

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

The man who wears the corset vest must not be offended if real men call him sister.

Dig around in your back lot and if you can find a few grains of radium you can quit working.

An Ichthyosaurus has been discovered in South America. But there is no cause for alarm. It's as dead as any mackerel ever was.

Baths have been installed upon some of the regular railway trains in Russia. It will not be hard to keep the tramps from riding on those trains.

Russia is an overbearing and grasping nation, but it is pretty near the truth that "there never was a good war nor a bad peace."

The Emperor of Korea is arming his subjects with guns. This is a dangerous proceeding. One never can tell which way such careless people as the Koreans may point their weapons.

"The Available Energy of Timothy Hay," just issued by the Agricultural Department, will be followed shortly by "The Diplomatic Energy of John Hay," published by the Department of State.

People in a new Boston sect are called "Religious Israelites." They wear long hair—that is the men do—and have it coiled on their heads. If they guarantee that, we might be tempted to join.

If anybody had asked Paul the Apostle what he considered the "three essentials" of a home he would probably have recommended his usual formula, "faith, hope and charity." But Paul was not a married man.

There is a lieutenant in the German army who has fought eight duels and is preparing to do some more challenging "for the sake of his family's honor." There must be something pretty shaky about family honor which has to be protected as hard as that.

At Bayonne, N. J., the other day a man was fined \$10 for trying to stop a family quarrel, the magistrate informing him that the fine was administered "to discourage hitting in."

The clerk who stands long hours behind the counter in the retail store comes into contact with some peculiar aspects of human nature. "I want to see your fifty-cent mittens," asked a customer. The clerk showed the entire stock. "Oh, but I wanted them with fingers." The clerk straightway pulled down all the varieties which he had of that description.

In this age of special investigations there should be a thorough inquiry into our system of railroading, to see if it is not possible greatly to lessen the number of accidents. The wreck near Connellsville recently would compare in destructiveness with a small battle. Certainly the loss of sixty-nine lives in a single engagement would attract serious attention.

The preacher who seeks to shine in oratory, scientific accuracy and historical learning puts himself on perilous ground where some of his hearers may have him at a disadvantage. If he chooses the appeal to the affections and the conscience, he is in his own undisputed province.

With American wagons ordered for war service by the czar of all the Russias, American flour girdling the world, and American cotton, machinery and manufactures of all kinds known far and near beyond our borders, it sounds as if we were doing all the international selling.

Remember, when a guest at a party, that you can't stay so late you can ward off all talk about you.

too, and Uncle Sam had to buy horses from Norway and Sweden, milk in Denmark, cider in Spain and Cuba, sausages in Hongkong, and coffee from various places. We generally suppose that, except for the spices, most things that we eat are home-grown, but Uncle Sam's records tell quite another story.

We proudly call ourselves a free people. The fact is we are altogether too free. We boast that there is no power over us but that of God and we show it clearly in our everyday disregard for law and order.

Some reforms seem to come by chance. There were complaints of overcrowded schools at Batavia, N. Y., and the board secured seven extra teachers. The superintendent, instead of setting them to hearing recitations like the regular teachers, set them to giving individual instructions to pupils that were behind in the course.

The clerk who stands long hours behind the counter in the retail store comes into contact with some peculiar aspects of human nature. "I want to see your fifty-cent mittens," asked a customer.

The private tutor in British institutions is as old as the educational system there, and the office is fundamental in continental education. Its accidental application to the public schools seems to have worked wonderfully well. It is worth thinking about.

People like to be told what they already know, to hear about old friends and old interests. Absolutely new information has nothing in the mind to hitch to. This story from the "Memories of a Child" is an illustration:

Once, probably before the child's school days began, somebody took her to a school commencement, and a gentleman made a long, long address, to which the child listened with respectful attention.

"Do you regard the trust system as a means of prosperity?" "Certainly," answered Senator Borglum. "But in order to get all the prosperity that's coming to you out of a trust you must know how to work it."

Somehow it goes hard to sit out a sermon devoted to the beauties of the New Jerusalem, and then have to wade in mud going home.

RUSSIANS FLEE THE CITY

RUMORS THAT PORT ARTHUR HAS FALLEN CIRCULATED.

Japanese Cavalry Patrol Engaged Russian Scouts Near Kanan—Eye-Witness Tells of Ocean Battle.

TIENTSIN.—An unconfirmed report had reached here that Port Arthur has fallen.

LONDON.—A dispatch to the Central News from Tokyo says: "It is asserted here that the Russians virtually have abandoned Port Arthur."

SHANGHAI.—The breechblocks and other mechanism effecting the utility of the Russian gunboat Mandjuri, have been removed to the Chinese arsenal.

TOKIO.—It is reported that a Japanese cavalry patrol engaged a party of Russian scouts near Kanan, west of Anju yesterday.

Japanese bonds have fallen in London 7 to 8 per cent below Tokyo quotations. The wide variation is unaccountable, but it is possibly due, to the difference of the holders.

TIENTSIN.—Information from an official who was an eyewitness of the bombardment of Port Arthur, on Wednesday and Thursday is to the effect that the Russians had twenty-five killed on the batteries.

The Russians assert that their damaged cruisers have been repaired and are ready for sea. The battleship Czarsvitch will be ready shortly.

The Russians are preparing for the defense of Newchwang, finding it impossible to stop the landing of Japanese.

Viewing The Latest Comet.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.—Borell's comet, which was discovered at Marsfield on June 21, 1903, has been the object of special observations at the Lick observatory.

Democracy Badly Divided.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—The two factions of the local democracy which split yesterday over the result of the primaries, held separate conventions.

Both sides and culminated before the nominations in a fight between Martin Crowe, sergeant at arms of the Kemper convention, and Cassimir Welch, a Shelby delegate, in which Crowe was shot twice, but not seriously wounded.

One Of The Chosen Few.

WASHINGTON.—That Reed Smoot could not have been elected to the United States senate without having first been seen as an apostle of the Mormon church, and that after he was chosen he could not have been defeated, was asserted by Judge Ogden H. S. assistant United States attorney from 1886 to 1888.

CZAR TO GO TO WAR STIRRED UP THE LORDS.

EMPEROR MAY TAKE FIELD AFTER FIRST ENGAGEMENT.

PEACE IS BEING TALKED

ACTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN EUROPEAN CABINETS

Efforts at Present Mainly Directed Toward Preventing Spread of Confagrations—China Only a Spectator.

PARIS.—"It is almost certain," telegraphs the St. Petersburg correspondent of Gill Bias, "that the emperor will assume command of the troops in the far east after the first important engagement."

It is affirmed in Paris that Prince Ichijo, naval attache to the Japanese legation, will leave France shortly as a result of a conference between Foreign Minister Delcasse and M. Montono, the Japanese minister, on the subject of the Martin treason case.

Martin, a non-commissioned officer, now under arrest, who was employed in the ministry of marine is said to have attempted to sell French naval secrets to the predecessor of Prince Ichijo and to have approached the prince to the same end.

"I can assure you," this person says, "that favored by the comparative calm which prevails at this moment a most active exchange of views is going on between European cabinets."

The chancelleries have begun to play the part of "international firemen" in other words, they are trying to restrict the spread of the conflagration, and to protect adjoining states.

"One thing remains certain, namely, the new and striking affirmation of the close friendship uniting Nicholas II. and King Edward VII. Everywhere peace is desired, and governments are working for it with all their strength."

China is not a source of danger; the impress and court hate Japan. The treaty of Shimnoski has not been forgotten, and moreover, the race question in Asia has not the importance which Europeans attribute to it.

Chairman Hoar Asks Light

WASHINGTON.—The special senate committee to investigate the Dietrich charges had another long and important session today, adjourning over until Wednesday morning to hear the testimony of two related witnesses called at the instance of Senator Dietrich.

Edward Rosewater, who was summoned as a Dietrich witness, put in his appearance today, but did not testify. Senator Dietrich explained that he had called for Mr. Rosewater to testify on a phase of the case which the committee had decided later would not be admissible.

Senator Hoar questioned the witness closely as to the date the latter relinquished the office of governor and the date from which he accepted money from the government as senatorial salary, and brought out an admission that one salary lapped over the other.

"I don't see how you could draw two salaries?" asked Senator Hoar. Dietrich "I did sir but when I received the draft from the secretary I did not know from what date that date it covered."

Senator Hoar: Did you return the salary?" Dietrich: "I have not returned the salary. It covered the time from March 28 to the following December, 1901."

Beaten By Masked Men

TRINIDAD, Col.—Chris Evans, financial manager of the United Mine-workers of America, was beaten by three masked men with revolvers today on board Colorado & Southern passenger train bound for Pueblo, and painfully hurt. The men boarded the train at a point a mile east of Trinidad, and after attacking Evans jumped off and escaped. Evans was sent to Colorado by President John Mitchell.

ROSEBERY UPSETS DECORUM OF ENGLISH HOUSE.

Trade Followed by Painful and Uncomfortable Silence, Hardly Elevated up to Time of Adjournment.

LONDON.—An extraordinary scene disturbed the customary decorum of the house of lords this evening.

In recent debate in the house of commons Premier Balfour had used the word "calumny" with reference to some statement made by Lord Rosebery in the fiscal controversy.

Lord Lansdowne, the foreign secretary, what justification existed for the premier's use of such a word.

Lord Lansdowne, proceeded to explain the circumstances. He admitted the premier had used the word in the heat of debate.

After Lansdowne had finished Lord Rosebery again rose, and declaring the explanation had not been satisfactory, he fiercely attacked the premier, whom he accused of being too "thin skinned," adding:

"People who live in glass houses should not throw stones. It is very well to defend such language by saying it was due to the heat of debate and only 'pretty Fanny's way.' If man cannot curb his tongue better than that he is unfit to be the first lord of the treasury."

"I do not personally care a farthing, what language Premier Balfour uses about me, and I only brought in order to point out that there are derogations of debate that should be used even by those who occupy the highest position."

As Lord Rosebery finished this trade and sat down a painful silence ensued and the lords looked at each other uncomfortably.

After a long pause Earl Spencer, the liberal leader rose and said he thought Lord Rosebery had not been fairly used.

WASHINGTON.—The only witness on the stand today in the investigation of the Senator Reed Smoot case before the senate committee on privileges and elections was E. B. Critchlow, former assistant United States attorney for Utah.

Heavy Wind Storm on Coast. SAN FRANCISCO.—The worst rain and wind storm in thirteen years swept over this city, and along the Pacific coast today, doing much damage to shipping, railroads and frame buildings through the state.

PORTLAND, Ore.—A record breaking wind storm has practically isolated San Francisco. Telegraphic communication with that city was entirely cut off today from the north and east.

ASHLAND, Ore.—An unprecedented wind and rain storm prevailed today. The steeple of the Methodist church was wrecked. Signs and fences were broken and telegraph and telephone poles and wires were blown down.

Dietrich Case to be Pushed. WASHINGTON.—All day long the special senate committee listened to facts upon which Senator Dietrich was indicted by the federal grand jury and will resume the hearing tomorrow morning, the intentions being to press the matter to a conclusion.

Gorge in Missouri River.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb.—A report was received here today of an ice gorge which is formed in the Missouri river five miles south of this city. The ice has caused a rise in the river of nearly two feet at that point, and several of the farms on the east side have been flooded.

Mr. John Joseph Creighton and Miss Etta Williams were married at Beatrice by Judge Bourne. The bride and groom are residents of Lewistown, Neb., and will make their home at that place.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Fritch of Papillion was held Tuesday from the German Methodist church in that city. She was 82 years of age at the time of her death, and had lived at Papillion for thirty-seven years.

NEBRASKA NOTES

The Platte river is out of its banks and is doing considerable damage around Fremont.

Richard Law of Falls City and Miss Kate Heer of Table Rock were married at Pawnee City.

Miss Eva Rich was waylaid and outraged near her home at Scribner, by three masked villains.

Smallpox has broken out at Springfield, Sarpy county. The family of Frank Comte has been quarantined.

J. H. Ludwick, a pioneer furniture dealer of McCook, was found dead in his bed Thursday morning of heart disease.

Professor C. B. Sherman was again chosen superintendent of the schools at Schuyler. This is his fourth year.

Food commissioner Thompson has seized six barrels of vinegar sent from Paducah, Ky., to Auburn. He alleges it was made with acid.

The Southwestern Nebraska Teachers' association will meet at Beatrice on March 30, 31, and April 1. A large crowd is expected.

P. Sutton, F. A. Bernel, N. P. Brus, and O. Kunkle, all of McCook, Neb., have just been fined \$25 each at Wray, Col., for hunting without a license.

Mike Gardner of Nebraska City, charged with selling land without a title and with intent to defraud, has just been released on a writ of habeas corpus.

The Nebraska City Hollow Brick company is the name of a new industry that has been started at Nebraska City for the purpose of manufacturing hollow brick.

Frank Stark of Seward, Neb., was struck by a Missouri Pacific engine while crossing Vine street in Lincoln. Stark's wagon was smashed, but the man himself, beyond a few slight bruises, escaped injury.

Robley D. Harris, Sidney's candidate for lieutenant governor, is essentially a pioneer Nebraskan. He came to the state in 1866 with an overland train and wielded the bull whip over a ten yoke bull team.

Mrs. Johann Hanke, for the past fourteen years a resident of Beatrice, died aged 70 years. Deceased was a native of Germany and leaves a family of eight children, five sons and three daughters. Her death was caused by brain asthma and dropsy.

Three cases of typhoid fever have been discovered among the employees of the state house. The plumbing of the entire east wing will be overhauled in an endeavor to locate the trouble.

While seated at the organ, playing a piece of music, George Lynch, of Oxford, a 16-year-old boy, was killed by the accidental discharge of a shotgun in the hands of his brother. The charge took effect in the side.

"Sailor Jean" walking to every capital in the United States on a wager, was in Beatrice. His name is Jean A. Krohn and he left August 3, Malve, April 1, 1901. He has three and one-half years to make the trip and will receive \$5,000 if successful.

A party searching the lake for the body of the son of George Lautherbach, of Kearney, who was drowned at last have been successful. The body of the little one was found Tuesday noon in the deep water of the lake. It was necessary to blow out the ice with dynamite.

Jacob Mann was found dead in a pasture on his farm a few miles northwest of Stella. Mann went out to the pasture to water the stock, but was gone so long that the family became uneasy and made a search for him, finding him dead. Death is supposed to have been caused by a paralytic stroke.

Superintendent J. T. Morey, Prof. Loeb, Miss Souley and seventeen pupils from the Institute for the Blind left for Beatrice and tour of principal cities of the state. At each place visited an entertainment will be given, showing the work done at the Institute, in a musical way, and also to demonstrate to the public the manner of teaching in the Industrial departments.

J. F. Brehn, a brakeman on the Northwestern, living in Fremont was crushed between two freight cars at Dwight and died a few minutes after. He had gone in between the cars to look after the air coupling and just as he got up the train backed a few feet, catching his head between the bumpers and fracturing his skull. He was about 25 years old and unmarried.

Mr. John Joseph Creighton and Miss Etta Williams were married at Beatrice by Judge Bourne. The bride and groom are residents of Lewistown, Neb., and will make their home at that place.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Fritch of Papillion was held Tuesday from the German Methodist church in that city. She was 82 years of age at the time of her death, and had lived at Papillion for thirty-seven years.