

The - Plattsmouth - Journal

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It appears from reports in Lincoln papers that the police in that city are having "a time" in making a dry town of it. The students at the University can buy beer by the case much easier than they could buy it by the glass before the saloons went out of business. Prohibition never prohibits in a city like Lincoln, and there is not a particle of use trying to make it stick in the capital city.

"Weed Day" has been suggested by C. H. Gillespie of Madison in a letter to Governor Shallenberger. Mr. Gillespie states that he is a good roads man, and declares that he thinks that the state would be much benefitted if a day should be set aside in July or August for the pulling, cutting or general destruction of weeds. The suggestion is a good one if the people will heed the proclamation, if issued by the governor. It wouldn't hurt to try it one season, anyhow.

Senator Tanner, of the South Omaha Daily Democrat, gives Edward Howard of the Columbus Telegram the following deserved rap: "The harangue that Edgar Howard put up about the recent legislature has proven to be nuts for the republican press. Howard may be proud of this disreputable piece of literature, but in doing so he has changed the opinion of many good men who had always held him in high esteem in the past."

Hon. William Jennings Bryan will deliver the graduating address at the commencement exercises of the Plattsmouth high school at the Parmele theater on Friday night, May 28. This address will be free from politics and will be on a subject in the interest and relating to education. There are many of Mr. Bryan's friends throughout Cass County who no doubt will be here to hear the Great Commoner. They will be doubly repaid for their trouble in coming many miles to hear Nebraska's great favorite.

School Teacher's Graft.

Everyone with an ounce of brain knows that the school teacher is poorly paid in accordance with those who follow other trades and professions. Some people speak of school teaching as an outrageous graft. The following from the Arapahoe Pioneer lets in a little light on the subject as follows: "It is not unusual to hear people, who perhaps have never taken the trouble to think on the subject, complaining of the high wages being paid to teachers. To hear these people talk one would think a teacher would have no trouble whatever to become wealthy in a very few years. How different are the real facts. A teacher in this section is probably employed in the profession of teaching eight months out of the year at the princely salary of forty dollars per month, hence she receives for her year's salary \$320. Out of this she pays \$120 for board, and at least \$50 for clothes, leaving her at the end of her term \$150 for her work. Then she is required to attend institute and summer school which takes from \$75 to \$100 more so then when the next school year begins, she is in luck if she has enough cash to pay the first month's board. That such is the condition is not right. Those who have by study and perseverance fitted themselves to be instructors of our children should receive pay commensurate with their work and the dignity of their profession. Only competent teachers should be employed and such teachers are entitled to a salary that will at least leave something after the necessary expenditures for board and clothes.

How to Rid Your Lawns of Them.

Extermination of dandelions is the price of a lawn. Everywhere over the city the fight is being waged by the tidy householder. It may be interesting to note that killing dandelions on bluegrass lawns by means of chemical sprays is no longer an experiment. An agronomist has to say:

As a result of three years' of successful work, the following facts will prove of great interest to every owner of a blue grass lawn.

Young dandelion plants are killed by spraying with a twenty per cent solution of sulphate of iron. Old plants are badly injured, the foliage being wholly destroyed, but the growing bud is not killed and the old root sends up new foliage. Applying dry sulphate of iron to the heart (growing bud) of the old plant produced death. Repeated spraying of middle aged and old plants results in their death.

To destroy young dandelion plants by spraying, dissolve two pounds of sulphate of iron in a gallon of water, stirring with a stick to hasten solution, and supply with a hand sprayer. Use a gallon of solution to one square rod plot. If the first application is not completely successful, spray a second time. Repeated spraying will be rewarded by the eradication of the plant.

The grass and clover will be blackened and appear killed, but this need not cause no alarm, they are not mortally injured and in a few days recover and grow with increased vigor.

The solution can be made and sprayed over a square rod of grass in less than half an hour. Freshly cut lawn grass leaves are very susceptible to injury by spraying with sulphate of iron solutions; therefore do not spray a lawn to kill dandelions for several days before or after cutting.

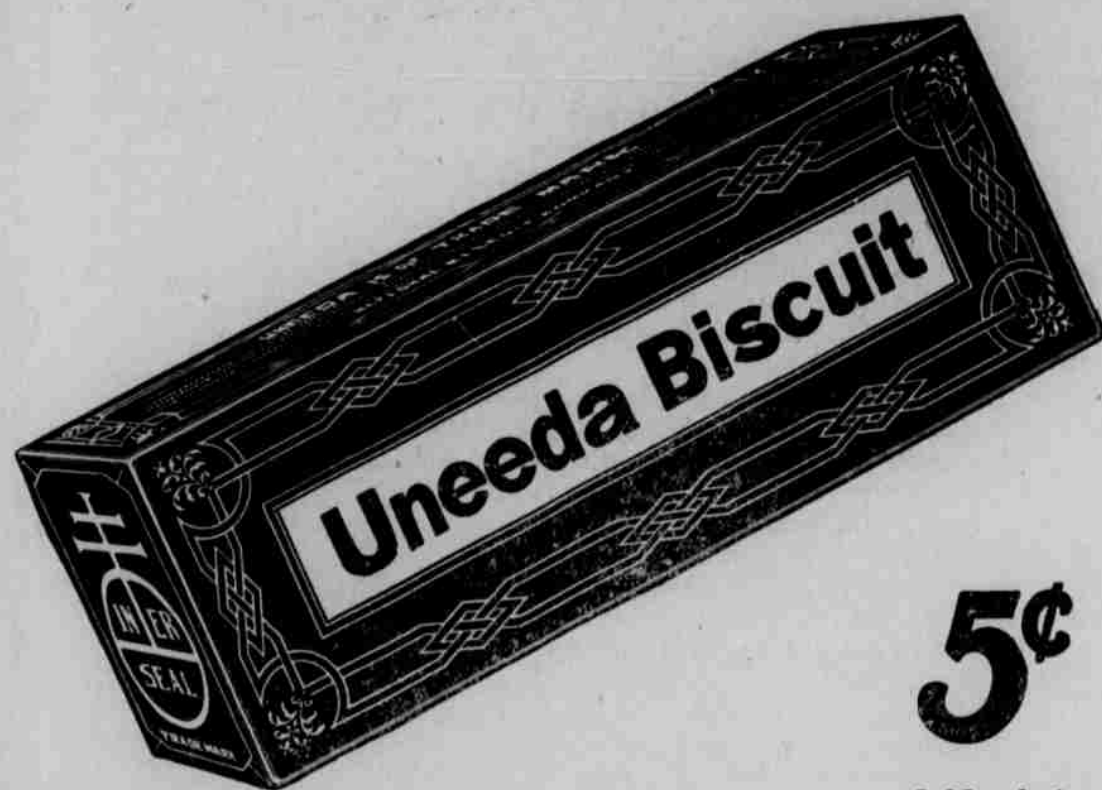
Sulphate of iron may be applied in large quantities (50 pounds to a square rod) to a lawn without permanent injury to blue grass.

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In the whole tariff system there is no one duty that more forcibly proves the iniquity of the present protectionist policy of taxation than that on sugar. To the American consumer it almost doubles the price of one of the prime necessities of life. It is an "infamous tax," as Wayne MacVeagh said, because "it extorts from the laboring man * * * an actual sum often in excess of the sum the same tax extorts from the richest multi-millionaire." It taxes poverty in proportion to its needs and the more poverty pays the more wealth gains unjust exemption.

In the last twelve years, as Senator Clay showed yesterday, for every dollar that the government has collected in sugar duties the sugar trust has exacted more than a dollar in profits from the consumers. The tariff on refined sugar, which the consumer uses, is so high as to be prohibitory. In 1907 only 219 tons were imported, in 1908 only 430 tons. Barely one-fourth of the sugar consumed in the United States is produced by the cane and sugar beet growers, and the sugar trust in recent years has acquired control of a number of the best sugar refineries. The tariff not only insures it absolutely against the possibility of competition, but by a virtual monopoly of the refining industry and by trade agreements it has extinguished the domestic competition.

Yet the sugar trust has not been content with the benefits conferred upon it by the government at the expense of millions of consumers. For years it has derived the secret benefits at the expense of the government from wholesale weighing frauds committed on the decks of its own refinery. The \$2,000,000 refunded to the government represents probably only a small part of the profits of crime.

Senator Clay did well to insist that it is wrong for the government to double the cost of a daily necessity of life like sugar to the consumer when the same amount of revenue could be easily supplied by an income tax. The cost of living is excessively high for the poor. The people of this country are entitled to relief not only from an unreasonable tax but from the exactions of a criminal trust.

Merely as a revenue measure there is no better substitute for prohibitory sugar duties than an income tax. Senator Dewey's objection that New York will pay 33.13 per cent of the income tax is a trival argument. If it should that shows that 33.13 per cent of the big incomes are in New York. They are not made here exclusively, but are drawn from all parts of the country.

The Payne-Aldrich bill will be judged by the results achieved in equalizing the burdens of taxation. They will not be equalized if congress persists in retaining duties framed in favor of the sugar trust and defers the adoption of an income tax that would compel wealth to bear a fairer share of the load now borne by poverty.

Criminal Law Grossly Fails.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

The attention of many readers must have been arrested by the statement in recent news that the two years' penitentiary sentence of Ferd Warner, formerly a member of the St. Louis house of delegates, convicted for bribery, had been reversed and remanded by the Missouri supreme court. There is

no doubt about the guilt of the man, it would appear, but he gets another trial because the indictment is declared defective. We are bound to suppose that something mighty serious had been discovered, and pray what is it? Warner's offense, as set forth, was "against the dignity of the state," and that because the last "the" was omitted this unfaithful lawmaker had been improperly convicted! Great is the criminal law and its amazing technicalities, and mighty helpful to rascals. Nothing better calculated than this case to arouse popular contempt for the courts could be conceived.

In this connection it is interesting to note that the "absurdities of the criminal law" are frankly admitted by Justice Robert Mayes of the Mississippi supreme court. He tells by way of illustration of a murder case in his state which had been appealed. The defendant was charged with killing his man, and the indictment alleged that the victim "did then and there languish for a period of twenty hours and then died." The supreme court reversed the case because it was only alleged that the victim "did then die." If it had been set forth in the indictment that he "did then and there die," no second trial would have been required. In another case the man who drew the indictment alleged that the defendant "did then and there wilfully and feloniously set fire to and burn," a barn. The supreme court ordered a new trial because the indictment failed to charge that the burning was "malicious." When Justice Mayes, in his address at a recent meeting of the Mississippi Bar association, said that "I condemn in unequivocal terms a law that makes such decisions necessary and makes a farce

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