Red Cloud Chief.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

RED CLOUD. · · NEBRASKA

The sapient Prof. Puppe of Berlin bas discovered a new germ-a flea, perhaps.

Carneg's says the offspring of the rich lack a great deal. So do the offspring of the poor.

A New Jersey factory has gone into the business of making steel dolls. That's a mean trick.

What a saving of human life it would result in if football games could be played by telegraph.

If the sultan of Turkey had anything to fear it was from an enemy within. He has cancer of the stomach.

Refreshing to read that a European princess is to be married according to social rules and regulations.

A national anti-mosquito association. is the latest. "Biz-z-z" is the password and "swat" the countersign.

The lawyers intrusted with the settlement of the Fair estate find that where there's a will there's a way.

Anger is useful sometimes in that it gives a man something to be sorry for and thus reduces danger of swelled head.

If one must die of overdrinking how pleasant it must be to have the coroner's physician call it "refined alcobolism.'

A woman always has great confidence in the doctor who says he relies on her intelligent care more than on medicines.

Some of the critics insist that Patti can't sing as she used to, but none of them has at yet accused her of having a double chin.

There is no doubt that the woman who loves you forgives you too much, while the woman whom you leve forgives you too little.

Tennessee negroes have organized a political party against the use of cocaine. It is to be hoped nobody will stuff the ballot box.

Will that scientific organization which is going to fight New Jersey mosquitoes use magazine rifles or just ordinary shotguns?

A Clyde Fitch play is to be abandoned on account of poor business. This leaves only eighty-seven Clyde Fitch plays on the boards.

Senator Clark has had an operation performed on his ear. If it does not prove satisfactory the senator is amply able to buy a new one.

REVENUELAWVALID COLBY SQUARES HIMSEL

Unanimous Opinion Given by the

Supreme Court

AS A WHOLE LAW IS GOOD

No Objections to Law of Such Import as

to Require Declaration of Whole or

Part of Act Unconstitutional

Without stopping to pass on any

particular, section of the new revenue

law, the Nebraska supreme court has

given an opinion holding that the act

as a whole is a constitutional expres-

sion of the will of the legislature. The

court likewise refuses to give direc-

tions to tax officers as to the manner

in which they shall enforce the law for

the reason that the court does not de-

cide matters until specific suits are

As to the provisions for taxing for-

cign insurance companies, the court

says the state may impose whatever

conditions it desires upon foreign cor-

porations seeking to do business in

this state. Regarding sections 58 and

61, relating to life, fire and accident

companies, it was charged that a dis-

crimination is made in favor of do-

mettic companies. Without stopping

to construe the two sections, the court

suggests that if the foreign companies

are discriminated against they may

secure redress by a proper action and

that they might successfully contend

that the sections are invalid and in

that event the law must be enforced

without them. In any view of the

matter the court says it is not required

by sound reason or legal necessity to

It is suggested by the court that it

is, for better that the citizen prejudiced by the operation of the law be re-

quired to hring proceedings in court than that the very life of the govern-

"It is sufficient to say at this time."

says the court, "that no objections to

the law have been raised of such seri-

ous import as to require us to declare

the whole act unconstitutional. As a

whole we believe the law to be a good

one and to have been framed with the

object of reaching all property in this

state and impose upon all taxable

property its due share of the public burden. That it may fail in some in-

comp it as a whole, and the writs ap-

plied for are accordingly denied." Chief Justice Sullivan's name is at

tached to the opinion of the court

which is concurred in by Judge Hol-

comb and Judge Sedgwick, making it the unanimous decision of the court.

Another opinion sustaining the law bears the name of Commissioner Duf-

ly by the courtesy of the court as a

mark of respect to the commissioners who recently heard argument in the

case and wrote opinions which were

placed before the court for adoption.

concurred in by Commissioner

the has no effect, being filed mere-

declare the whole law invalid.

ment should be impertied.

brought.

Governor Savage Disproved Expending the Money for Blankets

Gen. L. W. Colby, formerly adjutant general of the Nebraska national guard, whose accounts have been investigated by the federal grand jury at Omaha, in accordance with the direction of Governor Mickey, has turned over to his successor in office \$2,282. This is the principal amount in dist pute. The money was accompanied by a draft for the full amount of receipts for the sale of quartermaster's stores, This latter sum is a very small item. The \$2,282 was appropriated by the legislature for the purchase of blankets to replace others given by the adjutant general to the state for the use of convicts at the penitentiary. The money was drawn from the state treasury by General Colby for the purchase of blankets during Governor Savage's term of office, but Governor Savage did not consent to the pur chase and General Colby retained the money.

It is believed that the turning over of the money to the state by General Colby will have some effect on the action of the grand jury and may possibly end the investigation. The grand jury for several days is said to have been considering the question whether or not the money belonged to the state or to the government.

St. Joseph Gets Convention

The general committee of the young people's Christian union of the United States met at Braddock, Pa., and spent the time in mapping out work for the union during the coming year and in arranging for the biennial national convention next July. Delegates from Buffalo, Philadelphia, Lincoln, Neb., St. Joseph, Mo., and Cedar Rapids, Ia.; were present to urge the selection of their cities for the next biennial convention. St. Joseph was selected after all the conditions of the committee were met. The convention will be held from June 29 to July 3 and about four thousand delegates will be present. It was decided that the characteristic portion of the program for the convention should be evangelistic and missionary.

The Omaha Trading Stamp War

The trading stamp fight in Omaha has become a fast one, and every merchant has lined himself up on one side or the other. Those merchants who do not use the stamps have threatened to boycott every jobber who sells to the business firms using them unless they ineist on cash and on the buyer sending his wagon to the jobbing house for goods. One of the large department stores, which use the stamps has experienced the most trouble, and has gone so far, it is said, as to have a Sioux City jobber furnish groceries to the store and establish a branch in Omaha. For this large firm the statement is made that it wishes to do its buying in Omaha as far as posible, but will insist on doing business in any manner it sees fit, and will go to Chicago and other cities for goods if forced to do so.

> Hunting for a Sneak Thief COTE



As does the child come into life-So cometh the bright New Year, Tis born a simple untold birth

With joy, good will, and cheer. The Old Year sighs-ne'er bids adieu

As he turns his last worn page, His work is done-His life is o'cr-Alas, one year of age.

How many hearts are sad, forlorn-How many prayers are said--May the New Year take from us our

arief To give us joy instead."

We know not what the young babe holds For us-we cannot see. We only greet with open arms-

The Youngster-193.



desired. It was an institution peculiar to the South, peculiar not in being confined to those sections, but peculiar in the manner in which it was conducted. For busking bees have been known in New England since the mind of man remembers and Indian corn has been gathered.

When a "co'n shuckin'" was decided upon notices were sent out to the slaves of all adjoining plantations stating that on a certain night Judge S. or Squire B. would give a corn shucking of so many thousand bushels, and that all colored people, male and female, were invited to attend. Great preparations were made by "ole massa" and "ole missus" for this event, for, while he expected a good Light's work in the shape of wagon loads of yellow corn, pleasure was to he the main part of the program.

Supper was always provided on a large scale, and generally consisted of two or three roasted pigs, turkeys, chickens, with side dishes of vegeta-

As soon as the darkies were all as sembled the oldest slave present went to "ole massa" and begged a piece of silver money. This was always expected, and a plantation owner would as soon have thought of having a "shuckin'" without corn as to be unprepared to produce the bit of silver on the first evening. Taking this piece of silver, the ancient darky returned to the field and

there performed a ceremony, the exact meaning of which has not come down to us. Whetting his jack knife upon the silver, he solemnly pronounced an invocation for a bountiful crop of corn the following year. And it is doubtful if the "ole massa" would have been to proceed without this kindly prayer than would his white-haired servitor, who by its means thus once a year bouse." stood in the attitude of high priest to the family he served. After the preliminary prayer the "12

wise men" were chosen, and their first duty was to select two of the brawnicst negroes in the company, who, when called out, with much pride humored contest of strength, which was known as "rasslin' fo' de Capt'in." The victor became the master of ceremonies and upon him devolved the duty of seeing that no one shirked in work or entertainment.

The matter of the Captaincy being decided, the 12 wise men chose four big fellows, who formed a "pack saddle" by crossing their hands, the Captain was elevated upon a and carried of corn while the darkies sang this melody or something akin to it:

When our day's am done Don't we darkies hab a time; When our day's am done Don't we darkies cut a shine?

Eack to our cabin we will go, Hack in the early moin; But we'll be here in de ch'nin' To do de shuckin' of de co'n.

Then the corn shucking proper be gan. Stacks of fuel had been placed at intervals of a few yards near the corn, and after they had been lighted, under the supervision of the "12 wise men," the fun began. As the corn was husked it was thrown into piles and would be hauled away in the morning. Twelve workers were selected for each heap of unhusked corn. and, as back in New England, the "red ear' was eagerly sought for, but with a different purpose. When a man got it he shled it at a big nigger's head, and if he hit the mark the unfortunate darky would not "marry for 10 years." If by shrewd dodging he missed it his happiness would be crowned within the year. If a dusky belle secured a



NOTHING NEW IN SIGNS.

Custom of Marking Business Houses Goes Back to Ancient Greece.

The custom of marking a business house by means of a sign is of very ancient origin, says December St. Nicholas. In the great cities of the East and among the ancient Egyptians such a practice must have been unnecessary, as all trades were classified and confined to certain sections of the city, and then all wares were exposed to full view, as they were displayed in open booths.

The history of Grecian sign boards is meager, yet the allusion of Aristophanes and Lucian to sign boards wara any more willing to allow the husking rants our belief in their use by the Greeks. Athenaeus tells us "He hung the well-known sign in front of his

Advancing to Roman times, there is abundant evidence of signs, as the discoveries of Pompeii and Hercula neum amply testify. In the Eternal City some of the streets derived their names from signs; just as hundreds of London streets have been so named. at their distinction, indulged in a good The Roman street "Vicus Ursi Pileati" was named from the sign, for, as the name indicates, it was the street of "The Bear with the Hat on." But it was not until late in the fifteenth century that the custom gained a footing in England, first of all among

the taverns and ale houses. Later came the necessity of distinguishing between certain shops, brought about by the fact that the houses were not numbered, and the people could not half a dozen times around the heaps | read word signs even if they had been lettered in gold.

The Children's Christmas,

If we are to keep Christmas day fit, for the children it must be full of sime ple enjoyment. It is not the elabo rate celebration that counts. Better a stocking with pop-corn, nuts, raising and apples, and a rollicking good time over it, than a conventional party of a gorgeous tree and a cross family In one of the magazines last year there was an amusing story of the Christ. mas celebration prepared for two or three children by their admiring grandparents, aunts and uncles. Com; plicated and expensive toys were in profusion. There was a beautiful tree -but the grown-ups were the ones who enjoyed all this, and the littly boy retired to the servants' quarters for a sensible conversation with the man, who had given him the one pres ent that was valued.

After all, nothing in the world has the same mysterious charm that invests the knobbed, unwieldy stocking. You feel of it, and pinch it gingerly as it lies on the bed, and imagine what the various bunches are. The very stocking lends itself to prolong the uncertainty. How it muffles its contents! It opens unexpected depths and swallows the particular article you were fingering. It twists itself, about reluctantly when you try to hurry out a bulky object that you are almost bursting to see. But in the

Reading that thirteen brides of army officers have sailed for Manila on the transport Logan, who can believe that thirteen is an unlucky number?

It is generally admitted among the humorists that President Wos Y Gil of San Domingo was a gilly to resign, and thus to take his unique name out of print.

In the beauty contest at New York women are to judge of the physical charms of the male contestants. Let us hope that hissing of the judges may be barred.

There is many a man who never heard of the late Herbert Spencer, whose whole life is the fruit of the philosophy with which Spencer seeded down the world.

Gold is said to have been discovered in Greenland. It is rather a pity that these discoveries cannot be made in some place which is comfortable for residence purposes.

The stenographer watches the expert typewriter repairer with unspoken wonder at the definess with which he puts the machine in order without using a hairpin once.

When Don Carlos, the Spanish pre tender, heard that his daughter had eloped with a coachman, he sent out letters announcing her death. This shows that the Don can pretend in various ways.

The Duke of Roxburghe declares that he will never come back to New York. The clown in the old-time circus used to invariably announce, "We've got your money, and that's what we came here for."

As soon as Uncle Bob Fitzsimmons has had time to mend his broken knuckles he will be ready to give short boxing lessons to any other ambitious youngster for the usual percentage of the gate receipts.

It may comfort the consumers of meat and butter and eggs and coal to learn that a German scientist claims to have discovered a process by which the price of radium may be reduced several thousand dollars an ounce.

A cable says the English Winston Churchill will come to this country frankly seeking a rich American wife. He can offer no coronet-only a name which he has made by actual accomplishment. It will be interesting to watch the progress of a hunter so handicapped.

Cause of Typhold Epidemic

Dr. George A. Soper, of New York

a sanitary expert, engaged by the Engineering News to investigate the typhoid epidemic at Butler, Pa., and its causes, will report that the epidemic has by no means attained its culmination, about 50 per cent of the cases not having the critical stage. The epidemic which he regards as the most severe one of typhoid of recent record, he attributes to the suspension of the mechanical filteration of the city water supply. The report says that the water for the town is obtained from surface sources and is usually treated by mechanical filteration, but that during changes in water works plant unfiltered water from Conquenasing crock was supplied from October 20 to November 2, the epidemic starting on November 5. In three weeks there were 1,000 cases and up to December 14, 1.247 cases and fifty-one deaths had been reported Investigation of the drainage areas showed the existence of numerous sources of pollution and particularly the occurrence of cases of typhoid on the banks of Conoquessing since July.

Louisiana White-Cappers Will Pay The Louisiana supreme court has given damages in the sum of \$5,000 each to Peter Warner, Reuben Brown, and Edward Warner, against thirty cit izens of Dodson, Winn parish, who had whitecapped them in an effort to secure information as to the authorship of several incendiary fires recently.

The jury in the district court gave each of the victims \$500. This was increased ten-fild by the supreme court which declared that the action of the whitecappers, in refusing to await a hearing in the fire cases by the grand jury, reduced the community of which they professed to be the representatives to the level of lawless and ignorant Eavages.

It is believed that this decision will break up whitecapping in Louisiana.

Successful Poultry Show at Beatrice Ine Southeastern Nebraska Poultry show in session at Beatrice and the chirics are quite large. The exhibits comprise nearly every kind of chicken grown, as well as turkeys and Belgian hares. There are several entries of erre, also a number of patent coops and other poultry supplies. The attendance is good, and the local committee is avell pleased with the outlook.

The Japs May Fight

In consequence of Russia's reply a special conference of the elder statesmen of Japan, including the Marquis Ito, and the cabinet ministers, is preceding. It is understood the statesmen are considering the adoption of a firm stand against Russia. General Komura, the war minister,

was present for the first time, at the conference.

There is renewed activity at the admiraly, in view of a possible rivel demonstration.

Council Bluffs are desirous of catching a man who in Lincoln called himself Clark, but whose real name is not known. It is said that he stole an overcoat belonging to Guy Green in Lincoln, pawned it in Omaha, stole some jeyelry from the pawnshop in Omaha and pawned it in Council Bluffs, took a quantity of gold filling from a dentist's office in the latter city and returned to Omaha and disposed of the metal. Then he disappeared. Sometimes Clark uses a crutch and sometimes he is lame without a crutch. Sometimes he is not lame at all.

Turkey Will Have to Bend the Knee

Acting Secretary of State Adee has taken a firm stand in the matter of the assault upon United States Consul Davis by Turkish officials and police at Alexandrett He has cabled Minister Lieshman to present the facts to the Turkish government and inform that government th. 'the case is one seeming to invite an apression of regret and reparation. The state department does not indicate what measure of reparation is expected, but it is understood the Turkish government certainly will, by removal or otherwise, punish the offending Turkish officials and compensate Attarian for the losses and injuries he has sustained.

Robbed on the Big Four

D. A. Ross, a railway contractor living at Excelsior Springs, Mo., discovered that he had been robbed of \$5,100 in cash somewhere on the Big Four road between Washington, D. C., and St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Ross believes the money was taken from him at some point between Indianapolis and Cincinnati while he was ocupying a sleeper.

Killed by the Cars

Mrs. Alex Wilson was killed near Aurora by Burlington train No. 42, going toward Lincoln. Mrs. Wilson and her daughter were driving into town from their home, about three miles from Aurora. The daughter was badly hurt. They did not see the train until their horses were upon the track.

Will be No Packing House Strike

Peace between the Chicago packing houses and their employes practically is assured when all but one of the grievances of the striking coopers were adjusted. The truce brought an end to the talk of a general strike.

The Azof Sea Drying Up

The sea of Azof is disappearing and remarkable scenes are in course of enactment. At Taganrog the waters have receded to such an extent during the last five days that the bed of the sea is visible for a distance of thousands of feet. High winds hurled clouds of sand shoreward, covering the town. Vessels are lying high and dry and the greatest confusion prevails in the harbor. Work in the factories has had to be reduced to a minimum owing to lack of water.

bles in equal proportion. Bushels of sweet potatoes were baked, boiled and fried, and hundreds of rich golden pumpkin pies were turned out of the ovens, done to a mouth-watering brown.

A band of musicians was engaged. for no "co'n shuckin'" would be complete without it. On those nights negroes worked not happily save to the twangling of the banjo and wailing of the fiddle.

A corn shucking always lasted three nights continuously on one Mantation. and then the negroes moved on to the next, where three more were devoted to the corn of the owner, and so on until all the maize of the neighborhood had been husked.

About twilight the darktes began to arrive from all over the country. The "boys" clad in their suits of jeans, with that pride of the darky's heart, his "long-tailed, claw-hammer blue." Every negro who made pretensions to being "anybody" possessed one-in more or less conditions of wear.

The female portion of the gathering was coquettishly dressed in linsey woolsey frocks, with their heads tied



up in flaming red bandanna handkerchiefs-the redder the better-and with a white handkerchief crossed upon their breasts.

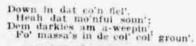
They came in groups, and each party of huskers from a neighboring plantation was announced long before it arrived by the well-known tunes prevalent in those days floating down the road and over the fields as the happy boys and women hastened to the gathering. A favorite tune was this:

Yes, we's gwine to de shuckin', Yes, we's gwine to de shuckin', We's gwine to de shuckin' of de co'n. An' we'll be dar in de mo'nin'. An' we'll be dar in de mo'nin'. We'll be dar in de mo'nin', shuah as yo

2

red ear she had the option of choosing a sweethcart from any of the darkies around the corn pile.

When 12 o'clock struck all hands dropped their work and hurried to the grove which always surrounded the old plantation home. On such occasions it was always decorated with lights, perhaps not equal to a carnival, but still rendering it very pic turesque. Reverlry and abandon followed to the enlivening darky melodies upon the fiddle, the banjo, the bones, the "massa and missus," by their presence, keeping the galety within bounds. But this did not hinder the music from being wafted on the air across the fields and through the woods to neighboring plantations. After supper a chaplain was selected, who solemnly pronounced a parting benediction upon "ole massa and missus." And while wending their homeward way some such strains as these came floating back to the now silent home:





The Day for Resolutions. The first day of the new year. What an hour for resolutions; what a mor ment for prayer! If you have sins in your bosom, cast them behind you now. In the last year God has blessed us; blessed us all. On some his angels waited, robed in white, and brought new joys; here a wife to bind men closer yet to Providence; and here a child, a new Messiah, sent to tell of innocence and heaven. To some his angels came clad in dark livery, veiling a joyful countenance with unpropitious wings, and bore away child, father, sister, wife or friend. Still they were angels of good Providence, all God's own; and he who looks aright finds they also brought a blessing, but concealed and left it, though they spoke no word of joy. One day

our weeping prother shall find that ceeds the same period last year by 25 gift and wear it as a diamond on his per cent breast .- Exchange

end it is all ours for inspection and consumption.

A stocking does have this advantage over a public tree that it does not force on the youthful mind the sharp lines drawn by the possession of worldly goods. Many a poor little Eve has coveted, seeing that the fruit of the tree was exceeding fair, only to be told that "Jennie Jones' father and mother haven't so many little girls and boys to get presents for as your father and mother"-as if that were any fault of hers!

Appropriate to the Day.

To the Christmas dinner let us bring every good and wholesome thought, kind hearts and the spirit of happiness. Let us call to us at that hallowed hour the memory of loved, pnes not with us now, whether they be dead or living; let us give a; thought to the wayward, to the prist oner, about whose very cell the broad. charity of to-day twines a plece of holly; to the sick who lie on hospital beds at this hour; to the men in khaki who bear the flag in our far-off tropic isles, and who may only dream; to-night of the snow and home cheer; they cannot share; to those on the sea in peril among the winter storms of jake and ocean; to the babes just; breathing the first breath of life, Christmas gifts indeed for pale, happy mothers; to the figed who realize that, Christmas and death are coming very, close together about them; to the men who labor in our great forests where the snow banks up high among God's own Christmas trees; to all, men and women and little children, shut out in any way from the cheerful glow of the home fire, or who, having homes, may have but little fire to burn.

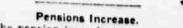
The Dandelion.

Little dandelion Statited in one day Grinnin' at de autumn Jes' like it was May. Nebber mind de chilly wind Nor de sky severe, Little dandeilor Fohgot de time o' year.

Little dandelion Made de day seem bright. Though de fros' will ketch him Long befo' de night. Reckon he's a hero Of a humble style. 'Case it takes a heap o' grit Sometimes jes' to smile. -Washington Star.

Naval Officer Buys Pew.

Commander F. A. Miller, U. S. N., has purchased pew No. 118 in the historic St. John's church, Washings ton, from a Philadelphian, paying him \$1,000 for it.



The pension issue last year was the largest in ten years; the issue for the first quarter of the present year ex-

