

Red Cloud Chief.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA

Nebraska Notes.

Fritz Hecker, a Putnam lad, had his hand caught in a corn shredder and his fingers torn to pieces, and then blood poisoning caused his death.

Farmers who have winter wheat growing in Dodge county are of the opinion that unless there should be some snow, the crop will be light.

The Wausa Gazette says it knows of many instances where the price of land has within the past four years increased from one-third to one-half.

Nebraska City thieves are cleaning out honest people's cellars. In some cases more than a wagon load of meat, vegetables and canned fruit has been taken.

The contract for a cold storage building at the institute for feeble minded youth at Beatrice was awarded to Louis Werner of Beatrice, his bid being \$3,391.

During the month of January Sheriff Wyckoff of Saline county, gathered 80 dozens of eggs laid by 75 hens. He had 75 chickens hatched and has 20 hens setting.

Nebraska cities and towns are anticipating an active building season. Many of them are reporting contracts for such work as soon as the weather permits it to begin.

The Beatrice Express announces that its department under the head of "Too Late to Classify" which has appeared on the editorial page for eleven years, will be discontinued.

A new organization in Omaha is called the Christian Volunteer Warriors. It is said to be commanded by generals, colonels, captains, etc., and to be equipped with all sorts of flags, drums and other war material.

The pay roll of the city government of Kearney has been materially shortened. The council has abolished the salaries of the mayor, members of the council and sewer inspector, and cut off \$200 from the city attorney's salary.

A vicious dog attacked a lady at Fremont. The sheriff happened to be near and interposed, whereupon the beast attacked him. He emptied his revolver at the beast and never touched him.

The blooded stock sale on the farm of Andrew Golder near Scribner was one of the most successful sales ever conducted in Dodge county. The receipts were upwards of \$15,000, possibly \$18,000. The attendance was large, buyers being present from different parts of the state.

Frederick Riggert of Fremont has a family horse 35 years old. He thought it humane to end the animal's life, and so turned him over to a man for that purpose. The latter, however, sold it to a horse trader. Then Riggert reclaimed the animal, and will see that it is not abused.

An old smokestack standing on the site of an abandoned distillery is a queer place to find a store of salted meat, nice hams and bacon, but that is exactly what has just been found at Nebraska City. The meat had been stolen and "planted" there, and now the authorities are trying to find parties whose taste for meat is so much stronger than their regard for the law.

County Surveyor Edquist of Douglas county has almost completed his plans and notes for the protection of the west bank of the Missouri river between the waterworks at Omaha and the point where the river turns abruptly to the south. He estimates that permanent protection can not be provided for less than \$250,000. At present the owners of the land are figuring on an expenditure of \$5,000 for fascines which will be built at intervals along the bank for the purpose of throwing the current outward toward the middle of the stream. The company which has offered to do the work for the foregoing sum believes that this protection is all that will be required. But Mr. Edquist thinks that the fascines will give only temporary protection.

The Burlington carpenter shops at Havelock have turned out the first batch of cement signal posts, and they will be used to replace the old ones made of wood. This is an experiment, as none of the cement posts have as yet been put in place. Iron standards will replace the old ones of wood, and the bases will be molded from crushed rock and cement. If those just made prove successful, all the whistling posts and crossing marks will be constructed from the same material.

Three wagon loads of books were hauled to the state house and then hauled away again. They were copies of the Cobby statutes which were ordered by act of the last legislature. The supreme court had given a decision in the injunction suit instituted by Mr. Stonebraker to prevent the secretary of state and auditor from purchasing the books on the ground that the volumes could not be legally given to members of the legislature. The lower court granted an injunction and the supreme court reversed the judgment. Acting on the order of Mr. Cobby the printer hauled the books to the state house for delivery. Nobody would receive them for the reason that the suit is not finished and can not be until the plaintiff has been allowed forty days in which to file a motion for a new trial.

The gray wolves are becoming so bold near Riverside, Cheyenne county, that they come down the river valley and kill cattle right in front yards. They attacked Pat Rowland's herd but did not succeed in killing anything, although a calf was badly bitten.

It would be cheaper to pay fare than to do what a colored cook of Norfolk did. Without an overcoat, mittens or cap, he rode from Fremont to Norfolk on the front end of a train against a fierce wind. As a result one of his feet, his ears and one hand were so badly frozen that the hide burst open in spots because of the swelling.

THE HOBSON PLAN

The Japanese Fail to Block the Port Arthur Harbor.

FOUR OLD HULKS ARE SUNK

Russia Divined Japan's Purpose and Prevented It by Sinking Ships Before the Harbor is Reached.

Additional details of the Japanese attempt to close the entrance of the harbor of Port Arthur have been received at Paris from most authoritative quarters. The Japanese sent five or six old transport hulks, conveyed by torpedo boats, to Port Arthur with the evident purpose of sinking the hulks at the entrance of the harbor. The battleship Retvizan discovered their approach and her fire on them was strongly seconded by that of the short batteries north of Port Arthur. The two Japanese ships were wrecked and lie in Tiger bay; along the shore another Japanese ship was burned and a fourth lies wrecked on the shore outside Tiger bay. These wrecks are not warships, but hulks, designed to be sunk at the entrance of the harbor. The wrecks are said to be at considerable distance from the harbor entrance, which remains open.

The report gives no information concerning the Japanese fleet which is said to have supported the operations against Port Arthur.

FIRE AT GREENWOOD, NEB.

Three Buildings Burned and One Life Lost.

Fire which broke out in Greenwood, Neb., caused the death of George T. Cutler and destroyed three business buildings—the opera house, a large wagon shop, blacksmith shop and seed mill, with practically all their contents.

A rough estimate of the total loss is \$10,000, with the insurance, if there be any, unknown.

The fire was caused by an explosion of acetylene gas in the basement of the wagon shop, where the plant was located to light the opera house. Mr. Cutler, who owns the opera house, was in the basement at the time, and lost his life.

The flames caused by the explosion quickly spread and the three buildings were consumed in but little over an hour.

Mr. Cutler is an old resident. He leaves a wife, but no children.

United States Oil Output.

The census bureau issued a preliminary report on the production of crude petroleum in the United States during the calendar year 1902. It shows a total production of 89,275,302 barrels of forty-two gallons each, valued at \$71,397,739, against 35,163,513 barrels valued at \$24,963,340 as reported by the eleventh census, which covered the year 1889. The report shows that in 1902 there were 118,671 wells, 29,522 operators, 3,033 salaried employees drawing an aggregate of \$2,986,768 and 17,552 wage earners, drawing \$13,242,361. The cost of supplies and materials was \$17,781,512, miscellaneous expense \$15,811,726 and cost of contract work \$12,936,631.

To Have 240 Cells.

The penitentiary is to be equipped with 240 steel cells at an expense of \$80,000, as provided for in the appropriation made by the last session of the legislature. The state board of public lands and buildings, after a conference with J. H. Van Dorn, president of the Van Dorn Iron Works of Cleveland, Ohio, which has the contract for furnishing the 156 cells now being erected at a cost of \$69,000, decided to advertise for bids for the construction of the additional eighty-four cells, the contract price to come within the \$11,000 balance of the appropriation remaining.

The Sixth First to Call.

The central committee of the republicans of the Sixth congressional district met in Grand Island and fixed the date of the convention at March 17 and the place at Alliance. It will thus be the first congressional convention in the state. The representation of the counties was somewhat small owing no doubt to the unanimity of sentiment as regards the holding of the convention as well as to the candidate for congress, Congressman Kincaid. F. M. Currie was recommended as chairman of the convention.

President Harper Dangerously Ill.

President William R. Harper, of the University of Chicago, has suffered a relapse of his recent attack of appendicitis, and is under the closest attention of his physicians. His exact condition is not known to others than his physicians and members of his family, but it is feared at the university that his recent trip in the east caused his malady to return in a more serious form than before.

INSURANCE REVENUES

Amount They Pay Into State Treasury is Fast Increasing.

Deputy State Insurance Auditor Pierce is prevented from collecting the reciprocal insurance tax provided for by the insurance laws and the new revenue law. The tax is due from the companies which come within the jurisdiction of its provisions, but no payments will be made until the supreme court has handed down an opinion in the case of the state against the North American Insurance company. The opinion is expected at the first March sitting of the supreme court and is awaited with anxiety by both insurance companies and the insurance department, as their annual reports can not be completed until a ruling is made. If the law is upheld a large amount of money will be turned into the state treasury.

Receipts under the 2 per cent of gross receipts provided for by the insurance sections of the new revenue law, have exceeded expectations and the state treasury has been enriched by the tax. The tax on the foreign life company has greatly exceeded that on foreign fire companies. About all of the companies have settled their obligations under the new law. The companies which have had to pay a 2 per cent tax an amount in excess of \$1,000 with the amounts, are as follows:

New York Life Insurance company, \$8,330.67; Mutual Life Insurance company of New York, \$6,611.69; Northwestern Mutual Life, \$4,439.96; Equitable Life, \$3,171.95; Union Central Life, \$2,343.47; Metropolitan Life, \$2,106.26; Mutual Benefit Life, \$1,393; Aetna Life, \$1,389; Prudential Life, \$1,947; State Life of Indianapolis, \$1,127.

The companies whose tax fell below the \$1,000 mark all have settled and help to swell the grand total considerably. When the reciprocal tax has been collected the showing for the year will exceed that of any previous year by more than 300 per cent.

DO AWAY WITH TONNAGE

Cattlemen and Railroads Get Together for this Purpose.

An important meeting was held in Chicago between a committee representing the national live stock association and the freight traffic managers of railway lines centering in Chicago. The members of the live stock association have been for some time opposed to the application of the tonnage system in the method of transporting live stock, the opposition being on the ground that the system reduced the running time of trains and thereby caused heavy shrinkage in the weight and value of animals. The live stock association also asked that the return pass privilege be restored to bona fide shippers and that there be a readjustment of freight rates.

The meeting was harmonious. The traffic managers conceded that the live stock service during the past year had not been satisfactory, and that the representations made by the stockmen would be immediately taken up with the assurances that there would speedily be a satisfactory adjustment. All transportation lines running west and south were represented.

JAPS PAY OLD DEBTS.

They Give Up \$115,000 on a Whiskey Claim Case.

The Japanese government passed the famous White whiskey claim by handing to United States Minister Griscom the draft for \$115,000 in favor of the American Trading company. The claim arose from a customs decision rendered in 1900, holding an importation of 8,000 barrels of whiskey to be alcohol and increasing the duty from 40 to 250 per cent. Japan at first rejected the claim for repayment of the amount alleged to have been overcharged by the customs department, but Mr. Griscom on arriving at Tokio renewed it and pressed the case with firmness. His success in securing payment is very gratifying to American commercial men and a settlement of the matter is regarded as another mark of the friendliness of Japan for America.

Higher Rates are Investigated.

The recent advance of freight rates between St. Louis and Texas common points has been made the subject of investigation by the interstate commerce commission, which met in St. Louis. J. D. Youmans of Iowa and C. S. Prouty of Vermont were the only members of the commission present.

Another Cut in Rates.

The Great Western road has given notice of reductions that it desires to make in the rates on wire nails, iron and sugar from Chicago to Missouri river points, effective March 10. The proposed reduction on iron and steel products is from 27 to 19 cents, while on sugar the proposed reduction from Chicago to the Missouri river is from 18 to 12 cents, and from Chicago to the Mississippi river from 12 to 7 cents.

KOREA TO BE FREE

Japan Negotiates a Treaty for Her Independence.

HERMIT KINGDOM NEUTRAL

Japan's Action in Regard to Korea Similar in Many Respects to the United States' Attitude Toward Cuba.

Secretary Hay has received information that Japan has negotiated a treaty with Korea, whereby she guarantees the independence and integrity of Korea.

This is regarded in Washington as one of the cleverest of the many start-line diplomatic moves that have been made in connection with the whole eastern question. The effect is to place Japan on a high moral plane, for it is understood that this treaty is an announcement to the world that even if she prevails in her struggle with Russia, involving the military occupation of Korea, Japan will take no advantage of that fact, but will maintain the independence of the hermit kingdom.

Contrasting the two positions, an official points out the attitude of Japan toward Korea is very similar to that of the United States toward Cuba when the republic occupied the island with its military forces only to withdraw them and free Cuba after it had rid her of Spanish control.

America Influenced the Czar.

Renter's Telegram company, London, England, has given out an explanation of how the abolition of the censorship in Russia was brought about as follows:

"The abolition of the censorship of news telegrams sent broad from Russia is understood to be the direct outcome of an interview which Melville E. Stone, general manager of the Associated press, had with the czar at St. Petersburg. Mr. Stone urged upon his majesty the wisdom of abolishing the censorship and as a result of the manner in which the matter was represented to him, the czar called upon M. von Plehwe, minister of the interior, for a report on the subject. This report having been made, the czar gave an order that the censorship should cease."

Dead, But Has Many Kin.

John Walker, who died in South Omaha a few months ago, apparently friendless and without a relative in the world, would be surprised if he were to suddenly return and find the great number of people who are trying to claim his relationship. And this all comes about because Walker had \$8,000 in cash sewed up in his trousers and along the lapels of his coat. Two women, both from remote parts of the country, neither of whom pretends to know the other, allege that they are, respectively, Walker's sister and mother. Several men claim to be his brothers, and one Chicago woman is persistent in her claim that she is Walker's lawfully wedded wife.

Sending Soldiers to Panama.

The war department has issued orders for the entire Third regiment of infantry to proceed to the isthmus of Panama. The regiment will leave at the earliest possible time on the transports Sumner and McClelland from New York.

The regiment is going to Panama to relieve the marines stationed there. The headquarters of the regiment are at Fort Thomas, Ky., where are stationed companies C, D, I, K, L, and M. At Fort Sheridan, Chicago, are stationed companies A and B, and at Columbus barracks companies E, F, G, and H. The regiment will be commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Woodbury, the present colonel, Haskell, being about to retire with an advanced rank.

St. Louis Man Found Drowned.

Mrs. Henry Hazelton of St. Louis was almost prostrated with grief when informed by the Associated press of the finding of her husband's body in the Seine river at Paris. She said that nothing had been heard regarding him since his disappearance on December 20, 1903, and she had given up all hope of ever seeing him again. Mr. Hazelton was prominently known in St. Louis, having for a number of years been a dealer in fine laces in the wholesale district on Washington avenue. When he disappeared it was understood that he had in his possession a large sum of money. The French authorities are endeavoring to solve the mystery of how he perished.

Mail Carriers' Salaries.

A hearing will be given by the senate committee on postoffice and post-roads on several bills introduced to fix the salaries of rural free delivery carriers. These carriers now receive \$600 annually. The postoffice department is said to favor an increase to \$750. Country merchants have entered a protest against the rural postmen's carrying packages on the ground that it enables mail order houses to monopolize trade.

STATE FAIR IN AUGUST

Board of Managers Met and Chose Their Officers.

At a meeting of the board of managers of the state board of agriculture, names of the executive officers of the fair were announced. The list includes all who are to have charge of the various departments.

It was decided to make the presence of a fast horse the leading attraction of the fair as last year and to this end the secretary of the board is in correspondence with the owners of some of the leading record breakers. The board hung up \$8,000 in purses for the speed ring, the money to be divided practically as last year. The rulings of the state speed association will be followed in this largely.

The full board was present, comprising President W. R. Mellor of Loup City; Secretary R. W. Furnas, Chairman C. H. Rudge of the board; J. B. Dinsmore, Peter Youngers, H. L. Cook, G. V. Hervey.

August 31 was selected as fraternal day.

Following is the list of officials: General Superintendent, William Foster, Sallito; chief of police, C. J. Tracey, Loup City; superintendent agricultural hall, W. E. Ewing Franklin; master of transportation, O. M. Druse, Lincoln; superintendent of gates, E. M. Searies, Jr., Ogallala; superintendent of amphitheater, G. K. Williams; superintendent of fish exhibit and fish building, W. J. O'Brien, South Bend; superintendent of speed, R. J. Flick, Lincoln; landscape gardener, J. H. Harkinson, Omaha; superintendent of horses, David Hanna, Wood Lake; assistant superintendent of horses, O. P. Hendershot, Hebron; superintendent of cattle, Elijah Filley, Reynolds; assistant superintendent of cattle, W. A. Apperson, Tecumseh; superintendent of swine, L. W. Leonard, Pawnee City; assistant superintendent of swine, V. Arnold, Verdon; superintendent sheep, R. W. Wolcott, Palmer; superintendent poultry, C. W. Lewelling, Brownville; superintendent farm products, L. Morse, Benkleman; superintendent textile department, Mrs. G. H. Deverein, Omaha; superintendent fine arts, Mrs. F. M. Hall, Lincoln; superintendent dairy, A. L. Haacker, Lincoln; superintendent education, Chas. Fordyce, University Place; superintendent bees and honey, Ed Whitcomb, Friend; superintendent machinery, W. C. Caley, Creighton; superintendent county collective exhibits, W. E. Ewing, Franklin; superintendent specials, Charles Mann, Chadron; superintendent agricultural instruction, T. L. Lyon, Lincoln.

S. C. Bassett was made superintendent of concessions, grounds and advertising.

The board contracted with Charles Scully to take charge of the race track for another year.

"Fired" Because Spelled Correctly. W. E. Baker, a clerk in the office of the quartermaster at Fort Sheridan, who refused to spell "routing" with an "e" when ordered to do so by his superior, Lieutenant Colonel Miller, has received his discharge from the secretary of war, to whom the refusal to spell it "routeing" had been referred. Baker says that he will appeal to President Roosevelt.

The word was used in an order relating to the transportation of troops, and Baker was ordered by Lieutenant Colonel Miller to spell it "routeing." Baker said that he could not conscientiously spell it with an "e."

Isthmian Canal Commission.

President Roosevelt has received definite acceptances from five of his appointees on the new isthmian canal commission, namely, Rear Admiral John G. Walker, United States navy, retired; General George W. Davis, United States navy, retired; Colonel Frank Hecker, Detroit, director of transportation during the Spanish-American war; William B. Parsons, engineer of the New York subway, and William H. Burr, professor of engineering at Columbia university and one time member of the Walker isthmian canal commission.

The other two members of the commission will be Benjamin M. Harrod of New Orleans, an engineer of the Mississippi river commission, and C. E. Grunsky, of San Francisco, a hydraulic engineer.

Danes Are Neutral.

The Danish government has announced its acceptance of Secretary Hay's proposal in regard to the neutrality of China. King Christian has sent \$500 to the Russian aid committee and the premier, Professor Deuntzer, has contributed \$50 to the same fund.

Must Keep Out of Politics.

Replying to a query regarding the status of government employes in political matters, Postmaster General Payne, in a letter says: "You will observe that it is not deemed proper for employes of the government who are within the classified service to take an active part in political matters. This would mean that they should not serve as delegates to any political convention or to act on any political committee."

SMALLEST IN THE WORLD.

Chicago Postoffice Employes Have a Unique Newspaper.

"The Two Cent Stamp" is the name of a publication issued by employes of the registry division of the Chicago postoffice. It is printed on a postal card and has the unique distinction of being the smallest newspaper in the world.

The Two Cent Stamp

SMALLEST NEWSPAPER IN THE WORLD
CHICAGO, FEB. 5, 1904

Warrented to stock. Printed on a Postal Card. Office of the Registry Div. Copyrighted James E. Kincaid's Editor.

The editor, James E. Kincaid, well known in newspaper circles of the West, fills the small space at his disposal with witty paragraphs and valuable information concerning the workings of the big Chicago postoffice.

ENGRAVED DONKEY ON BILL.

Practical Joke Played by a Government Employee.

A ten-dollar bill, circulating in Los Angeles, Cal., and bearing the engraving of an American eagle and another bird, sometimes called a Rocky Mountain canary, but more commonly known as a mule, proves beyond doubt that an unidentified practical joke has been played in the engraving department at Washington.

The bill was issued in 1880, when an Englishman was in charge of the engraving department. Whether the Britisher held a grievance against the United States or whether he sought to show that an Englishman has a sense of humor is not known, but all the currency that left the department while he was in charge bore the unpatriotic picture.

The currency had been in circulation for perhaps a year when the donkey was noticed by the department and called in.

Within twelve months after the currency was taboed every bill was accounted for except one. Bill No. 35,379,766 could not be located until it came into the possession of A. O. Craig, a resident of Los Angeles, a few days ago.

Mr. Craig noticed that the bill was unlike the money now in circulation, and upon looking at the eagle engraved upon the back found a large mule with white nose and flapping ears.

ORCHESTRA OF ONE MAN.

Twenty-four Instruments at Command of Single Performer.

A few years ago an orchestra of twelve life-size automata, invented by Dr. Bruce Smith caused a sensation in London. He is now bringing out a yet more ambitious device, the pneumophone, which is to enable one man to play twenty-four musical instruments at once. In many respects the instrument or machiae is similar to an organ. In fact, it can be transformed into one by the player merely pressing a button.

It is furnished with twenty-four different instruments—piccolo, flute, clarinet, trombone, violin, cornet, pipe organ, harmonium, guitar, banjo, metalophone, musical bells, musical bottles, tubular bells or chimes, bass



The New Invention.

drum, side drum, cymbals, triangle, Chinese gong, Chinese stop drum, Indian drum or tom-tom, castanets, two tambourines, bones and traps. The piccolo, flute, clarinet and trombone are ingeniously connected to one mouthpiece, and called the giant mouth-organ." This consists of two octaves upon each of the four instruments connected to it. The pipe organ and harmonium occupy four and a half octaves each. The machine is worked by compressed air. It has 29-foot pedals, 35 push buttons, 25 stops, a quarter mile of rubber tubing and over 700 valves.

King Edward a Physician.

King Edward is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and also of the Royal College of Surgeons, being, to quote a London journal, "about the only member of the medical profession who is a fellow of both royal colleges." According to Froude, King Henry VIII was one of the best physicians of his time. King Charles I, however, must take the foremost place among King Edward's predecessors in relation to medicine, since he was an intelligent and helpful patron of Harvey, the great physician of his day.

Good Way to Fatten Steers.

A Kansas man bought a carload of steers last spring, turned them out to graze all summer, and then fed them on corn for a month or so before selling them. And he made 25 cents by the transaction.