

The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal
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The Journal Established 1877.
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An effort is being made to increase the pay of postoffice employees and it is but a just move. Many employes in the postal service are miserably paid for their work and there is little reason why the United States government should economize at the expense of its workmen. The government should be willing to pay as well as other employers.

Congress is to pass a bill appropriating about \$80,000,000 for rivers and harbors this year. The public will not complain, as the enthusiasts have been so persistent in presenting their arguments that the legislation will be justified in public mind. There will be no frittering away on doubtful projects, but liberal expenditure or needed waterways, which will be a great aid to commerce.

One of the results of government ownership of railways, which would be sure to become prominent in this country, is now to be seen in Germany. Socialists are trying to carry the election because of the kaiser's colonial policy in Africa. Railway employees—and the railways are owned by the government—have been in the habit of distributing socialistic literature. The government has ordered that this cease. In other words, the party in power has the railway employes under its thumb, which would be no mean consideration here where there are over a million employes on railways. The party once installed could never be ousted, regardless of its administration.

Conditions at the Norfolk insane hospital, as expressed by the superintendent, Dr. G. A. Young, would seem to warrant a liberal appropriation at the hands of the state legislature. With female patients, who have come to the institution from homes all over northern Nebraska, compelled to sleep in the attics because of a lack of room for the patients now there, it would appear that the state of Nebraska ought to be willing and glad to provide in a suitable way. From the expressions heard on every hand after the legislative committee had visited the institution, it is apparent that the hospital here will receive favorable consideration when the proper time comes.

ANOTHER RAILROAD ACCIDENT
Another serious railway accident has occurred and another twenty-five humans have been blotted out from this life as a result of a mistake. The list of railway fatalities during the past few weeks has been appalling and the continuance of the record at regular intervals sets the country to worrying over the matter.

It is said that an effort will be made to invest in the Interstate commerce commission that power to hold investigations in cases of this sort, so that the remedies may be applied and similar occurrences prevented a second time. Heretofore investigations have generally been held by coroners' juries but coroners' inquiries are generally rather lame when it comes to the point of furnishing a remedy. It is asserted that nearly all of these railway accidents are preventable and that each disaster should be followed by the remedy against its recurrence. This would mean progress of a decided type. It would perhaps be appreciated by the public if a little of the legislative energy now being shot at corporations in scores of proposed laws, some of them representing sentiment identical with those of the once dead populist party, were turned toward a calm determination to talk over this railway accident matter with the railroads and save a few human lives.

THE "DIPSO" LAW.
Down at Lincoln a bill has been introduced into the legislature providing for the repeal of the law which allows dipsomaniacs to be placed in the state insane asylum for treatment. The law has been operative for about two years. Up in South Dakota they have just introduced a law providing for the establishment at Mitchell of an asylum for this very purpose. At Rochester, Minn., there is a state insane asylum where inebriates have been sent for years. The Nebraska legislature ought to very carefully investigate the matter before that law is withdrawn. There are now from Madison county about a dozen patients who have gone under the provisions of the law. One man has come back to Norfolk who took treatment and from a frightful being before he went he has come to be a pretty respectable citizen; he used to abuse his family and now he is good to them. There are a certain percentage of

men in every state who are worthless because of their inebriety. They have not all money with which to take the "cures" for their habits. And if there is any good resulting from this law at all, it ought to be maintained. Even if nothing more, the law keeps some of these wretches confined in the asylum for a time when they might otherwise be beating their families. Before the law is repealed, its possibilities as demonstrated in other states ought to be very thoroughly investigated.

VACCINATIONS.
Down in Omaha the other day a chorus girl broke out with the small pox and the entire theatrical company was compelled to be vaccinated. Elbert Hubbard has just written some things about vaccination that the show company in question did not read. Elbert Hubbard says that vaccination is the result of an old old prejudice based upon grossest ignorance and that it is all wrong. He declares that a girl away back in the dust-covered years, once contracted a certain sore upon her hands from milking a cow. The sore had come from the animal. There was smallpox in the town and this girl failed to get it. Somebody set up the claim that this sore of hers acted as a preventive. Experiments were made and those on whom sores from the diseased cow were introduced, walked past houses that were quarantined and, not becoming stricken, were declared immune. The myth grew, Hubbard says, until it was taught in our schools and we passed laws compelling people to submit to the introduction of diseased cow sores as an immunity bath against smallpox. Elbert Hubbard says that many become permanently diseased as a result. He tells of one doctor who vaccinated a little girl three years ago. The sores are upon her still and the physician, so Elbert Hubbard says, now admits that she will die at the age of about sixteen of a tuberculosis resulting from this vaccination. This particular physician will never vaccinate another child. Elbert Hubbard is editor of a magazine of protest. If he had been writing for the dramatic papers that company of actors in Omaha would not have been vaccinated the other day.

FEDERAL COURT STAYS.
Norfolk will not lose its federal court. This assurance comes from United States Senator Joseph H. Millard, who responded to a telegram sent by The News from Norfolk citizens to the Nebraska congressional delegation the other day asking that the move reported from Washington to designate Omaha, Grand Island and Alliance as federal court points in this part of the state, eliminating Norfolk, be counteracted. "No attempt will be made to eliminate Norfolk as a federal court town," wires Senator Millard. His attention having been called to the matter, he may be depended upon to use his influence—and speaking of influence, it must be admitted even by those who worked up a sentiment to defeat him that Senator Millard stood high with President Roosevelt and official Washington—to include Norfolk in any measure which may be introduced. The report last week that Norfolk was to be left out of the list bore more than ordinary earmarks of truth for various reasons. For one thing, the Third district is misrepresented by a man who would have perhaps taken pleasure in Norfolk's loss. Because of the seriousness of the situation, it was believed advisable to call the attention of the delegation to the injustice which would have been worked in that elimination upon Norfolk and all of northern Nebraska. The plan was adopted by many citizens of the city who lent their assistance in their signatures and the effect was unquestionably a good one, as the reply of Senator Millard has demonstrated. In any event, it could have done no harm. And inaction might have been expensive for the city. With Norfolk's fine federal court building already here and furnished for court sessions, with a jury session scheduled for next spring and with the hope that, if a judicial bill does pass the law will require a certain number of cases to be tried here each year, the sessions will become permanent fixtures, Norfolk has reason for congratulation.

And right now, in plenty of time before the session of court which Judge Munger will hold here next spring, Norfolk business interests should begin to make plans for looking over the docket and inducing just as many attorneys from this part of the state as have federal court cases, to request that those cases be tried in Norfolk next April. Every case would count in establishing this city's prestige and in a material way at that time. It is to the advantage of every man who is to be tried in federal court and who will be called upon to pay attorney's fees, to bring his case to this city rather than to Omaha because it will save him a great deal in dollars and cents. Here is a chance right now for immediate steps toward action on the

part of united business interests of Norfolk.
CONGRESS A TALL BLUFFER.
The house of representatives, cowardly early in the session and altogether insincere in their voting against the bill to raise their salaries, have finally, after learning that the senate would refuse to pull their chestnuts out of the fire, come back to the measure and voted as they wanted to vote in the first place. By a vote of 133 to 92 the representatives have voted to increase their salaries from \$5,000 to \$7,500 a year. It is possibly true that congressmen, in view of the pace at which custom compels them to live in Washington and by virtue of increasing cost of living, ought to have more money than \$5,000 a year. Yet some of them have managed to save up for the rainy day out of their \$5,000. Be that as it may, the action of the house of representatives has been what might be expected of a lot of little boys. They have admitted their moral cowardice and have really made something of a mess of the matter. When congress convened early in December there was a bill introduced to increase the salaries of members of congress from \$5,000 to \$7,500 per year. Pretty nearly everybody in the house was in favor of the increase. Adam Bede of Minnesota said it was a matter of a meal ticket to him, and he voted for it. The only fellows against it were Representatives Underwood of Alabama and Lamar of Florida who have money of their own and who declared that \$5,000 a year is enough for any man. It was arranged that the bill should be introduced by Lucius Littauer of New York, he being through with his congressional term anyway and not abiding any deep-seated fear when he got back home. So the bill was started and the representatives whispered about it among themselves. For years they have been trying to screw up their courage to the sticking point so as to pass this measure. And for years their fear of the constituents and the votes has kept them from doing it. But this year they got together and thought that they could do better on the salary grab. The voting began. There were a good many nays right early in the game and then these patriots, without fear and without reproach, fell over one another in trying to get their votes registered against this outrage. After it was beaten they went out in the hallways and cursed. Then they cheered up again because they thought it would all come out in the wash anyway. They relied on the senate. The dear old senate, they argued, would reinsert that item when the bill reached the upper house. But the representatives, in passing, had increased the salaries of the cabinet members, vice president, speaker and clerks. But the dear old senate refused to play the good fellow act. The senate didn't need the money, anyway, and the senators figured out to themselves that if the house declined to take responsibility for increasing its own pay, the pay could remain at the \$5,000 mark. Once in a while the house makes a mistake in sizing up the senate. Not long ago somebody in the house introduced a bill providing against the sale of intoxicating liquors in any building owned by the government. There were a good many temperance women and ministers in the galleries and the house, although, it hated to lose its drinks, went through the tellers like a streak of lightning and eliminated the sale of booze. But they laughed up their sleeves and pointed at the senate. The dear old senate, they argued, would insist upon its rum, and restore the bar. But the senate didn't need to. Every senator has a committee room of his own and can get a drink in there if he chooses. The house members are up against it because they are not so well provided for with committee rooms. And so the senate just left the measure as it was and the house now is cursing its thirst. The house is made up of politicians who are playing the game. Disfavor with their constituents is a much feared package and favor is sought by means of the grandstand. It was a grandstand play for fair that caused the house to vote against its salary increase. And so, having learned that unless they reconsidered the matter and boosted their own pay, it was apt to remain at the measly sum of \$5,000 per year, they got together at last and gave it a jump. In that reconsideration they admitted that their first vote was one good sized bluff. Their first vote reminds you of the bluff that many of the modern "reformers" are putting up. But they are politicians working for favor among the masses, and they ought to know what will work and what will not. Last spring Representative Norris of Nebraska introduced a bill increasing the length of term of a representative. And for all most of the house wanted the term lengthened, they didn't have the nerve to pass the bill. It was the same sort of psychology that influenced them this time. Now then if they would get together

and increase the term, the way would be blazed for once more increasing the salaries because, with a long term ahead, it wouldn't really make much difference whether they were re-elected or not. One small congressional term, at an increased wage, might then satisfy the appetite of the ordinary mortal and feather his nest besides. It is no doubt true that \$5,000 is not more in Washington for a congressman than \$500 would be for an ordinary citizen in a country town. It is no doubt true that the salary of \$5,000 was too small to be in keeping with the dignity of the position. This government can afford to pay its lawmakers decently. But congress ought not to run such bluff and then want its money refunded. It ought to treat the masses with more sincerity. Congress, in fact, ought to be ashamed of itself for the way it has acted in this salary-increase business.

WHAT NORFOLK CAN DO.
A number of prominent citizens of Norfolk have frequently stated during the past few months that, "after all there isn't much that a Commercial club can really do in Norfolk." We believe that there is enough opportunity in Norfolk to keep a Commercial club, through one man as agent, busy all the time. Some cities have drifted and been content with natural growth. Other cities have assumed an aggressive attitude and have pumped growth into their communities which would not otherwise have developed unsolicited for years and years. If it pays for a wholesale house to keep men on the road seeking orders to increase the business, instead of merely filling orders that naturally come in; if it pays a merchant to advertise his articles for sale and push the trade, instead of merely selling to customers who drift in because they pass by the door; if it pays a railroad to maintain a commercial agency in a small city to work up business instead of merely handling the business that comes unsought; if it pays in any line of constructive industry under modern conditions to be wide awake and aggressive and to be alert to take advantage of various opportunities which offer and then, unaccepted, vanish—then it will pay Norfolk or any other city, in dollars and cents, to support and maintain an active, aggressive commercial club.

President Roosevelt has accomplished much that was never done before; the opportunities have always been at hand. He has achieved all that he has done, by his aggressiveness. Kansas City started out under a handicap from Omaha. Kansas City has forged to the front and outclassed Omaha. Kansas City has taken the aggressive, Lincoln during the past two years has become a vitally important commercial center. It was formerly a college and church town. During the past two years it has been liberally aggressive. Sioux City businessmen of today recall the time not so very long ago when that town was no larger than Norfolk and when stores were not so good. It was not long ago that the Sioux City Journal was a four-page newspaper. Today Sioux City is one of the most active commercial centers of the west, as a result of aggressiveness. Just this week the Northwestern railroad company has issued 50,000 booklets describing Sioux City in flattering terms. That's the spirit that has made Sioux City. Nations and industries and men and cities who wage war on obstacles, are the victors under present conditions. Those that are merely passive fade into the background. Prominent citizens of Norfolk have frequently remarked that "there is really little that a commercial club can do." The News takes exception to the sentiment, and the burden of proof rests upon The News. As a suggestion, a few things that an active commercial club could do for Norfolk are here set forth:

An active commercial club in Norfolk could have planned months ago, and could plan every legislative year in advance of the session, for a campaign to set before the state legislators the true light of the needs of the Norfolk hospital for the insane. To demonstrate to the legislature what the institution needs would result in much larger appropriations, and more just ones, than can be had by assuming a passive attitude and allowing the legislators to make a record for economy at the expense of the Norfolk institution. No action of this kind was taken this year and not a question was asked of Dr. Young by Norfolk as to what this city could do to help the institution. An active commercial club in Norfolk could have planned weeks ago, and could plan every year, for a campaign to demonstrate to congress and other Washington officials the needs not only of Norfolk but of northern Nebraska. Any need that Norfolk can sow by aiding any town in north Nebraska will grow up into healthy plants. It would pay. It would have been to Norfolk's advantage if this city had taken a hand in the proposed new judiciary division bill long before it reached the introductory period in congress, as is shown by the danger now confronting us of losing the designation as a federal court point. We have not such important matters will come up in a congressional way each year, but it is safe to say that there could be effective work of some sort done each year for Norfolk in this direction. And under the present law, effort could be made to induce attorneys to try federal cases here.

Norfolk has long needed a union depot. No more disreputable railway stations exist anywhere in Nebraska today than the best depot in Norfolk. Fremont has a fine union depot. Other cities have union depots. Union depots are built everywhere after commercial clubs have taken the initiative. It could not be done in a day, but Norfolk's chances for getting a creditable union station would be much better if the business interests of the city, well organized, should go at such a goal with persistence. And speaking of railroads, there's the switching on Main street. Norfolk needs better roads. A good road is needed between Norfolk and the Junction. At least one good road is needed for a dozen miles east, north, south and west. Some day they will be built because the state is going to provide for their building. But Norfolk needs good roads now. The lack of them costs Norfolk dollars every day. They will not build themselves. Norfolk is ambitious to become a convention city. There are conventions flying around in covers all the year, waiting to be shot. A thoroughbred commercial club could develop a convention nose and locate the birds. Under present conditions we wait for them to fly into our hands. Norfolk's fort today lies in its retail possibilities. But not one-tenth of Norfolk's retail possibilities are being developed. System and organization will do it. Co-operation is a necessary factor and publicity too, but that's another story. A market day once a month is successful in other places and no good reason has been offered up to date by those who smile at it why it could not benefit Norfolk. In lieu of a better suggestion, this plan is worth trying. But its development will not grow. That's another thing an active commercial club could do for Norfolk. And when north Nebraska gets gridironed with railroads like the newly projected extension from Sioux City to Niobrara it is going to be too late. Sioux City isn't muzzling any flies in the way of railroads that are batted in that direction, and it's the commercial club over there that wears the catching glove. Down in Fremont the commercial club issues each year a little booklet called "The Blue Book." It contains a detailed description of the city, its industries, its possibilities and what it has to offer for new industries. These booklets are distributed on trains running through town to passengers who never heard of Fremont. It is advertising in an effective way. Fremont is growing in spite of the fact that it lies right in the shadow of Omaha and Lincoln, while Norfolk is away out in the open prairie by itself with a clear field. Fremont may have concessions that Norfolk has not, but if she has it is a safe guess that they never grew up without nursing. Fremont has an active commercial club.

These are a few of the things that could be accomplished by an active commercial club in Norfolk. It is difficult to speak of these possibilities because of the danger that the suggestions may be taken as personal criticisms. They are not criticisms. It is not anybody's fault in particular and everybody's fault in general where a community does not assume and maintain an aggressive attitude. It is not a personal matter at all, but a great big public matter, of vital interest to every living being in the community. To make such an organization confident in its own capabilities; to fill its arteries with warm red blood and its cheeks with the pink of health, so that it can offer combat against all obstacles with strong muscles, the organization must be made up—arms, legs, head, heart and hands—of the whole industrial fibre, including every business interest and every business man of the community. It must go forth to battle backed with words of encouragement and kindly suggestion from the whole community which it represents. For in a community of 5,000 people we are all neighbors living close together and what is the interest of one is the interest of all. Any town, any city, any man or industry can float along with the current and claim that much natural progress; but it takes energy and force and determination and aggressive organization to swim on ahead of the current's flow. Norfolk business men owe it to themselves to insist that D. Mathewson, who resigned as secretary last summer, reconsider that act and resume the work of that office. He is the ideal man for the place. A successful business man, having leisure time and an office down town, resourceful to a degree and a thoroughly representative citizen, no better secretary could be found. With Norfolk enthusiastic in this work and backing him with encouragement, we believe Mr. Mathewson would conform to the public wish and accept the office again. This office must be taken at a personal sacrifice for public welfare by some citizen; none shall say that he will or will not serve the public. Norfolk should make its demand known strongly to Mr. Mathewson that he may, reassured, go on with this important work.

why Norfolk ought to be the state capital.
A traveling man can tell in few words the hotels that give warm rooms these nights.

The Kost bridge got tired waiting to be turned over to the county, so it turned over itself.
Under new conditions a railroad ad. 100 miles long is an ad. that costs \$3 to print in a newspaper.

In Scotland that old man, Henry Otmann, if proven guilty, would be put to death under the law.
There are more legal points to settle in a racing circuit than there are in the Brownsville affair.

President Groesbeck promises to be a live wire in connection with the race meet to be held here next summer.
The plan to allow national banks to make real estate loans is a capital idea and particularly just now a capital one.

There is one nice thing, they say, about owning a cow. You can have at every meal just as much cream as you take at a hotel.
There are some congressmen who would deserve better salaries if they stayed at home; those worth having at all are worth more than \$5,000.

Theatrical managers speak of actors just as race horse owners speak of trotters. "That Gallatin woman," is the way Alberta Gallatin's advance man speaks of her.
The Norfolk hospital for the insane has drawn a prize package in Dr. Young as superintendent and Dr. Singer as assistant, according to Nebraska legislators. And they ought to know too.

One commercial traveler out of Norfolk, to guard against the pangs of cold beds in country hotels these nights, carries a hot water bag which he fills each night and with which he keeps warm feet.
Eastern railroads might well afford to send men to this division of the Northwestern railroad, to learn how to operate train service without the danger of wrecks. Everybody on the Northwestern is glad that it was the Northwestern line that made 1,625 tests of the block signal and found that all engines obeyed the danger signs.

ATCHISON GLOBE SIGHTS.
We never longed very much for a hairless dog.
In poetry "Thy sentinel am I," means a woman.
The better you behave the better you get along. It's old but it's true.
Money you find looks a good deal bigger than an equal amount earned.
There is such a thing as being too original; people might call you crazy.
A thoroughly competent agent is one who can sell mining stock to a miner.
What has become of the old fashioned man who called it "stone coal?"
Too many men imagine they can't have a good time without getting into trouble.
It is said of an Atchison man: "A man as ugly as he is, should not go visiting."
Pleasing people is like laughing. It has to be done without an effort to be effective.
The rich are abused a great deal but no one ever distributes free rabbits among them.
It is always hard for a child to believe that an angel lies in bed all night without sleeping.
When a cat and dog get along well together, it means the dog wasn't educated by a boy.
Our feelings are like some medicine. Have to be kept tightly corked or they will evaporate.
Talk about swearing: The most abused words in the English language are "dear" and "honey."
Unless someone "cusses" the employes a good deal, it is said an establishment has "no head."
Loafers usually want company and, if they can have their choice, prefer the company of a busy man.
If you always get your own way there is one thing you must give up: The idea that you will ever be popular.

We don't believe we could fall in love with a school teacher. School teachers are too matter-of-fact to be good lovers.
The main street of a small town on a half holiday can make the saddest funeral procession look like a gala affair when it comes to cheerfulness.
If a swell dinner should be given in your honor, would you know how to properly use the silver prongs, harpoons and spoons at the right side of your plate? Most women master this accomplishment, but few men do.

AROUND TOWN.
All things come to those who wait. Especially tips.
Won't somebody write a poem about Saddle and her sheep?
A weak eyed man carries a cool glass with him all winter long.
When a committee of legislators come to town, we begin to see reasons