

OUR WEEKLY COMMENTS

Congressman Kinkaid of Nebraska, has a bill pending before the Committee on Agriculture providing for the free distribution on the residents of the territory, covered by his home-stand act, of young pine trees from the nurseries maintained on the Nebraska Forest Reserve.

Tomorrow's dinner need not cost the fastidious quite so much as did last Sunday's. The prices on a number of things that enter into high priced menus have dropped during the week. But how about the common man's dinner tomorrow. It has been up-in-the-air for a long while and shows no signs of a McGinty descent.

Representative Hinshaw has submitted for the Committee on Indian Affairs, an adverse report upon a measure appropriating a large sum of money to members of the Delaware Shawnee, Absentee-Shawnee, Texas Cherokee and Choctaw Indians for degradations committed against them by the whites between 1850 and 1863. The whole matter is dismissed as belonging to a class of claims in the "exigencies of war" classification.

Dr. Tanner has found a cure for the evil known as "high cost of living." His remedy is simple enough and would without a doubt be effective. The shrewd doctor proposes that when meat is high we quit eating it. Naturally to the person not buying, the price at that time will be immaterial. Likewise with other food products. When the price is too high quit eating. Play the Chinese game—Starve. It may not be the most agreeable method but it's bound to be a success. And success is something. Try it and report results.

New Orleans concedes the Panama exposition to San Francisco. The southerners have decided to accept the action of the house as final, and will interpose no opposition to a vote in the Senate when the House bill is taken up for consideration. Numerous conferences between citizens of Louisiana and the senators and members of the state congressional delegation resulted in this decision. The headquarters of the New Orleans boomers have been dismantled. It is said that New Orleans people spent \$100,000.

As we wander again through the land of mud, we are prone to wonder about the streets that are not paved. For nearly a year there has been comparatively little rainfall and correspondingly little mud to contend with. The citizens of Falls City are in this respect much like the man whose house had no roof on it. When asked why he no roof he replied; "when it is nice weather I don't need any roof, and when it rains I can't roof. Now, that it is raining and the mud is everywhere in evidence, our thoughts revert to the advantages of paved streets.

Another radical step to prevent the concentration of power in a few hands in the House of Representatives has been taken by the newly designated democratic members of the way and means committee of the next congress. It was determined that in the make-up of the committees of the new house the chairman of all committees that have the power to prepare appropriation bills and the chairman of the judiciary, interstate, and foreign commerce, and District of Columbia committees, will not be members of any other committees than those over which they preside.

That there is strong opposition to the Canadian reciprocity measure is borne out by expressions from representatives and Senators. Senator Norris Brown of Nebraska, is one who does not favor action by the present congress, and while he has expressed no views as to the merits of the treaty yet his attitude in reference thereto is quite clearly defined. He said, "of course it would be a serious matter to register a hasty vote on President Taft's reciprocity plan even against it. I think the details of the scheme would make good summer discussion for the people, and I sincerely hope they will be given the opportunity to talk it over."

The house famine is beginning to be felt by Falls City people too. Heretofore, the unpleasant experience of house hunting, was largely one for strangers. But, now that the R. R. people have begun to buy property for themselves some of our own families are finding themselves in a quandary. They must move out of their present quarters, but where to go they do not know. It will be no matter to joke about if citizens of Falls City find themselves compelled to leave town, and their work in order to keep a roof over their families.

As things are now, such oils likely to be the case before spring. Surely everything possible should be done to rush forward as many new houses as possible, at once.

City Building.

One of the draw backs to the growth of many towns is the high prices asked by real estate men and property owners for building lots. Many a town with a promising outlook has been held up in this way, and her future effectually blocked. One man, as the case so frequently is, with a disposition to gab, can doom a good town to eternal littleness by asking exorbitant prices for building lots. The average American will pay a fair price for what he wants, but he will stop quick, when asked to pay three prices, just because the seller thinks he has him in a tight place. There is a limit to what people will pay and in trying to get rich quick, men are apt to not only harm the community but to lose out themselves.

Yesterday Rice Bros. Contractors began on the foundations of a new modern dwelling in the south end of town. The building is already rented for a year, to be occupied as soon as in condition to move in. The rental is \$25.00. When houses rent for \$25 a month before the foundations have been laid, there must be real need. There are people of culture and refinement, accustomed to the use of modern conveniences in their homes, compelled to stow themselves away in "any old place." And what is the most unpleasant experience of all, is that they ought to feel exceedingly grateful for the hospitality shown. Falls City needs to open her doors still wider. The situation is strenuous. The people must have accommodations.

The air is filled with talk of an extra session of congress, and President Taft has let it be understood that unless the Administration bill for a tariff board and the Canadian treaty are passed, that he will not hesitate to call an extra session. The difficulty all seems to lie with the senate, as the House is counted on to pass the legislation. On the senate side there is a great deal of work to be done, and some big measures to be disposed of in the remaining days of the session. The fates of both measures in that body seem very much in question, and while it is hardly expected that either of the propositions will be killed outright, yet it is expected in many quarters that neither measure will be allowed to come to a vote. In this event the president will have an opportunity to make good his threat.

The law makers of Kansas took a step that will go far to justify to them the names of progressive, when they made provision for so amending the State Constitution as to permit women to vote. There is absolutely no reasonable ground for denying this privilege to woman, except prejudice and personal advantage. Men are naturally jealous of their prerogatives and hesitate to yield them without protest. Whether women make use of the privilege or not is no argument. They should have the right because it belongs to them as freely as to men. The more liberal and loyal Western states are one after another taking down the bars—Nebraska next.

Friends of County option were greatly disappointed at the action of the Nebraska Senate in turning down the County option bill Wednesday. It was, however, a bad piece of business from any view point. County option is the peoples option, and when the Lawmakers deny the people the primary rights of American citizenship, the simple rights that belong to every free-holder, the right of the majority to rule, they are preparing for a day of retribution. The initiative and referendum is also meeting with every kind of obstacle. These are measures that give to the people their inalienable rights. The will of the people may be forestalled for a time, but the world moves, and a day is coming when both sexes will vote their wills in public affairs.

Away back in Ohio, in the long, long ago, our old school director, when interrogated concerning the schools, replied, "must be going well, don't hear much." So in Falls City, the work in our schools must be going along with little friction and general acceptability for people are very quiet about the affairs of the schools. It might however, not be out of place to note that there is danger in this attitude. Would it not be better if we all heard more, talked more and more generally interested ourselves in the welfare of our school? The Supt. and teachers plod on their way. Does it ever occur to us to give them a word of encouragement. We may not complain but it can scarcely be said that we have done our whole duty by our schools, when

we can say that we have said nothing.

The governor of Kansas has signed the resolution passed by the legislature of Kansas last week, which provides for the submission of a constitutional amendment to the voters of Kansas granting Equal Suffrage rights to women. The amendment will be voted on at the fall election. It remains to be seen whether Kansas will prove true to her traditional name for gallantry and the "square deal." There is a deep seated prejudice in the average man against granting this great privilege and right to his wife. He may not be able to give a reason, why, but it is true all the same. He is afraid, that given the power women will usurp some of the prerogatives now securely enjoyed by men exclusively. That it is mean and selfish on the part of men, no one can dispute.

There is a sincere desire on the part of the majority of the citizens of Falls City, at this time to do the advantageous thing. Unfortunately for the town and the interests of the town there is too little agreement upon the policy to be pursued. What is needed is the weeding out of minor details and personal issues. Falls City has suffered too long because of being manipulated for individual ends. At this time every citizen should sink his own advantages in the larger interests of the community. The situation challenges the patriotism and loyalty of every citizen. The man who blocks the larger growth of our city at this time because it is to his advantage to do so, should be disowned by the citizens. We are at the parting of the ways. Old things are passing rapidly, and the new Falls City is emerging. May it be so directed and administered as to become strong and permanent.

A New York theatrical manager of note says that no more plays with gentlemen and ladies—real gentlemen and real ladies—can be staged in this country because no actor can be found who can play the parts with anything like success. The younger generation of actors, as in the case with other folks here and yonder, are utterly incapable of understanding the emotions of the well-bred and are as a consequence unable to portray gentility in action. A rather stinging commentary on the times, but in a measure true. The decay of good breeding is marked even to those among us whom observation has been confined to the last twenty years. There is much affectation and piles of unsustainable pretence in the matter, but when the test becomes acute the real quality is always found lacking. Take the callowest sort of stripling nowadays and you will find him playing at the "primal male." If he isn't as big as a splinter and hasn't fuzz enough on his face to hold a father, he is thoroughly imbued with the "ethics of the dog pit and the prize-ring. That he should sacrifice his own selfish convenience in the performance of any social emenity, that he should do anything in fact he doesn't want to do, never occurs to him. In the ball room, where of old good breeding was the rule, pot-house manners now prevail. As for the girls and young women, the graciousness and cordiality, and the refinement of manner that distinguished the elder generation seem to be wholly lacking. One hesitates to give greetings in passing for fear he may be snubbed. Now and then one encounters an older person of the same kind, and when it comes to children no Jeremaid is equal to the task of lamenting and departure from old standards.—Ex.

TELEPHONE ETIQUETTE

The world has reason to note with delight that about half the advertising of the telephone companies nowadays consists of instruction in telephone etiquette. The managers of telephone systems fully realize that the popularity of the telephone, and thus its greatest use, depends partly on the maintenance of "friendly relations" among its millions of users.

It has always been a rule that patrons must not swear at each other over the phone, a rule that must by this time have added vastly to our national self control. Telephone "central" is proverbially patient and courteous, another result of rigid discipline. Many a rude man has had his head burned into gentleness by the hot coals of her soft answer to his wrath. Incidentally the national voice must surely have by this time lost some of its stridency by the example of mellowness set, under instructions, by the telephone girl. But the rules of telephone etiquette are to go farther. Thus one "ad": "One who is courteous face to face should also be courteous when he bridges distance by means of the telephone wire." "He will not knock at the telephone door and run away, but will hold himself in readiness to speak

as soon as the door is opened."

Self-evident truths and valuable suggestions. Doubtless there are more to follow. In time, perhaps, people will understand that a person who would not think of meeting a stranger on the street with the demand, "what is your name," will also not ring you up by telephone and demand, "who is this." And possibly the person who would not justify you in the street without an apology will not, ere long, call you to the phone by mistake apologizing before he rings off. The telephone has become a tremendous and sometimes even burdensome factor in our lives. Nowhere is genuine courtesy more tested and needed than in its use.—State Journal.

President Taft is greatly elated over his flying trip to Ohio and Illinois last week. He has his heart set upon the Reciprocity Treaty. In it he sees a very promising future for himself and the republican party. To him the rejection of the treaty spells woe to the republican party. He seems fully determined, provided the present republican congress does not pass the bill, to call an extra session after March 4th, which will be democratic and ask this congress to pass on it. Whether the president is wholly in the right or not is one of the big problems bothering many Americans, both legislator and common people. It is also a question in many minds as to why Mr. Taft should develop such an unbounded enthusiasm for this one measure, in view of the fact that he has usually been rather cold towards imparts and measures.

To the good people who have devoted much time to efforts to stamp out the cigarette reports of the tobacco trade journals are bound to be disappointing. According to one of these the number of cigarettes smoked in 1910 exceeded the number smoked in the previous year by nearly two billions. In all, according to this report, the number of cigarettes smoked, or at least sold, last year, amounted to 100 for every inhabitant of the country.

Several states prohibit the sale of cigarettes. At least they have laws to that effect. Nebraska is of that number, though cigarettes are not an unknown sight on these plains. We have been taught that cigars stunt mind and body, and the evidence of this seems conclusive, at least as to the young.

Yet the cigarette trade thrives. One hundred nails in the coffin of

every man, woman and child in the country each year is race suicide with a vengeance.—State Journal.

POSTAL SAVING EXPERIMENT

In the first month of experiment with postal savings the forty-eight offices in which the system is in operation received an average of \$1,200 on deposit. It may be fairly assumed that conditions at these forty-eight depositors are typical of all the rest and, therefore, when the system is extended to the sixty thousand postoffices of the country, at least 70 million dollars will quickly be placed in charge of the postal department for safe keeping and the amount will steadily increase.

The figures appear to furnish ample justification for the adoption of the system, though it involves many large and difficult problems in getting in generally into use.

For example, the Postoffice Department has asked Congress for an appropriation of a million dollars for the extension of the system to all postoffices. That amount seems large, yet it involves an average expenditure of only about \$16 for necessary equipments in each office. The government's gross revenues from the system would be only 1/2 million dollars for the first year of full operation; if as much as 100 million dollars were deposited. The government would pay 2 per cent per annum to depositors and receive 2 1/2 per cent from banks in which the funds would be placed, the difference representing the government's gross profit.

It is evident, therefore, that the system will be a losing venture for the national treasury in its preliminary stages. But after it is widely extended and thoroughly established, the probabilities are that it will become self-supporting and that it will furnish a channel through which the government can disseminate a large amount of its bonds of small denomination among the financial operations of the Nation in times when emergency bond issues are necessary.

The system is destined to be a success and a benefit to the country ultimately, but in its early stages it is certain to be a source of considerable expense to the government and of some disappointment to its friends.

On live stock Canada seems to show lower prices than the United States.

When choice beef steers were selling at \$5.25 to \$5.50 per hundredweight at Toronto, the same class of cattle was quoted at \$6 to \$6.50 at East Buffalo, N. Y., and \$6.50 to \$6.75 in Chicago. Other grades of cattle ran in about the same proportion. Cattle better Winnipeg quoted 35 cents on creamery prints when Chicago quoted 25 to 28 cents on the same grade. Dairy butter at Winnipeg was selling at 24 cents when it was at 20 to 21 cents in Chicago. Cattle of general grades was selling at from 25 to 30 cents locally in Ottawa, east Canada, when the highest quotation in New York city was 27 to 28 cents.

These quotations do not seem to show that there is a great deal of difference between prices in Canada and the United States. One thing must be true, and that is that when the surplus of both countries must be sold abroad there isn't going to be any price difference at home. Only when the United States ran short in any line and Canada had some of that particular commodity to sell, would prices in this country be lowered by Canadian competition.—Nebraska Farmer.

We learn to do by doing. When we were boys, father gave each of us a hoe and told us to hoe. Our first efforts were to a matter of course, very indifferently done, but practice develops skill and in due time we could hoe skillfully. When we ask some friend to write an item for the Tribune we are usually turned down with the remark that, "I can not write." But that is the very reason why you should write. We learn to write by writing. If you can't write now, you will never learn to, younger. Wise people never get too old to learn. The ability to put your ideas, (if you are so fortunate as to have any) into writing, is an accomplishment of which one might be proud. It may be hard for an old dog to learn new tricks but if the dog is worth his keep he learns them, whether difficult or not. We need more people who can contribute original items to the paper. Write, write again, and then write some more.

Mrs. Thomas Taylor is quite sick at this time.

Mrs. Elizabeth Prior and daughter, Mrs. H. Meyers left today for Grand Island for a visit with relatives.

BIG PIANO SALE



LISTEN!!

For the next THIRTY DAYS commencing MONDAY, FEB. 19th, the Zimmerman Music House, will, in connection with the factories they represent, carry on **One of The Biggest Factory Advertising Sales** ever held in this part of the State. Over TWENTY new, fine, upright Pianos and at **Never Heard of Before Prices**, quality considered.

LOOK AT THIS!

Fine :: New :: Up-Right :: Pianos :: At
\$168.00 \$180.00 \$210.00 \$230.00
\$245.00 \$260.00 and up

The same as you ordinarily pay from \$250 to \$400. These Pianos are **MAKES** of factories of over 40 years standing and highly guaranteed. Therefore, you run no risk, as we stand back of every piano sold. Don't overlook this opportunity but investigate it thoroughly by examining the fine quality of these instruments.

Zimmerman Music House
Stone Street : Falls City, Nebraska