

The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal

The News, Established 1881.
The Journal, Established 1877.
THE HUSE PUBLISHING COMPANY,
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The fellow who steals a watch must expect to wind up in jail.

It is time to do your late Christmas shopping before the money runs out.

King Edward weighs 210 pounds. Just wait till Taft is inaugurated and the United States will do some crowing.

The decline in the birth rate in the United States since 1850 is equivalent to the loss of about seven million children.

John Milton, the well known biographer of Adam and Eve, has just passed the 300th anniversary of his birth.

President Roosevelt has another addition to his nature fakirs' club. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt called him a tree toad.

A maiden lady in New York worth \$10,000,000 has just passed away at the age of ninety-nine. It is said that her longevity was a terrible strain on her distant relatives.

Opinions differ as to whether Secretary Root's late deal with Japan is an arrangement, an understanding or a settlement. Lieut. Hobson and other war enthusiasts think it was a frost.

Three scientists respectively estimate the age of Niagara Falls at 7,000 years, 39,000 years and 150,000. Some common people would call that guessing.

King David had a larger Ananias club than President Roosevelt has organized. He declared that all men were liars, but had the grace afterwards to admit that his declaration had been hasty.

James J. Hill ventures the prophecy that in thirty years the United States will have a population of 200,000,000 and that more careful and scientific farming will have to be done in order to raise enough to feed them.

During November and December, 1907, in the heaviest stress of the panic we obtained \$109,000,000 in gold from Europe, some of which was borrowed. All the borrowed gold has been returned and we are now lending some.

The old party war horses who used to be rewarded for their partisan activity by a consulship are no longer in evidence. It has dawned upon the nation of late that it is prudent to place men who have some knowledge of, and fitness for, the duties and responsibilities of the office.

Miss Esther Vorhees Hasson has been selected out of several hundred applicants for chief nurse in the United States navy. The position is one of great responsibility. At present she directs the work of a corps of 100 nurses scattered in marine hospitals along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Miss Hasson bears the reputation of being one of the most competent nurses in the country.

President Roosevelt advocates a large bond issue for permanent public improvements to conserve the natural resources of the nation. Much as these improvements are needed, the conservative element of the country look with apprehension upon excessive bond issues. Bonds are a draft on the national credit. Vast as ours is, it is possible to bankrupt our credit. Moreover, bond issues carried to excess are likely to produce speculation and economic troubles.

It is suggested that if the people who are protesting so vigorously against the excessive price demanded for butter and eggs would simply stop buying them for a short time, the price would be promptly lowered. If only a fraction of the consumers of food products in the United States should refuse to use any article when the price is advanced beyond the customary level, a glut soon becomes apparent and the maintenance of a corner is impossible. If Americans were not slaves to their appetites, they would have no difficulty in breaking every "corner" in food products.

The United States has had placed in her keeping two great social experiment stations in the Philippines and Hawaii. The Philippines promise to be the most remarkable contribution to the problem of training backward races for self government that the world has yet known. In Hawaii the experiment is an entirely different one. Here the most versatile of earth races meet on a plane of equality not possible elsewhere. This of the series of dances at Marquardt's

on the globe where racial amalgamation has a fair chance under ideal conditions. This experiment successfully carried out will be of inestimable value to the worlds peace and to our friendship with the Orient.

The recent pacific agreement made between the United States and Japan by which Japan renounces all claim to the Philippines and our Pacific Islands and agrees with us to keep the open door in China and respect each others interests, gives new proof that America has in Secretary Root a secretary of state not surpassed, if equalled, in any chancellery in the world.

A strong prejudice has existed in the United States against the Italian immigrants, who crowd the large cities and add so largely to the throngs of street fakirs. This prejudice, however, should not extend to the Italian agriculturists who settle in colonies so that they may have the companionship of their own countrymen while they are becoming Americanized. It is becoming a recognized fact that a locality peopled with Italian farmers is pretty certain to be the seat of a temperate, orderly, thrifty and progressive community—a community where the average American farmer can learn some valuable lessons of economy and how to get more out of his American tools, than even the manufacturers claimed could be gotten out of them.

The past year has seen more despotic rulers humbled and shorn of their power than any other similar era. The czar of Russia was the first but the establishment of a constitution and the acceptance of a Duna in Russia was only a portent of what was to take place in other countries. The Sultan of Turkey was not removed but put in a gilded cage and robbed of his despotic powers. The autocratic emperor of Germany was humiliated and compelled by public sentiment to apologize and promise to restrain his indiscreet tongue. Think of it—the all powerful kaiser, the mightiest autocrat over the mightiest army in the world, apologizing to his people and making promises of future submission to their judgment. And now the shah of Persia, has once more promised a constitution and parliament to his people, but the shah is a vacillating ruler and his promises mean little. Anyway, it has been a year of great progress the world over toward the rule of the people. The new century is making a great record.

In an article in the Independent by John Barrett on "Opportunities in Latin America," the writer makes the prediction that before the end of the century Brazil will be one of the greatest sources of food supply in the world and more than this, that the republic of South America will be the home of an active, industrious race numbering 150,000,000 engaged in a productive energy equal to that of the United States today, but without the restlessness which is characteristic of business men in the United States. It has long been admitted that the only obstacle to great productivity in South America was the hot climate, but that can be overcome more readily than the cold of the northern climate. The experiences on the Panama canal prove that tropic fevers are a bugaboo of the past. The natural resources of this great region are inexhaustible: the woods, fruits, vegetables, sugar and tobacco can find no better soil and enough can be produced here to supply half the continent, while the rubber and cocoa which are two staples to sustain industry and life which the whole world depends upon. Without rubber the wheels of commerce could not revolve another hour and nine-tenths of the pleasure of the world would have to be turned from its present channels. Of cocoa the upper third of Brazil also furnishes the greater part of the world's supply. Sixty million pounds was the crop of 1907, yet the demand for chocolate and cocoa is always in excess of the supply. Of the 15,000,000 bags of coffee which form the visible supply of the world for the present year 11,000,000 bags come from Brazil. Vast areas of this fertile and productive country have never been cultivated. What the ultimate productive capacity of this country where all kinds of crops from cotton to wheat can be raised and where cattle can graze the year around it is impossible to estimate. Nature has indeed been lavish with this section. Its mighty rivers with great cataracts rivaling Niagara, will furnish power to turn the wheels of industry that will offer employment and homes for millions of people yet to come. This section offers opportunities for growth and investment of capital unexampled elsewhere. For the young man with money which he wants to double quickly it has great attractions. Brazil is ambitious and her policy is progressive and American.

NEED GAME LAW CHANGE.
There is an inconsistent feature of the Nebraska game law which, in the interest of the state at large, ought to be remedied by the forthcoming session of the legislature. The open season on prairie chickens ought to be removed altogether for a term of years at least, for the sake of saving that fowl of the plains. And the open season on quail ought to be increased.

As it is at present, the open season on chickens continues through three months; the open season on quail lasts but fifteen days. And this in face of the fact that the prairie chicken can and is being exterminated by the hunter while the quail can not be exterminated by the hunter.

In New England the quail has been hunted for a hundred years and is as plentiful today as ever. The prairie chicken, wherever hunted, is rapidly exterminated.

The quail can be reduced materially in numbers only by the hard winters; the hunting kills so small a portion that it is not noticeable. And yet the open season is reduced to fifteen days, presumably in an effort to preserve that bird.

The prairie chicken, on the other hand, is not affected by the weather, but can quickly be shot out. And yet the state allows the prairie chicken to be shot for three months.

The prairie chicken, a pretentious feature of a prairie state, ought to be preserved and the state ought to pass a law cutting out the open season altogether for a number of years. The quail, on the other hand, which is not affected by shooting of even three months' duration, ought to have a longer open season in order to allow the sportsmen to get out of doors during this fine fall and early winter weather and legally take aim upon the little brown meateers.

Some scientists declare that quail are even more prolific when hunted, since the hunted coveys will spread out and mix with other coveys while those that are not hunted will stay together and hatch but few eggs next season.

MAN'S LIFE PRESERVER.
It has been said that "a man's task is his life preserver." There is no question that within that saying there is wrapped up in this statement a profound truth and one that ought to abide in the heart and experience of humanity if civilization is to abide and make progress.

We pride ourselves in America on caring for and upholding the rights of man. It may be true theoretically, but how far we really fall short of it is revealed constantly in the most horrible tragedies. If there is one right above another which every man should enjoy it is the privilege of working under conditions of complete safety. The humblest life and the humblest labor is a precious thing in the economy of the universe and its protection essential to the welfare of the masses.

Despite the general appreciation of this we are appalled every little while by some terrible disaster like that at the Pennsylvania mines in Marianna. The need in these cases so constantly multiplying is not emotional and intense sympathy which is being lavished upon a goodly

the war department. The report gives the confession of one of the discharged negro soldiers in which he admits that he and others distributed bullets and that a charge was made upon the town. The threats of trouble had reached the soldiers before they arrived in Brownsville from Fort Niobrara, near Valentine, Neb.

The evidence indicates that the entire regiment must have known of the shooting. The fact that all the soldiers falsely testified, concealing their knowledge, makes them guilty to a certain extent, but the president partially excuses their conduct because he supposes that they were cowed by threats of the more desperate soldiers.

The president recommends that those discharged soldiers who will tell what they know of the guilty ones, be reinstated, and this recommendation is likely to find general favor.

The discharged soldiers were formerly located at Fort Niobrara. The war department blundered in ever sending them to the south. Trouble came between the white residents and the black soldiers. The shooting up of Brownsville followed.

There was evidence at the time that the soldiers did it. There was also evidence that some of the officers were grossly guilty of neglect of duty. Believing that the soldiers did the shooting, but unable to force any one of them to confess the fact, the troops were summarily discharged by the president.

A howl went up, led chiefly by Senator Foraker. There were protests that the troops ought not to be discharged until proven guilty, and that the guilty were made to suffer with the innocent. The president now recommends that any who were innocent be reinstated upon condition that they tell what they know. This seems only fair. This makes provision, at all events, for the "innocent" in case they are willing to quit their part of the treasonable withholding of information.

A VAST IMPROVEMENT.
People that pessimistically complain that the world, and especially that part of it whose business lies with politics, is growing worse rather than better, should contemplate for a moment the matter of expenditures in national campaigns. The lists of the recent struggle have been published. They contain no items that invite scandalous discussion or throw discredit on either party. There is nothing in either to make men ashamed or to suggest that legislative favors were bid for. And the largest total expenditure, that of the Republican party, is a million dollars. Twelve years ago the amount was carefully concealed, and the names and amounts will never be made known; but we can be sure that this figure was multiplied a good many times.

The managers of that campaign, if all of them were still alive, would have assured you that the expenditure was justified; that the country was threatened by a great danger, that it must be guarded against and that nothing short of what they did would suffice. They were perfectly sincere in their belief, and good men winked at things they knew to be fundamentally wrong because they believed them to be necessary. See, now, how completely their theory is disproved how everlastingly true it is that the end does not justify the means; and that, when the means cannot be justified, the end is either a bad one or can be reached as easily some other way.

Mr. Bryan was a far more dangerous opponent this year than he was in 1896. He had half a dozen great chances in his favor that did not exist in his first campaign. He was better known, better liked, less distrusted. He had ripened. The bitter antagonisms of Democrats had softened, and he received the support of powerful men, early among his determined opponents. He had better issues; as mistaken, but less repugnant to the moral sense. He had the open support of many labor organizations. If there was need of precaution against danger in 1896, there was ten times the need of it in 1908. Yet against the enormous expenditure of the former year, we find a million dollars this year sufficient. Probably one half or one quarter of that amount would have done just as well. The country is making a vast improvement in getting away from the idea that boodle campaigns are either necessary or decent.

THE SQUARE DEAL PAYS.
It has been the courageous note of the Roosevelt administration that has more than all things else commended it to the American people and established its high place in the history of the nation.

It is a noteworthy fact that it is this same spirit of fairness and magnanimity demonstrated in a way and at a time when it was not compulsory nor usual to do it that has given the national government itself an appreciation in the international arena not accorded to other countries.

It was the right and proper thing to do when the United States returned the indemnity exacted of China, after the suppression of the Boxer outbreak. But this must be remembered—it was a unique thing for a prosperous and injured nation to do toward a despised and submerged empire. But America has in all her diplomacy had a profound and genuine sympathy for oppressed humanity wherever found and in this spirit she acted toward China.

And now, we have seen within the past few weeks a deputation of notable people come half way round the world to thank President Roosevelt personally, for the American people, in behalf of their own China for the generous and kindly dealing in turning back the money.

It is to the everlasting credit of John Hay that he emphasized the integrity of the Chinese empire, at a time when the greedy governments of Europe were disposed to divide the Orient up and each grab as big a piece as possible to further their own aggrandizement. This was at a time when the greedy governments of Europe were disposed to divide the Orient up and each grab as big a piece as possible to further their own aggrandizement. This was at a time when the greedy governments of Europe were disposed to divide the

but a practical and earnest demand which shall command that more attention be paid to safeguarding human life when men are engaged in dangerous occupations. Accidents will occur and tragedies take place even where care is expressed. It is not assumed that all emergencies and disasters can be foreseen, but it is undoubtedly true that the percentage of loss of life could be greatly cut down if proper care and precaution were exercised.

More consideration is being given to these matters than ever before, but we are still a long way from the proper appreciation of the value of human life. It is the most sacred thing on earth. It transcends property and money, and all else that may be mentioned. And yet how often is it sacrificed that some of these petty gains may be made. It ought not to be so and it will not be so when America and its people give the correct estimate to the dignity of labor and the worth of human life. The laws and public opinion need to insist that the man is worth more than the dollar.

The course of events which refused to accept the indemnity accorded and led to its return has been a bright spot in the record of Mr. Roosevelt's presidential career and now as a proper fitting conclusion to this chain of incidents Ellhu B. Root makes an international declaration of friendly policy toward China which virtually constitutes us along with England and Japan, the diplomatic protector of the Mongolian Kingdom.

There has been a current idea in days past among the big nations of the earth as there has been among the big combinations of capital that the way to prosper was to take advantage of their strength and the weakness of others to obtain every possible advantage and keep what they could grab. This was the diplomacy of Russia as well as that of Bismarck and Napoleon.

But times have changed. A new era has set in. America the young and mighty republic in her recent diplomacy has declared by her actions to the other great powers that even giants must and will "tote fair" and show their greatness not by brute force, but by their gracious kindness. In the march of history, the United States for the first time in international action is declaring that christianity is a vital energizing force in a nation's life as well as that of the individual. And best of all, we are proving with mathematical precision that "shirt sleeve diplomacy" which is governed not by craft and design, but by open handed, kindly generous motives is that which most richly pays. The dividends of America's investments in these directions are already bringing heavy returns.

George Washington pleaded when the republic was founded for a spirit of high-minded friendship with other nations. Abraham Lincoln with clear vision, even under great provocation checked the spirit of bitterness toward great European countries and by the spirit of patience averted a world tragedy. In these last ten years America's greatest glory has been found in her treatment of other weaker and less fortunate peoples.

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The message leads off by informing the congress of the United States that Mr. Pulitzer is a fit candidate for the Ananias club. Among other bouquets handed to the World editor is this: "It is idle to say that the known character of Mr. Pulitzer and his newspaper are such that the statements in that paper will be believed by nobody. Unfortunately thousands of persons are ill-informed in this respect and believe statements they see in print, even though they appear in a newspaper published by Mr. Pulitzer."

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The president's extreme measure in the matter will be justified by the seriousness which he attaches to the charge of graft or dishonesty in public office. For the most part it seems doubtful if any serious importance would have been attached to the charges in the first place, even if the president had, as he would have had a right to do, ignored the attacks altogether. For the people of the United States very implicitly believe in the integrity of Theodore Roosevelt and it is highly questionable whether the

have been able to indent this faith in the president, particularly in view of the fact that the World has made many serious blunders in the past few years, including the false stories regarding Mrs. Eddy being dead, the kaiser's interview, and the like.

But if the president had any notion that the World's stories would be believed—which he did have, as he says—he was justified in defending his good name even by the extreme measure which he adopted.

And the whole country will no doubt feel a bit relieved to read this aggressive, grilling denial, accompanied as it is by the evidence in the case.

As for Mr. Pulitzer, while he has been given some free advertising, it has not been of any desirable type and there are not many who would envy the presidential roasting that he has been given.

Take that, and that, and that, Mr. Pulitzer—and that!

How do you suppose the editor of the New York World felt when, as he sat in his office, he watched that Roosevelt message sizzle in over the wires?

The president hasn't forgotten how those shells carried from the White House to New York and lit in the spot aimed at, without the slightest trouble in the world.

One paper remarked that the Ananias club now has an editorial department. Wouldn't it be better to say that the editors are now afflicted with Ananias members?

Joseph Pulitzer will now take his seat along with Harriman and Haywood.

AROUND TOWN.
Only ten more.
It's a cold day that isn't muddy.

This used to be Bobby Whyman's birthday.

It was a little early to talk about a white Christmas.

John L. Sullivan thinks the less wives the merrier.

The snow got off the earth before the rabbits had time to get cold feet.

Congress seems bent rather on revising the president's message than in revising the tariff.

The best of women are apt to let slip what they have in store for their husbands' Christmas presents.

When you see a young man in a jewelry store every time you pass, it's time to wonder who she is.

One Norfolk man believes this is going to be a hard winter because his bull pup shows an exceptional fondness for the kitchen range.

One Norfolk woman is insulted because when she went into the store and asked for a "rat" to match her hair, the clerk tossed out a grey one.

Don't get out of patience when she gets snippy. She's either been jamming around all day trying to find a present for you, or has been trying to make one at home.

They've declared bleached flour an adulterated food. How about face powder?

A Chicago newspaper man writes a friend on The News asking how the jack rabbits are out here. Would he believe it if he were to be told that two hunters in one day killed eighteen?

The News is in receipt of a letter from W. E. Bishop of Pierce which is a message from an old friend, indeed. In ordering his weekly paper charged to the daily, Mr. Bishop says he has taken the weekly for more than thirty years.

Chicago News Pointed Paragraphs.
Women are almost as absurd as men are foolish.
Sometimes a woman is known by the company she avoids.
Give some people their pick and they will pick flaws every time.
He who thinks only of himself hasn't any too much to think about.
Occasionally a woman is remembered for the things she doesn't say.
The fickleness of fortune is only equalled by the faithfulness of misfortune.
Sober second thoughts are always better for a toper.
He's a poor expression man who is unable to deliver the goods.
It's surprising how many friends you have when they need you.
Where powder only covers up freckles dynamite would probably remove them.
The more an egotist a man is the more difficult it is for him to see his faults.
It's a bad thing to be known as a "good thing."
All the world's a stage upon which most of us make a show of ourselves sooner or later.
You may have observed that the man who boasts that he can drink or let it alone usually drinks.
In accord with the eternal fitness of things, people who keep harping on disagreeable things should be strung up.
ATCHISON GLOBE SIGHTS.

end of their rope also come to their senses.
Grocerymen say that a woman is not hard to please if you let her have her own way.
Put red uniforms on eight band men, and they look like thirty men when they march down Commercial street.
We have longed all our lives to see some one shoot off a sky rocket in the day time, to see what it would look like.
No man is a good husband if he ever feels sorry for himself.
There are a tremendous number of men willing to furnish \$50,000 worth of experience if the city will furnish \$50,000 in money.
It is a good plan for a man to get down early in the mornings. One reason is that he may be there to meet the early morning kicker.
"We've all got to die," you often hear people say. But young people say it oftener than old. The old don't care to talk about such things.
The average man gets so much criticism that when a compliment is paid him without "if" or "but" attached, he pinches himself to see if he isn't just new dead.
As a rule the parent who punks up and tells the school teacher that when there is to be any whipping done to his children, he will do it at home, is the parent who never whips.
Women preach economy a great deal, but as a matter of fact really economical women are rare. If they save money on little things, they are almost sure to waste it on something expensive.
"Mother" has a hard time between the two extremes: The children, who are cross half the time because they are hungry, and their father, who is cross two-thirds of the time because he ate too much.
IT USED TO BE,—BUT NOW.
It used to be that the country man was ragged and rough and brown, and ate his "arrah" from a tin pie-pan. And seldom appeared in town. But now he journeys to every land, and travel-deluxe is his. He dresses as well as the city man. And eats of the best there is.
It used to be that the "country Jake" drove a plodding four-ox team, and touched them up with a long black-snake. Whenever he wished more steam; but now he steps in his automobile. Its motive force to arouse, and darts away with hand on the wheel. As fast as the law allows.
It used to be that the country folk never heard what was going on. Except what they read in the weekly post. Or in letters from Brother John; but now they take the Daily News, and magazines galore, and every prominent writer's views are delivered right at the door.
It used to be that the "country gawk" "went a visiting" miles away; 'Twas the only way that he had to talk. With his neighbors that good old day; but now he steps to the telephone. For a few cents a day in bounty, and calls up some of the friends he's known. And talks all over the country.
It used to be the poor son of toil never went to bed with composure. On account of the mortgage upon his soil. And the dreadful thought of foreclosure; but now he sleeps the sleep of the just. For of troubles he's scarcely any; He says "Jest let old Wall street bust, For I owe no man a penny!"
It used to be said of the farmer's life That he worked from sun to sun, While the endless tasks of his patient wife.
It was said, were never done; But now she has time to peruse a book Or to take a nap in the shade. For the things she used to sew or cook. She can now buy ready made.
It used to be that the country girl was bashful, sedate, and prim, but now she lives in a social whirl. And dives right into the swim; She wears the latest from gay Paris in bonnet and high-heeled shoe, A graceful creature that's fair to see In her gown a-pea-ackaboo.
It used to be that the cities polled The honest wish of the voters, but now they are herded into the fold. By unscrupulous paid promoters; Our political life, it is sad to note, Is the rottenest thing, in creation, if deprived of that sturdy rural vote. The supporting staff of the nation.
In spite of these facts of common renown. There are dwellers in every city Who speak of the people from out of town. With mingled contempt and pity; I cannot account for their rank mis take. But since it is quite the rule, I'd rather be known as a "Country Jake" Than be known as a city fool.

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