

STATE WANTS TO CELEBRATE

Requests for Information Already Coming to Supt. Thomas About Semi-Centennial.

Commercial clubs are getting ready to take hold of municipal celebrations of the semi-centennial birth of the state in good shape, according to State Superintendent A. O. Thomas...

State Auditor Smith has unearthed an old record kept by the state auditor in the early days of the state's history, which has some interesting entries in it which show how things have changed in this state.

Of the \$9,700,000 bonds owned by Nebraska as investments of the permanent school and other funds, only \$4,700 are past due.

Dr. Wild, bacteriologist and chemist for the state board of health, has completed the examination of water from the city water works at Ogalala and finds it pure.

W. H. Campbell of Clark is a caller at the office of State Superintendent Thomas recently. Mr. Campbell is an enthusiastic booster for the rural high school plan.

Passenger earnings of both the Northwestern and Burlington roads decreased in Nebraska during the past fiscal year, according to reports filed with the state railway commission.

To show the proper arrangement of buildings on a farm as well as to show the proper arrangement of shrubbery, trees, etc., for beautifying the ground, a few farms and one school have been selected by the Madison County Farmers' association as demonstration centers.

Secretary of State Pool has succeeded in collecting back corporation taxes for two years from the Commonwealth Power company.

Railroads have been served with a notice by the court to prepare their briefs for the case which will soon come up before the supreme court on freight order No. 19.

The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska let the contract for the general hospital building for the university school of medicine in Omaha to E. P. Gould & Son of Omaha for \$106,745, winning from a field of fourteen bidders.

Improvements for the University of Nebraska athletic field, such as concrete stands and permanent structures will be the use made of the big surplus remaining in the athletic treasury after the most successful gridiron season in the history of the school.

Henry Ford's name has been filed with the secretary of state as a presidential candidate in the republican primaries of April 18, and unless he declines the nomination his name will go upon the ballot.

Permission to organize a national guard company among the employees of the Omaha Street Car Co. has been asked of Adjutant General Hall by Henry L. Strohbe of that city.

YOUR NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

HOW LONG DO YOU HOLD THE DETERMINATION TO KEEP YOUR TEMPER OR QUIT GOSSIPING OR STOP SWEARING? WISE ONES SAY WE PROFIT BY MAKING RESOLUTIONS SINCERELY EVEN IF WE KEEP THEM BUT A DAY

ANY weakling can make resolutions. It needs a strong man to keep them. That is perhaps why New Year resolutions are so often futile.

And so it happens that the large army of people who wait for the New Year before effecting a reformation in their lives are seldom successful in carrying out their intentions.

Very little tends to overbalance the resolutions of the average person. In fact, many people welcome any excuse to exonerate them from the carrying out of their resolves.

THE FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION

DE MAUPASSANT, describing an officer, said that just to look at him made one feel martial. He did not say warlike or bellicose; the idea he wished to convey was much more subtle.

This is a phenomenon that escapes the attention of most people—women, however, observe it. Practically every nonmilitary man at the sight of a well set up, fully accoutred soldier instinctively assumes something of a military bearing.

The queen of Spain 80 years ago was in a hard fix with a civil war on her hands. The Carlists, whom she was fighting, were just as good soldiers as her own, if not a shade better.

Fighting is routine work with the Legionary, just as sailing a yacht is to the expert mariner. The winds may be different on each trip and the craft is never handled twice in the same way.

Officially the Foreign Legion is composed of eight thousand men. In reality it is understood it has nearly double that number, and the Legion becomes readily a whole army corps.

France for hundreds of years had regiments of German, English, Irish, Scotch, Swiss, Italians and other foreigners enrolled in her armies, but the present Foreign Legion may be considered as dating from 1831.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY A state lunch in China comprises 146 dishes. There are 692 pawnbrokers' shops within a radius of ten miles from the Royal Exchange in London.

Mrs. Catherine Roberts of Richmond, Mo., is cutting her third set of teeth at the age of seventy-six. The teeth appear to be well developed, and it is thought she will have a full set when the ordeal is past.

A Kansas county superintendent of schools has decreed an old-fashioned hushing bee for every schoolhouse in her district. Improvement and increase of the school libraries is the purpose for which funds are being sought.



A PUBLIC NEW YEAR'S EVE REVEL

Or, take another very general New Year's resolution, that of getting up at a certain time in the morning. When the day dawns, any reason whatever is grasped at to evade this.

Another reason perhaps why the average resolution-makers so seldom achieve their purpose is that they attempt too much. They make two, three, sometimes six resolutions at once, whereas to carry through one resolution successfully is quite an admirable feat.

As Thomas a Kempis says: "If every year we could root out one vice we would sooner become perfect men."

"Patience! and shuffle the cards." Most people shuffle the cards eagerly enough, but the patience is lacking. Seeking to grasp the stars at a bound they fall back to the earth.

And so, if people at the commencement of a New Year adjusted their desires in accordance with their abilities, and instead of sighing for the unattainable made the very most of the opportunities vouchsafed to them, one would hear less of broken resolutions and wasted lives.

"Do the duty which lies nearest to thee which thou knowest to be a duty," said Carlyle. "Thy second duty will already have become clearer."

The Turning of New Leaves.

Good resolutions have almost gone out of fashion. On the last night of the year we no longer sit down to review our past lives and resolve to be "better and wiser" than we have been in the past.

"Tomorrow," they say, "we will reform," but the tomorrow of their imaginings never dawns. Ancient and modern philosophers have agreed as to the dangers of procrastination.

"Who begins, possesses half the deed," says Horace. "Dare to be wise; make a commencement."

"Do it now," is the curt command of the modern apostle of "Hustle." Again, Horace says, "If you are ignorant how to live aright, give place to those who have learned the lesson."

"Get on or get out," says a mannikin, following in more concentrated, if less courteous language the same line of thought on a somewhat lower plane.

Pass thou, wild heart, Wild heart, with youth that still Hast half a mind to stay, I grow too old a comrade; Let us part, Pass thou away.

Some people drag the follies and immaturities of youth into old age. There is wisdom in adjusting oneself to time, to profit by past experiences, and to acquire that sense of proportion which refuses to magnify trifles into tragedies, and to worry over the inevitable.

Corn Clubs in Brazil

The corn-club idea, which was received with so much enthusiasm by American schoolboys, has recently been introduced in Brazil. The minister of agriculture of that country considers it a splendid means of increasing the nation's corn crop.

The bulletins of our own department of agriculture dealing with the corn club movement have been translated into Portuguese for the benefit of the boys of Brazil, and have done a great deal toward making the experiment a success.

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