

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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VALENTINE - NEBRASKA.

The best anyone can do is never very bad.

An irresistible impulse is one we yearn to follow.

When a man tells a joke he seldom forgets to laugh.

Tenderness comes high when handed out by a butcher.

It's only a matter of time till the undertaker overtakes us all.

As girls grow older they think less of love and more of money.

If the evil in men is visible it is an easy matter to overlook all the good.

The more mistakes a man makes the easier it is for him to invent excuses.

It sometimes happens that when one man raises the "wind" another collects the "dust."

When an old lady kisses a helpless baby she thinks she is doing something to make the latter glad.

Some of the Boer soldiers who surrendered were 11 years old. They had to give up their pea shooters.

If the Creator ever made a failure it was probably due to an attempt to make a man who could please his neighbors.

How foolish it is to kick when your neighbor calls you a donkey! That would only tend to corroborate the assertion.

There is a lot of unconscious humor concealed in the explanations of baseball managers as to why their clubs fail to make good.

A salary of \$25,000 is rather high for Cuba, but there is no doubt that while the rush of office seekers continues President Palma is earning it.

Every time a fond young woman looks upon her child it almost makes her sick to think of the things that might happen if the poor little one were some day to have a stepmother.

And now it is Joaquin Miller who is worrying over his early poems. He doesn't want to be called the Poet of the Sierras because very few people know how to pronounce it, and then again he isn't at all proud of his Sierra poems. These poets are a queer lot.

The latest thing in medical treatment is "substitution," that is to say, substituting one disease for another. The microbes of one disease are put to work fighting the microbes of another disease. The result is owing to which crowd conquers. As to the patient, he dies if he doesn't get well.

As a matter of achievement the clipping of four hours from the railroad schedule between Chicago and New York is of interest. It is, however, a performance which the person with nerves will be more likely to view from terra firma than out of a car window. The twenty-four-hour trains are plenty fast enough for everybody save the chronic rushers.

Stodious young gentlemen who are in the habit of living up things a bit at the various collegiate institutions throughout the country should consider the excitement-producing device of the Chicago young gentleman who tied a bunch of firecrackers to a dog's tail and turned him into a church filled with worshippers. This is obviously an improvement over the time-honored method of putting a calf in the college chapel or filling the pew cushions with red pepper. There should be progress in these matters as well as along other lines.

In his brief speech on receiving the degree of doctor of laws at Columbia University Bishop Spalding defined the scholar as "a gentleman fitted for the best society who keeps out of it." The bishop's wit generally veils a library of philosophy. What has come to be called the best society is conspicuous for its lack of scholarship. The same "damned iteration" of names is stereotyped at all social functions classified in what Yellow-plush abroad deems "the best." The nominal type of the best society in this country now more for divorce court associations and syndicate speculation than for either erudition or probity. The intercourse characteristic of such society is necessarily redolent of the morally squalid, the financially fleeting and the commercially sensational. The scholar in such society finds himself in a wilderness lacking the aroma and the hues as well as the repose of the woods. The best society for the scholar is often solitude than a crowd. Fortunate is the scholar who can sincerely say "my mind to me a kingdom is" and who finds in a few friends in nature and his library alternated a society without satire.

When a position of prominence in business or in public life falls to an exceptionally youthful man, the incident is commonly noted as showing that this is the day of young men. Yet it should not be forgotten that this is also an age of old men. Examination would probably result in showing that each class is now playing about its usual

part in the work of the world. General Bragg, of Wisconsin, who was recently appointed consul general at Havana, has passed his seventy-fifth birthday. Thus the first occupant of that office under the independent republic will be a man who had made a brilliant war record before President Roosevelt was five years old. George H. Williams of Oregon, who has been nominated for mayor of Portland, was the attorney general of the United States when Mr. Knox, the present attorney general, was a law student, and was a presidential elector before Mr. Knox was born. There is often something touching in the allusions of aged men to the place of seniority which they realize that they have come to occupy. Senator Vest, of Missouri, in discussing a civil war incident in the senate a few weeks ago remarked that he was the only surviving member of the senate of the Confederate states, and added that it would be only a short time before he should join his twenty-five colleagues of that body. Senator Hoar, in a similar vein, exclaimed on the death of Senator Morrill, one of the few older than himself in congressional service: "Henceforth I shall work with my juniors." Freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors, most of us sooner or later become in the college of everyday life, even if its successive gradations are less distinctly marked than in academic halls. And there is work and opportunity in every class. Of wide application is the half-facetious remark of the late William Morris Hunt, who replied when asked at what age a person should undertake the study of art: "Not under four nor over ninety."

The schools and colleges which provide the truest education do all they can to develop that self-respect which springs from scrupulous care and training of the body. The most enlightened cities are doing a similar work for their inhabitants. The recent increase of free public baths is one of the most encouraging signs of the times. The movement is confined to no one city. From New York comes the news of current agitation for eleven new public bath-houses, and for shower baths in ten schoolhouses that lack such accessories of education. In Chicago, Philadelphia and other communities the movement is similarly under way. In Boston the system has perhaps reached its highest development. Thirty-five years ago the first free public bath was introduced. The city now controls thirteen floating bath-houses, six salt water and two river bathing beaches, two swimming pools, two gymnasiums with all-important showers and tubs, and a year-round bath-house of most approved construction. This house is situated in a densely populated region, and during the first of its three years of existence was used by 300,000 persons of both sexes. No one can question the hygienic value of such an establishment, or of the sea beaches and floating houses scattered throughout the city. In one year more than 2,000,000 baths were taken at the public bath-houses by persons of the most of whom, probably, had no other access to bathrooms. The physical advantages which result from this system are great, but the moral and educational value is greater. Each bath-house is a kindergarten of citizenship. The boy and girl, the older immigrant to America, find in it a tangible expression of the city's interest in him and her. The price they must pay for the proffered privileges is conformity to a few simple rules evidently made for the good of all. This is the A B C of citizenship, teachable in every town and city. It is no small thing that in learning it our new citizens may acquire at the same time that which is next to godliness.

Could Not Pass the Examination. A Southern woman speaks with pride of the many years of faithful, loving service rendered by her dusky housekeeper. Not only is "Aunt Caline" valued for her executive ability, but her judgment is so wise in most cases that her mistress has come to depend greatly upon her opinion in certain matters. "Do you think James would be a good man for us to take up into the mountains with us this summer, Aunt Caline?" she asked one day, referring to a handsome young dandy who had been for six weeks in her employ. Aunt Caline folded her arms and assumed her most judicial aspect. "Missy Kate," she said, firmly, "I done watch dat boy ober sense he come hyar, an' I done test him. When I tested him in de case ob de spring bed, I foun' out dat when it come to beddin', dat boy was all take hold an' mighty little raise, Missy Kate, an' dat's a pore sign ob 'character, in my opinions."

As His Child Saw Him. A prominent real estate man in Los Angeles had an experience a few evenings ago that kept him guessing for a little bit as to whether he should feel complimented or otherwise. He was at home with one little daughter while his wife and another of the children were downtown. Darkness was coming on and the little girl was anxiously watching for her mother's return. Her nervousness grew apace, in spite of the father's attempts at reassurance. At length the little one burst into tears, saying: "I just can't help it! I need mamma, and I must have her!" "Do you do this way when your mamma is here and I'm away?" asked the father. "No, of course not," replied the little one. "Cause then there's some grown-up person about de house."—Los Angeles Herald.

California Pigeon Range. There is a pigeon range near Los Angeles which every year sends about 40,000 squabs to the market.

Nebraska Politics.

Excerpts From The Nebraska Independent, Lincoln, Nebraska, Made by Direction of the Populist State Central Committee

1876-1901

A Comparison of These Years With Each Other and With 1874—Have the Railroads Escaped Paying Their Share of Taxes

"Based upon present assessed valuation of all property we will increase the assessed valuation of the railroad property of this state from 26 millions to at least 40 millions of dollars."—Populist state platform, adopted at Grand Island, Neb., June 24, 1902.

In order that there might be no misunderstanding as to the position of the populist party on the question of how much the assessed valuation of the railroads should be raised, this plank states specifically the minimum amount which the fusion state board of equalization will say the railroads of Nebraska are worth for purposes of taxation. The republican plank is really meaningless. It can be construed to suit the wishes of the railroad managers—and it will be if the republican state ticket is elected. Doubtless a slight raise would be made—say a hundred thousand dollars or such matter—but the populist plank declares that the assessment should be raised substantially 50 per cent, or one-half greater than it is today.

Our former comparisons were with the years 1874, 1875, and 1901. As soon as the board of equalization finishes making the levy for 1902, everything will be brought down to the present year.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Grand assessment roll of 1874, consolidated to make but four items, is as follows: 11,000,579.55 acres at \$3.91, \$43,004,800.01; City and village lots, 9,941,809.03; 1,107.69 miles railroad at \$8,081.55, 9,014,706.17; Personal property, 11,183,114.40; Total, \$80,754,044.17. Percentages: Acres 53.3, Lots 12.3, Railroad 13.8, Personal 10.6.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Grand assessment roll for 1876, similarly consolidated, is as follows: 11,625,763.44 acres at \$3.49, \$40,589,284.99; City and village lots, 9,434,420.78; 1,135.47 miles railroad at \$8,081.55, 9,014,706.17; Personal property, 16,026,117.24; Total, \$75,064,529.18. Percentages: Acres 54.1, Lots 12.6, Railroad 12.0, Personal 21.3.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Grand assessment roll of 1901 is as follows: 82,207,201 acres at \$2.47, \$204,675,195.00; City and village lots, 34,188,950.00; 5,706.32 miles railroad at \$4,630.43, 26,422,732.30; Personal property, 33,852,218.19; Total, \$174,439,095.49. Percentages: Acres 45.7, Lots 19.8, Railroad 15.2, Personal 19.3.

Now, let us first see what happened in 1876 as compared to 1874. We find that— Acres increased 625,183.94, or 5.7 per cent.

But the assessed valuation DECREASED \$2,415,515.02, or 5.6 per cent. It is very evident that the assessors were doing their best to crowd down the valuation of lands.

Assessed valuation per acre decreased 42 cents in the two years, or 10.7 per cent. However, in the two years the railroad mileage increased only 7.77 miles (less than eight), or seven-tenths of 1 per cent.

And the state board DECREASED the assessed valuation \$2,168,408.23, or 19.4 per cent. The assessed valuation of each mile of road was decreased \$2,014.34, or slightly less than 29 per cent (19.95 plus to be exact).

Now, it is evident that the railroads got the best of the crowding down process in 1876. Each acre of land was assessed on the average at nearly 11 per cent less than in 1874; but each mile of railroad escaped with a valuation nearly 20 per cent less than in 1874. If the railroad valuation had been decreased exactly in proportion with lands (at 10.7 per cent decline), the railroad assessment of 1876 would have been \$10,056,537.75. It actually was 9,014,706.17.

A tax shirking on..... \$ 1,041,831.58

Suppose, however, we assume that the assessment of 1874 was unjust to the railroads and that the assessment of 1876 was an attempt to correct the injustice—what can we say of the assessment of 1901, made by the present republican board? We find that— Acres increased 21,581,437.56, or 18.9 per cent—in other words, the average nearly tripled in the 25 years. The assessed valuation, however, increased only \$39,085,910.01, or 96.3 per cent—that is, did not quite double in 25 years. The assessed valuation of each acre

The Tax Levy

The state board of equalization has finished its labors in making the state levy against the various counties. The grand assessment roll shows an increase of over five millions, being now above the hundred eighty million mark and approaching the figures in the early sixties. The exact figures for this and last year are: 1901.....\$174,439,095 1902.....180,091,192 Increase.....\$ 5,652,097 Over half of the total increase comes through the increased assessed valuation

while we may rectify wrongs as we go along, the future will demand that we propose an entirely new system of taxation that will make it impossible in the future for wrongs to appear. While we condemn legislatures for their sins of omission and commission, we stamp upon our own brows the sign of dishonor and insincerity when we fail to restore legislation to the people through the initiative and referendum.

While we condemn the executive for the abuse of his authority, we place ourselves under the same condemnation for any executive to have the opportunity to exercise irresponsible power. While we condemn the imperialists for stealing the lands of a helpless people, we prove our own unworthiness if we fail to restore to the people of our own land the homes and the farms and the highways of which they have been robbed by an iniquitous taxation system and the infamy of our public servants through governmental favoritism.

While we condemn those who fear to trust the people, we exhibit our own hypocrisy if we fail to restore to them the right to make their own laws, adopt their own charters, devise their own systems of taxation and make it possible for them to own and control all public utilities.

Omaha, Neb. L. J. QUINBY.

County Nominations

At the time county conventions were held to elect delegates to the state convention at Grand Island, a number of counties made nominations to fill county and legislative offices. Owing to press of other matters the Independent did not get its list compiled and printed at an earlier date. If any have been missed, we should be glad to receive names of the candidates.

- For County Attorney— Antelope, E. D. Kilbourn, Neligh. Boone, E. G. Magel, Alton. Cherokee, C. H. Holcomb, Broken Bow. Franklin, W. A. Deary, Bloomington. Frontier, J. H. Lincoln, Crofton. Furnas, Charles Anderson, Beaver City. Harlan, Gomer Thomas, Alma. Hitchcock, C. W. Shurtleff, Stratton. Jefferson, W. H. Barnes, Fairbury. Knox, J. H. Berryman, Creighton. Nance, W. L. Rose, Fullerton. Red Willow, Sydney Dodge, McCook. Saunders, J. L. Sundean, Wahoo. Sheridan, C. Patterson, Rushville. Sherman, H. M. Mathew, Loup City. Webster, John Potts, Red Cloud.

- For Representative— Antelope (2), J. D. Hatfield, Neligh. Boone (2), Iver S. Bygland. Custer (5), W. G. Eastman and J. J. Tooley, Broken Bow. Franklin (6), Chas. W. Gishwiler, Wileox. Furnas (4), Jonathan Higgins, Cambridge. Harlan (2), D. A. McCulloch. Jefferson (3), W. F. Bonawitz, Fairbury. Red Willow (6), John Wintjen, Danbury. Saunders (2), C. D. Curryea. Sherman (5), E. H. Kittell, Rockville. Webster (4), L. Peisinger, Blue Hill. To Fill Vacancies— Franklin, Surveyor, Ed. M. Husson. Jefferson, Surveyor, W. W. Watson, Fairbury. Red Willow, Judge, A. C. Teel, Indianola. Sheridan, Judge, B. F. Ray, Rushville. For Commissioner or Supervisor— Boone (3), N. T. Criss, Petersburg. Frontier (2), Jacob Snerer. Furnas (2), J. E. Axtell. Hitchcock (2), J. N. Balding. Jefferson (?), Alex Shepherd, Endicott. Lincoln (3), — McMichael. Red Willow (1), A. Reed, Danbury. Saunders (3), C. T. Johnson. Webster (1), F. H. Gerlach; (5), Jos. Fogel.

The Independent will consider it a favor if the state committeemen for each county will make any needed corrections in this list—either errors in names or initials or omission of post-office—and report same.

Binding Twine.

"While as a general principle we are opposed to the competition of consular labor with free labor, nevertheless, since there is no binding twine manufactured in Nebraska and the binding twine sold in the state is the product of the trust, we, therefore, favor the manufacture of binding twine by the convicts at our state penitentiary—the same to be sold to the farmers of the state at cost of production." The above is an extract from the populist platform which every farmer should bear in mind as he goes to the polls to vote in November next. Every state senator and representative nominated by the fusion forces will be pledged to support the plank and every nominee for a state office is bound by it and has promised to use his influence to bring about the result. The binding twine trust has our farmers in its toils, here is a practical method of relief. This one plank is sufficient reason for any consumer of binding twine to vote the ticket from top to bottom.

We hope that every reader of the Times will discuss this matter with his neighbor. The republican platform offers no relief nor is any to be expected from that quarter.—Times-Independent, Loup City.

Whitelaw Reid's after dinner talk about Anglo-American supremacy in the world's affairs at London was so silly that it disgusted some of the imperialists. county, and attempt equalization by shifting the rate on the school tax alone. This year the board has levied less than 5 mills against a number of the counties. Even at 5 mills on the entire 180 millions, the general fund tax (if every cent should be paid) would be only \$900,000 and that is considerably short of being one-half of the appropriations made by the legislature of 1901 against the general fund. All of which means that the floating debt of the state will go still higher. It is now at the two million mark. Without some intelligent action it will reach \$2,500,000 within the next twelve months.



There are 72,628 miners in Mexico. Michigan postal clerks have organized.

Barbers in Holland receive about \$6 a week. Canadian labor unions are demanding contract foreign labor laws.

It is estimated that 4,475,000 persons are employed in the world's mines. A week's work for women and boys in New Zealand factories is limited to 45 hours.

Textile industries in America employ \$82,978 wage-earners at an average of \$6.17 a week. A union of bed rubbers, polishers and inside marble workers and telephone and switchboard makers has been formed.

Chicago Typographical Union, No. 16, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary by a monster outdoor demonstration at Thornton Park.

Russian and other miners are being employed in English coal mines and an agitation against their employment is being considered.

Adding the 27 labor papers which were launched in the last year, there are now 217 union labor papers published in this country.

New Zealand has purchased one of the largest coal mines in that country. A coal trust was being formed and the government came forward with public ownership as the remedy.

Organizers for the Cigarmakers' Union are making inroads into the territory of the American Tobacco Company, known as the trust, and the agitation is going steadily on. The union never was able to get a foothold with this concern until the present time.

A committee has been chosen to look into the matter of organizing a new party to be supported by organized labor. The idea originated with President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor. Gompers suggests the idea of abandoning the two old parties, but makes no recommendations.

Frank Hawley, of Buffalo, grand master of the Switchmen's Union of North America, advocates the formation of a national labor federation, composed of all the labor organizations of the United States. He is of the opinion that if such an organization were formed it could, if the necessity arose, call for a general strike, which would stop the wheels of commerce and eventually force employers to concede the demands of their employees.

In Cleveland a clause in the latest franchise granted requires that in case of dispute the company shall select two men, the employees two, and the mayor of the city shall act as the fifth member of a board to arbitrate all differences. Another clause provides that the men shall not work more than ten hours in fourteen out of every twenty-four. This rule abolishes the "swing" runs, as the men are assured that they will have at least ten hours to themselves at a stretch every day instead of having two or three turns and not getting more than four or five hours off for rest at one time.

The trustees of the Johns Hopkins University announce that a citizen of Baltimore has given a sum of money to the university to be devoted to a systematic investigation of the history, activities and influence of labor organizations in the United States. The sum of \$500 is given for the immediate purchase by the university library of additional books, journals and reports relating to this subject. The further sum of \$1,000 is made available to meet the expenses incident to carrying on the inquiry for the next academic year. The investigation will be conducted by the economic seminar, under the direction of Dr. J. H. Hollander, associate professor of finance. It will begin in October, 1902, and extend over such period of time as may be warranted by the extent of the inquiry and the definiteness of the results attained.

Why Russia Barred His Book.

Press censorship came under discussion the other day during a lecture of Professor Franklin H. Giddings, who occupies the chair of sociology in Columbia. In dwelling on the attitudes of different governments and the Professor mentioned the oppressive and not altogether intelligible methods employed by Russia, and as an instance he pointed to the fact that his work on sociology is allowed circulation in that country, whereas Mr. Lester F. Ward's book entitled "Dynamic Sociology" is under the ban of the Czar's censors.

Turning to one of his students, who happens to be a Slav and who has enjoyed life under Russian rule, the Professor asked him if he could venture an explanation. "Why, easily," said the young man, "according to the New York Times. 'The title of Mr. Ward's book on its face condemns it in that country. 'Dynamic' is so much like 'dynamite' and 'sociology' like 'socialism' that the average brilliant Russian censor wouldn't have to think twice to know his duty.'"

A Literal Interpretation.

"Why do we say, 'Give us this day our daily bread?'" asked a Sunday school teacher after the lesson. "Because we want it fresh," answered a little girl.—Little Chronicle.

Religion that is kept for Sunday is apt to ferment about the middle of the week.