

RANDOM SHOTS

If the news in this issue isn't thrilling enough to suit you, dear reader, you have our permission to go out and burn down a barn or run off with your neighbor's wife.

Can it be possible that all of the bootleggers are in jail. It's been a week since the last one was fined.

It was a mean trick they played on William Grapejuice Bryan the other night at a diplomatic banquet. Embassies are considered foreign territory (look up the word "extra-territoriality" if you're curious enough) and liquor may be served without fear, war tax or difficulties with booze hounds. Mr. Bryan, as usual, drank water, and probably did it pretty ostentatiously. A waiter replenished his glass, but filled it with gin, which has something of the same appearance. Mr. Bryan Bryan took one swig, and then discovered the awful truth. With a self-righteous air, he dashed the glass and the remainder of the gin on the floor.

A man who will suffer like that for principle is deserving of a medal.

They say that William Jennings Bryan smiled at the joke on him. We know two dozen Alliance men who would laugh out loud if the waiter would play the same lode on them.

It may not be true that "Nobody loves a fat man." However, it's plain to be seen that the leans aren't brimming over with love and admiration of us.

It was Chesterton who said that no man or woman should gaze long into a mirror. "You see," he said, "we see ourselves so very, very plainly."

There's only one thing that we hope will happen—a sort of heavenly retribution: We hope that some day those four thins who spoke so harshly of the fats will get to weigh at least 200 pounds—apiece. Especially the women.

There's this consolation, we weren't always fat. Once we were thinner than Doc Knight, and had to fasten our hose supporters to the nether portion of our shirts. Not insinuating, of course.

We recently discovered a gain of fifteen pounds in our weight. The conversation at the dinner table turned upon the proper diet for reducing. Several suggested dishes that would assist. "How about cornbread?" we asked innocently. "Forbidden," said our friend on the left. "You know what they use to fatten hogs."

THE YEAR'S BEST STORY.

"I don't want to eat this egg. It's not a nice egg," protested the six-year-old daughter of the house at the breakfast table.

"Mary," said her mother sternly, "you are always complaining of your food. Eat what is placed before you—every bite of it—without another word, or else I'll have to give you a good spanking."

All was quiet for some minutes. Then from the other end of the table sounded a mournful voice.

"Mother, dear, do I have to eat the beak too?"

Why bemoan and bewail the absence of that much missed after dinner beer, "cherry cheer cocktail," Tom and Jerry, or what not it may be, when in only eight short years, 1930, we cannot even enjoy the after dinner cigar, cigarette, or pipe, for the national anti-tobacco league promises a "bone dry" nation as far as tobacco is concerned by that time. Nearly thirteen carloads of their literature were printed and spread broadcast over this free country of ours in the year 1920 and they

claim unbelievable progress in 1921. Oh boy, we are going into the cabbage and catalpa biz at once.

Only twenty-three more days till Christmas and father has begun to wonder if last Christmas' socks, necktie and kerchief will last the remaining three weeks, for well he knows that Santa will remember him as per usual with the same standard set. In fact, most manufacturers are turning out a beautifully decorated gift box containing the above, with handsomely embossed letters "For Dad", but so accustomed is he to receiving same that we will wager this box won't be opened till long after New Year's which is usual time for making a change of silkwear.

TODAY'S BEST STORY

One of the grape-juice specialists, a member of the anti-hooch league, was talking about "medicinal beer" and the dangerous precedent set by the treasury department of the nation in issuing permits. "Why," he shouted to the audience, "suppose I had a pail of water and a pail of beer and brought on a donkey, which of the two would he take?"

"He'd take the water," replied a voice from the gallery.

"And why would he take the water?" eagerly shouted the orator.

"Because he's a jackass," promptly came the reply.

And so the whole evening was ruined for the lecturer.

ABE MARTIN II.

Real estate here shows signs of an upward tendency; day before yeste'day the last motorcycle left town, splitting the air in the direction of Airyzona, with placard attached reading, "Bisby or Bust."

Basket Ball League Organized for the North Platte Valley

At a meeting held at Bridgeport Saturday the North Platte valley basket ball league was organized and the following officers elected: Prince, Alliance, president; Colson, Gering, vice-president; Johnson, Scottsbluff, secretary-treasurer. Eight towns were represented, Alliance, Bayard, Chappell, Bridgeport, Gering, Scottsbluff, Sidney and Oshkosh. Schedules were arranged for all the towns represented for the coming basket ball season. The Alliance schedule in the league is as follows:

- January 13, open
January 20, Gering at Alliance
January 24, Alliance at Bayard
January 27, Alliance at Scottsbluff
February 3, Sidney at Alliance
February 9, Alliance at Chappell
February 10, Alliance at Oshkosh
February 10, Bridgeport at Alliance
February 17, Bayard at Alliance
February 24, Scottsbluff at Alliance

The Alliance team will play the first game with the Chadron state normal at Chadron on December 16. Mr. Prince announces that they began practice Wednesday and they are working out plans for a trip during the holidays and will go as far east as Lincoln if possible. Last year they played eight games on their holiday trip and won five.

Your girl friends will appreciate a gift from our fine line of silk hose, silk underwear, and Madeira. They will like the quality, and you will like the low price. Open evenings until 9 p. m. Oriental Store.

For wholesome food, cooked like you get at home, by the week \$7.00. H. L. Ferguson, Western Hotel Dining Room.

RAILROAD NOTES

The Hoffland office was closed Monday. Agent F. W. Koch now on the extra list and relieving Mr. Riggs at Sweetwater who plans to be off about sixty days.

As usual night train operator position was closed the 1st and Operator G. W. King will return to his home at Mierna. J. B. Kennedy of Ellsworth was relieved for a few days by S. E. Stewart who in turn was relieved by Tom ... of Lakeside. Mr. Kennedy is attending court in Rushville.

Mr. Browne of Lush, Wyo., traveling with his daughter en route to Florida on train No. 42, November 27, in charge of Conductor Porth, was found dead in his Pullman section while 42 was at Broken Bow. A doctor was called who pronounced death as resulting from heart failure.

H. B. Miller, now second trick operator at Broken Bow, is again working as dispatcher relieving A. Gregory on the west end who in turn is relieving G. Eckhart. A. J. Welch has been off on account of sickness for some time, relieved by J. T. Coldwell. G. Eckhart is acting as night chief dispatcher in the absence of H. H. Giles who is taking a two weeks' trip and vacation in and near Los Angeles, Cal.

J. C. L. Michaels of Theford is now working as second trick operator at Broken Bow in the absence of H. B. Miller who is temporarily dispatching out of Alliance.

Conductor Reed Reeder is laying off for a few days being relieved by M. E. Lander.

Third trick operator's position at Ardmore was recently closed on account of falling off of business. This leaves only two continuous offices on the west end, Belmont and Crawford.

Operator L. Z. Young of Anselmo has been on the sick list the past week and is being relieved by M. A. Keene formerly of Hyannis.

Conductor F. J. O'Connor has been off some two weeks with his brother, Mike O'Connor, superintendent of the Western Pacific in Salt Lake City. Frank is now back at his turn on the east local out of Alliance and reports his brother much improved.

At a recent meeting of railroad officials it was decided that the "19" form of train order should not be used in putting out "meets" and the "31" or "sign up" form will be used altogether for this in the future. The action was taken and sustained from a safety-first point of view.

Although the company has offered free small pox vaccination for employees to date but a few have applied for same. Although Kansas City is suffering greatly with this pest other points on this road are free, but is a known fact that there have been many exposures to the disease and the management urgently urges that all who have not been recently vaccinated, apply to the local company doctor at once. It is understood by some that if once vaccinated one is immune for life but most doctors claim this is not the case and the serum generally prevails for a four to seven year period, although some doctors vaccinating in the U. S. Army informed the soldier that this was a "life time job."

PROPER PRECAUTION

"Daughter," said the old man, sternly, "I positively forbid you marrying this young scapgrace! He is an inveterate poker player!" "But, papa," tearfully protested Alicia Hortense, "poker playing is not such an awful habit. Why, at your own club—" "That's where I got my information, daughter. I'll have no daughter of mine bringing home a man that I can't beat with a flush, a full house and fours."

We imagine that in the "invisible empire" time is told by ku klux kicks. —Brooklyn Eagle.



A Diamond---Will Please Her!

MATCH the brilliance of her smile with the gift of a diamond. Only such a gift is fitting as an expression of your sentiments, this Christmas.

A diamond Brooch, a La Valliere, a Ring—any of these will make her the happiest of women.

Show your good taste by selecting Jewelry as your Holiday-tribute. Show your good judgment by making your selection here.

Our assortment of Jewelry of every description is complete. Let us assist you in choosing the right gift.

GIFTS THAT LAST

HOLSTEN'S

GIFTS THAT LAST

THIS IS A

FURNITURE Christmas

George D. Darling

Furniture and Housefurnishings



Skilled Employees

Linemen, repairmen, operators, accountants—all these and many other skilled men and women, are necessary to furnish telephone service.

The telephone business is perhaps the most highly specialized and has the most sensitive machinery, of any industry which serves the public.

Not only the best of equipment and well-trained employees, but a capable management is essential to provide the kind of service you want and the kind we want to furnish you.

How we handle your calls, how we keep our records and otherwise operate our business, will be interesting to you. We shall be glad to explain everything if you will make it a point to call at our office.

NORTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

Ford

THE UNIVERSAL CAR

To the business man, retail or wholesale; to the manufacturer; to the commission man; to the trucking company, the Ford Model T One Ton Truck makes an irresistible appeal because it has in its chassis all the merits of the original Ford car; the wonderful Ford Model T Motor, the dependable Vanadium steel chassis, and the manganese bronze worm-drive. A strongly built truck that serves satisfactorily and lasts in service. If these statements were not true, the demand for Ford Trucks wouldn't be so constantly on the increase. We will be pleased to take your order for one or more Ford Trucks, will see that you get reasonably prompt delivery, and will give you an after service that insures the constant service of the Truck. But don't wait too long. Get your orders promptly.

Coursey & Miller

