

# NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

NEWS NOTES OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SECTIONS.

## ALL SUBJECTS TOUCHED UPON

Religious, Social, Agricultural, Political and Other Matters Given Due Consideration.

Cupid of late has been very busy in and about Beatrice.

William Steele of Nebraska City, 72 years of age, was stricken with paralysis at his home in that city and died shortly after.

Three Norfolk men cashed bogus checks for Wm. Wright of Omaha, now being hunted for bigamy. The victims were D. Rees, \$20; James Pierce, \$20, and William Berner, \$10.

The "curfew ordinance" was passed by the city council of Seward. This will require the youngsters under the age of 16 to be under the paternal roof in good season at night.

Herman Herold, one of the oldest and best known citizens, died at his home in Plattsmouth as the result of a tree falling upon him which he had just cut down.

Some details of the approaching meeting of the Southwestern Nebraska Teachers' association are being given out. McCook is the place of the meeting, which will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 1, 2 and 3.

County Attorney Ramsey of Cass county filed a complaint against John Clarence for the murder of John P. Thacker on Jan. 15 last, near the village of Union, in that county. The complaint charges Clarence with murder in the first degree.

Fire destroyed all the buildings on the west side of the square at Garrison, consisting of four frames and one brick building. The fire started in Will Vanderkoll's hardware store while he was attempting to light a gasoline lamp.

At a meeting of the board of supervisors of Fremont county a resolution was adopted approving of the boundaries of the proposed new drainage district, directing the election of seven directors and fixing March 16 as the date of their election.

Farmers in the section of the state about Arborville have placed high values on their farms, many as high as \$100 per acre, and all are selling. Some who have sold are investing in Deuel county, Nebraska, lands, while others are buying in Texas and North Dakota.

Mrs. Edward Wehn dramatically killed herself at Seward. Setting fire to her house in several different places, she went to the garret, lighted her own clothes and hanged herself to a rafter. The firemen quickly put out the flames, and after a search found the woman's partly cremated corpse.

Twenty Fremont men have formed a syndicate and will develop several thousand acres of land in Texas, with the object of converting it into a fruit farm. They will send P. B. Cummings, former manager at Fremont for the Nebraska Telephone company, to supervise the development and Mr. Cummings will move to Texas.

Corn sold on the Omaha cash market Thursday for more than five times the price quoted by men who bought it at their country elevators out over Nebraska fifteen years ago. This month, yellow corn brought 59 1/2c and white corn as high as 61 1/2c. This is not merely a quoted price, but many car loads were sold at 59 1/2c and 61 1/2c.

George Bickert, a young German farmer residing four miles southwest of Elmwood, received a terrible injury to his left eye that may result in losing the sight of that member. He was trimming up the trunk of a tree he had just felled, when a short limb flew up, striking him fairly in the eye, cutting the eyeball.

Word was received in Alliance from the southeast hills that Frank Elchthaler and his 17-year-old son were lost and frozen to death during the recent severe storm, while en route from Alliance. The family had only recently taken up land in that section and was not very familiar with the country.

Nebraska will send a representative delegation, headed by Gov. Shallenberger, to the seventeenth National Irrigation Congress in Spokane, Aug. 9 to 14, when government officials and experts in their lines will discuss forestry, deep waterway, reclamation of swamp and arid land, good roads, home building, education and other problems.

Benjamin Marquis, who was arrested in Kansas City on the charge of negotiating a worthless check for \$800 through the Bank of Holstein, in Adams county, was brought to Hastings and will be arraigned. He says he is in debt between \$12,000 and \$15,000, most of which is represented by what he terms overdrafts on the Bank of Chappelle, in Deuel county.

Monday morning John Bolander of Florence, a farm hand, drove Willard Shipley's team to Omaha, and neither Bolander nor the team has been seen since. Mr. Shipley is offering a reward for the return of the team, and would not mind seeing Bolander again for a few moments.

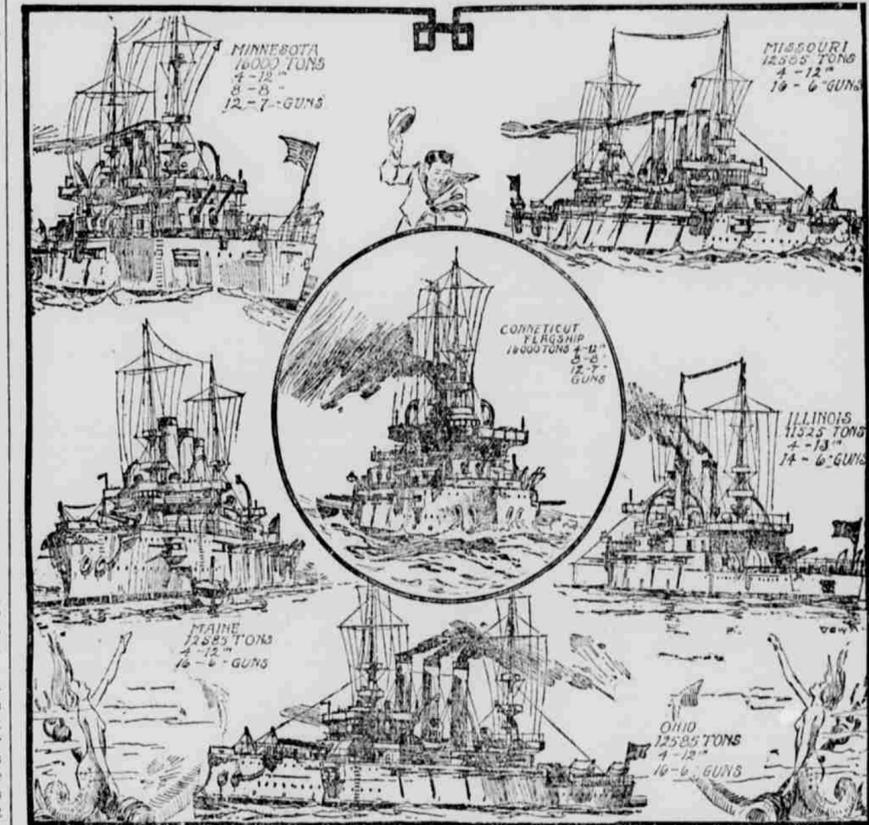
Charles Bott of Norfolk, aged 3, bled to death, making four children in the family of John Bott to die within ten days. Three succumbed to scarlet fever, the last bleeding to death as a result of his condition following fever. The four dead were half the children in the family.

# The Greatest Cruise in History

**H**AMPTON ROADS, VA.— Battleship races, ship against ship, and squadron against squadron, marked the final leg of the cruise of the Atlantic fleet when the United States armada started from Gibraltar for home. The maneuvers of the fleet, re-enforced by nine warships from home waters, were the most elaborate ever undertaken by United States war vessels. And when the fighting craft cast anchor here February 22, they were in fit condition to steam out to face an enemy.

**N**EW RECORDS FOR SAILING. None Other to Compare with Achievement of Our Fleet. **S**INCE the fabled cruise of the Argonauts of old there have been many famous cruises in history, but none that can compare, either in magnitude of vessels or in length of miles, to the great world cruise just finished by our fleet.

**T**hen there were those ambitious naval projects of the great Napoleon resulting in the famous French cruises to Egypt and afterward to the West Indies and back, only to end in those ever memorable disasters to French sea power at the battle of the Nile and at Trafalgar. **S**econd Spanish Armada. Coming down to more modern times, no one can have forgotten that ill fated cruise of another Spanish armada under Admiral Cervera, which ended in the total loss of Spanish sea power at Santiago de Cuba. **A**ll these cruises, like that of Rojstvensky, were remarkable not only for their tragic endings, but for the series of blunders, follies and mishaps that attended them from first to last.



**S**ailors selected from the division. The cruise has been a practice trip throughout, but it remained for the final leg to institute the maneuvers and tests planned. The intention was to give the vessels the severest trials at the finish of their long journey, in order that any defects in them might be demonstrated. **I**n addition to the 16 battleships that composed the fleet, there were the Yankton and Panther, two storeships, and two colliers. These were started ahead from Gibraltar. Before they had negotiated much of the distance westward across the Atlantic they were met by the welcoming fleet sent out from the United States. This consisted of the battleships Maine, New Hampshire, Idaho and Mississippi, the armored cruisers Montana and North Carolina, and the scout cruisers Salem, Birmingham and Chester. When they joined the others it made a fleet of 20 battleships, five powerful cruisers and two smaller fighting craft. As soon as the warships were assembled the real work of the homeward cruise was undertaken. Admiral Sperry had framed an elaborate program, in which all the vessels took part.

**S**ignificant Historical Fact. To the historian it cannot but appear as a significant thing that all other previous great cruises in history, with the exception of those undertaken by English-speaking sailors, have only resulted in disaster and shame. There was the great cruise of the Spanish armada, for instance, launched against England by Philip II of Spain, which ended in such utter rout and disaster. **A**bout the same time in the far east the Japanese conqueror, Hideyoshi, undertook to subjugate Korea and China with a formidable fleet of some 750 war junks, many of them armed with brass cannon, yet his fleet, too, was overcome in fair fight by the combined war fleets of China and Korea.

**H**ad Confidence in Fleet. What is more, we all knew that the great fleet would swing around the world, looking in at the Hawaiian islands, the Philippines, into China and Japan, and back again without the slightest shade of doubt in the soul of any American that the fleet would always acquit itself well and achieve what it set out to do. **T**his, indeed, is the great thing that has been accomplished by the fleet. For the first time in history the Pacific ocean has been put into commission. This is a great fact, a great achievement, the results of which can never be changed or lost. Henceforth in the world's history the Pacific ocean, which first came into international prominence only with Dewey's great victory in Manila bay and the Japanese victories in their own waters, will loom up in historical importance as did the Mediterranean before Columbus' great cruise opened up the Atlantic. **A** better result even than this enviable achievement during the fleet's world cruise, perhaps, is the moral impression made upon the world at large by the majestic appearance and efficiency of our ships while under the eyes of foreign observers.



# Washington Whisperings

Interesting Bits of News Gathered at the National Capital.

## Roosevelt Is Ready for Moving Day



**W**ASHINGTON.—The Roosevelt day in the White House is fast nearing its end. On Pennsylvania avenue directly in front of the president's home the carpenters are at work building the stand from which in a few days the next president of the United States will view the parade marching in his honor. Within the White House the packing of the household belongings is practically completed. The presidential books, pictures, rifles and shot-guns, rods and whips, and odds and ends of everything known to a man of diversified tastes and pursuits are ready for shipment to Oyster Bay. **T**he cartoons, and there must be 25 or 30 of them that have had places of prominence on the tops of the low bookshelves in the library, doubtless will have places of equal prominence in the big "den" in the Oyster Bay home. These cartoons are prized by Mr. Roosevelt above many of his more costly belongings. They are among the few presents he has consented to receive. **T**he cartoon which has held the special place of honor is one showing an old farmer, representing the American

common people, seated before his open fire reading the president's message. The cartoon is called "His Favorite Author." It was to this farmer Mr. Roosevelt once pointed when he said in effect that he could not stand for a "second elective term" as president because "that man wouldn't like it." **T**he president has declined to receive any gifts of great intrinsic value since he has come into high office. He has had things given him which money cannot buy, at least from him. Authors have sent their books with their autographs inscribed upon the blank page. These almost invariably have been taken gratefully and in most cases there has been a return gift of a copy of one of the Roosevelt books, generally "The Wilderness Hunter." **T**housands of valuable presents have been offered that have been declined courteously, but firmly. There have been some things which have come from monarchs, articles of an innocuous kind, and they have been taken in the spirit in which they were given. King Menelik's gift was innocuous as long as it was kept behind bars. It consisted of two lions which are now in the Washington zoo. **I**f President Roosevelt had taken all the horses offered him he would have as many as a Sioux Indian chief has ponies, and that would mean enough to eat up all the bunch grass in half a day's trail. He has been content with two or three favorites of his own purchasing.

## Tom Cat Is Devoted to His Old Home



**A**N EXAMPLE of devotion seldom witnessed in a dumb animal is enacted every day by an old white cat that strays about the corner of New Jersey avenue and C street. **B**orn in the old Baltimore & Ohio railroad station, that occupied that site for years, Tom, the untamed feline, has never left the corner, and even while the old structure was being razed he managed to make his bed in the building until the last wall had been pulled down. **N**ow that the site has been completely filled up and graded, leaving no vestige of the once famous depot, this old cat still remains and makes his home beneath the chair of the switchman at this crossing. **A**t night Tom quietly leaves his friend when the last car has passed and wanders off down C street to a near-by lumber yard, where he has

made his bed since the destruction of his birthplace. **A**t five o'clock every morning back he comes and takes his accustomed place beneath the chair, where his saucer of milk awaits him. No matter how inclement the weather, Tom always manages to find his way to the switchman's stand, and there remains all day. **T**om was the only member of a family of six kittens who refused to depart from the depot when workmen began to demolish it, and despite the fact that nothing remains to mark the once famous structure, this feline creature is so strongly attached to the surroundings that he cannot be induced to forego an uncomfortable home for luxurious quarters up-town. **D**uring the recent snowstorm that lasted two or three days, said Mr. Nichols, the cat was late one morning in reporting at the little platform where the chair is located, and he was just preparing to go down the street to bring him out of his loft when he heard the wanderer calling for help. **H**e was stranded in a pile of snow and trying vainly to resume his journey to the favorite spot on the corner.

## House Parliamentarian No Longer Shy



**A**SHER C. HINDS, parliamentarian of the house of representatives, is by nature one of those modest and retiring men who can tell a speaker how to bring consternation to his political and parliamentary antagonists when the speaker does not know how to do it himself, and the next moment meet those contended face to face, to hear some such expression as this: "Well, Hinds, if we had had you on our side we would have won a mile." **S**omehow or other the things Hinds does to members of the house through the mouth of the speaker in carrying out his official duties, which are to help the speaker control the parliamentary procedure of the house at all times, never start a riot, and never create animosities, resentment or antagonism to himself. **B**ut Mr. Hinds is rapidly getting over his modesty. Recently he received

from the presses eight large volumes labeled "Hinds' Precedents," each of which is as large as the standard doctor's book, usually found in all well-regulated homes. These volumes are full of the lore of parliamentary procedure in the house of representatives, and out of them Mr. Hinds has already demonstrated to the satisfaction of Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, at any rate, that "a preponderance of the testimony" in favor of any ruling by the chair can always be found to rest on Hinds' side in any controversy. Recently Mr. Hinds wrote what he declares was a 10,000-word explanation of the rules of the house, and one well-known newspaper boiled the manuscript down to two lines. **A** newspaper man has paraphrased the old song, "Jane of Maine," so that it runs as follows: Hinds of Maine, he never looked the same. When he went down to Washington he was shy, shy, shy. But alas and alack, when Hinds came back, He had a naughty little twinkle in his eye. **M**r. Hinds declares he now has the publicity germ as certainly as have most congressmen.

## Washington an Expensive Municipality



**T**HE pending appropriation bill for the cost of running the District of Columbia one year carries \$11,974,033, being at the rate of \$55.21 for each inhabitant. This does not include the cost of new buildings for the government itself or the maintenance of such as now exist, excepting the appropriation of \$220,000 for new buildings for the district. **T**he 1908 population of Washington was 339,000. The latest figures obtainable from the census bureau show the cities nearest Washington in size to be Buffalo, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Detroit, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Newark and Minneapolis. In none of these does the per capita cost of maintenance equal that of Washington.

Milwaukee, with a population of 317,908, has a corporate expenditure of \$5,548,143, the rate per capita being \$17.45. **M**inneapolis, with 273,825 inhabitants, spent, according to last reports, only \$5,021,530, a per capita of \$18.34. **B**uffalo has a population of over 400,000. In 1906 she had 381,819. She spent in 1906 only \$7,609,061—\$19.93 per capita. **D**etroit spends \$7,846,365 a year for a population of 353,535. Per capita, \$22.20. **N**ew Orleans spent \$6,575,945 for a year of city government for a population of 314,146. Per capita, \$20.93. **N**ewark, N. J., with a population of 289,634, had a budget of \$5,833,198 for 1906, per capita, \$23.50. **P**ittsburg, with a population of 375,982, spent \$10,935,738; per capita, \$29.16. **C**incinnati has 345,230 inhabitants, and her total corporate payments were \$10,676,482. The per capita of \$30.93 is the highest of any city in the Washington group except Washington itself.