

The Norfolk News

When is that proclamation to be issued doing away with the Fourth of July? President McKinley must be forgetting one of his important duties. He didn't even recommend its abolition in his message to congress.

The Fremont Tribune is of the opinion that if the price of hay doesn't soon come down people in parts of the state will be reduced to the economical method of buying elder down as a substitute in the stuffing of bed ticks.

The present session of congress is creating a record as a business proposition. Bills are being hustled up in a lively manner and it is seldom that a better showing has been made than that by the present national body during the short time it has been in session.

South Dakota did the thing right during the recent election. Out of a total vote of less than 100,000 McKinley received a plurality of almost 15,000 votes. This was Pettigrew's home state too, and the result may be taken to mean just a little emphasis against his politics.

Governor Dietrich is proving all that has been claimed for him as a business man and one of backbone. He is conducting the preliminaries to inauguration in a manner that reflects credit and is disposing of applicants for position in a way that leaves scant room for criticism.

The new democracy is evidently preparing to insist that it is right. It has probably been more successful in winning defeat than any party claiming to be one of the "great" parties of recent years and the continuance of that sort of organization will undoubtedly be very satisfactory to republicans.

It is pretty certain, says the Sioux City Tribune, that if Nebraska does not lose one congressman, Iowa will gain one. If Nebraska loses one, Iowa will gain none. There is no chance of Iowa losing. The prospect of making over the state into twelve districts is one that is giving the political mathematicians keen delight.

Andrew Carnegie does not want to be credited so much with what he has given to charitable institutions as with what he has induced others to give. Mr. Carnegie has by this thought placed a new tie between those seeking charity and himself. Their great delight seems to be in giving rich men, like him, cause to "dig up."

It has cost the United States \$4,700 to furnish two small rooms in the capitol building for the committee on finance. This is pretty rich, but the committee should know whether or not we as a people can stand it, or is it the duty of the committee on finance to reduce the finances below any line of danger from too much money?

It appears that the British government has about concluded to lay a cable across the Pacific. This announcement, coming as it does when the president of this country has recommended the construction of an American cable, should spur congress to early action in the matter. The United States is vitally more interested in a Pacific cable, or should be, than Britain.

One of Edgar Howard's first editorials on assuming control of the Columbus Telegram bears the indication that it was intended as a balm for some large and gaping wounds recently received. He says "A good citizen had rather be a country editor for a thousand years than to be a congressman for a day." This is one way to take a philosophical view of an environment.

With butter approaching the 30 cent mark and a "strong market" back of it there is every indication of a "trust" some place. While the farmers may not be in a trust they are apparently getting all the favors commonly attributed to a trust. A raise in the price of nails or wire, or sugar would at once be attributed to trust influence, why not the price of corn, or butter or eggs?

A man in Louisiana is recovering from the effects of a pistol shot wound, the bullet having perforated his intestines, liver and lung. At the same time he suffered from a severe attack of pneumonia. He must have a constitution on a par with that of Mr. Bryan. The latter was "shot to pieces" worse, if anything, than the Louisiana man, but also shows excellent chances of recovery.

The evidence seems to accumulate that there were gross frauds or unpardonable carelessness in South Omaha during the recent election. The registration books show that in a number of cases people who have been absent from the city for months were registered, while residences at vacant houses and even vacant lots are common. The fusionists were desperate and they seem to have been especially so in South Omaha.

The Rev. T. W. Cheeseman, who was noted for his scandalous assertions concerning the administration during the

campaign is still chasing notoriety. He refused to answer questions put to him by the census enumerator and the grand jury has brought an indictment against him. He has been served with a writ of capias and gave bonds in the sum of \$500 for his appearance. It would be mightily satisfactory to a great many people if the Rev. Mr. Cheeseman were compelled to answer some undesirable and impertinent questions.

The people of Scotland have organized a temperance society which should prove more effective than the average society of that kind. Its name quite plainly indicates its purpose. It is the Scottish Self-Control society. Time has proven that it cannot be said to man, any more than to woman, that "you shall not." The moment such a prohibitive measure is made the individual supposed to be influenced proceeds to demonstrate that he can and will, and is much more likely to be everlastingly damned than if he had been influenced to use his own self control by a "please don't" or "it is not proper for you to do so."

Some of the fusionists of Holt complain because the people of that county have been compelled to pay about \$70,000 in war taxes on legal papers filed with the county clerk. This is an advertisement of which the people should be proud. It has quite generally been supposed that there was not much more than \$70,000 worth of property in Holt county. But this showing indicates that there is, and the people have been doing business of some kind in those parts. Uncle Sam has not been taxing people who are not doing business. It is worth the money in giving Holt its proper status in the eyes of the world. Anyway it is only the fusionists up there who are kicking and they are becoming beautifully less.

The democratic minority in congress magnanimously promises to refrain from any attempt to block republican legislative acts in that body and desires the responsibility for such enactments placed on the shoulders of republican members. Does this mean then that the democrats have learned a valuable lesson? They blocked a republican anti-trust measure recently, and suffered for it when the returns came in. They also stepped into the breach when it looked like Senator Hoar and other republicans were about to defeat the Paris treaty and then found it impossible during the campaign to throw the entire blame, if such there were, for the ratification of such treaty on the republicans. Their late resolve therefore indicates that they are acquiring wisdom, deep and profound.

The eastern railroads are abolishing the half fare permits given clergymen and religious workers and the western roads are taking under advisement similar action. A prominent passenger agent says that the privilege has been abused, which is the main reason for abolishing it. He says: "Personally, I do not favor the abolition of the custom to give ministers and religious workers half fare rates, for I believe they are much more entitled to the low rates than many who get free passes." Further he said: "The class that will be most affected and suffer the greatest will be the Salvation Army workers, of whom there are hundreds traveling a great deal, and to my way of thinking doing a vast amount of good." This is one of the privileges which the ordinary individual might suppose would not be abused and it is probably not abused by the classes most benefited. If the ministers appreciate what is being done by the railroads for them they will undoubtedly take measures to correct these abuses if afforded the opportunity.

The benefit of irrigation to the west should urge united and vigorous action on the part of its every citizen. The western senators and congressmen should use their best efforts to forward this movement, from which so much is expected. Writing on this subject recently Mr. Mitchell said: "It is probable that some definite plan of action will be put forward this winter to secure reservoir construction. If so, every man in the west should wake to the opportunity. The favorable action of congress on the question of building some particular reservoir would be the beginning of a general policy of reclamation of deserts. It would be an entering wedge. It is a matter of the most tremendous interest in the west and to every interest in the west. This point should not be overlooked; that whatever reservoir site it is proposed to concentrate the attention of congress upon, and in whatever state or locality, every other state and territory should bend every effort to secure the construction of this first reservoir. This would start the movement."

An association has been formed in the state, the object of which is to secure the passage of laws at the coming session of the legislature to protect the game birds of Nebraska. The association will ask that provision be made for a game warden, and for a law to prohibit the exportation of game from the state. People in the eastern part of the state do not realize how many prairie chickens, quail, etc., are shipped from western counties every season. In conversation with a gentleman from O'Neill the other day, he made the startling

statement that from his town alone during the past season three full car loads of prairie chickens had been shipped to eastern markets. Every other town in the west half of the state has been having a like experience, and unless the practice is speedily stopped by legislation there will very soon be no game birds left. Nebraska and Missouri are now the only two states in the union from which game can be shipped. The objects of the association are laudable and should meet with hearty response on the part of the legislature.

The Nebraska Independent has figured it all out and people who have been wondering at the result of the landslide during the fore part of November need wonder no longer—it was ignorance, deep, dense, impenetrable ignorance. The voters composing the majority and a large part of the total vote were so ignorant that they couldn't recognize "imperialism" if attached to the end of their ignorant proboscis—they couldn't appreciate the patriotic palaver put up by the "Little Americans" and couldn't realize that Bryan's "paramount" issue was paramount. If you don't know how you appear in the eye of scholarly, intelligent people—you numbskull who voted for McKinley—read the following from the Independent: "Among the voters counted for McKinley are at least 500,000 of the most ignorant negroes—the more intelligent among them voted for Bryan. There are also 100,000 slaves, the vileness of whose lives and the density of whose understanding places them just a little above the brutes. There are a hundred thousand or more of the degraded peasants of Europe who have been imported by the coal barons to labor in the mines of Pennsylvania and other states. Then there are the mullet heads of Nebraska who honestly believe that McKinley ordered Bryan to Cuba and that upon the receipt of that order Bryan resigned his commission. Add to these the other mullet heads who believe that a hundred pop county treasurers defaulted for hundreds of thousands of dollars during the last four years and you have the make up of McKinley's majority."

After Election. The late populist candidate for the presidency complacently remarked immediately after the re-choosing of McKinley: "I shall stay in politics as long as I live."

The Marine Register of an early day contains a remark made by Commodore Jonah immediately subsequent to the stomachic convulsions of the whale which threw him upon the shore, a reeking delirium:

"I intend to be in a whale as long as I live no matter how hard he wishes to spew me out."

The Red Sea Record is constantly referring to Pharaoh as the "peerless leader" notwithstanding he lured his followers into an aqueous and remorseless grave. Peerless Pharaoh has prototypes in modern times.—The Conservative.

The Porto Rico Tariff. The fusionists endeavored to make a great issue out of the Porto Rican tariff question during the last campaign and spread the sentiment broadcast that the people of that island were very much disgusted with what this government had done for them. Now that the people there leave tariff legislation in their own hands there seems to be a question as to whether the existing 15-per-cent tariff can be bettered.

The San Juan News, discussing the question says: "If the tariff is abolished it is at once evident that a more burdensome and higher rate of internal taxation must be imposed. Where and upon what shall this be levied is indeed a perplexing question."

"Aside from all the difficulties that may or will arise from the abolition of the tariff, let us glance at the tariff itself and see what it has done. In the last six months the 15-per-cent tariff has afforded the island as much, if not more, revenue than the 100-per-cent tariff. The theory that the way to increase revenue is by lowering the taxes is proved to be true for Porto Rico. This revenue will be constantly increasing as our trade increases, as it is sure to do. It has helped the consumer, for it has lowered the taxes he has to pay, not only on American goods, but upon all goods that enter our market in competition with them. This results in an increase of importations. This helps the producer by constantly providing him a means to carry his goods to the great American market, which is always so hungry for the products this island has to dispose of. Again, unless we have a traffic both ways, the steamers must make one trip without a cargo and the freight is thereby doubled.

"A tariff helps us as borrowers; it will give our securities a standing in the United States which they could not have without a permanent revenue like the tariff revenue. The argument so often advanced in favor of a tariff tax as against other means of raising revenue, that it is easily collected, is especially forcible in Porto Rico. We would advise that the tariff is necessary, and if it were not it would still be the most convenient and logical means of raising our revenue. Let the tariff stand at 15 per cent."

Christmas is less than two weeks away and "our ship" hasn't come in.

They say it requires tons of soft soap to launch a battleship. It also usually requires tons of the same material to properly launch a presidential boom.

The name of David Bennett Hill of New York has been sprung as a presidential possibility in 1904. He is probably the most logical candidate of the conservative element of the democratic party but the radical element seems to have the upper hand and will undoubtedly have something to say when the time comes for making a choice.

The Verdigre Citizen is in favor of a telephone circuit connecting Pischelville, Knoxville, Dukeville, Armstrong and Walnut with Verdigre. It figures that such a line could be built at a cost of about \$400 per township and would be nice for people to step in and call up Verdigre, "get the market report, or in case of sickness, call the doctor."

The Chicago Times-Herald has computed the average number of murders each year in each state of the union. Nebraska is credited with 108. Population considered, the solid south seems to be the most murderous part of the country, Texas being credited or discredited with 1,021, while New York has but 512. Alabama is near the top with 461.

A member of the Kansas legislature has introduced a bill providing for a commission, the duty of which will be to propagate a new breed of rabbits by crossing the common jack rabbit and the Belgian hare. If he had also included in the duties of the commission a proposition to cross the common milk cow and the town pump he would have done something of inestimable benefit to city dairy interests.

Governor-Elect Dietrich has strongly intimated that he will not pardon Jos. Bartley, ex state treasurer, who is now serving time for getting away with state money, and renewed efforts are being made by Bartley's friends to get Governor Poynter to do the pardoning before his term expires. He seems to be as indifferent as can be their demands, however, and the chances are that Mr. Bartley will serve his term. The retiring governor and the governor-elect seem to have a very proper conception of their duties in regard to this matter.

The pardoning of Bartley at this time would be a travesty on justice. Because he stole thousands where others have stolen hundreds is no reason for executive clemency; on the contrary, his punishment should be the more severe. If he has friends who profited by his defalcations, instead of endeavoring to get his term shortened they should manfully volunteer to share his punishment. One of the greatest excuses the world gives for the breeding of anarchism and outlawry is the custom of punishing the big thief lightly and the small one heavily, and friends of the law are oftentimes quite justified in a belief that justice is sometimes defeated by money. It was very satisfactory to the people of the state at large when Bartley received a well-earned sentence at the hands of the court and if any man wants to risk the unanimous condemnation of the people he can do so in no better way than by shortening the ex-treasurer's term of imprisonment. One of the main ends of a sentence such as was given Bartley is to discourage like practices on the part of other public officials and to mitigate his punishment would be to throw the gate wide open for thievery in the future, relying upon the clemency of the governor to provide a means of escape. If any man ever sentenced in the state of Nebraska deserves to serve his time that man is Jos. Bartley and woe be the person who pardons. If physically injured by his servitude the prisoner's punishment might be adjusted thereto, the facilities of the penitentiary being fully adequate to such purposes. The will of the people, regardless of politics, is that he pay the full penalty imposed.

TWO DEATHS IN COLLISION. Fireman's Arm Cut Off With an Ax to Save Him from Cremation. De Soto, Mo., Dec. 13.—A head-on collision occurred on the Missouri Pacific-Iron Mountain railway at Des Arc, Mo., between two freight trains, resulting in the death of Engineer James Britt of Olney, Ill., and brakeman Ed Bradley of De Soto, Mo. The latter was caught under the wreckage, which took fire and cremated his body. Fireman B. Barrett fell under his engine and could only be rescued from being burned alive by cutting his left arm off with an ax. William Ralston, conductor, and R. D. Scott, brakeman, and G. L. Scott were slightly injured. The two engines were completely demolished and eight cars loaded with lumber and cotton caught fire and were entirely consumed, causing a loss to the railway company of about \$15,000. The wreck is said to have been caused by a disregard of meeting orders.

Broken Bow, Neb., Dec. 13.—William Oxley had a preliminary hearing on the charge of murdering his neighbor, Fullhardt. The defense introduced no testimony. Oxley was bound over. Seven Years for Lese Majeste. Belgrade, Dec. 13.—M. Genchita, former minister of the interior, has been sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for lese majeste and publicly insulting the government.

BREAKS OFF WITH ORDER.

Santa Fe Refuses to Recognize Telegraphers' Union.

CLAIMS STILL CONFLICTING.

Strikers Declare That They Are More Content Than Ever and That a Surprise Move Will Soon Be Made—Officials Report All Lines Working.

Topeka, Dec. 13.—The Santa Fe railroad has broken off its relations with the Order of Railway Telegraphers. "All the courtesies prevalent between the road and the operators have been revoked," said General Manager Mudge. "We will have nothing further to do with an organization that has proved itself incompetent, that broke its contract to give us 30 days' notice, and gave us but 30 seconds."

Galveston, Dec. 13.—General Manager Polk of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe railroad last night announced that the telegraphers' strike is closed so far as the company is concerned. "I have just issued an order requiring writing applications for new positions," said he. "We have about filled all our places and the road is going right ahead with business."

Dolphin's statement.

Wichita, Kan., Dec. 13.—National President Dolphin of the Order of Railway Telegraphers passed through here en route to Topeka. With reference to the Santa Fe strike, he said: "It is my opinion that the strike will be adjusted within a few days. Just when, of course, I cannot say. I am confident that the Santa Fe operators will win their fight. The men have the sympathy of the trainmen and I know that if there is any occasion for it, they will assist them. No, I do not propose to order a national strike of the operators. Why should I? The other men have no grievances and it will not assist them. The Santa Fe strikers if the others do go out. I cannot say whether or not the trainmen will strike. That is a matter for them to determine and over which I have no control."

President Dolphin's pass was taken up and he was required to pay fare.

MUMMY FOUND IN AN ATTIC.

Child's Body Had Evidently Gone Through Preserving Process.

Fort Scott, Kan., Dec. 13.—M. S. Cassinger, a farmer living ten miles northeast of this city, found the mummified body of a child in the attic of his house. He has lived on the place but three months, and had frequently noticed in the attic a sack which he supposed was half filled with old rags. Yesterday he had occasion to remove it and found the contents to be the corpse of a child. It was in a dry, leathery state and had evidently gone through some preserving process. There is no way of determining how long it has been in the attic. Mr. Cassinger reported the find to the authorities and an investigation will follow.

Trouble at Uintah Agency.

White Rock, Utah, Dec. 13.—At the request of Agent Myton, troop K, from Fort Duchesne, was ordered out last evening to prevent trouble at the Uintah agency. Over 30 children in the school are down with measles and other diseases and their parents have been much dissatisfied because the children were not allowed to go home. One girl died and Black Hawk went to the school and demanded the release of his children. O'Connor, the teacher, made some show of resistance and was thrown down stairs and the children taken away by force. Several other children were taken away by other Indians. Three attempts were made to burn the school buildings and the agent called upon Major Hughes for help.

Dunkards to Found Ideal Colony.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 13.—A committee of rich Dunkards has purchased the townsite of Sunnyside, in the irrigated section of Yakima county. The purchasers include Elder S. J. Harrison of Sunnyside and C. Rowland, a wealthy banker of Lanark, Ill. They propose founding an ideal colony which shall be noted for its temperance, Christianity and educational institutions. A college patterned after that of Oberlin, O., is to be founded.

Two Fatalities in Kentucky Feud.

London, Ky., Dec. 13.—The Hampton-Benges feud was renewed in Clay county yesterday. Members of both parties met at the distillery operated by Elihu Allen and when the smoke cleared away two men were found to be probably fatally wounded. Several men were engaged in the fray, all being mounted on horses. Nathaniel Hampton was shot through the back and one of the Benges party through the shoulder.

Iowa and Minnesota Left Out.

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Iowa and Minnesota will not be given an opportunity to play football against the University of Chicago next fall. That neither of the teams which has been in the lead this fall would be given a place on the schedule for 1901 was announced by Coach Stagg today. The reason is that he has five contracts for big games with other institutions.

Murderer Making a Record.

Logansport, Ind., Dec. 13.—Marvin Kuhns, the murderer who escaped from the Ohio penitentiary and shot Policeman Dean here on Monday, shot and killed two officers who were trying to arrest him at Avilla yesterday. Avilla is near Kuhns' home, in Noble county. A posse is in pursuit. Policeman Dean is in a critical condition.

MUST PAY FINES.

Circuit Court Holds Penalty Section of Illinois Anti-Trust Law Good.

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Judges Tuley, Waterman and Dunne of the circuit court handed down a decision in the corporation cases involving the constitutionality of the anti-trust laws of Illinois, in which the court ruled that corporations in Illinois must continue to make affidavits to the secretary of state that they are in no way connected with any trust or combination in restraint of trade.

The decision in effect sustains that section of the anti-trust law which compels the filing under penalty of an affidavit from each corporation that it is not connected with a trust. Section 1 of the anti-trust act, which describes and defines trusts, as amended, is held to be unconstitutional by two of the judges, but the court is unanimous in declaring that the amendatory section providing for the filing of the affidavits does not fall with section 1, and the final decision overrules the demurrer of the defendants in the test case.

The decision involves the enforcement of fines of \$50 on nearly 800 Illinois corporations which have refused to file affidavits with the secretary of state as required by law.

DEWET ELUDES KNOX.

Boers Moving Toward Reddersburg—Attack Post Near Barberton—Lord Kitchener Reports Running Fight.

London, Dec. 13.—Lord Kitchener cables the war office from Pretoria, under date of Dec. 12, that General Knox reports from Helvetia that he is engaged in a running fight with General Dewet and that the enemy is moving toward Reddersburg, where there is a column ready to co-operate with the other British forces.

Lord Kitchener in another dispatch reports that the Boers attacked the post near Barberton. The British casualties were three killed, five wounded and 13 taken prisoners. The captured men have since been released. The Boers raided the Riverton road station Dec. 11. They are being followed up.

General Kitchener's message indicates Dewet has again evaded Knox. After the latter had felled the Boer general at Coomassie drift, the Boers seem to have doubled back, crossed the Caledon river elsewhere and turned thence northwest in the direction of Pedersburg, the memorable scene of the British disaster in April, when Dewet captured the Irish rifles.

BIG FIRE IN FORT DODGE.

Sisters of Mercy Convent Burns to the Ground—Nuns Have Close Call.

Fort Dodge, Ia., Dec. 13.—The Sisters of Mercy convent, the largest frame building in the city, was burned to the ground early yesterday. A gale was blowing and the flames spread so rapidly that several of the sisters were slightly burned before they could escape.

All of the personal effects and the large library used in the parochial school, where 150 pupils attended, and all the furnishings were consumed. Only \$3,500 insurance was carried on the building, which was valued at \$10,000. It is thought that the fire was incendiary. It is not thought probable that the convent will be rebuilt.

Wind Skeletons of Mastodons.

Fort Meade, S. D., Dec. 13.—Skeletons of two gigantic dinosaurs have been discovered on the military reservation at this post by a party of scientists sent out from New York city by the American Museum of Natural History. The expedition is under the leadership of Professor G. R. Wieland. The first and largest of the specimens was found six weeks ago. The second specimen was discovered later. It is in perfect preservation and is part of an animal fully 40 feet long.

Topeka Begins Crusade Against Vice.

Topeka, Dec. 13.—Topeka has begun a crusade against vice by subscribing \$20,000 as a fund for the prosecution of saloon keepers. The officers of the Good Citizenship Federation say they will make the subscription \$100,000 before they are through with it. A special committee for the enforcement of the prohibitory law in the city has been formed.

Agriculturists Adopt Resolutions.

Des Moines, Dec. 13.—The state agricultural convention adopted resolutions yesterday favoring the creation of a national park at the headwaters of the Mississippi river and the concentration of the control of the government forest reservations under the department of agriculture.

TELEGRAMS TERSELY TOLD.

The dock laborers at Callao, the port of Lima, have gone on strike and all work has been stopped.

A membership in the New York Stock exchange was sold Wednesday for \$47,500 to John H. McCullough.

A fire occurred at Goinza, Pa., Wednesday, resulting in the death of three small children of E. W. Grubbs.

The Wisconsin State Grange adopted resolutions favoring state aid for good roads and condemning the ship subsidy and irrigation canal bills.

The New York Tribune publishes a letter from Andrew Carnegie favoring an isthmian canal, but opposing any treaty with England upon the subject.

Justice Andrews, in the New York supreme court, handed down a decision in which he holds that a woman should be home by midnight. The question arose on an application by Florence Abel to enjoin her landlord from closing the front door of the house and not admitting her when she rang the bell.