

The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal
The News, Established 1881
The Journal, Established 1877.
THE HUSE PUBLISHING COMPANY
W. N. Huse, President
N. A. Huse, Secretary

Don't abuse the skunk. According to an official bulletin prepared by F. M. Webster and issued by the agricultural department, the very highest praise should be given this much shunned animal. Mr. Webster does not contend that the skunk should be taken into the bosom of the family, but he maintains that they are very fond of grasshoppers and are deemed by the bureau of biological survey as the most useful of mammals. While they are not recommended as a pet for flat dwellers, nor as a desirable acquisition to the average household, Mr. Webster says they deserve protection, rather than destruction by the farmer, so save your skunk!

Unless its name sinks the ship, the Wiener Maennergesangverein, of Vienna, will arrive in Washington on May 6 to sing for the edification of President Roosevelt. The three songs that President Roosevelt will listen to from the throats of the 700 choristers will represent an outlay of a little over \$50,000 each. This probably is a record price, and is based on the fact that the trip will cost the Wiener Maennergesangverein \$150,000, the ship they are coming on being chartered by them for \$65,000 alone. The society leaves Vienna this week and will arrive in New York May 5. Its members will come directly here on a special train, will remain a few hours and return to New York where they will give a concert, as guests of the Deutsche Leidekrantz.

CUMMINS AND PLATFORM.

Governor Cummins of Iowa says that it is the platform, not the candidate, that should most interest the nation with regard to the presidential situation. Coming from Cummins, the sentiment has a peculiar ring. Cummins once claimed to stand on a tariff revision platform. He wanted, himself, to ride to the white house on that plank. But the platform got stranded. The balance of his party got over on a standpat platform. Cummins jumped to save his life. Instead of his revision platform, so dear to his heart, he shouted for the opposite idea in order to get back into office for a third term. Cummins switches his viewpoint with the speed of a vaudeville lightning change artist. Last fall it was "Cummins, regardless of platform." Now it is, "Platform, regardless of the man." Perhaps he believes the country could even stand for Cummins for the presidency if he found the right plank to straddle.

ROOT MAY RETIRE.

In using the big stick to rap Harri-man, Debs, Moyer and Haywood as "undesirable citizens," President Roosevelt is incidentally encountering a little trouble in his own kitchen, according to a report. It is said that the estrangement between Secretary Root and the president has grown very much since the president gave out, against Mr. Root's advice, the letter in which the four men referred to were characterized as "undesirable citizens." Mr. Root considered the publication of the letter as a tremendous blunder. The president disagreed with Root and pursued his own course in the matter, as Secretary Taft was then absent in Panama.

As a mere incident, this occurrence is said to have widened a breach that had already begun quite perceptibly, and it is being freely predicted that Secretary Root will retire. He is said to be out of harmony with the administration on a number of doctrines which Mr. Root is said to consider as radical and wiseacres at Washington are forecasting his withdrawal from the cabinet at an early date.

CHARIVARI AND UNWRITTEN LAW.

Another case of "unwritten law" and brainstorm may be developed out of a prospective trial in Iowa. It was a father who shot—and when he opened up his double-barrelled shotgun he wounded thirty-three boys and girls. One of them may die, two are seriously hurt. They were part of a charivari party that had been molesting him and his family. When the crowd of youths finally shattered a window in the old man's home he seized his shotgun and opened fire. There is no lawyer who could not make an eloquent plea for that man, the victim of a charivari crowd. The serenaders had once been treated to refreshments by the bride's father. Then they went away to return again. The family had retired, the bride and groom had left town.

The charivari enthusiasm expressed itself in throwing stones and bricks at the parental home. Then a window glass was shattered.

The old man has been arrested. It is doubtful if he is ever convicted.

There is a degree of exasperation that produces brainstorm and violence. The old man probably thought, if he thought at all, that his only justice lay in taking care of himself against the unwelcome visitors. When the trial comes up he will tell his story, just as a boy in school tells his story. The jury will probably let the defendant go free under unwritten law and give to bothersome charivari parties a striking lesson that can not be dealt out to them by the written law.

A BAN ON WHISKERS.

Are whiskers losing their grip on men's chins? Backing up numerous slashes that have been made at masculine beards with razors and words, during the past few years, comes now a decree of the Burlington railroad over in Iowa that after May 1 beards of bearded conductors must be stricken from the rolls.

Whether or not this means any general onslaught that is to follow in a popular wave across the country is not possible to predict. The reasons for depriving trainmen of their pet whiskers are not assigned. Nor is it said whether any of the conductors, in a fit of resentment over having private rights tampered with, will resign and come west to grow up with the bearded land.

With a railroad company putting the ban on beards, may we not expect equally drastic action from our legislature next session?

Perhaps this is but the beginning of a conspiracy of the barbers to enforce constant shaving. Who knows?

WAR ON MOUSTACHES.

Burlington railway employes are not alone in the loss of whiskers. Paris is stirred up over a demand of striking cafe waiters that they be allowed, if they choose, to wear moustaches. If the arguments are good for the removal of beards and moustaches, why shouldn't our own state legislators take up the reform and banish whiskers from America? Or, in case there might be a conflict of authority between state and nation, the federal government could take up the matter of whisker regulation for all states alike, in order that there might be a uniform bunch of beardless faces. Because of its important bearing upon the subject, the demand of Parisian waiters that they be allowed to wear moustaches, ought to be watched with interest. A dispatch from Paris says:

Like all their fellows, striking waiters of the Elysee Palace hotel demanded the right to wear moustaches. "We grant everything you ask, but moustaches you shall not wear," the hotel management solemnly said to them. "Our patrons are nearly all Americans or English and the vast majority of the men have not moustaches. They would not endure to be served by persons looking like moustached braves. With Americans and Englishmen the moustache question is one first of fashion and next of cleanliness. So if our waiters have not clean faces our dining rooms will be empty."

This retort vastly amused Paris, especially bearded Paris, and delighted the barbers, who take the moustache question most seriously.

So does Paul Adam, who wrote three columns to prove that because all truly great men have been and are clean shaven, all great races must be. "One sees the faces of old, some produced in the Americans of today," Paul Adam wrote. And Paris laughs again, when someone, anonymous, told him to study the Chinese and observe their faces and observe the lowest coolies are as bare as their palms, while truly great Chinese have the longest moustaches in the world.

THE JANUARY CASE.

President Roosevelt has been asked to pardon William January, the Kansas City business man who is found to have escaped from a federal prison several years ago. Thousands of petitions are going to Washington asking for leniency. January, since his escape, has reformed and become a respectable citizen. His family is esteemed in the community and he is in business for himself. But the president will have more than mere sentiment to weigh before granting the pardon.

Prisons are as much for example to check crime, as for individual punishment. In one phase of the January case, should the man be pardoned, it will put a premium upon prison-escape. Prisoners are impressed with the idea that if they attempt to escape, their terms shall be increased. A premium is put upon good behavior in prison and a penalty against escaping or trying to escape. Because an escaped convict eludes the officers for a period of years makes him no less entitled to added punishment for his offense, as an example to other convicts and other citizens contemplating crime, if for nothing more. On the other hand, however, is the fact that January is not merely an escaped convict, but a reformed man as well. He is leading a peaceful, law-abiding life. Executive leniency, in one respect, would be putting a premium upon reform and decent living by rewarding the escaped prisoner's disposition to turn over a new leaf and do the right thing.

The president will no doubt consider more than anything else the effect of his leniency or refusal of it, upon

criminals at large and the class of people who contemplate crime. The effect of pardons upon society at large is a much more vital matter than the effect upon the individual. There is in many instances too much of a disposition to be lenient to the prisoner because of the sentiment and sympathy which is aroused in officers of the law by his dependency and tears in his wife's eyes. Courts and officials have a duty to the people at large, society as a whole, which frequently overbalances in importance the sentimental appeals of the individual whose fate is at stake.

NORFOLK WANTS UNION DEPOT.

Norfolk wants a union depot. This fact is established not by a guess but by a thorough investigation of the sentiment existing in the city with this regard. Norfolk is willing to wait a reasonable length of time for a union station, if there is a chance of accomplishing the desired result. The city would rather wait than to have a Northwestern station built immediately.

And the fact that both the Northwestern and Union Pacific railroads have expressed a willingness to enter into negotiations with one another looking to this end, gives enough hope for the union station to warrant a fair delay.

If Norfolk is ever to have a union station, now is the time to get it. After one railroad has put extensive funds into an individual station of its own, the chances would vanish. This is, therefore, the psychological moment for the effort, and the favorable attitude of officials of roads entering the city gives foundation for hope.

Norfolk wants a union station for many reasons. A union station, built to accommodate the traffic of three railroads, would necessarily be a more pretentious structure than any individual station, built for the business of but one railway. The impression upon visitors entering the city, therefore, would be of vast importance and value to the city. More than that, the union station would be a convenience to the traveling public and to the people of Norfolk. It would be a credit to the city and an institution to which we could point with pride.

A union station would not decrease the force of men employed in the depots of the city. On the contrary, it would increase the force of men. Only passenger traffic would be handled in a union station. Freight traffic would continue to be handled separately in separate depots. As many men are now employed at each combination station as would be required for each freight depot. And the men needed to operate the union station would be in addition to those now employed here.

Business men of the city appear to be of but one mind regarding the desirability of the union station, as against independent stations. The city appears to be practically unanimously in favor of waiting a reasonable time to work out the union depot possibilities.

A union station must be secured now if ever.

And it is certainly worth while for Norfolk to find out definitely whether a union depot can be secured before jumping at the conclusion that it cannot.

ADVERTISING A CITY.

That cities and towns should advertise as well as merchants, is coming to be a pretty generally conceded fact. That a town which will spend a little effort and money if need be, letting the world know what advantages it has to offer to the investor or the manufacturer or individual looking for a place to live in, will get results, just as a merchant will get results from the right kind of advertising, carrying a real argument in an attractive way, is coming more and more to be acknowledged.

The following appeal from the publicity committee of the commercial club of St. Paul, Minn., to its citizens, contains many suggestions that are not half bad. It is headed, "Why St. Paul should advertise:"

Have you anything good to purvey, Mr. Merchant?

Do you make something a bit different, Mr. Manufacturer?

How do you market your product? By employing the daily press, the magazines, and other modern Town Criers, to the end that the World may know that you have something it needs or wants; something that will make for its comfort or pleasure, or cater to its necessity?

You are not alone—you are one of the many business men, all with something to sell. Do you, like the Otto-man, sit cross-legged in your doorway and wait for patrons; or do you boldly sound aloud the slogan of your trade, and in twentieth century parlance, "Go after 'em" with your announcement that you have something good to sell, or some specific inducement for patrons to buy?

Why do you advertise? Because you must keep in step with the procession or else drop out of the ranks and regretfully watch the march of progress distance you.

And so with St. Paul. It is one of many cities, each alert and alive to grasp opportunity, each mindful that an ever increasing population must be clothed, fed and housed.

To which of these cities are likely

to be attracted those desiring a change? The one that is known and makes effort to keep its merits before the world, or the equally good city that is known only because geographers record it on the maps?

The answer is apparent. Why should we advertise St. Paul? First, because it is St. Paul.

To tell all the world in simple language the simple truth—and the truth about St. Paul, if properly told, is all sufficient to attract to its heart many times its present numbers. It is a kind of truth, too, that will appeal to the class of newcomers we would have. St. Paul's foundation, environment and location are God-given: its complete structure, the consummation of supreme intellectual and righteous endeavor to build a worthy civilization.

We should advertise that the world may know what we have and enjoy, and what we will share with others; that we have just a little bit the best place in the world to live in, and that our doors are open, and our hearthstones warm to welcome the stranger.

PLANTING TREES.

The planting of 25,000 yellow pine trees on the government reserve south of Valentine is in line with the government's policy just now to increase the timber production of the country in order to supply a demand that is rapidly growing and which has, for some years, been the cause of an altogether too lavish use of the timber that this country has been producing.

According to a circular just issued by the government relating to forest service, every person in the United States is using over six times as much wood as he would use if he were in Europe. The country as a whole consumes every year between three and four times more wood than all of the forests of the United States grow in the meantime. The average acre of forest lays up a store of only 10 cubic feet annually, whereas it ought to be laying up at least 30 cubic feet in order to furnish the products taken out of it. Since 1880 more than 700,000,000,000 feet of timber have been cut for lumber alone, including 80,000,000,000 feet of coniferous timber in excess of the total coniferous stumpage estimate of the census in 1880.

The circular says that the rate at which forest products in the United States have been and are being consumed is far too lavish, and that only one result can follow unless steps are promptly taken to prevent waste in use and to increase the growth rate of every acre of forest in the United States. This result is a timber famine. This country is today in the same position with regard to forest resources as was Germany 150 years ago. During this period of 150 years such German states as Saxony and Prussia, particularly the latter, have applied a policy of government control and regulation which has immensely increased the productivity of their forests. The same policy will achieve even better results in the United States, because we have the advantage of all the lessons which Europe has learned and paid for in the course of a century of theory and practice.

Lest it might be assumed that the rapid and gaining depletion of American forest resources is sufficiently accounted for by the increase of population, it is pointed out in the circular that the increase in population since 1880 is barely more than half the increase in lumber cut in the same period. Two areas supplying timber have already reached and passed their maximum production—the northeastern states in 1870 and the lake states in 1890. Today the southern states, which cut yellow pine amounting to one-third the total annual lumber cut of the country, are undoubtedly near their maximum. The Pacific states will soon take the ascendancy. The state of Washington within a few years has come to the front and now ranks first of all individual states in volume of cut.

At present but one-fifth of the total forest area of the United States is embraced in national forests. The remaining four-fifths have already passed or are most likely to pass into private hands. The average age of the trees felled for lumber this year is not less than 150 years. In other words, if he is to secure a second crop of trees of the same size, the lumberman or private forest owner must wait, say, at least one hundred years for the second crop to grow. As a rule, such long time investments as this waiting would involve do not commend themselves to business men who are accustomed to quick returns. But the states and the nation can look much farther ahead. The larger, then, the area of national and state control over woodlands, the greater is the likelihood that the forests of the country will be kept permanently productive.

CHICAGO SAYS NO THIRD TERM.

Chicago claims that the center of population, the center of wealth, the center of culture, the center of beauty, and the center of all else having a center, has moved from the effete east to the windy city on the lake. East and west meet in Chicago, according to Chicagoans. And now there is evidence that the center of things political has followed in the wake of culture and money and has, too, perched on the shoulders of Chicago. It was in Chicago that the Roosevelt Third

Term League was organized and headquartered last fall, for the purpose of forcing the president, against his repeated statements that he neither wanted nor would accept, another presidential nomination. As a result of the sentiment aroused by this league a number of prominent men have declared that the president must retract and become again the republican party's nominee. Steadfastly the president has declined to retreat in the matter or to withdraw his statement made the night of election. And it remained for Chicago, where the third term league had operated, to furnish the first definite movement toward accepting the president at his word and supporting him in the contention that he was wise in refusing another nomination. The Chicago Tribune, one of the strongest papers in the west, takes the stand that a third term is a wrong proposition in principle and that there are others in the nation capable of occupying the white house creditably. The Tribune pays a tribute to the popularity of the president but backs him up in the stand he has taken. This is what the Chicago paper says:

The Tribune is not for the renomination and reelection of President Roosevelt. It does not even favor his election to what some of his admirers choose to call a "second elective term."

There are a number of reasons why The Tribune is not in favor of Roosevelt's reelection. One of them is that he has solemnly declared that he will, under no circumstances, accept another term if it should be offered to him—that he would not be a candidate or permit a nomination to be forced upon him. In this we think the president is wise. While he has not served two full terms, he has had seven years of the presidency, and if he were to be elected for another term would serve more years than Washington or any other president. He has had seven laborious and useful years in the white house, and has more than met the just expectations of his countrymen. His fame could not be greater than it is. He could not at the end of another four years' term be any more popular or more firmly entrenched in the affections of his countrymen.

President Roosevelt is amazingly popular. The railroad men do not like him, and a great many men engaged in finance think he might be improved upon. Even Mr. G. B. M. Harvey has visited upon him tokens of his disapproval. But it is only necessary to go about the streets, on the railroad trains, and in places of public assemblage to discover that President Roosevelt is as highly regarded by his countrymen at the present moment as he ever was.

The Tribune is opposed on principle to the third term. It risked much in 1880 when it opposed the renomination of Gen. Grant for a third term. It would risk as much in 1908 if it should become necessary to oppose the renomination of President Roosevelt under similar conditions. The Tribune, for one, is not willing to admit that there is but one man in the United States who is capable of serving as president. There are 80,000,000 people here, and among them all there must be more than one who is fit to occupy the white house and discharge the duties of the chief magistrate. We believe that there must be more than a dozen in the republican party alone.

Moreover, it is by no means certain that the renomination of President Roosevelt for a third term would be followed by an election. The Tribune may be mistaken on this subject, but it believes there is a deep, abiding feeling among the people that two terms are enough for any man. Part of this feeling may be latent. It may not have been aroused. It would be when the campaign came on if a popular candidate should be opposed to Mr. Roosevelt on the other side. It would be proclaimed that we were tending towards imperialism, and we would be. If the tradition in regard to the third term should be broken down there is no reason why it should not be followed by a fourth or a fifth term, and as Mr. Roosevelt is comparatively a young man, he might continue to be elected for several terms more.

The people are not ready for that. They believe a change in the white house is a good thing, as well as a change in other political offices. Indeed, the superstition that the life tenure for judges is an admirable thing is rapidly dying out. There are objections to it which have been sufficiently demonstrated in England, and sometimes in this country. The life tenure of federal judges has its drawbacks. There are some federal judges who should not be in office today, and who would not be if it were a question either of reelection or reappointment. A long term and a large salary, as in New York, would be preferable to the life term. A life tenure seems to be an invitation to the arbitrary use of power, and sometimes to laziness, self-indulgence, and self-exploitation, instead of devotion to business.

No man is good enough to be president forever, and The Tribune, for one, will not admit that among the 80,000,000 people in the United States there is not one so good as Theodore Roosevelt who may be chosen to succeed him in the white house.

AROUND TOWN.

Men at least have a chance to get away from houses being housecleaned.

When Doc Mackay hurries, he does it, he says, lest his patient will get well before he arrives.

They don't take as much stock in brainstrom defense over at Grand Island as they do down in Gotham.

Whether it is always enforced or not, the new Nebraska child labor law will serve as a bit of protection for theatrical audiences against children that do not really entertain.

Norfolk buttoned up its coat a little

tighter and tried not to grumble about the cold weather yesterday, realizing that we had escaped for a second time within a week snow which fell only a few miles northwest of us.

Have you laid in your summer's coal supply?

The state ought to provide an asylum for days that are not real bright.

Valentine is going to have a genuine Arbor day with 25,000 new trees set out in two weeks.

Trainmen starting out these bright April mornings never know when they may need snow plows to pull them through the day.

One northern Nebraska woman is trying to persuade her husband to move out of the state so that her relatives can't visit her so often.

It is enough to freeze a man to death to hear Battle Creek and Madison talking about Fourth of July fireworks this kind of weather.

To be on the safe side, Norfolk boys have bathing suits and skates hung up side by side against the wall, so that no time may be lost when the various brands of weather are turned on.

Winter seems to have been possessed of seven lives this year.

May 1 shows quiet conditions in Norfolk so far as spring weddings are concerned.

Heredity is a great thing. Carl Reiche can hunt rabbits in more ways than one, and do it successfully; his son can play a half dozen musical instruments at one time, and do it well.

Although the season has been backward in some respects, it has been about on time with the rivalry between farmers' wives as to which farm should boast the first hatching out of spring chickens.

There is a man in Norfolk who opens all of his wife's letters and reads them to her. It is said that some of his experiences prove that people ought to be careful when it comes to writing letters.

The Fremont Herald is trying to rid Fremont of Saturday night dances; here in Norfolk the society editor is crying because there are no dances of any kind to help fill the Saturday column. The Herald ought to be required to run a society column on two items a week.

It would be difficult to draw from an old timer's hunting yarns a tale more extraordinary than the incident in which Carl Reiche, a prominent Norfolk farmer, threw a jack-knife at a jack rabbit, killing the animal for the time being but finding, after he had taken the game home, that the rabbit came to life again. From the fact that the jack rabbit was thus landed by a jack-knife, skillfully thrown, it is safe to say that if Mr. Reiche would go to town armed with cotton batting, he would undoubtedly land a cottontail.

ATCHISON GLOBE SIGHTS.

Cheerfulness is a great aggravation to an angry man.

A real young girl is frequently about as foolish as she talks.

Money is not at the root of half as much evil as jealousy.

Some people borrow trouble; others buy it by the glass or bottle.

It is as natural for a boy to have dirty hands as it is for a cat to have fits.

Two men are nearly always braver than one, even if one of them has cold feet.

If a boy earns ten cents, he wants it; he isn't willing to trust the best man alive.

The greater the thief, the louder he cries about injustice and persecution when he is finally caught.

There is quite a difference between self-confidence and conceit which some men don't seem to understand.

When a sentiment unfriendly to men is uttered on the stage, all wives look at their husbands triumphantly.

When a man dies and goes to heaven, rules are so strict there that he never has any fun until his wife arrives.

A girl whose first name is Mercel, is visiting in town. We would like to know what her name really was before she began fooling with it.

When a girl is in love, she doesn't stay very long when she goes out of town on a visit; she hurries home to keep an eye on her property.

Every farmer is secretly convinced that no one knows what it is to be really tired until he has followed a harrow over a plowed field all day.

A man is always disappointed in his wife's new dress for the reason that when he gave her the money it was So Much he thought its results would be greater.

Two women spent the day with each other yesterday and when they parted said: "Well, the only reputations in town that are not damaged are our own."