

F. M. KIMMELL, Publisher.

M'COOK, NEBRASKA.

Content is something you think other people have when they haven't.

A negro recently fell seventy feet in New York and lost neither his life nor his religion.

Some men find it more difficult to get divorced from their illusions than from their wives.

Georgia has a town called Shake Rag, whose citizens, however, are said to be no great shakes.

Viewed through the smoke of his hookah, all battleships look much alike to Sultan Abdul Hamid.

Krupp's gun works are now working overtime, and peace is still looking in vain for the proverbial "balm."

Holland's new airship may cost but \$10, but it is likely to cost somebody his life before we hear the last of it.

A man drank nine quarts of whisky and died. Even the temperance folks must admit that rum has some value.

A New York society man has been fined for swearing. Still, the tailor may have given him great provocation.

That Boston society leader who has taken up the blacksmith's trade is going to get on the black list if he isn't careful.

A western expert on alcoholism claims that the reason so many men fail to walk straight is that they can't see straight.

The czar's edict abolishing whipping in his domains will interest the heir apparent when he arrives at the spanking age.

In Georgia the catfish have taken to swallowing rattlesnakes. The water must be almost as bad up there as it is in Kentucky.

Squabs have advanced to \$5 a dozen in New York, but the old familiar political squabble may still be had upon most any terms.

Russia claims that flour is contraband of war, and will do all in her power to discourage the hot-biscuit habit within her borders.

The reappearance of the kissing bug at the seaside resorts is taken to mean that the sea serpent story is not good form this year.

In Philadelphia an actress killed herself sooner than marry. Death lasts a great deal longer, though, than the average theatrical marriage.

If King Edward were to meet the emperor of the Hottentots would he wear the uniform of a Hottentot admiral as a mark of courtesy.

Love is the greatest thing in the world, but it has its drawbacks when the loved one pawns your jewels without notifying you in advance.

Marie Dressler, the actress, has adopted one of those "incubator babies," and her press agent will now have something substantial to work on.

The new Holland flying machine costs but \$10. Glad to see these little modern conveniences gradually getting down to within \$9.99 of their actual value.

A suit against Armour for \$1,200,000 is said to be a friendly action. The average man would take it as unfriendly, to say the least, to be sued for a million.

An irreverent contemporary describes society as "moving along to ward Saratoga." Those poker chips and "Saratoga chips" will soon be moving along also.

The birth of the czar's son is expected to weaken the influence of Pobyedonosteff. That will mean something worth while if the boy never does any thing else of importance.

Croesus, the multi-millionaire of antiquity, is said by scholars never to have laughed. Probably made the people "laugh out of the other side of their mouths," though.

The young Russian Alexis has already been made an honorary colonel but this will naturally cause his royal mother less anxiety about him than if he were serving in the navy.

News that a citizen of Rochester has died at the age of 101 lacks completeness. The public does not know whether his length of years was due to tobacco and alcohol or to abstinence.

Once a boyhood friend visited Roscoe Conkling when a law student. Meeting a supercilious reception when he asked, "Studying to be a lawyer, Roscoe?" he retorted, "You ought to study to be a supreme court justice!" He meant it for a sneer, but that's the way every law student ought to study.

No one can blame Europeans for believing that all Americans are rich. A Boston woman left a quart of diamonds in a London hotel and wired back to the proprietor to "keep them until I come over again next summer."

THE FALL OF PORT ARTHUR SEEMS NOW IMMINENT.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENTS

Japs Are Now Within Main Defenses and Their Guns Command Town—Capture All Outlying Fortifications.

LONDON—The Chronicle's correspondent with General Kuroki, cabling under date of August 24, via Fusan, August 25, says: "The fall of Port Arthur is imminent. The Japanese are now within the main defenses and their guns command the town. Desperate fighting occurs night and day and the losses on both sides are enormous."

"The Russians are making curious counter attacks, but the Japanese are clinging to the positions they have won at so great a cost."

LONDON—The Daily Mail's Kobe correspondent, in a dispatch dated Saturday last, says: "Following is the position of Port Arthur: The Japanese have captured all the outlying fortifications, but the Russians still hold the citadel on Anteshan, Golden Hill forts and the forts on Tiger's Tail and Liaoti mountains. The Japanese are in possession of the parade ground and barracks under the Anteshan fort on the outskirts."

"The fall of Port Arthur is believed to be imminent. It is believed that the garrison will make a desperate sortie before the end comes."

LIAO YANG—The Russians retired from Anshanshan yesterday after a fight which began on the morning of August 26, and continued in a desultory manner all day and night.

Arrangements for a battle had been completed by night time, when the order to retire was given on account of the situation to the east.

The order was received with disappointment by the troops. The retirement was made in an orderly manner.

The plain between Anshanshan and Hai Cheng was covered with Japanese troops, who burned the bridge and shelled the railway station after the Russian retirement. The Russian losses amount to 300.

The Japanese are advancing with great rapidity.

The position at Kaofengshik at 2 o'clock this morning was unchanged.

CHRISTENS HEIR OF RUSSIA.

Elaborate Ceremonies Mark Services at Church of Peterhof Palace.

ST. PETERSBURG—A wave of rejoicing and festivity swept over Russia with the rising of the sun on the christening day of the heir to the Russian throne, culminating when the te dem, softly chanted in the beautiful little church of Peterhof palace, announced the ceremony was accomplished and the news was heralded to the world without by the crash of cannon and the chiming of innumerable church bells. Notwithstanding the momentous events passing at the front, the whole population turned gladly for the time being from the more serious considerations to participate in the day of glittering ceremonial and pageantry at Peterhof, where the tiny successor of the great white czar received at the hands of the church the name of Alexis Nikolaevitch, from which he is destined to pass in course of time to the dignity and responsibility of autocrat of all the Russias.

THE MOON BECOMES SPOTTED.

Observations of Prof. Pickering of Lowe Observatory.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—A telegram has been received here from Prof. W. H. Pickering, who is at the Lowe observatory, California, tending to confirm an observation of a spot on the moon, made by him last month. He saw a hazy patch in the large lunar crater, Plato, which had not been detected before. It was again seen on August 2 and 3. It had then grown dark, measured about two inches in diameter and resembled a small crater. The object is said to coincide in position with a previously recorded craterlet, but is apparently larger. Renewed scrutiny in the last few days reveals the continued existence of the feature, which now measures three miles across. Two other tiny craterlets and a dark spot on the floor of Plato, not previously reported, also are announced by Prof. Pickering.

Money to Aid Irish Cause.

NEW YORK—John E. Redmond, the Irish leader, and those who came to America with him, Captain A. J. C. Donelan, Patrick O'Brien, Connor O'Kelly and Mrs. Redmond, were tendered a reception Sunday night in Carnegie hall by the New York Municipal Council of the United Irish League of America. Mr. Redmond, Captain Donelan, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. O'Kelly and W. Bourke Cockran spoke. Ten thousand dollars was either subscribed or paid in cash toward the Irish fund.

Cable to Alaska Completed.

SEATTLE, Wash.—Amid the cheering of 300 men and women, the shrieking of whistles and the playing of the national anthem, the final splicing of the Sitka-Alaska government cable was made Sunday in the harbor ten miles out of Seattle. Ten minutes later Mayor Ballinger of Seattle cut the rope holding the joined ends of the wires aboard the United States ship Burnside, and with a splash the completed wire connecting the United States and Alaska fell to the bottom of Puget Sound.

Abundant Rains Have Fallen in Corn Belt.

WASHINGTON—The weekly crop report issued by the weather bureau is as follows:

The drouth prevailing in portions of the central valleys in the previous week has been relieved by abundant rains, but drouth continues in central and western Tennessee and is beginning to be felt in the middle gulf states and over a considerable part of Texas. The central and northern Rocky mountain districts and the north Pacific coast region are also suffering from drouth, the prevalence of forest fires being reported from Idaho and Montana. The latter part of the week was too cool in the lake region and unseasonably low temperatures occurred in the northern Rocky mountain districts and upper Mississippi valley on the 21st and 22d, but elsewhere east of the Rocky mountain district the temperature has been favorable.

The principal states have experienced a week of good conditions, abundant rains having fallen throughout the corn belt, except in portions of Ohio and Nebraska. Corn has made satisfactory progress in most of the Missouri valley and is generally improved in the central Mississippi and Ohio valleys, although a considerable part of the crop in the Ohio valley has been injured beyond recovery. In the middle Atlantic states and lower Missouri valley early corn is now partly matured.

Spring wheat harvest is generally finished, except in North Dakota and northern Minnesota, where rust is continuing to cause great injury. Rains in North Dakota in the latter part of the week interrupted harvesting. Harvesting is also nearly finished on the north Pacific coast.

Reports indicate a general scarcity of apples in the greater part of the middle Atlantic states and central valleys, but in New England, New York and the lake region the outlook is more favorable, a good crop being promised in the two last mentioned sections.

The reports respecting potatoes indicate a good crop is generally promised in the more prominent potato producing states. Drouth has impaired the outlook in portions of the Ohio valley, however, and rot and blight are increasing in Pennsylvania. Throughout the central valleys and middle Atlantic states the soil is in fine condition for fall plowing, which work is in general progress and well advanced in some places.

JAPS GETTING VERY CLOSE.

Chinese Say Assaults Have Reached the Home of General Stoessel.

CHE FOO—According to Chinese advices brought here from Port Arthur by a junk the Japanese were hotly pressing the Russian center along the railway and the Russian right in the vicinity of Golden Hill. The Chinese declare that the Japanese occupied Taipingtse and penetrated along the railway to General Stoessel's residence on August 21.

As this report would indicate that Port Arthur had all but fallen the Japanese expert attached to the local consulate received the information with great reserve. The information is accepted, however, as a confirmation of previous reports that the Russians have been driven from Itshan and that the Japanese are very close to the southern forts and the eastern defenses.

The local Japanese, under the leadership of their consul, are subscribing money and preparing to celebrate the expected fall of the fortress.

LETTER NEARLY FINISHED

President Roosevelt Putting on Finishing Touches.

OYSTER BAY L. I.—During the next three or four days President Roosevelt will put the finishing touches on his letter of acceptance. It probably will be placed in the hands of a printer on September 10. The letter will contain approximately 12,000 words. The date of its publication has not been determined definitely, but very likely it will be on Monday, September 12.

The president has not received the representations said to have been forwarded to him by the attorneys for the western federation of miners urging action by the national government in the matter of deportation of citizens from the disturbed district in Colorado. The department of commerce and labor, through Carroll D. Wright, commissioner of labor, and his agent, has made an exhaustive inquiry into the Colorado labor situation and is keeping in constant touch with it. The president is thus enabled to have practically first hand information on the subject. As the matter stands now it is understood to be entirely improbable that any action will be taken by the national government.

Officeholders.

WASHINGTON—In view of the approaching election, the civil service commission has addressed a letter to the heads of all government departments and bureaus, calling their attention to violations of the civil service law which have occurred in the last political campaigns and inclosing a circular containing a warning against the demanding or paying of political assessments and partisan activity of officeholders. Prosecution and punishment will follow violations of the law.

THE CONFERENCE TO SETTLE MATTERS AVAILS NOTHING.

NO CONCESSIONS FORTHCOMING

Strikers Have Not Changed Their Position and the Packers Prepared to Offer Only Such Terms as They Have Offered Before.

CHICAGO—Conferences of the committee appointed earlier in the week to attempt a settlement of the stock yards strike, with the parties to the dispute, resulted in nothing. There is no present prospect that they will result in anything in the future and the chances of an agreement between the packers and strikers appear very meager.

The strike leaders appeared before the committee and stated their side of the case. They did not suggest to the aldermanic committee that it make any overtures to the packers, but simply gave their view of the situation.

Representatives of the packers then appeared before the committee. After a session that lasted three hours Mayor Harrison said:

"The packers have said just what they have said before; that they are running their plants and have nothing to arbitrate, and that there is no reason why they should confer with the men."

"We heard a review of the entire strike trouble and the packers say that in every city except Chicago and Omaha the strike is over and they assert that with 70 per cent as many men as they employed in Chicago before the strike they are now turning out 82 per cent of the normal output."

Labor leaders tonight announced that in all probability the butchers' strike would be settled peaceably before next Wednesday. They declined to explain the cause of their belief, but were positive in their statements that the strike would not be called off.

President Donnelly of the butchers has called all the members of the butchers' executive board to meet in Chicago next Wednesday.

Union leaders and packers conferred with the committee appointed by the city council to seek terms of settlement of the stock yards strike. Separate sessions were arranged. President Donnelly of the butcher workmen, Matthew Carr of the allied trades conference board and Organizer John J. Fitzpatrick of the Chicago Federation of Labor were selected to represent the unions. President Donnelly was hopeful.

"It is a game of checkers," said Mayor Harrison at the end of an hour's conference with President Donnelly's committee.

"The strikers have not changed their position," said the mayor, "and the meeting resulted only in the aldermen being given a full explanation of what that position is. President Donnelly told of the history of the original strike, the agreement to resume work and the strikers' side of the renewal of the strike."

WANTS AMERICA TO LEAD WAY

London Newspaper Thinks United States Should Act at Shanghai.

LONDON—The afternoon papers here take it for granted that if intervention is necessary at Shanghai the powers will act together in upholding the neutrality of China equally against both belligerents.

The Westminster Gazette says: "If the American government will lead the way in this matter it will be doing a service to all the governments, for it is high time that the neutral powers come to an understanding about the meaning and limits of China's neutrality so as to be able to act together and arrive at a solution of the complicated situation."

The Pall Mall Gazette considers that the powers should follow at Shanghai the correct precedent be set by Germany at Kiao Chou and insist on the obedience of the Russians to the order to leave or disarm without delay, and thus settle the whole question of neutral Chinese ports for the remainder of the war.

MICKEY WILL GO TO SEATTLE.

Nebraska Executive Will See New Battleship Christened.

LINCOLN, Neb.—Governor Mickey and twenty-five invited guests will go to Seattle to witness the christening and launching of the battleship Nebraska. A Nebraska girl, probably Miss Maria Mickey, will toss the bottle of champagne against the hull of the vessel. However, the governor may object to any member of his family handling intoxicating liquor, and in that event the honor will fall to some one else. The governor has notified the shipbuilding authorities that he will be present.

Those who will accompany him will be state officials and politicians.

Japanese Minister Visits Adea.

WASHINGTON—Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister, called upon Acting Secretary of State Adea to talk of the settlement of the questions connected with the presence of the two Russian warships in the harbor of Shanghai. The minister expressed gratification at the outcome of the negotiations in the agreement to disarm the vessels and lay them up during the war, but regarded it as essential that the completeness of disarmament of the ships be established, to Japan's satisfaction.

MUST BE GOOD PAPER

The Public Intends to Be Protected by the State Printing Board.

LINCOLN—Hereafter all paper published by the state printing board will have to come up to specifications or it will be rejected. Secretary Frazier of the board has just received from the manufacturers a paper scale, a Mullin tester and a caliper, by the aid of which any paper can be accurately tested. The Mullin tester is an involved contrivance operated by compressed air for the purpose of determining the breaking strength of paper, while with the calipers the gauge of the paper is easily determined and the weight completes the test.

It is the purpose of the printing board to make it impossible for bidders to offer inferior substitutes instead of the papers called for in the contracts let. The practice has prevailed to a considerable extent and often to the loss of the state. The eventual result of the adoption of the testing apparatus will be to do away with the purchase of paper according to the name in the water mark, and the selection of standard grades according to the grade, weight per ream and the breaking strength. That will greatly simplify the business of purchasing paper for the use of the many departments of the state government.

When all paper is bought according to the quality and weight the competition in furnishing such supplies to the state will be open to the world. Under the present system, where the state officers make requisition for different brands, the Nebraska dealers who have the sale of such brands enjoy a practical monopoly of the bidding for the supply of that department.

PLUCKY GIRL SAVES LIFE

Does Not Lose Presence of Mind When Gasoline Explodes.

LINCOLN—Cool and alert, Miss Lena Miller saved her life and the farm of her father near Denton. A gasoline can exploded, her clothing caught fire and the flames spread throughout the house. Beating out the flames on her clothing she smothered the fire with blankets and saved the building.

She was painfully burned, but her face will not be disfigured. She is the 19-year-old daughter of County Assessor Miller.

The cries of Miss Miller alarmed her brother. He hastened upstairs and found her battling with the flames. Seizing a pail of water he came to her assistance, but found that the moisture had caused the fire to spread, so he seized blankets and assisted her.

To Improve Platte River.

FREMONT—A plan to improve the Platte river by turning the current which now washes against the earth bank west of this city over into the channel running south of the islands is being considered and will likely be brought before the county board.

Bind Over Alleged Horse Thief.

COLUMBUS—W. F. Carter, who is charged with stealing a horse and buggy from George Winslow, a liveryman here, had his preliminary examination before Judge O'Brien and was bound over to the district court.

Killed by Kick of a Horse.

LEIGH—Miss Maud Fry, the 17-year-old daughter of Jonas Fry, a prominent and well-to-do farmer living eleven miles southeast of this city, was kicked by a horse and was almost instantly killed.

WOMAN BLOWS HER HEAD OFF

Mrs. Cole of Hardy Suicides by the Shotgun.

HARDY—Mrs. Wallie Cole, who had been in poor health for some time, committed suicide at the family home, three and a half miles northwest of this place. She loaded and cocked both barrels of a shotgun, put the muzzle under her chin and discharged one barrel. The right side of her face and the top of her head were blown off. It is thought she was deranged. The corpse was discovered lying on the kitchen floor by two little girls, who notified the men in the field. Mrs. Cole was the mother of a daughter 3 years old and of a baby 2 months old.

Accident at the Races.

BEATRICE—Isaac Haddan, an old resident of Southern Gage county, was run over by a horse and probably fatally injured at Barneston. A horse race was in progress, when one of the animals jumped the track and landed among the spectators.

Look for Big Attendance.

State Superintendent Fowler has received a letter from Principal Crabtree of the Peru normal, stating that there are prospects of an increased attendance as compared with last year. He states that he is receiving more inquiries from high school graduates and experienced teachers than usual. Some of the teachers are already coming in. The work on the new chapel building is making good progress, according to Mr. Crabtree. The walls are up to the first or chapel floor, while the iron work is in place.

THE STATE AT LARGE.

The Burt county reunion has been called off.

The elevator of the Albion Milling company was destroyed by fire.

Fremont's new cannery is now in operation with one hundred men employed.

Arrangements are about completed for the holding of a harvest jubilee and agricultural exhibit in Holdrege from September 5 to 10.

Reuben Nance and Henry Frerichs, two farmers, fought on the streets at Beatrice and the latter was badly cut about the face and head.

William Gumm of Julian went to sleep in the depot at Nebraska City and when he awoke found that five dollars had been taken from his pocket.

The grain stacks on the farm of John Hickey, west of West Point, caught fire from causes unknown and caused a loss of \$300, partly covered by insurance.

August Bauman, an aged farmer living three miles northeast of Snyder, was gored to death by a vicious bull. His dead body was found by a member of his family who went in search of him.

Burglars entered the Nebraska State bank at Milford and blew the outer door off the safe, but got no money. They were evidently frightened away, because the inner doors were not disturbed.

Word reached Leigh of the killing of Miss Maude Fry, a young woman living with her parents twelve miles southeast of town. She was kicked by a horse, the blow striking her in the region of the heart.

Katherine Gamble of Kewanee, Ill., who is visiting with the family of Superintendent E. L. Rouse, in Plattsmouth, had the misfortune to slip and fall, sustaining a painful fracture of her left arm.

Claude Morton, youngest son of H. H. Morton, lately deceased, was struck and instantly killed by lightning at the Spade ranch, near Chadron. He leaves a mother and brother Harry, who live in Chadron.

The preliminary hearing of Dr. D. L. Mehan was concluded last week in Seward. The charge was statutory assault on the person of Bessie Corcoran, an inmate of his home. The accused was bound over to the November term of district court in the sum of \$2,000.

Herman Nolte, a farmer living near Roseland, was brought before County Judge Dungan in Hastings on the charge of assault and battery. The charges were filed by his wife for alleged cruelty, and beating their 15-year-old daughter. He was given three months in the county jail.

Thomas Andrews and son, owners of a large herd of high grade thoroughbred shorthorn cattle of their own breeding on their ranch three miles southeast of Cambridge, left with sixteen head of their prize winners to be on exhibition in Iowa, Missouri and Nebraska. After attending the Iowa state fair at Des Moines they will return to Lincoln to the Nebraska state fair and from there their fine stock will go to the world's fair at St. Louis.

A council of ministers and delegates from the several Baptist churches of Custer county, after a long hearing, has decided to recommend that the ministerial ordinance of Rev. S. P. Morris of this city be revoked and that he be excluded from the Baptist church. This is the outcome of a sensational case resulting in the divorce suit of Rev. Mr. Morris from his wife and the alleged alienation of the wifely affections of Mrs. Day, one of his parishioners.

The corner stone of the new Methodist church at McCook was laid on the 25th.

Frank Rhoades, who was shot while picking corn for Carl Engberg west of Fremont, died from his wound. Arthur Canaga, aged 17, employed by Vasholtz, the butcher, voluntarily went to the county jail and cleared the mystery of the shooting of Rhoades. He said he and another lad were en route to the slaughter house with a 44-caliber rifle to be used in slaughtering. He fired at a sign on a telegraph pole, using it as a target. He believes that it was this shot that killed Rhoades.

Last week Frank Iams, the well-known horseman and importer, arrived in St. Paul with his fifteenth annual importation of stallions direct from France. The shipment contains about eighty head of fine Belgians and Percherons, 2 and 3 years old, and ranging in weight from 1,800 to 2,400 pounds. At the disembarkation in New York the horses were placed on a special express train, chartered by Mr. Iams from the Wells-Fargo Express company at a cost of \$2,500, and brought through in quick time.

Miss Katie Bluechel, a popular young woman of West Point, has become mentally unbalanced and was taken before the insanity commissioners for examination. She was adjudged insane and taken to the hospital at Lincoln.

Land Commissioner Follmer and Deputy Commissioner Eaton have recommended that the public lands not entered under the Kinkaid act be leased at not less than 3 cents an acre and as much more as the land will bring on the open market by competitive bidding.