

The Alliance Herald

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

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THE NINETY-DAY WONDERS

Old Man Weekes of the Norfolk Press occupies a peculiar position among Nebraska journalists. His wife, Marie O'Donnell Weekes, edits the Press and has the political aspirations for the family. According to non-partisan league standards, she makes a good editor, and many thought she would make a good congresswoman. Unfortunately, perhaps, the truth will never be known. But this article deals with Old Man Weekes and not with the chief puffer of the establishment.

Mr. Weekes conducts a column in the Press, under the heading, "A Few Thoughts by the Old Man." Some of them sound more like the thoughts from the other side of the house, but being also a married man, we can understand and sympathize, though not publicly. Some days this department is the brightest in the paper—and on those occasions we wonder who is doing the thinking. On other days, there are little "thinks" that read like the following:

The newspapers tell us that the Fremont post of the American Legion has elected a buck private as its commander and the action is so unusual that the news is being spread far and wide. If other posts would follow the Fremont post's example and take the control out of the hands of the "Sears-Roebuck" officers, the Legion would have a much better standing.

Somehow or other, that sort of slush makes us warm under the collar. The worst feature about it is that it insinuates that the American Legion doesn't stand well in Nebraska. Old Man Weekes knows better. Marie has had a grudge against Legion officers ever since the days she campaigned for congress, when she attempted to make political capital out of the fact that disturbances were raised at her meetings by men whom she charged were Legion men, but was unable to show that the Legion had sponsored their acts, or that the disturbers were even Legion men, for that matter. You see, it makes a difference whose "thinks" are being considered.

In the second place, this little squib by the old man is apparently intended to stir up strife between the buck privates in the Legion and the officer members. It was the latter class, officers of the state legion, who came back at Marie, and thereby incurred her displeasure. It isn't polite to get rough with a lady, even when she starts the rumpus.

Old Man Weekes wants to get this straight: There isn't any great strife between the "ninety-day wonders" and the buck privates in the Legion. During the war there were, of course, some young officers who found it hard to keep their feet on the ground. But soldiers don't hold grudges. They like these officers; they fought under them and while there were men in the ranks who knew just as much, or would have made just as good leaders, the fellows who were picked were a fine lot on the average.

In the American Legion posts of Nebraska, the officers are far in the minority. There's about one officer to every ten or twenty men in Alliance. And yet, nine times out of ten, the men pick the officers for post commander. Why? They're not forced to do it; the buck privates have the majority in all the posts of the land—and the buck privates elect officers. There's a reason.

One of the service yarns recites the story of two colored men who were discussing their top sergeant. "Mah goodness," said one of them, "that sahgent is suah ha'd-boiled. He's the most ha'd-boiled sahgent in the whole ahmy." "Niggah," retorted his companion, "that sahgent aint' ha'd-boiled—he's just ignorant, dat's all, just ignorant."

Mr. Weekes isn't hard on the ninety-day wonders. He may think he is, but if he is sincere in this belief, he's simply showing his ignorance of the mental workings of the average buck private—the man who cursed his officers, old timers and ninety-day wonders alike, and then followed them right into hell itself. After the war's over, he still respects them. And he shows it in a way that may displease Old Man Weekes and bring back hateful memories to Marie—but the buck private doesn't worry about that. He's the only genuine hard-boiled article.

LOWERING MEAT PRICES.

All of us have read the advertisements of the packers, which show among other things, that only a very small fraction of each dollar handled goes into their coffers, and that their facilities for slaughtering animals are so efficient that the consumers are saved money when animals are sent to them, killed and returned, with freight paid both ways. It begins to look as though the railroads and their freight increases have knocked the props from under the packers. The argument was perfectly true a few years ago, and there were very few meat sellers who did their own slaughtering. The high freight rates are bringing about a change. Today in Nebraska local slaughtering is increasing to such an extent that the state bureau of food, drugs and oils has formulated regulations governing the handling of meats from animals that are killed in the various towns for local consumption.

The state bureau is inclined to believe that meat can be produced in the smaller cities and towns more cheaply than they can be bought from the packers. Certainly the number of meat sellers who are going back to the old and less efficient methods is a fair indication. The packers say that their price sheets show that meats are now selling at pre-war prices, or on a par with 1914 figures. This means that the railroads or the retailers are responsible for the high prices.

The federal department of agriculture is now beginning a war on "meat profiteers", and declares that meat prices are all of 117 per cent higher than before the war. Unfortunately, the department of agriculture has no authority to handle the freight rate situation. It can force retailers to cut prices to the bone, but another department has charge of the cutting of freight rates. If the railway labor board and the men who are going after the meat retailers could only hold a joint session, it would be a happy day for the consumer.

The retailers apparently wish to lower prices, or they would never return to the inconvenient, wasteful methods of local slaughtering. The packers can prove their prices are back to normal. The railroads don't have to prove anything. If they are satisfied, the rest of us have to be.

WHAT WEIGHT TURKEY?

(Kansas City Star)

We view with suspicion, not to say alarm, these monstrous turkeys that are presented to the white house every Thanksgiving. Thirty pounds, forty pounds, even forty-five pounds—such, the dispatches always say, is the weight of the bird to be served on the president's table. Does the president—or, rather, the Mrs. President—really put those young ostriches before the family on Thanksgiving day? Experience makes us wary. Not

that we ever had dealings with a forty-pound turkey. But recollection cherishes the memory of one that weighed twenty-seven pounds on hoof. It looked as formidable as an armored tank, as it stood challenging the axe. In fact it bluffed out the head of the household and had to be driven to the nearest butcher. Baking the larger share of two days made it possible eating. Possible, but not desirable. The tendons in the drumsticks were as big as your thumb, and as tender as a piano wire.

The late Mr. Weber, who knew more about meat than anybody in Kansas City, used to insist that the white house probably disposed of its prize turkeys secretly and sent out to the market and bought a couple of tender ten or twelve pound spring turkeys to serve on the table. It stood to reason, he said, that a turkey two years old could not possibly be as tender as one hatched the same spring. His theory sounds reasonable. Can any turkey successfully dispute it?

FIXING THE RESPONSIBILITY.

(State Journal)

Now that it has been duly impressed upon the people that the greater portion of their taxes are for educational purposes the next question is, who is responsible for the amount of tax levies made for school purposes? The state law fixes the general limit of school taxes at 35 mills on the dollar, but it makes exceptions. It allows school boards in cities of over 1,000 inhabitants to determine the amount of school taxes or levies. The law permits school electors to levy as high as 100 mills on the dollar valuation in high school districts having less than 1,000 and over 150 pupils and in all school districts less than 150 children

of school age. The vote in such cases must be 60 per cent of the total vote and the question of exceeding the 35 mill limit can be voted upon at a special election or at an annual school meeting. The city of Lincoln is under a special law that limits the annual expenditure to \$1,200,000 unless a greater amount is voted by the people of the district.

LIFE IS CHEAP.

(Nebraska City Press.)

Life is the cheapest commodity in America at the present time. Life is taken with impunity by cut-throat, and murderers who are seldom caught. A beautiful murderess can slay the man who has aroused her anger and inflamed her jealousy and if she has a smiling face, a good figure and the right sort of sartorial embellishment she can "vamp" the jury and get off scot-free from the movies. A speeding automobile demon can strike a child in a crowded street and escape in the crowd, free to try it again another day. Men are killed in industrial accidents and those responsible for poor equipment or criminally built factories fight compensation awards. Life, we repeat, is the cheapest commodity in the United States. And our disregard for human life and human rights is the means of laying up heaps of trouble for us in years to come. Pity that nation which is so inured to suffering and tragedies of a domestic sort that it cannot stop its business affairs long enough to lend assistance where it is needed.

ELLSWORTH.

Patrick Reed recently expressed a shipment of furs which he had bought

for the fur house in Indiana that he is representing.

It is reported that the fur market is steady to higher and local buyers are out after the business.

Repair work has been started on the hotel, the recent change in weather bringing the mercury up for agreeable outside working conditions. The re-shingling is now well under way.

Mrs. J. B. Kennedy left Saturday for an extended visit at the home of her

daughter, Mrs. Ross Schafenberg of Casper, where Mr. Schafenberg is employed in the Burlington freight department. Edward Kennedy is also working in Casper for an oil company.

Mike Peterson, forman at the Spade ranch, recently stopped in Ellsworth on company business preparing for an overland business trip to Rushville.

Herald Want Ads—Results.



We conduct a funeral service where courtesy makes every consideration of grief. Our ability, tact, experience and equipment are manifestly good reasons why you should call upon us when you are facing a funeral problem. Out of town funerals handled with the same skill and courtesy that characterizes our local ceremonies.

Miller Mortuary

MORTICIANS

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Night, 522 or 535

123 West
Third Street

Are You In Danger



Think This Over Well

It takes only three penniless days to turn a well-fed, well-dressed man into a tramp, says a New York investigator who "went down and out" to get his information.

How Many Days Are You Removed From the Bread Line?

Take a few minutes' time. Sit down and figure how long it would take to reduce you to a penniless condition if your income were suddenly and completely cut off. It could easily happen. And what would you do?

It May Give You a Cold Chill

And it may induce you to start a savings account. Isn't it good judgment to lay away a comfortable surplus—small sums at a time, regularly deposited—to take care of any emergency that may arise. You can't tell what will happen.

LET US START YOU RIGHT—IN A STRONG BANK

The First State Bank

Fastest Growing—Most Accommodating—Deposits Guaranteed

THE SPINAL COLUMN



The SAFE Way

Appendicitis—appendix plus itis. You have appendicitis? Oh! You say your appendix is giving you "trouble". Well, let's see. You have two things—an appendix and an "itis". You were born with an appendix were you not? Did your "trouble" start co-incidentally with that big event? Pardon me, you say you never had a bit of "trouble" with your appendix until long after your birth—just lately in fact and now you are having an awful time with it. You were all right and got along nicely until you acquired this other thing "itis" and since that time your troubles have been numerous.

Now is it the appendix or the "itis" that is troubling you? You got along fine with your appendix until the "itis" stepped in and then all your "troubles". Which will you remove—either way you go you will leave one of them. Remember other structures are affected in the neighborhood of the appendix. Your Chiropactic will remove the "itis" and leave the appendix where nature intended it to be.

Consultation will clear up any other points on which you may seek information and is without obligation.

DRS. JEFFREY & SMITH

Chiropactic Health Service.
Over Harper's Dept. Store.