, of all unmarried ladies, to the exceptional privileges which immemorial custom allows them in the quarternary period through which we are so rapidly passing. The number of weddings shows no increase over ordinary years, and it is to be feared that the feminine world has not realized how little potential energy there is in water which has passed the mill. The decay of the peculiar customs of Leap Year is strongly evidenced by the almost complete lack of jokes on the subject in the newspapers, since it is well known that topical humor lingers long after the vanishing of its cause.

So far from Leap Year sinking into noxious desuetude, it might be expected that its peculiar privileges would be more widely used than ever before, now our young women are becoming more adventurous and also much harder to suit. The requirements for admission to matrimony imposed on the young men by the opposite sex have risen as rapidly as the standard of scholarship in the universities, and a young man whose attainments a few years ago would have been considered sufficient to qualify him for the position of master of a household would nowadays have to be content with his degree of bachelor.

Really, it is not at all certain that women do not do most of the proposing every year. Very little is known about this mysterious though important topic, anyway. Each person's experiences are limited to a comparatively few instances, and these are always regarded by both parties as exceptional in all respects. Novels are alto-

gether unreliable, and the government has not added questions concerning the methods of matrimonial negotiations to the census queries, although many more personal and less important vital statistics are procured. It may even be doubted whether matrimonial engagements are necessarily or even commonly preceded by formal declarations, any more than are military engagements.

However that may be, we do not recommend our maidens, no matter how desirous they are, and should be, to obtain the best men for husbands, to adopt the conventional form of proposal. Breaking the ice is a disagreeable process. It is better to thaw it. And let no one abstain from such suddenly maneuvers as she can advantageously use for fear lest the man should, through gallantry, accept her unwillingly. It is rare that a man is persuaded into doing anything he really does not want to do; much more rare than women think. A man's affection for the opposite sex is in the beginning general and diffuse. A man is naturally so altruistic that he normally loves all women, and on which one of them he ultimately focuses the full force of his affection depends on circumstances—and on the woman.—New York Independent.

Fraud Orders.

WHEN a business concern in the United States begins suddenly to receive a large number of letters daily, it may be sure that, although no ripple has disturbed the surface, a quiet investigation is going on, and if there is anything dishonest about the business a notice will soon appear from the postmaster, to the effect that the Department at Washington has ordered the retention of all letters addressed to that man or company.

The dishonesty which is held to justify the issuing of a fraud order may not be a mere barefaced attempt to steal—an effort to get something for nothing. The charging of an excessive profit, or misleading advertising, has called forth such an order. A recent case in point is that of a company which advertised to furnish seed for an agricultural product and to buy the product at market prices. The order against the company was issued because it was learned that it sold in small quantities, for a total of \$600, seed which it bought in bulk for \$3; and because it represented the product as easy to raise, when, in fact, it is difficult.

This fearless attitude and action of the Government is of the greatest possible benefit to the country at large in two ways. It checks, indeed it stops absolutely, one kind of fraud, and it protects innocent persons from loss through that fraud. The thing on which stress should be laid is the availability of this strong arm of protection.

There is always a large number of fraudulent schemes afloat, dependent upon the publicity which they get through advertising. When one's attention is attracted by such an advertisement, he has only to call the attention of his postmaster to it, and to ask him to notify the Department at Washington. To do this in every suspicious case is a duty which every honest man owes to his neighbor as well as to himself.—Youth's Companion.

Japanese Inventiveness.

IT has long been supposed that the capacity for imitation is the characteristic of Western nations alone. According to some leading anthropologists, as one goes from West to East he finds this capacity disappearing and the capacity for imitation taking its place. The Chinese and Japanese are imitators, not inventors.

But the present war between the Russians and the Japanese is rapidly proving the idea to be mere assumption. It is the Eastern rather than the Western people which, in this contest, are exhibiting the capacity for imitation and invention. Their strategy is almost faultless, and it is their own. Their artillery is astonishingly destructive, and, in some of its most deadly features, is the product of Japanese invention. Their naval tactics have been so unexpected and successful as to promise a revolution in the future methods of naval warfare. When peace comes and the Japanese carry their genius into the industrial world, they will demonstrate perhaps in a more telling way that the capacity for imitation does not diminish as one travels toward the rising Sun.—Church Standard.

A RUSSIAN HEROINE.



MRS. E. W. VORONOBA.

Mrs. E. W. Voronoba, wife of the commandant of the maritime province dragoons, has organized at her own expense a transport system for the wounded. She has also joined the Sisters of Mercy during the war. She has even signified her willingness to go to the front and serve in the Red Cross ranks. Her purse is always open to any demand having for its object the promotion of deeds of mercy in connection with caring for wounded Russian soldiers.

Julia went to her in her poverty and sorrow, and her visit was like a ray of sunshine to her old friend.

Most pathetic of all was her looking up an old man, feeble now and oblivious of most that had happened recently, but with a mind that came back when recalled by suggestions of former years, and whose life was brightened for many a day afterward by his memories of the visit of "little Julia Graham."

"The pleasantest things about Old Home Week," said Julia to her husband, "were those which I was most reluctant to undertake. It cost me a real struggle to do it, and there were

so many things I wanted to do. I'm afraid I did it just because it was my duty. But I received a greater blessing than I gave."

The experience of one woman may be a suggestion to other people, returning for Old Home Week. Theirs, too, may be the blessing of Him who said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me."—Youth's Companion.

When a woman puts on a black silk dress she hasn't worn in months, somehow it doesn't create the sensation she expected; it is full of creases, and doesn't hang right.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

A United Democracy.

The Democrats are united as they have not been before for ten years and Parker and Davis will receive the normal vote of the party with a good many recruits from their opponents. The Republicans are split into factions on several issues. Nearly all the old Hanna machine men are disgruntled as they see a young element of their party in the saddle, and they will not pull hard on the traces unless they are paid for their work either in money or promises. In West Virginia, Delaware, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Wisconsin the rival Republican factions are intent on defeating each other and one or the other faction have no faith in or love for candidate Roosevelt, though most of them declare they will vote for him. In these and other States there are minor factions and important Republicans who, while keeping within party lines, are opposed to their candidate for President and do not mind saying so in private conversation. The glamour of the Rough Rider has worn off and the business interests of the country have more weight in politics than the imperialistic element.

That is the great danger to the Rough Rider. The farmers have discovered that the trusts are bleeding them and that the high price of wheat is more than offset by the increased cost of what they buy. The workingmen are organizing politically for their protection, for the Republican majority in Congress refused to listen to their prayer for legislation for the eight-hour bill, the anti-injunction bill and other lesser laws labor thinks necessary for its salvation. All the Republican leaders favor the open shop and most of them are openly in sympathy with the Parry organization of protected trusts and manufacturers.

Wages are being reduced and strikes are numerous and the cost of living is still advancing, which does not inspire confidence in the economic policies of the Republican party of those who are suffering from loss of wages and increased cost of food.

The trusts have decreased the profits of the small storekeepers, while rents and household expenses are higher than ever before and the opportunities for increased business is monopolized by the great department stores who can purchase of the trusts at much less than the small storekeeper has to pay.

People with limited incomes find their expenses have increased, while their revenues are stationary. All these people are inquiring why the trusts should be protected by the tariff in selling their products at the highest possible price here and a much lower price in foreign countries. Many of the voters have discovered that the tariff prevents competition and fosters monopoly and that the increased cost for their products that the monopolists charge is a much greater tax than the government receives.

The revenues of the United States are declining and the expenses are greater than ever before in time of peace. Not only have the expenses of the government increased much faster in proportion than the population, but neither President Roosevelt, his cabinet nor the Republican majority in Congress have offered any solution of the problem, but are all intent on "letting well enough alone" and have perverted the industries of the country with a do-nothing policy by fighting all proposals for reform.

The government departments are extravagant and filled with grafters which the Republican party has refused to investigate, although evidence was plentiful that but a beginning had been made in exposing the frauds through a partisan investigation of but two bureaus of the Postoffice Department.

Knowledge of all these sins of the Republican party is finding lodgment in the hearts of many voters, and they have determined on a change. Upon the surface of the political field all is still and serene, but there are mutterings in the homes of the farmers, the cottages of the artisan and the tenements of the laboring men that bodes ill for the Republican candidates. The still small voice of reason is working more changes of sentiment than the hired and blatant notes of the trust apologist can overcome, baffle he ever so loudly, and there is a quiet determination to "turn the rascals out."

Secretary Wilson on Export Prices.

Farmer Wilson, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, who used to milk cows, but now helps the trusts to milk the farmers, has been doing his duty to the protected interests by defending them from the charge of selling cheaper abroad than here. As the Rough Rider has ordered all his cabinet to don their war paint and take the warpath after votes, Farmer Wilson was deputized to go to Vermont, where, if he did not do much good, he could do no harm, for it is pretty solidly Republican anyway.

Farmer Wilson, in his speech there, said: "He had received letters from nearly all of the manufacturers of agricultural machinery in this country informing him that their products were sold cheaper in the United States than they were abroad." Farmer Wilson must be very unsophisticated if he believes that the manufacturers would be likely to tell him that they were selling cheaper abroad than here.

Perhaps the Ames Plow Company of Boston, Mass., did not write to Farmer Wilson or if they did, perverted the facts so as to deceive his innocent soul. For only last month their wholesale price to the home dealers for corn shellers—Prairie and Clinton—was 40 per cent discount from their list price and their export price for the same was 50 per cent discount, a difference of 20 per cent in favor of the foreigners. Then their cultivators, known as the harrow, the price for export was 40 and 5 per cent discount from the list price and the home price was 30 per cent discount from their list, a difference of 23 per cent in favor of the foreigners. And so the Ames list might be gone through with, the difference in discounts ranging from 11 to 23 per cent all in favor of the foreign farmer.

It is remarkable that protection under the tariff on agricultural machinery is 20 per cent ad valorem, just about the extra price the American farmer has to pay over his foreign competitor, but of course innocent Farmer Wilson did not know that, or if he did, he was cunning enough not to advise the Vermont farmers about it.

There is manufactured in Vermont by the Howe Scale Company of Rutland all kinds of scales. They are sold for export 17 per cent cheaper than in this country. One example from their list will be sufficient to prove that Farmer Wilson is not taken into the confidence of the manufacturers with regard to export prices. The Post platform scales with wheels, no. 28, is sold to the dealers here for \$25, but when sold for export the price is \$22, a difference of 17 per cent against the home purchaser.

When cabinet officers go on the stump to bolster up their party, the people look for a fair and frank statement of political affairs and not the ignorance that Secretaries Wilson and Shaw exhibit of matters connected with their own departments. The other horn of the dilemma for these Republican partisans, that if not ignorant, they have deceived the voters—Wilson claiming that manufacturers do not sell cheaper abroad than to our own people, when the export price lists belie his assertion, and Shaw in his absurd proposition that high prices make prosperity for workingmen.

Republican Harmony in New York.

President Roosevelt is certainly having hard luck in harmonizing the warring Republican factions in his own State. He wanted Root nominated for Governor, but Odell said "no," then he wanted the State nominations left to the convention, but again Odell said "no, I have a candidate for Governor whom I will disclose when the time comes." President Roosevelt therefore announced that he was not interfering in New York politics. But the stream of Republican leaders that are invited to Oyster Bay belie his lack of interference. The latest invitation issued from Oyster Bay was to Littauer of the Glove Scandal fame, who, the President declared, "was his close friend and political adviser. It is rather mortifying to see the President, in his effort to control the New York situation, have to consort with such a tough lot of politicians as the Republicans of the Empire State have for leaders.

Political Potpourri.

There is no doubt that the beef trust has the best of us for a while, for, although the agents of the government have been investigating it for some time, the only result is a check in five figures to the Republican campaign fund.

Gen. Grosvenor is working up the figures to prove that the Democrats are responsible for the beef trust exactions and the strike. He will also in his first speech prove the administration's record for economy by showing that only \$30,000 of the \$500,000 Congress appropriated to fight the trusts has been expended.

What has Fairbanks ever done or said that has been of any use to the country, and why, therefore, should the voters elect him to the second highest office in the land, and in case of the demise of the President to succeed to that office? He may be "sane and safe," but he has never shown a vestige of ability except as a machine politician.

The coal trusts, both hard and soft, are raising prices again. If they do this in the green time, what will they do with us when the sere and yellow leaf appears? Yet the administration cannot get evidence to stop the robbery, though, as far as the anthracite coal trust is concerned, there is a large pigeon hole at the Department of Justice filled with written evidence that Mr. Hearst collected.

The Republicans admit the increased cost of running the government under the present extravagant administration, but claim that it is necessary as the growth of the country demands it. But the cost per capita should not increase faster than the population increases, it should be relatively cheaper to run an eighty-million country than one with forty millions of people, but the cost is increasing at a much greater ratio than the population, which shows extravagance and waste of the people's money.

How Plants Remain Upright.

If a flower pot is laid on its side the stalk of the plant growing in it gradually curves upward until it resumes the vertical position. This is called geotropic curvature, and the question is by what means the plant is stimulated to change its direction of growth. One theory avers that movable starch grains in the plant cells fall to the lower side as the position is changed, and by their pressure influence the mechanism of growth. Recently Francis Darwin, in England, has succeeded in accelerating the tendency of a plant to curve upward when placed horizontally by subjecting it to the vibrations of a tuning fork. He thinks the shock of the vibrations affects the movements of the starch grains.

The Reason Why.

Drummond, Wis., Sept. 19.—Special.—Whole families in Bayfield County are singing the praises of Dodd's Kidney Pills and the reason why is given in experiences such as that of Mr. T. T. Wold, a well-known citizen here.

"I had such pains in my back that I did not know what to do," says Mr. Wold, "and as I came across an advertisement of Dodd's Kidney Pills I sent for a box. That one box relieved me of all my pains. My wife also used them and found them just what she needed. I recommend Dodd's Kidney Pills as a sure cure for Backache and other Kidney Troubles."

Not on Her Complexion.

Dr. Quacker—Did you use one of those powders every two hours, as I told you to?

Mrs. Dashing—I should say not. They were all plain white, and I never use any kind but flesh color.

We use Piso's Cure for Consumption in preference to any other cough medicine.—Mrs. S. E. Borden, 412 P Street, Washington, D. C., May 25, 1901.

A STORY OF THE STREET.

Account of a Newbair's Gratitude for a Kindness.

"I chanced to be walking down Liberty street," said a well-known artist, "when the recent hurricane scooped his stock of evening papers from under a wee and wan 8-year-old newbair's arm, made a free distribution of them in the mud and rain half a block away, and came near serving him in like manner. As he fought his way to his feet I heard him tersely summarize the extent of the ruin in the remark, 'Dat busts me!' and he heard me laugh.

"Turning on me and assuming a suggestive Terrible Terry pose, he savagely asked, 'Wotyer laffin' at?'

"Not at you, my boy,' I hastened to explain, 'and here's half a dollar to start you in business again.'

"Money talks" with the gamins as well as the golding, and in this case its charming eloquence moved its recipient to remark with flattering sincerity, 'You ain't such a bad guy, after all, as he scooted in the direction of Park Row.

"But this was not the last I was destined to see of my pigmy purveyor of the latest news, for, as I was hustling to reach the ferry, I heard the quick patter of pursuing little feet, and he overtook me to make the breathless inquiry, 'Say, mister, does you go by dis way every night?'

"No. Why do you ask?" said I.

"Coz," explained he, 'I wants ter give you a paper every night till I squares de debt.'

CHANGE FOOD

Some Very Fine Results Follow.

The wrong kind of food will put the body in such a diseased condition that no medicines will cure it. There is no way but to change food. A man in Missouri says:

"For two years I was troubled so with my nerves that sometimes I was prostrated and could hardly ever get in a full month at my work.

"My stomach, back and head would throb so I could get no rest at night except by fits and starts, and always had distressing pains.

"I was quite certain the trouble came from my stomach, but two physicians could not help me and all the tonics failed, and so finally I turned to food.

"When I had studied up on food and learned what might be expected from leaving off meat and the regular food I had been living on, I felt that a change to Grape-Nuts would be just what was required, so I went to eating it.

"From the start I got stronger and better until I was well again, and from that time I haven't used a bit of medicine for I haven't needed any.

"I am so much better in every way, sleep soundly nowadays, and am free from the bad dreams. Indeed this food has made such a great change in me that my wife and daughter have taken it up and we are never without Grape-Nuts on our table nowadays. It is a wonderful sustainer, and we frequently have nothing else at all but a saucer of Grape-Nuts and cream for breakfast or supper." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Good food and good rest. These are the tonics that succeed where all the bottled tonics and drugs fail. Ten days' trial of Grape-Nuts will show one the road to health, strength and vigor. "There's a reason."

Look in each pkg. for the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville."

"AND YE VISITED ME."

"Your letter brought tears to my eyes," wrote the invalid to her friend of former years, as she lay in bed and painfully used her lead pencil. "I have been out of sight so long. You can never know how good it seems to be looked up and visited."

Julia Graham—that was what every one called her who remembered her—had married and gone West. "Mrs. George William Osgood" was the name on her visiting card. But she returned for "Old Home Week" after an absence of nine years, and the return was far from being an unmixed pleasure. A pleasure it was, in many ways greater than she expected; but the changes were many, and some of them sad. No one can revisit the scenes of childhood or youth, or any locality where he has spent much of his life, without this mixed experience—the joy of renewing acquaintances which were pleasant, and the sadness of finding those whom he loved less prosperous or less strong or happy. So it was with Miss Graham. The "week" was only a week for her, and it was a full one. There were relatives to visit, old friendships to be renewed, and dinners to be eaten. But the thing which Julia Graham did that endeared her to some old friends was the looking up of those whom she had known in other days who were unable, or timidly disinclined, to look her up. The letter was from one of these. Julia had learned that this old friend lived in another town, and was bedridden. It cost her a whole day to go to her, but she came back saying over to herself the words which her friend had said, "I know now why our Lord blessed those to whom He said, 'I was sick, and ye visited me!'"

There was another old friend, a schoolmate, who had married a drunkard, and who did not appear at any of the festivities of the week. "I shouldn't call on her; she might be sensitive," said Julia's cousin. But