

Red Cloud Chief.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA

Nebraska Notes

Pender has six resident physicians, and still the town is reported to be healthy.

The Lundgren farm, near Maple creek in Dodge county, has just been sold for \$92 an acre.

The Harford & Waltermine Furniture company of Ashland has incorporated with a capital stock of \$5,000.

George Peterson, for many years a resident of the Holmesville vicinity, was adjudged insane and ordered taken to the asylum.

The Butler Dry Goods company of Ashland has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state. The capital stock is \$5,000.

The Bank of Benson, with a paid up capital of \$10,000, has been incorporated and granted a charter by the state banking board.

J. L. Svoboda has resigned as postmaster at Howells and will be succeeded by Thomas Walker. Mr. Svoboda will go into the banking business at Abie, Butler county.

Nebraska has a special exhibit of popcorn in the palace of agriculture at the world's fair. Nebraska stands at the head of the states in the yield of popcorn. All of last year's crop has been bought by a world's fair concession.

George Bugbee, aged ninety years, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. M. L. Arnold, 412 South Seventh street, Beatrice. Death was due to old age. Mr. Bugbee had been a resident of Beatrice for five years, coming from Connecticut.

Tom Saffel has grown the champion sunflower head of the neighborhood of Tilden. The center of the flower is a compact mass of seeds—the petals having all shed—measures thirteen inches in diameter and weighs four pounds five ounces.

O. M. Wade of Blaine township, Antelope county, recently threshed the fall wheat from a twenty-acre lot and received an average of thirty-two bushels of first quality wheat to the acre, or 1,280 bushels from the forty acres. Figured at 80 cents per bushel this makes the tidy sum of \$1,024 from forty acres of Antelope county's soil.

The Hastings Independent Telephone company is making preparations to erect a \$10,000 brick building. It is understood that a site has been selected on Third street and Denver avenue, just south of the court house, and that the work of excavating will be started within a few weeks. The building will be erected expressly for the Independent Telephone company.

News from the eastern portion of Nebraska is that corn is not doing well. The central portion of the state has been more fortunate, the sandy loam taking better care of the excess of moisture than the heavier soil of the eastern counties. As a matter of fact, Buffalo county will come mighty near carrying the banner this year for all kinds of agricultural products both as to yield and quality.

An application has been filed with the state board of irrigation by A. A. Carlson and N. Rasmussen, of Crawford, Neb., to appropriate thirty cubic feet of water per second from Sand creek for irrigation and storage purposes. The plan is to consolidate two ditches in Dawes county and to irrigate 8,000 acres of land. The ditches and reservoir to be constructed will necessitate an outlay of \$6,300.

As a result of the explosion of a gasoline tank in the Graham store-room at Avoca, the building was destroyed and the stock of goods damaged to the extent of about \$200. The fire was caused by a lantern, which was accidentally overturned. Roy Graham, who had gone into the room to draw some gasoline from the tank, had a close call from being burned to death while trying to prevent the spread of the flames.

The paramount issue at Pender is hitching posts. The business men want them in front of their stores, but the city council has ordered them out.

D. Lantzer, of Aurora, drew No. 532 and went up to Rosebud to select his quarter section, but on looking over the land he came home without filing. He says that the land is barren and sandy and that the rainfall is not sufficient to make crops. The soil is poor and unfruitful and he did not care for a farm even as a gift. He states that few filings are being made and that a large number of acres will never be taken up.

While the family of J. A. Walker was absent from their home near Murray, some unknown party entered the place and carried off a solid gold watch valued at \$166. The owner did not report the theft to the officers, as he thought such a thing would be useless. The watch, however, came back to him, much to his surprise. The missing time-piece had in the meantime been found behind some bill-boards in Flattsmouth by John Friesel, a workman, who learned through one of the local jewelers that it was the property of Mr. Walker, and it was at once returned to the owner. It is thought the thief feared detection and threw the watch away.

Persons are seeking information regarding the whereabouts of Alex Hickney, who was city marshal at Nebraska City for years. He left there and went to Colorado, and since then nothing has been heard from him. He has been left a large estate in Ohio by the death of a relative.

The new dam that is being built by the Black Bros. Milling company at Beatrice is giving work to a great many people. The dam will consist of concrete and is being erected just below the old dam. It will be absolutely tight and will save all the water. The old dam will be permitted to remain as a protection to the new one.

A GREAT RECORD

List of Counties and the Products They Excel In

PHELPS CO. LEADS IN WHEAT

Dodge County First in Cattle and Hogs and Hall County First in Shipment of Sheep—Other News

The state labor bureau which recently published the total shipments of products from Nebraska during the year 1903 has compiled a table showing the ten leading counties in the matter of shipments. The report was compiled by Chief Clerk Don Despain. It shows that Dodge is first in the shipments of cattle and hogs, Hall in sheep, Knox in horses and mules, Phelps in wheat, Cass in corn, Cedar in oats and barley, Merrick in rye, Holt in hay, Dawson in flour, Sheridan in potatoes, Gage in butter, Douglas in eggs and Lancaster in live poultry. In some cases half a dozen counties are almost tied in shipments. Whether it is of more credit to a county to consume than to ship is left for statisticians to decide. The following list give the five leading counties in the order named so far as the principal commodities are concerned:

Cattle—Dodge, 32,476; Cherry, 24,400; Sheridan, 28,025; Knox, 24,300; Cedar, 23,411.
Hogs—Dodge, 75,173 head; Knox, 72,098; Burt, 65,525; Saunders, 64,369; Madison, 59,662.

Sheep—Hall, 91,687 head; Cuming, 50,221; Seward, 41,042; Platte, 28,002; Dodge, 24,574.
Horses and mules—Knox, 8,924 head; Cheyenne, 3,484; Adams, 2,080; Dawson, 1,950; Seward, 1,587.

Wheat—Phelps, 3,125,331 bushels; Hamilton, 1,429,830; York, 1,426,669; Furnas, 1,396,667; Kearney, 1,384,667.
Corn—Cass, 3,418,174 bushels; Otoe, 3,187,813; Saunders, 2,991,175; Gage, 2,489,000; Lancaster, 2,374,471.

Oats—Cedar, 1,117,938 bushels; Platte, 887,012; Boone, 790,874; Knox, 608,000; Butler, 607,999.
Barley—Cedar, 162,377 bushels; Knox, 128,125; Pierce, 69,558; Wayne, 55,090; Burt, 23,750.

Rye—Merrick, 627,714 bushels; Dawson, 320,271; Custer, 241,714; Phelps, 241,043; Keith, 177,926.
Hay—Holt, 34,815 tons; Lincoln, 22,490; Rock, 12,590; Merrick, 11,200; Colfax, 9,320.

Flour—Dawson, 39,984,000 pounds; Colfax, 37,400,000; Saline, 21,677,375; Antelope, 18,480,780; Buffalo, 14,832,000.
Potatoes—Sheridan, 129,000 bushels; Box Butte, 64,000; Butler, 29,500; Dodge, 29,500; Richardson, 18,000; Dawes, 15,500.

Butter—Gage, 2,715,659 pounds; Lancaster, 2,769,685; Douglas, 985,962; Jefferson, 917,640; Saline, 735,367.
Eggs—Douglas, 4,322,520 dozen; Gage, 2,966,429; Lancaster, 2,794,014; Adams, 2,109,137; Seward, 1,293,380.

Live Poultry—Lancaster, 789,105 pounds; Colfax, 615,513; Polk, 361,984; Dodge, 250,222; Hamilton, 199,348.

PEACHES AT 20 CENTS

Two Thousand Bushels Are Sold at This Low Price

Col. W. G. Swan, of Tecumseh, has sold the entire output of his large peach orchard to a gentleman from Hastings. The price paid was 20 cents per bushel on the trees. Recently a carload of 360 bushels were shipped from the orchard. Previous to the sale Mr. Swan had disposed of some 400 bushels. The yield will be close to 2,000 bushels.

Tons of peaches have gone to waste in this county and grapes seem to be destined to a similar fate. The cause of this condition of affairs is the stupendous crop and the almost prohibitive express rates. Friends of the owners of the orchards have been invited to help themselves without stint to the luscious fruit.

BARR OUT AGITATORS

Pullman Car Company Issues Sweeping Employment Order

The Chicago Tribune says: "Work will be resumed after a brief period of idleness, in the car shops of the Pullman company. The company will put 2,000 of its former employes at work at wages lower by 10 to 20 per cent than they were receiving previously. They will be employed in the repair department.

"These men have been picked with care in the ten days the plant has been closed. In their number will be found none who have been known as a labor agitator.
"Six weeks ago the company began to lay off men. This was continued until September 15, when all except a handful employed in one repair department were told to go.
"The cut in wages to go into effect will be general, extending to employes in the office force. The wage scale at the shops has ranged in the past from \$1.75 to \$7 a day."

Just English Criticism

The recent railroad accidents in the United States are attracting no little comment in England. The Pall Mall Gazette says: "They are far too common in America, especially of late. The fact that it is a large country with plenty of room for them to happen in, is not sufficient to explain them. Probably the fundamental cause is the hasty and imperfect construction of the lines, the makeshift arrangements for saving time and the general rush of strenuous national life."

The cotton planters near Augusta, Ga., are preparing to start picking cotton by moonlight. Pickers are scarce and a bonus will be given those working from sundown to midnight.

MURDER OR ACCIDENT

Peculiar Circumstances Surrounding the Finding of Ed Barker's Body

Ed Barker, a young man employed on John Henry's transfer, was supposedly run over some time during the night by one of the trains passing through Broken Bow and killed. The body, frightfully mangled, was discovered early on a small bridge near the stock yards, a quarter of a mile east of the station. According to statements made by his employer and intimate friends, Barker had been drinking during the afternoon and in the evening made excuses in order to get into a card game that is supposed to have been held under the bridge where the body was found, it being out of the city limits. Certain articles discovered under the structure would point to a game having been in progress, but the parties participating have not yet been found. From evidence already offered, Barker can be traced up to 10 o'clock when he attended a blowout for a short time at Papineau's new carpenter shop. Dr. Mullins, attorney for the road, insisted on an inquest as he believes there is important testimony to be brought out. Barker came from Fairfield, where his parents reside. He leaves a wife and eight-months-old baby. The affair is shrouded in a good deal of mystery, as none of the crew on numerous trains each way reported running over him.

JAPANESE CONTROL WATER

Water Supply of Fort Arthur Completely at Their Mercy

As a result of the battle before Fort Arthur, the Japanese succeeded in capturing several important posts and the Russian tenure of the big forts guarding the north, northeast and northwest sides of the town is seriously threatened. Chinese information places the Japanese losses under 3,000 for the three days fighting and this comparatively small casualty list is due to the excessive care used by the Japanese in making their preparations for the advance. Russian sources, however, claim to have information that the Japanese losses were unusually severe, amounting to fully three times the number mentioned above. Possibly the most important capture during the three days' fighting was that of Fort Kuropatkin, which, while of minor value with regard to preventing the entrance into the town of the Japanese, had been constructed for the purpose of protecting the source of the garrison's water supply. The control of this water supply is now in the hands of the Japanese.

MUCH IS EXPECTED

Interior Minister of Russia is Given a Great Ovation

Interior Minister Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky's reception at St. Petersburg upon his arrival from Vilna was in the nature of an ovation, both at the railroad station and at the ministry of the interior. A great deal is expected of him by the public and the newspapers. While the liberal expressions contained in his interview with the correspondent of the Associated press at Vilna were not published, his statements to both the representatives of the Russian press and the deputation of Jews at Vilna have served to increase the favorable impression created by his appointment. The hope of much genuine accomplishment is based on the knowledge that the prince comes into power enjoying to a peculiar degree the confidence of the emperor. Sweeping changes in the ministry of the interior are anticipated. Little of the von Plehve regime is expected to survive.

One Million Cans of Corn

The Auburn, Neb., Canning company closed with a total pack of one million three hundred and seventy-six thousand four hundred cans. It took them six weeks to can this corn, including stops caused by rain when it was impossible to gather corn from the fields. The company used about 2,200 acres of corn this year, 1,400 acres of which were raised by themselves, the other 800 acres was raised by farmers. About 200 acres of their corn they use for seed. The largest pack of any one day was 77,000 cans. This was done on August 31 and September 3. The company has employed, during its six weeks of work, 50 men, women and children of the city. The pay roll amounted to about \$6,000. Twenty-four carloads have already been shipped to fill contract orders.

David B. Henderson's Condition

Former Speaker of the House David B. Henderson is suffering from falling memory at his home in Dubuque, Iowa. He does not recognize some of his most intimate friends, and his recollection is dim on some of the most important events of his brilliant political career.

Picking Cotton at Night

The cotton planters near Augusta, Ga., are preparing to start picking cotton by moonlight. Pickers are scarce and a bonus will be given those working from sundown to midnight.

CORN IS NOW KING

The Bumper Crop in Nebraska for 1904

WILL EXCEED ALL RECORDS

Central Nebraska Leads in Acreage and Enormous Ears Shaking Hands Across the Furrows

Indications throughout Nebraska are that corn has been placed beyond the chance of injury by frost, during the recent excellent weather for maturing the grain.

The last week began cool and the first four days were quite snappy. Toward the latter part the weather became warmer and the last three days Mr. Loveland says, the maximum temperature ranged from 85 to 90 degrees.

In Butler county light frost was experienced on low ground, but it is thought the ordinary corn was beyond danger at that time. Dry weather during the week hastened the completion of the shock threshing. Small grain in the stacks is being put through the separator process now. Because of the dry ground the wheat seeding has been delayed.

In Fillmore county the corn is maturing rapidly, but the crop is not as good as was expected earlier in the fall.

In Johnson, Pawnee and Richardson counties the corn has been doing nicely and is about half out of the way of the frost. No reports of damaging frost have been received from those parts.

In Saunders and York counties the corn is maturing rapidly and is practically out of danger from heavy frost. A light frost was noticed Wednesday, but there was no damage to the cereal.

In the southwestern section the report is that nearly all the corn has matured to the age of safety. The quality is invariably good. Included in this section are the counties of Adams, Furnas, Harlan, Hayes, Kearney, Red Willow and Webster.

Frost badly injured corn and growing vegetation in Dawes county in the western and northwestern section of the state. In Brown and Keya Paha counties the corn is nearly all ripened and mostly out of danger.

FOR COUNTY OPTIONAL LAW

Measure the Anti-Saloon League Will Introduce in Legislature

To make the "local option" plan more optional, Thomas Darnall, representing the Nebraska Anti-saloon league, has drafted a bill which he will have introduced at the session of the legislature this winter. This will apply to those counties where the villages have been fighting with the liquor problems. Under the theory that the residents of the entire county are affected by the existence of the saloon in the village as much as those inside the corporate limits, the advocate has drawn up the bill to give such county residents the powers of the ballot on the vote for or against licensed liquor selling. Said Mr. Darnall:

"The new law will not interfere in the least with the operation of the Sloom law, nor does it affect the local option law further than to supplement it. I have the bill drawn up and it will be introduced at the next session of the legislature. When the question is once referred to the people, the law also stipulates that another submission to popular vote shall not be made inside of four years. This stipulation is made so that the liquor element will not be nagging the temperance people all the time, after once being turned down. Petitions signed by one-tenth of the residents of the county must be secured before the question can be submitted, under the proposed law."

Union Pacific News Service

The Union Pacific railroad will soon begin issuing a bulletin news service for the benefit of its passengers on the Overland Limited trains. This news service, which is the first innovation of the kind ever attempted by a railroad, will be sent out at noon and at 4:30 in the afternoon and posted in typewritten form in buffet cars. Later, it is stated, the service will be extended to other through passenger trains on the system. All the news of importance will be transmitted by the company over its own wires, and will be delivered at scheduled points. The bulletin service will be under the direction of the advertising department.

Kansas Town Wiped Out

The town of Oakley, Kan., a small place about 250 miles west of Kansas City on the Union Pacific railroad, has been entirely destroyed by fire.

The fire originated in the Tennessee hotel and rapidly spread to other buildings. Sixteen business buildings were burned, only one store being left standing. Nobody was injured, but some of the guests of the Tennessee hotel had narrow escapes. Loss, \$75,000. Origin of fire unknown.

NEBRASKA ASSIGNMENTS

Bishop Joyce Makes the Following List of Assignments

At the conclusion of the North Nebraska Methodist Episcopal conference, held at Wayne, Bishop Joyce assigned ministers for the ensuing year as follows:

Norfolk district, F. M. Sison, presiding elder, postoffice, Norfolk, Neb.
Allen W. Rominger, Bancroft circuit.
Amos Fetzer, Beemer.
R. W. Wilcox, Bloomfield.
E. E. Carter, Carroll.
C. S. Hughes, Coleridge and Belden.
Y. H. St. Louis, Creston, Humphrey and Platte Center.
W. R. Warren, Dakota City.
J. G. Shick, Decatur.
W. G. Fowler, Emerson.
F. M. Derullinger, Homer.
E. E. Carroll, Supply Laurel.
J. L. Phillip, Leigh.
H. G. Longley, Lyons.
E. E. Houston, Madison.
J. M. Bothwell, McLean and Thodes, Supply Norfolk.
J. F. Poucher, Norfolk circuit.
W. R. Peterson, Pender and Thurston.
A. L. Mickel, Pilger.
E. T. Antrim, Ponca.
P. J. Larison, Randolph.
T. A. High, St. James.
C. H. Stemmer, Supply Scribner.
T. M. Bushey, South Sioux City.
J. R. Ramsey, Stanton.
C. M. Griffith, Wakefield.
S. H. Moore, Wausa.
B. H. Smith, Wayne.
T. J. Wright, Winside.
S. A. Orms.

OMAHA DISTRICT

William Gorst, presiding elder, Arizon, N. M. Somerville, Arlington, G. M. Couffer, Blair, A. J. Markley, Craig and Alder Grove, A. E. Fowler, Fremont, F. H. Sanderson, Gretna and Spring Grove, R. N. Throckmorton, Herman circuit, C. G. Rouse, Hooper and Bethel, G. B. Warren, Kennard and Elk City, T. S. Watson, Nickerson, R. L. Robinson, Oakland, C. P. Lang, Omaha city missions, to be supplied, Dickey Chapel (postoffice Benson), J. M. Leidy, First church, E. C. Smith, Hanscom Park, C. C. Cissell, First Memorial, William Esplin, McCabe, J. M. McDonald, Seward Street, J. B. Priest, South Tenth Street, D. W. McGregor, Southwest, Florence and DeSoto, G. A. Luce, Trinity, J. R. Smith, Walnut Hill, D. C. Winship, Paphillon and Elkhorn, D. M. Pickett.

South Omaha First church, D. K. Tindall.

North Omaha Leifer Memorial and Richfield, W. D. Stambaugh, Springfield and Platford, H. A. Chappell, Tokamah, John Crews, Valley, W. L. Elliott, Conference evangelist, H. I. Powers, Chaplain, United States army, O. J. Nave.

GRAND ISLAND DISTRICT

H. H. Millard, presiding elder, Alda, H. A. Taylor, Archer, W. H. Underwood, Bartlett, John Henderson (S), Belgrade, A. J. Warm, Case and Boelus, R. J. Cocking, Cedar Rapids, A. L. Kellogg, Central City, G. H. Main, Central City circuit, Ward Morse, Clarke, S. A. Bear, Columbus, L. R. DeWolf, Fullerton, J. L. Vallow, Fullerton circuit, E. A. Smith, Geneva, W. J. Briert, Grand Island, W. W. Carr, Grand Island Trinity, E. C. Horn, Maple Grove and Leavitt, W. S. Riunt (S), North Bend, E. B. King, Palmer, J. F. Webster, Primrose and Enfield, to be supplied, Purple Cane, C. E. Campbell (S), St. Edward, C. P. W. Weinberry, St. Paul, J. P. Yost, Schuyler, T. C. Webster, Scotia, W. E. Green, Silver Creek, J. B. Roe, Wolbach and Cushing, H. C. Preston (S).

Wood River, J. B. Ludom.

NELIGH DISTRICT

Thomas E. Bethel, presiding elder Norfolk, Neb.
Albion, R. E. I. George, Battle Creek, R. O. Eggleston, Battle Creek circuit, supplied by O. Eggleston.
Boone, R. J. S. Green, Brunswick, supplied by W. D. Smith, Chambers, Jesse Griffith, Clearwater, H. P. Williams, Creighton, E. J. T. Connelly, Elgin, R. C. O. Trump, Emerick, supplied by G. A. Barker, Ewing, R. T. E. Smith, Cross, Bristow and Spencer, supplied by H. Rummel, Inman, D. A. Keane, Lindsay, R. R. J. Callow, Lorette, R. E. B. Koontz, Lynch and Highland, R. J. M. Wingett, Meadow Grove, R. L. A. Cook, Niobrara, R. E. Mitchell, Oakdale, R. R. J. McKensie, O'Neill, G. T. Mead, Osmond, R. T. Shacklock, Paddock, supplied by J. H. Allen, Page, W. C. Kelly, Pierce, E. E. Shafer, Plainview, A. E. Dalois, Plainview circuit, supplied by J. G. Galloway, Royal, H. A. Hernaday, Tilden, I. N. Gortner.

Charged With Crime

Mrs. Cordella Botkin, who is under sentence of life imprisonment for the murder of Mrs. J. P. Dunning, appeared in Superior Judge Dunn's court at San Francisco to answer to the charge of having murdered Mrs. Ida H. Deane. It being shown that the transcript of the evidence taken in the lower court where the preliminary examination was held has not yet been filed, the case was continued until October 4 for trial.

PARKER WRITES OF ISSUES.

Democratic Nominee's Letter of Acceptance Made Public.

Judge Parker's letter, supplementing his acceptance of the nomination for President of the United States, tendered him by the national Democratic convention, has been made public. In the document he reiterates his belief in the gold standard and expresses appreciation of the action of the convention on the subject.

The Judge points out what he considers the dangers in the centralizing of power in the national government, and takes strong ground against the so-called policy of "imperialism."

Tariff reform is declared to be one of the cardinal principles of the Democratic party and its necessity at this time great. The Dingley tariff law, the Judge asserts, is unjust and oppressive and properly named the "Mother of Trusts." He commits the party to a change in tariff rates in the event of a Democratic victory in November, reasserting his belief that the Republican senate will be unable to prevent it.

Though disapproved by official statistics the charge is made that the cost of living has increased far beyond advance in wages, and for this condition the rapacity of the "trusts," fostered by the Dingley tariff, is held to blame. On the subject of the "trusts" the document deals only in generalities, pointing out no remedy and saying only: "I favor such further legislation, within constitutional limitations, as will best promote and safeguard the interests of all the people."

Reciprocal trade treaties, as advocated by President McKinley, Judge Parker indorses. He makes the claim that the Republican majority in the Senate has prevented the ratification of these treaties in the past.

On the question of the independence of the Filipinos the candidate advocates "such measures of freedom as the Cubans enjoy," but not until "it can prudently be granted."

The Republican policy of the reclamation of arid lands in the West is indorsed.

Immediate building of the Panama canal is urged, though the document criticizes the "unjust methods" by which it is alleged the United States secured the route and rights.

A policy favorable to the building up of an American merchant marine is advocated, though the methods by which this should be done are not mentioned. The granting of subsidies for the purpose is denounced.

Judge Parker promises, in the event of the election of a Democratic executive and Congress, a full investigation of all government departments.

Liberal pension laws, he declares are simply acts of justice. President Roosevelt's action in promulgating Pension Order, No. 78, granting pensions to all veterans over the age of 62, is sharply censured and the promise made that it will be revoked if the party is given power.

A policy of non-interference in the affairs of the world, the Judge declares the proper course to pursue. He makes the charge that governmental expenditures are too high and blames the administration for alleged extravagance.

TOOK WOMAN FROM HAREM.

Abduction Case Has Caused Sensation in Cairo, Egypt.

A sensational abduction case involving a lineal descendant of the prophet Mohammed and a pair of real Arab sheiks is reported from Cairo, in Egypt. Sheik Ali Joussef fell in love with the daughter of Sheik el Suddat. The girl's father, who is said to be the sole living descendant of the prophet Mohammed, refused his consent to the marriage, as he did not think Ali Joussef was a fit person to be the husband of a girl of such noble lineage. Ali Joussef, however, abducted the girl and placed her in his harem.

Her father appealed to the Egyptian government, with the result that a detachment of armed police was dispatched to Ali Joussef's harem. The police made a forcible entry to the premises and, in order to be sure that they had taken possession of the person wanted, they ordered all the fair denizens of the harem to follow them in a veiled procession to the house of Sheik el Suddat, where his daughter was finally selected from the rest of the women and detained.

All Joussef has now, it is said, begun proceedings before the British authorities, and has obtained the services of an English lawyer.

He Wished to Be Truthful.

The sour and surly looking visitor called the little boy to him and took him on his knee. It so happened that at this particular time he wished to make friends with him in order to stand well with his parents.

"I like little boys," said the visitor. "The boy looked as if he doubted it, but he held his peace.

"That is," explained the visitor, in order that there should be no mistake, "I like good little boys, and you're a good little boy, aren't you?"

"Well," returned the boy cautiously, "there are a lot worse than me on our street."

"I wish that you should like me, too," persisted the visitor.

Again the boy was wise enough to hold his peace, but he looked as if he thought the job was a pretty big one. The expression was not lost on the visitor.

"Don't you like me now," he asked. The boy looked at the visitor and sighed. Then he looked at his father and his expression was one of great doubt.

"Pop," he said at last, "does all that stuff that you told me about never telling a lie go or not?"

Then the meeting was promptly adjourned amid considerable confusion.