

Today Few Editorial Writers. C. H. K. Curtis Is Busy. Seven More Days. Hurry. "By Their Works." By ARTHUR BRISBANE

Frank Irvine Cobb died last week. He was a good editorial writer, knew how to say what he had to say and when to stop. How few editorial writers are known to the public. The fact that they don't sign their writings has nothing to do with it. Horace Greeley did not sign his name, neither did Colonel Watterson.

Charles A. Dana used to ask, "Why is there no correspondent in Washington that anybody ever heard of?" Why are there so few editorial writers that anybody ever heard of?

Cyrus H. K. Curtis was in New York yesterday, looking young and vigorous, as though he had never done a day's work. He has just undertaken a little extra work by buying the New York Evening Post.

The sun has now entered the winter solstice, which ought to be the beginning of really cold weather. But in several places the weather was the warmest on record since the weather bureau was born.

What is more important to the average young man is this: There are only seven days left of 1923 after today, with two Sundays taken out, only five days for working.

In those five days not waiting for January 1, the wise young man might start good resolutions, and what's more, start real thinking work, that would put him years ahead of young gentlemen that will spend the nine days wondering how they can enjoy themselves or why they are not appreciated.

The Methodist Episcopal church announces that it has gained 464,000 members in the last four years. That's an active church and probably holds the record. It supports 80 hospitals, 26 homes for old people, 45 orphanages, 11 homes for working girls—worth a gold, cruel, hard money, \$30,000,000.

The government railroad in Alaska ends at Nenana. From that point mails to Fairbanks are drawn by dogs, taking 20 days. Now the dogs will get a rest, and the letters will go flying in 4 hours. That's progress.

Moses with his friends wandered around the desert 40 years. Starting after a comfortable breakfast, flying machines would have taken them to the Land of Promise in time for luncheon.

Moses surely is interested in Wilbur Wright, who helped his rother invent the flying machine and is now in heaven.

If you have an extra tear of Christmas sympathy, shed it for the poor "Henry Ford-for-President" boomers. They put in their time, perhaps a little money and energy. They built hopes as high as the sky. Each was careful to let Ford know what he was doing to make him president. And now, in the midst of their high hopes, Mr. Ford says "I'm for Coolidge."

It is just as though Christopher Columbus had said to Ferdinand and Isabella and his uncle that applied most of the money for his trip. "I have changed my mind; I am not going to sail."

The public, thanks to Senator Borah, will learn all about that dreadful Russian conspiracy to plant the red flag on the White House.

Already part of the horrible truth has leaked out. A secret service man says that Russian communists, disguised as a literary society, met in a hall in Harlem.

You don't need to be told that, from such a meeting, it is only one step to seizing a nation of 10,000,000, and planting the bloody red flag on the White House.

The people can never be grateful enough to Secretary Hughes for preventing that Paul Revere in his rattle, the gentleman that carried the news from Ghent to Aix, or the Greek soldier who set the first marathon record, must make way for Charles Evans Hughes, who kept the red flag off the roof of the White House.

Two Barely Miss Death as Engine Hits Auto Fremont, Neb., Dec. 23.—Ertle Reed, Northwestern brakeman, was slightly injured and F. W. Witschy, district manager of the Mutual Oil Company of Fremont, had a narrow escape from death when the latter's sedan was struck by an engine on the Broad street crossing in Fremont.

Reed, standing on the rear end of the engine which was running light, was struck by flying pieces of debris, according to witnesses. Witschy's car was shoved for a distance of 100 feet along the right of way.

The fact that the car remained upright prevented a tragedy, it is believed, and when the engine finally came to a halt, Witschy calmly opened the door of his car and stepped to the ground unhurt.

Married in Council Bluffs The following persons obtained marriage licenses in Council Bluffs yesterday: Rudolph Sobelavsky, South Omaha; Josephine Novotny, South Omaha; Oscar M. Starnus, Lee Moore, Ia.; Alice Holmes, Omaha; John Spencer, Loveland, Ia.; Carrie Walker, Loveland, Ia.; Edwin Smiley, Omaha; Edna M. Carson, Omaha; Augustus Larsen, Florence, Neb.; Marie Josephson, Florence, Neb.; Lloyd Standage, Potosi, Neb.; Earl White, Wood River, Neb.; W. Harburg, Wausau, Minn.; Gertrude Weaver, Sussan, Wis.; Ray Montgomery, Omaha; Vera Houska, Omaha; Corretta Mitchell, Omaha; Joseph Gladon, Omaha; Ruth Volken, Omaha; Cecil Cobb, Long Point, Ia.; Estelaine Oshinsky, Long Point, Ia.; Conch, Lincoln, Neb.

Lloyd Skinner Makes Property Pact With Wife

Head of Macaroni Factory Agrees to Settlement and Custody of Two Children.

Lloyd Skinner, president of the Skinner Manufacturing company, will not contest the divorce brought against him Saturday in district court by his wife, Emma L. Skinner. This was stated by attorneys representing him. They declared he has made a property settlement with his wife which is satisfactory to her. She is to have custody of their two young boys.

Mr. Skinner left Omaha about 10 days ago, going first to Chicago. He was ostensibly departing on a trade trip on which he intended to visit customers. Shortly after his departure Mrs. Skinner consulted with her attorneys. She charges that Mr. Skinner was cruel and that he failed to support her.

Up until 10 days ago Mr. and Mrs. Skinner resided at the same address, 3816 Harney street. Their two children are Lloyd, Jr., 9, and Paul, 7. Mrs. Skinner declined to discuss the case. Friends say she is undecided whether to remain in Omaha or go to her former home in Wisconsin. The Skinners were married in October, 1913, in Detroit, Mich.

Klan Wars on Gage County Spooners

Wymore, Neb., Dec. 23.—The Ku Klux Klan stalked in Wymore again and the streets contained heavy printed posters, setting forth the intention of the clan to move against alleged unlawful conditions existing in Wymore.

Klan operations, apparently, are not only applicable to Wymore, but to southern Gage county, for the posters state that the clan is to "pay special attention to the hordes of darkened automobiles parked along our highways at night, and that license numbers are being noted and action will be taken." The posters are tacked on telephone poles up alleyways, and in front of many of the business buildings of Wymore, and at other places.

Cars Crash Head-On; One Man in Hospital

Willard Dye, Macedonia, Ia., is in the Mercy hospital suffering from shock and bruises which he received when his car crashed head-on into a machine driven by Ed Peterson of Omaha.

The accident occurred on the South avenue paving, opposite the Iowa State School for the Deaf. According to Sheriff Callahan, who is investigating the accident, Peterson was attempting to pass another car and failed to see the approaching Dye machine, which was turned over three times in the crash.

Peterson was cut around the face and was slightly bruised, while Sandy Babbitt and Earl Peterson, who were riding with Dye, were cut around the head and legs.

Poincare to Receive Von Hoesch Today

Paris, Dec. 23.—Premier Poincare receives the German charge d'affaires, Herr Von Hoesch, tomorrow. The charge is expected to present the answer of the German government to M. Poincare's acceptance, with limitations, of a discussion of the various questions relating to the Ruhr and the Rhineland. This answer, which is probably a written memorandum, it is suggested will define more exactly the subject which Dr. Stresemann, the German foreign minister, wishes to examine with the French.

Bandit Robs 18 of \$500 in Busy Denver Store

Denver, Colo., Dec. 23.—A lone, unmarked bandit entered a Piggy Wigly grocery store at East Colfax and Pearl streets, a busy retail district, lined up 18 persons against the counters and walls and robbed them of money estimated at \$500, then fled. Working feverishly, the lone holdup grabbed purses from women, went through men's pockets and even grabbed small pocketbooks from children, hastily emptied them of money and threw the empty purses on the floor.

Mexican Rebels Chased; Federals Control Roads

Mexico City, Dec. 23.—Federal troops are pursuing the rebels southward through the state of Puebla, according to advices received by the war office. All of the railway lines between this city and San Marcos, are in the hands of the federals. The rebels have attempted to make a stand at several places but have been driven back at every point. The city of Puebla is in the hands of the federals, which gives them a strategic advantage.

Sugar Beet Sale Price Agreed Upon for 1924

Denver, Colo., Dec. 23.—Agreement was reached in Scottsbluff, Neb., between the board of directors of the Nebraska Co-Operative Beet Growers' association and the Great Western Sugar company, approving the sale of the sliding scale beet contract for the 1924 crop which has been accepted by the Colorado Beet Growers' Co-Operative organization.

Attorney for Regent.

Lincoln, Dec. 23.—The name of Earl Cline, Lincoln attorney, was filed by a group of friends as a nonpartisan candidate for regent of the University of Nebraska. Mr. Cline is a native-born Nebraska man and a graduate of the law college of the university.

Laying Heavier Rails.

Hanover, Kan., Dec. 23.—The St. Joseph & Grand Island railroad is laying 90-pound rails in the Hanover yards and extending southeast to Bremen, six miles. The new steel is all distributed along the track and is replacing 75-pound steel.

A Born Athlete



The world's youngest strong man is the title to which Johnny Salvatore, 22 months old of St. Paul, Minn., lays claim. He can chin himself 13 times and prefers 5-pound dumbbells to dolls as playthings.

Listen to This



Corn-raising stars, take notice. California, modest as always, comes forward with this stalk of corn, grown near Petaluma. It measures 12 feet in height. Even its grower admits this is unusually tall for corn.

Cass County People Now Realize Grand Jury Probe Was Good Thing

See Ends of Justice Served in \$618 Spent for Investigation and Witness Fees—Judge Lauded for Calling in Outside Jurists to Hear Cases.

Plattsmouth, Neb., Dec. 23.—At the conclusion of two weeks of sensational testimony introduced in district court here as the aftermath of indictments returned on November 28 by the first grand jury convened in Cass county in 24 years, citizens generally are taking stock of the situation and reviewing the accomplishments.

When the grand jury was called at the instance of signed petitions circulated throughout the county, there was considerable opposition, especially in the rural communities, where it was felt that an attempt was being made to air Plattsmouth grievances at the expense of the taxpayers of the county. Now, in the light of the startling evidence of the past two weeks and with convictions on three of the indictments already tried one case having been held in its midst because a prejudiced juror was found among the 12 who had sworn to pass true judgment on its merits and with 11 remaining indictments to be brought to trial, those who urged the grand jury as a remedy to existing conditions feel that their contention have been justified, while many who complained merely of the expense have been converted to the opinion that the \$618 allowed by the county commissioners at their session last week, representing the payroll of the jury itself together with the fees of witnesses, has been money well spent.

Of course, there are some who still hold to the opinion that the grand jury was a piece of idiotic fallacy, but they are in the minority. The most regrettable incident so far has been the fact that it was necessary to halt the trial of Sheriff C. D. Quinton on a malfeasance of office charge. There is no feeling that the jury was purposely "fixed" but rather that it was a case of over-zealous friendship of the juror, Henry Jones, for Quinton, who had been accepted for service had made statements that he would not vote for the conviction of the sheriff regardless of the evidence.

This proven charge was too flagrant to be overlooked, and the case was dismissed for retrial, being set as the first on the calendar when the January term is convened on the 15. All those connected with the case, regret this action became necessary, probably none more so than Sheriff Quinton himself, who if he is innocent of the charges preferred should not long be deprived of his office, which is now held by E. P. Stewart, Bryan appointee, pending the outcome of the case against him.

Judge James T. Begley, himself a resident of Plattsmouth, felt from the first that the ends of justice could best be served by having the fine points of law ruled upon by someone not acquainted with the parties and conditions existing in Cass county, and he called to sit with him on the cases already heard, Judge F. W. Buton of Fremont, who as the ruling judge passed upon all objections raised during the first week, and Judge J. B. Raper of Pawnee City, who had complete jurisdiction over the cases of the past week. However, were several of the defendants, that they moved the hearing of their cases before him, which he refused to do.

Got Special Prosecutor. In another instance Judge Begley earned disinterested commendation. When he found it necessary to name special prosecutors, he called in Attorney W. R. Patrick of Plattsmouth, a stranger to conditions here and a man with no personal axes to grind, who with Attorney D. O. Dwyer, of this city, special prosecutor before the grand jury, has handled all prosecutions with the exception of the Carl G. Fricke embezzlement case, which comes under the jurisdiction of the state banking board, where prosecution was in charge of Attorney W. T. Thompson, sent here from the office of the attorney general of Nebraska.

So, it is generally believed by those interested in fair play, that the ends of justice are being served in the best possible manner under the present arrangement. With the close of the Fricke embezzlement case, the jury panel has been dismissed for over the holidays, and it is highly improbable any more indictments cases will be heard until the convening of the January term of court.

The result of the cases tried to date is as follows: Carl D. Quinton, sheriff, charged with malfeasance of office, trial halted at conclusion of second day and set for retrial. One other indictment, charging perjury, is pending. Constable William Grebe, assault charge, verdict of guilty. Three other indictments, one charging assault and four against Charles C. Parmele, two charging embezzlement and two forgery. Two other indictments, one against County Attorney A. G. Cole for alleged malfeasance of office, and one against J. W. Chilton for alleged obtaining of money under false pretenses, were dismissed at the beginning of the present court term under authority of a ruling by Judge Buton on technicalities in their wording.

Prank Damages Fremont Public Christmas Tree Fremont, Neb., Dec. 23.—Perpetrators of what was meant to be a practical joke committed considerable damage when they carried a wooden sign representing a quarter of beef to the city park and hung on the branches of the municipal Christmas tree erected for the Christmas day exercises. Several limbs were broken from the tree and many of the lighting decorations already in place were destroyed. The act was probably committed by boys, police believe.

Winter Carnation. Fremont, Neb., Dec. 23.—As winter made its official debut Ben Hollander of Fremont plucked a hardy carnation in full bloom from a bush in the yard at his residence. The same bush proudly displays a number of buds that promise to burst into bloom in the pleasant mild temperature and balmy sunshine continues.

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Woman in Fox Case Will Fight Trial

Claims She Was in Tennessee City When Editor Slew Klansman.

Atlanta, Dec. 23.—With requisition papers in his possession, an agent of the office of Solicitor-General John A. Boykin left for Birmingham Monday to make an effort to return Mrs. Margaret Weaver, indicted as an accessory before the fact in the slaying of William S. Coburn, Ku Klux Klan attorney, to this state for trial. Mrs. Weaver was arrested in Birmingham.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 23.—All possible processes of law will be invoked to stay the hands of authorities of Georgia and Alabama in an attempt to remove her to the former state for trial, if Mrs. Margaret Weaver, arrested in connection with the slaying of William S. Coburn in Atlanta on November 5, carries out her announced intention.

Mrs. Weaver told detectives that she was in Chattanooga on the date that Philip E. Fox, former publicity director for the Ku Klux Klan, killed Coburn, a Klan attorney, and that she was not certain "whether she ever knew either of the men." She said she proposed, if necessary, to produce hotel records to show that she was in the Tennessee city on the date of the killing. She made no effort to conceal her identity when the officers arrested her.

Geneva Man in Race for U. S. Senate

Lincoln, Dec. 23.—Former Congressman Charles Sloan of Geneva announced that when petitions now being circulated by his supporters are filed he will enter the race for the United States senate.

Sloan has been frequently mentioned as a candidate but this is his first definite statement that he would be in the race. Lieut. Gov. Fred G. Johnson of Hastings has already filed for nomination on the republican ticket.

Turkey Crop Is Large.

Red Cloud, Neb., Dec. 23.—A canvass of farmers here and in the northern tier of Kansas counties adjoining Webster county shows one of the largest turkey crops in history, especially Smith county, Kansas. The price has dropped sharply, selling as low as 15 cents at the produce house. Generally, the farmers have agreed to hold over their turkeys another year, rather than sell at the prevailing low prices.

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Rome Hotel Sold to Fontenelle Owner

The Rome hotel will pass out of the hands of Rome Miller and into the possession of E. C. Eppley, operator of Hotel Fontenelle, on January 1, it was announced Saturday.

It also was announced that the Eppley company has obtained a new 30-year lease on the Hotel Fontenelle. The new lease marks the close of a long and bitterly fought legal controversy over the Nebraska Hotel company, from which Mr. Eppley obtained his first lease on the Fontenelle and other hotel properties in Nebraska.

Boys Held for Marring Graves

One of Three Fremont Youths Admits Vandalism in Cemetery.

Fremont, Neb., Dec. 23.—With the arrest of George Johnson, 14, Eugene Ruff, 12, and John Ruff, 10, county officials believe they have solved the mystery connected with the recent vandalism that occurred at the Calvary Catholic cemetery at Fremont.

The boys are also charged with breaking into and entering the John Deml and Larson camps on Thompson island east of the city. A petition filed in district court charges the lads with robbery of various articles taken from the Deml house.

Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Winter, Jr., is said to have admitted acts of destruction at the cemetery following his arrest on the robbery charge. Police allege that he confessed destroying markers and disfiguring headstones at the cemetery on October 13 when he and other boys entered the burying grounds "for something to do."

Deml's petition asks that the three boys be sent to the Kearney Industrial school or some other institution.

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