

OUR WEEKLY COMMENTS

It costs practically as much to live in Canada as in the United States. We have quite as cheap labor in this country as they have over the line. There never was anything to prevent labor in Canada from coming to this country, provided the opportunities were better here than in Canada. The door to labor has always stood wide open between us and the Dominion. Thousands of American farmers have emigrated to Canada

of late to better their conditions. Whoever argues about the reciprocity treaty as though it meant competition with pauper labor and degraded living conditions either is dishonest or does not know what he is talking about. The real question at issue in the treaty is not one of like or unlike conditions. It is a question of whether we want tariff reform or not. The treaty offers an advance step in tariff reform. To reject it will be to strengthen the position of the stand-pat protectionist. To talk of the treaty as ruinous to the American farmer is foolish to say the least. Farmers are not largely coming from Canada to the United States at present. But we know that the opposite is true just now. And there are good reasons why they are doing so.

Many rich Americans are adopting the very sensible plan of giving away their wealth while they are alive. This is vastly wiser than to wait until after death and have the relatives fight over it and have the bulk go into court fees. Those who have honestly tried the scheme say that it is great. They find more real fun in giving away a million of dollars than they ever experienced in earning it. Unfortunately, the average man by the time he has amassed a fortune, has become so dulled to the sense of humor that it is quite impossible for him to see the point and he plods on to the end piling up his wealth and never realizes the far deeper and greater joy that is to be found in the work of giving. It will seem odd to most people to think that there can be any real fun in giving, but that is simply because they have never really tried it. There are many ways of extracting joy out of this life, of which the average person knows little or nothing. But that does not alter the fact that there is fun of a very high type to be gotten in this way. The proof of the pudding is in the eating. There are other ways of thrift than those usually accepted as such. Try Them.

While the politicians are laying low and the grafters are waiting for the next act, while all is quiet in Falls City why not turn up something new to offer diversion for the fellows who want something to do but who hate honest work. It's quite a while since a real live sensation has been sprung on the people of the town. Why cant some one wake up in the morning with a definite scheme for landing the new union depot before the ground upon which it must be built is so overgrown with weeds again as to make further progress along that line impossible. Or there is that matter of the new clay works. The dredges are slowly approaching. The day of the opening of the big ditch is nearer than when operations were first begun. With the opening of the channel and the control of the flood waters there will be a demand for underdrainage to carry off the excess water from the low places. This will create a big demand for common drain tile. Some enterprising young man can find a good opening here for a big business. If we lack enterprise for undertaking anything so strenuous, why not organize a company for the manufacture of cob pipes. Great quantities of corn cobs go to waste each year in Richardson County because we have no use for them. It is not known that the market is overstocked on cob pipes. That there is good money in the pipe business is vouched for by the recent reports of a number of manufacturers who have grown independently rich at the business. Where are our enterprising spirits?

Out here in the west where we have no big factories, we have little conception of the largeness of the labor problem. In the clothing factories of New York city there are 250,000 hands, who are turned out with about as much ceremony as the gas or electric light are turned out. The cloak makers' industry embraces 2,000 factories, with an average of forty employes in each. These, with their families, constitute an industrial community of some 170,000 people, men women and children, which is comparable to a town of the size of Providence or Indianapolis. It can readily be appreciated, therefore, how serious is the effect upon the city when the greater number of the wage earners upon whom these people are dependent are suddenly deprived of their source of income.

As spring approaches, and the time for open air sports draws near, public amusement concerns are bringing their plans to a close in order to be ready for an early season and to start when the season opens. This is practically true of base ball. The different leagues are rapidly being unmaned and the work of putting the men in the best physical trim possible is in many cases begun. Because of the new law relative to Sunday base ball in Nebraska the situation will be considerably changed for this season.

With the approach of warm weather it is important that attention be given to the clearing away of all waste that tends to decompose and thus taint the atmosphere. A little closer attention to sanitation would do no doubt go a long way towards preventing much of the illness in town. It should not be necessary for the mayor to issue his proclamation nor for the board of health to compel the cleaning up of waste and garbage heaps. A decent regard for the community's welfare should cause any one to do all in his power to prevent sickness and promote the public health.

Our representatives set in the halls of legislation, endeavoring to make men better by law. And its a thankless chore they are delegated to do. It's the very multiplicity of laws that constitutes our greatest menace, today. Laws are of no account unless obeyed. And few people have the grace to obey unless constrained to do so. What we need is fewer laws and more obedience. Fewer legislators devising new laws and more people who respect the sanctity of law and aid in its enforcement. The place to teach law enforcement is in the home and the school. Children properly trained in obedience to the orders of their parents and superiors, will not need an intricate mass of legislation to direct them through life successfully. There was a time when all law was comprehended in the injunction to love God and serve men. The system was admirable, but too simple. It left nothing for the doctor and the lawyer. Men began to improve upon the simple teachings of the Master and today we have laws with a vengeance. Their very number is the despair of those who have occasion to study them. Why not return to the first principles, a child with the law of right and wrong well grounded in his heart will make a law abiding citizen anywhere, while a child grown without moral restraint will be restive in spite of many laws thrown about him for his restraint.

The big dredge boat working on the south fork to the west of Salem is now making good headway. This dredge seems to have been followed by a streak of bad luck or whatever those most concerned may be pleased to call the almost continual hold ups. Now that the machinery has been thoroughly overhauled and apparently an open way is before the dredge the men in charge are making a strenuous effort to make good. As a consequence they have been pushing their way down the valley at a good rate, recently, and if permitted to continue without interruption they will soon reach Salem and make connections with the ditch opened a year ago and which leads down the valley and beyond Falls City.

The two boys who planned to wreck the Burlington flyer near Holt, Mo., Saturday night are a type of irresponsible and morally degenerate youth of whom we are raising altogether too many for the peace and security of society and government. It is almost unbelievable to think that there are boys so utterly void of the commonest feelings, as at least the one was. When asked about his plan he admitted with brutal frankness that he knew that there would be a big wreck. That many people would be killed and that it would be easy to rob those who had been hurt and killed. What must shock every one who stops to consider, is the possibility of boys growing up in our midst with all the advantages usually offered for their instruction and refinement, who still are capable of deliberately planning and carrying out such a diabolical scheme.

A trip through the country will convince any one who is capable of using his eyes to some effect that the prospects for a good wheat crop never were better at this time of the year. There is a fine stand in all the fields. The recent rain has started it growing and it shows up nicely. While there is some risk still from cold and frost, the danger season is well nigh passed. Farmers in South-eastern Nebraska can look forward with confidence to the gathering of a good wheat harvest. This will be peculiarly welcome after flat failure a year ago.

The rebellion in Mexico is gaining in volume and in ferocity. Many American adventurers are taking

part. The fighting is becoming general and our side are establishing outposts every inch of the ground. Direct legislation is the rock upon which Nebraska legislators are found. Nebraska though a western state has a large reactionary element in it. Whether to the damage of the state or not, Nebraska is for the above reason slower to take up with the more advanced legislation than other states.

President Diaz, in order to crush the growing rebellion in Mexico is resorting to the most brutal and barbarous methods. The rebels are not slow to retaliate in kind. As a consequence the struggle is likely, if long drawn out to be one of the roughest and most blood thirsty in recent years. Though our neighbors, the Mexicans are still a semi-barbarous people in many respects, they have not learned the fine art of being kind to the enemy. There will be no quarter given, no prisoners taken. Every soldier will fight to the death.

The mobilization of United States troops on the Mexican boundary may mean the placing of the Springfield armory, temporarily at least, on a war time basis. Should orders of such import be received from Washington, the armory which now ranks as the finest small arms plant in the world, would be able to give a good account of itself from the outset. In the event of actual hostilities, the foes of Uncle Sam would be likely to receive a series of unwelcome surprises in the actual demonstration of the deadly weapons the Springfield armory produce. The improved U. S. army rifle has an effective range of five miles. At a distance of a mile a bullet from this weapon after passing through the bodies of half a dozen soldiers standing in a row would still have sufficient penetrability to bury itself beyond recovery. No smokeless powder is used in this rifle and if Maxim's "silencer" is attached an enemy half a mile distant would be absolutely at sea as to the course of a withering fire. x x x

Clouds will move across every sky—but what of it. Clouds have their mission. They bring the picturesque into life's background; but behind the cloud there must be the sun, else no silver lining. Longfellow says, "The ray of happiness, like those of light, are colorless when unbroken." The practical outcome of this truth should help us every day. The good book says, "The joy of the Lord is your strength," but that does not mean that we are to exercise that joy only on the Sabbath, or in the church, or when talking with those who are pious. It means that cheerfulness should enter into every activity of our lives. This happiness does not always show itself in the witticism or joke, although these, when clean and apt, are seldom out of place. The genial nature, the cheerful personality, is always quickly recognized by man or beast. A cross man cannot make friends with a dog.

Many have not let the sunlight through. The majority of their days are rainy days. Life has become a sort of drudgery. Associates see their faces bearing frowns more often than smiles. Even the small boy who hopelessly says, "cheer up" gets a provoked reply. If this is you ease why not clear the sky. It will strengthen and lengthen life. The old adage, "Be good and you'll be happy," can be reversed and still be equally strong. "Be happy and you'll be good—and one might add, "you'll be good for something." Happiness is the blue sky of a consistent and diligent manhood. The sun is always shining; and, even cannot hinder is light.—Sel.

What To Do —FOR— Sickly Children Letters from Mothers

"I wish I could induce every mother, who has a delicate, sickly child, to try your delicious Cod Liver and Iron Tonic VINOL. It restored our little daughter to health and strength after everything else had failed."—Mrs. C. W. STUMP, Canton, Ohio.

Mrs. F. P. Skonnard, of Minneapolis, Minn., writes, "I want to recommend VINOL to every mother who has a weak or sickly child. My little boy was sickly, pale, and had no appetite for two years. I tried different medicines and doctors without benefit, but thanks to VINOL, he is a well and healthy boy to-day."

C. Allen, of New Bedford, Mass., writes, "My two puny children gained rapidly in flesh and strength in a very short time after taking VINOL."

We positively know VINOL will build up little ones and make them healthy, strong and robust. Try one bottle, and if you are not satisfied, we will return your money.

IT'S THE EVERGLADES' SECRET
One of the strange facts about the Everglades region of Florida is that it is really a decayed mountain top. The crest is formed of massive limestone, usually covered by a mantle of sand. In this formation are numberless pot-holes, which vary in size from a few feet to thousands of acres; also countless lakes of fresh water, springs and frequent subterranean streams and pools.

A few miles north of Cape Sable is an outcrop of limestone which projects to Lake Okechobee. In this outcrop is an extensive shallow basin extending 130 miles north and south and east and west, while the altitude of its rim is twelve feet above mean low tide in Biscayne Bay and a little less above the Gulf of Mexico.

As a result of the weather and flowing water the rim has been worn into fantastic shapes. The depth of the basin varies from one foot at the rim to twelve feet in places, but generally the rock floor is from a depth of one to six feet. And here is the secret of the fertility of the Everglades. Above the entire rock floor rises a layer of muck, formed of an alluvial deposit and of decayed vegetable matter. This deposit varies from a few inches to several feet in thickness. The water covering this deposit come from springs that in turn have their source in the lake.—D. Willey in Cassier's Magazine.

AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION
Now that the legislatures of more than two thirds of the states have declared in favor of a constitutional amendment providing for the election of senators by direct vote, the possibility of procuring such an amendment, in spite of the objections of the Senate, becomes an interesting factor in the situation.

If two-thirds of the states, through their legislatures, formally apply to congress to call a convention for the proposing of constitutional amendments such an application becomes mandatory. The constitution makes no provision as to the election and composition of such a convention, the procedure and other details being, therefore, left to the discretion of congress.

There has never been a constitutional convention to consider amendments—all those acted upon having been submitted by congress—but the original constitutional convention was composed of delegates elected by the respective legislatures by order of congress.

There are also two ways by which constitutional amendments may be ratified—the ratification of three-fourths of the states being necessary. Ratification may be by state legislature or by state conventions called especially for that purpose. The latter method has never been employed.

The senate, in defying the will of the people in the matter of senatorial elections, is inviting resort to the constitutional convention. And if such a convention were called its deliberations would not necessarily be confined to any one proposed amendment. It might be a busy convention, for doubtless a goodly number of amendments would be proposed to it. And whatever the amendments approved by the convention might be, and regardless of their number, congress would be compelled to submit them to the legislatures for approval or rejection.

The sudden orders for the army folks to pack up their belongings and move upon the border of Texas with out delay has a disciplinary value that may be worth its cost. If we are to have an army at all it is well to keep it in perfect trim, and nothing is better for this purpose than to play at the war game exactly as if hostilities were impending. If in the meantime the government can do a good turn for a friendly neighbor, and incidentally protect a hundred millions or so of American investments across the Rio Grande, the demonstration will prove satisfactory all around.

BRIEF TIME FOR STUDY
One of the haunting fears of the opponents of the working initiative and referendum amendment is that the dear people will have so many measures thrust at them on the ballot that they will be swamped and unable to digest everything in the sixty days allowed. It is pertinent to inquire if our legislators digest everything upon which they have to pass, and further to ask if they could digest every measure presented even if they tried. At this session of the Nebraska legislature a total of 1,098 bills have been introduced. Supposing that the legislature adjourns within ninety days after it convened. Take out of this time twelve Sundays, none of our Nebraska solons would think of working on Sundays, and there are left 78 days. Now supposing that each member studies bills two solid hours every day (which they don't). That would be a total of 156 hours of study for

the session, or a total of 9,360 minutes. Divide the number of minutes by the number of bills and you will find that a member who set out to study every bill would have a fraction over eight minutes for each bill. Go away with your objection to the initiative and referendum that it would give us too many measures.—Nebraska Farmer.

In Germany compulsory vaccination at birth and at the age of 12, has stamped out smallpox. In general the disease flourishes in proportion to the neglect of vaccination. In Turkey, for instance, a few hundred miles away from Germany, it is still regarded as one of the great scourges—much as diphtheria was in the United States before the discovery of the antitoxin treatment.

In every community there are a few persons who will regard vaccination with distrust, in spite of the overwhelming weight of medical opinion. Just as there are a few persons who object to antitoxin in diphtheria. But these persons cannot regard it as a hardship if the

community protects the children in public schools by barring from attendance pupils who have not been vaccinated.

The community, of course, has the right to take any measures sanctioned by the best experts of the day, to safeguard the public health.

A company of friends will give a farewell party to Miss Viola Lippold at Wahl's hall tonight.

LaGrippe Coughs
Strain and weaken the system and if not checked may develop into pneumonia. No danger of this when Foley's Honey and Tar is taken promptly. It is a reliable family medicine for all coughs and colds, and acts quickly and effectively in cases of croup. Refuse substitutes. A. G. Wanner.

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