

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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VALENTINE - NEBRASKA

Never tell your misfortune—nobody likes to have unfortunate friends.

Another thing for which civilization is clamoring is a noiseless match.

The goose that lays the golden eggs generally belongs to somebody else.

When pneumonia went against Russell Sage it was like a roll of butter striking a brick wall.

Still, the \$200,000 needed to discover the north pole will be forthcoming when the right man calls for it.

If professionalism gets into football, the only safe amateur sport left open will be croquet between maiden aunts.

The average man seems to think somebody ought to propose three cheers for him whenever he performs as a gentleman should.

Now that silk is made without worms, let us indulge the fond hope that ere long cheese may be made in the same manner.

One of the professors has found that lightning will not touch water. The thunderbolt should be adopted as the emblem of Kentucky.

The destruction caused by Mont Pelée is not ended. The authors have seized upon the catastrophe and are writing novels about it.

Americans are prone to gush more or less over their distinguished visitors from the old world, but they would draw the line at King Leopold.

Who can doubt that we live in an age of rapid progress when children 10 years old do men's work in Chicago laundries and do it thirteen hours a day?

What the country really needs at present in the way of a game law is one that will restrict the playing of ping-pong to not more than two moons of the twelve.

It never occurs to any one to order out troops against the lawless employer. It is always the lawless employe. This is strange. Maybe it will be changed some day.

A contemporary chronicles the death of a citizen under the heading, "Suicide His Last Act." In this part of the country a farmer often milks the cows after committing the happy dispatch.

A Kentucky woman has had her pastor read to her the sermon he intends to deliver at her funeral. If he is a wise pastor the meal ought to be first-class when he takes dinner with that lady hereafter.

The Army and Navy Register says that there is no officer on the active list of the army who held a commission in the regular army at the outbreak of the Civil War. The last officer commissioned before 1861 was recently retired. The fact shows that the fraternal strife was in a past which already seems distant, but the remoteness of the events is even more clearly indicated by the change of feeling between the parties to the costly struggle. The healing of the mental wounds which the war inflicted has proceeded uninterrupted, and national unity is now not only a theory, but a condition.

An extraordinary plea for clemency was that put forward by a thief arraigned in a New York court, who asked the Judge to suspend sentence because he, the thief, meant to reform, and was about to marry "an estimable lady." The wise man on the bench promptly sent the fellow to the penitentiary for six months, expressing the wish that during that time the young woman should investigate his record and break her engagement. Foolish girls of her type, who marry rascals with the hope of reforming them, are vitally numerous. If the rascals could be locked up for six months, more or less, beforehand, so that the girls could have a fair chance to think things over, there might be fewer unhappy wives.

It is evident that prosperity and enterprise quite as much as carelessness help to swell the Kansas farmer's junk heap. "I have a three-horse riding plow of a kind used extensively eight or ten years ago," writes a Kansas correspondent. "When I took the share to a blacksmith to be sharpened the other day the smith wanted to know what kind of plow that belonged to. It is already so old-fashioned that he had never seen one; and a farmer who happened to be in the shop said, 'Look here, neighbor, you can't afford to fool away your time with that thing. Throw it away and get a modern plow.' The 'runner' wheat drill has displaced the hoe drill and the 'disk' is displacing the 'runner.' The two-horse corn planter is now regarded as old because the 'lister' makes a better crop. The junk heap grows because the farmers have learned the wisdom of keeping up with the times." Evidently what Kansas needs is not a warning against thriftless habits, but congratulations for her enterprise.

It is difficult to work up sympathy for a henpecked man in this country. And when the petticoat government is the result of a matrimonial advertisement, who is there to squeeze out a tear

and be sorry for the man in the case. The particular man in this case has a wooden leg. He advertised for a wife, and stipulated that she also should wear a wooden limb. He also demanded curly locks and swore to love and cherish for the ages. He got a wife. It does seem that almost anything that wears trousers can get a mate. She was a widow with muscles like a prize fighter, and four children, possessing appetites like a hired man's. She also had a disposition that stood out like the barbs on a wire fence. She married the man, and he at once became a human cipher. In a week she had him housebroke and reduced to a state of awe and fear. When she gave an order he said: "Yes, mother," and hurried. One night he picked up a little courage and protested. He spent the rest of the night in the yard. Later he put in his nights in a hollow tree, with a faithful dog, and she held the fort. Later still there will be a divorce and a division of property and a scandal, and all because a man lacked pluck. The thing is a tragedy. It sounds like a joke because men scorn, and women have no respect for males who are, or who can be henpecked. Incidentally, the case calls attention to the fact that the men and women who are worth marrying do not have to advertise.

The geological survey at Washington has done timely service in issuing a report by Henry Gannett upon the work of deforestation in the State of Washington. The report shows that in nineteen counties of that State west of the Cascade range 23,394 square miles were formerly covered with merchantable timber, of which 12 per cent has been cut, 17 per cent has been destroyed by fire, and the remainder is still covered by standing timber. In Mr. Gannett's own words: "In less than a generation nearly one-third of the timber in one of the richest timber regions of this continent has been destroyed, and of that destruction much more than half has been caused by fire." In other words, nearly two years' supply of timber, worth in money about \$43,000,000, has been destroyed by fire. This report was made before the recent terribly destructive fires in Washington, Oregon, Wyoming and Colorado, which have added materially to the average destruction every year. The Department of Agriculture estimates that every year at least \$25,000,000 worth of real property is destroyed, fully ten million acres burned over, and \$75,000,000 worth of young forest growth destroyed. The full extent of this forest destruction in the States named will not be known until the bureau of forestry makes its report, which it will soon do. Enough is known, however, to establish the fact that in one year more damage has been done than can be made good in a century, if it ever can be made good. Such figures as these should make a deep impression upon the public mind, and yet it is doubtful whether the public will give this important matter more than a passing thought. It means not alone the property value destroyed, but the deterioration of the soil, the drying up of springs and water courses, the increased exposure of the farming regions to drought, burning winds, and cyclones. It means a menace to health, and yet, so far as the public is concerned, this destruction will continue without an effort to check it at the beginning or to stay its progress until it reaches villages and towns and begins to destroy personal property. It is only another illustration of wastefulness of the American people and their indifference to the destruction of property—an indifference which also extends to the destruction and in more than one case to the extinction of animal life. The bureau of forestry has done everything it could in the way of securing State legislation, but the penalties are light, the area is too large to be patrolled efficiently, and, worst of all, the bureau is not backed by public sentiment. Of course, there will come a day when this wholesale removal of the forests will be regretted and people will have to suffer for it, but so long as the penalty is not immediate the public will remain indifferent. If the Department of Agriculture can find some way of rousing public sentiment the situation will be more hopeful.

Napoleon.
In a translation of two folk lore tales about Napoleon, one from the French and the other the Russian, George Kenan says that Napoleon is the Russian peasant's name for the Emperor. It is not quite clear why he has adopted it. Possibly the final syllable der has been added because, to the ear of the peasant, Napoleon seems incomplete, as "Alexan" would sound to us without the "der."

The point of view of the two nationalities differs amazingly. The French peasant regards Napoleon as a great leader and conqueror, aided, if not directly sent, by God, to show forth the power and glory of France.

The Russian peasant, more thoughtful by nature, as well as less excitable and combative, admits that the conqueror was sent to earth by God to illustrate the divine nature of sympathy and pity through the cruelty of war. Both are convinced of his supernatural origin. The Frenchman believes that he was led by a guiding star. The Russian argues that he was created by the devil, and that God, having given him a soul, to punish the Russian people for their sins, then made him a man by inspiring him with compassion.

Oil Versus Coal.
The Southern Pacific Railroad has found that four barrels of Texas oil will do the work of a ton of coal. It pays 20 cents a barrel for the oil.

In addition to his age, an old man becomes fearfully lonesome.

Nebraska News

An effort is being made to enforce the Sunday closing law at Crete.

The Western Brick factory burned at Hastings with a loss of \$1,200.

Crete has an entire new system of electric lights.

At Plattsburgh Otto Voghtman was sent to the penitentiary for eighteen months for robbing his father.

Jacob Thomas' sloop at David City was robbed of 800 cigars and a few bottles of wine.

At Elk Creek Conrad Harmon's son was kicked in the face by a horse and badly injured.

At Tecumseh, Dr. J. G. Atterberg, a dentist, suffered a \$1,000 loss by fire.

An Apperson Co. clotheis had \$500 loss; about \$200 damage was done to the McCrosky and Wright building.

Mrs. Joseph Leibold of Nebraska City, was thrown from a buggy and killed.

Congregationalists of Geneva have had an acetylene gas plant put in the basement of their church and now are assured of a good light.

The Methodist society at Monroe has its new church on the foundation and is anticipating being able to occupy it by Christmas.

Mrs. Joseph Biebold of Nebraska City, died from the effects of her injuries, received in a runaway accident.

A house occupied by Harry Hall at Palmyra, and owned by Henry Catrin jr., of Nebraska City, was destroyed by fire.

D. E. Brown of Alliance, a conductor on the Burlington road, was fatally injured in a wreck at Atmore, S. D.

William Gates, Maywood agent for the Beatrice creamery, broke through the ice on Maywood lake and came near drowning.

The Citizens National bank of Tecumseh will soon open and ranch bank at Sterling. A new building will be put up for the branch institution.

I. Krause's general merchandise store was burned at Aurora. Loss \$16,000; insurance \$8,000. The building was owned by M. Kohn and was insured for \$1,700.

The contest for the Schuyler post-office has practically terminated by the announcement of Congressman-Elect J. J. McCarthy that he will endorse D. M. Leodd.

John W. Riffe is getting along in years and does not care to be actively engaged longer in business pursuits. For this reason he has resigned as postmaster of the town of Smartville.

A pension of \$12 per month, with \$26 back pay, has just been granted to Joseph Grothe, the father of a Cumby county boy who was killed in the charge at El Caney, Cuba. Two young men of Cumby county lost their lives in the Cuban war.

The new Methodist Episcopal church at Geneva is nearing completion. It is built of brick and stone with round tower, and will be a handsome edifice when finished. Since cold weather began the congregation is using the Christian church, which it has rented.

The Fremont Sugar Beet Company held a meeting and rented the Tower Smith farm of 480 acres, north-west of the city for a term of years. One-half will be planted to beets each year. This company is composed of a number of Fremont business men.

The report of the secretary of the state shows that during the two years ending November 30, 1902, there was received in fees: For notarial commissions, \$1,335; recording stock brands, \$1,330; filing and recording articles of incorporation, \$46,007.91; transcripts, certificates, labels and trademarks, \$781.99; total, \$50,258.61.

The Epworth assembly, composed of representatives of the various Epworth Leagues of the state, a Methodist organization, has about completed the purchase of a tract of land a few miles south of Omaha as a permanent home. The price is understood to be \$8,000, and a contract has already been made to extend the Traction company's lines to the new park.

Hallie, the 20-year-old daughter of John Rathbun, a merchant of Shelby, had her life hanging by a thread for several hours. She arose to build a fire and was discovered later in a chair, partly dressed, unconscious and her body quite cold. The room was filled with carbonic acid odor and the empty bottle lay on the floor beside her. Her mouth and throat were badly burned with the fluid. It is thought that she mistook the acid for a cough remedy.

DIE IN A FIRETRAP

FOURTEEN GUESTS PERISH IN A CHICAGO HOTEL

WORST IN CITY'S HISTORY

VICTIMS PENNED, WITH LITTLE CHANCE TO ESCAPE

NO CHANCE FOR LIFE

Hostelry Overcrowded, and slight Regard given for Safety—Number burned and Others Suffocated

Chicago, Dec. 5.—Fourteen persons among the scores crowded into Lincoln hotel at 176 Madison street, met death shortly before 6 o'clock Friday morning in a fire which will pass into local history as the most horrible Chicago has ever experienced.

Death came suddenly to a few, but with awful slowness to others, who were penned up in the death trap and suffocated or burned to death. Some died in their rooms, some changed all in jumping and were lost while others were lost in hallways where they had expired with their fingers dug into the cracks to the floor.

All of the bodies were recovered, as the hotel was not destroyed.

The victims were taken to Ralston's morgue, and all day the place was filled with anxious people interested in the death or seeking to assure themselves of the safety of relatives or friends.

The building was a fire trap of the worst kind, according to experts. There were but two exits, a narrow stairway leading down the four floors of the building and an incomplete fire escape in the rear.

The fire started on the second floor, presumably from a lighted cigar dropped on the carpet. Guests occupying upper rooms in the front part of the hostelry, aroused by the screams of a woman, were able to escape down the stairway, and about thirty people reached safety by means of the fire escape. To add to the horror, however, this gave way while others were attempting to escape and three men were dashed to death on the pavement of the alley below.

For the people in the rear there was no escape save by jumping. The stairway was in flames and the fire escape gone. Horror-stricken faces appeared at the windows and cried for help. Firemen cried back to them to wait until nets or mattresses could be brought, and those who did in most cases escaped with slight injuries. But some, crazed with fear, jumped to the pavement and were either killed or badly hurt.

It was an awful scene which met their gaze. The dead or unconscious lying stretched on the floors, and in some cases on their beds. Some had attempted to slip on a garment before making for the street, but they had been overcome, although most of them were in their night clothing.

Every store and hotel in the vicinity was filled with men and women who had escaped with only their night gowns. An investigation will be made. A fire wall around the freight elevator and other precautionary alterations had been ordered some time ago, but the matter had been neglected. Little damage was done to the hotel, but the smoke was so dense that the persons who met their death were overcome and died before assistance could reach them. Many jumped from the fourth story windows or tried to save themselves by climbing down the fire escape in the front of the building, only to lose their grasp on the cold iron bars and to fall to the street.

Ambulances and patrol wagons from all parts of the city were called to the place and the dead and injured were quickly attended to. All but fourteen of the guests at the hotel were out-of-town persons. Most of them came to Chicago to attend the international live stock show.

Up to ten o'clock last night persons were taken in at the hotel and in every room or place where a cot could be erected, it is said, guests were accommodated. At that time a large number of stockmen, with their families, were turned away. The hotel was filled. Shortly after the fire broke out the firemen rushed up the stairway into the place and began the work of rescue. Men, women and children were carried down ladders, fire escapes and smoke filled halls.

Zero Weather in Kansas.

Topeka, Kas., Dec. 5.—Zero weather is reported from a number of localities in northern Kansas but the sudden fall in temperature is believed to have caught but few cattle-men unprepared. In Kiowa county in the southwestern part of the state the supply of coal for general consumption is scant.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 5.—Today was the coldest of the season, nine degrees below zero.

GERMANY STRIKES

BERLIN SAYS THAT VENEZUELA SHOULD COME TO TERMS.

GERMAN CLAIM NOT LARGE

DETAILS OF CUSTOM HOUSE SETTLEMENT UNAGREED.

NOTHING KNOWN OF LOANS

German Claimants are Growing Weary of the Delay—Venezuela's Precarious Position.

Berlin, Dec. 3.—The published statement that Germany's claims against Venezuela amount to 5 million dollars is incorrect. While the German government is not yet ready to publish the details of its demands persons who have seen the papers say the total is about 2 million dollars. President Castro represents to Germany that Venezuela has little credit abroad, that the country is just emerging from a civil war during which planting and industry were partially ruined and that therefore no matter how much Venezuela may desire to satisfy immediately the claims against her it is obviously impossible.

An agreement on the subject must provide for deferred payments. The seizure of the custom houses thereby depriving the government of an important means to administer the country would add to the internal distress and disorder.

While President Castro's proposals are not disclosed there is reason to believe that they include the emission of bonds at a moderately higher rate of interest, with some sort of a guarantee that if the interest of the installments of the principal are defaulted certain Venezuelan customs houses may be taken over by Germany.

Nothing is known here of the plans of Isaac N. Seligman, of New York for floating a Venezuelan loan. He has not approached the government in this matter.

There is no disposition here to proceed with harsh measures toward Venezuela if milder ones will suffice to exact satisfaction, but the German government is fully committed to the intention to obtain ample satisfaction. The claimants are constantly urging the government to press the collection of the amounts due them, not only because of the sums involved, but, it is represented, in view of the fact that the long delay has rendered the position of Germany in Venezuela more and more vexatious. Therefore it is claimed that the government must strike and strike hard.

Homeless Waifs Now Wealthy.

Omaha, Dec. 3.—Three North Platte children abandoned several years ago by their parents on account of poverty, are heirs to a fortune of \$300,000, if the story told the authorities of the county court by a prosperous appearing mine owner of Cripple Creek be true. The waifs are located in separate homes found for them through adoption by the Nebraska Children's Home society. The death of their father, William P. Hager, is the reason they are now wealthy.

The Cripple Creek man, who is in Omaha looking up the children, has kept his name secret, but the facts of the case come from reputable county officers. According to the stranger, William P. Hager came to Cripple Creek a year ago from North Platte and helped him to work an abandoned claim. Several months ago ore was discovered. The mine proved a bonanza after machinery had been purchased and a shaft sunk to a sufficient depth. Hager, however, died from an attack of pneumonia brought on by work out of doors. A memorandum he left referred to the adoption of the children by the Nebraska society at North Platte, March 1, 1901. The father owned a two-fifths interest in the mine, for which \$800,000 has been offered.

The children will have to be found and guardians appointed before the Colorado courts will permit the working of the mine, and that is the reason that the Cripple Creek mine owner is so anxious to find the little ones, whose are Lillie, Hattie and Fannie, aged 6, 4, and 2 years respectively.

Shipping Gold to South America.

New York, Dec. 3.—The sum of \$50,000 in gold will be shipped to South America tomorrow. Several banks are interested in this shipment, which is said to be for account of the Argentine wheat movement. Argentine recently drew on London for gold, but this later purchase is made here because of the lower rate. A telegraphic transfer of \$300,000 in gold to San Francisco was made by the sub-treasury today.



Many women and doctors do not recognize the real symptoms of derangement of the female organs until too late.

"I had terrible pains along my spinal cord for two years and suffered dreadfully. I was given different medicines, wore plasters; none of these things helped me. Reading of the cures that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has brought about, I somehow felt that it was what I needed and bought a bottle to take. How glad I am that I did so; two bottles brought me immense relief, and after using three bottles more I felt new life and blood surging through my veins. It seemed as though there had been a regular house cleaning through my system, that all the sickness and poison had been taken out and new life given me instead. I have advised dozens of my friends to use Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Good health is indispensable to complete happiness, and Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has secured this to me." —Mrs. LAURA L. BRUNN, Crown Point, Indiana, Secretary Ladies Relief Corps. —\$5000 forfeit if original of above letter proving genuineness cannot be produced.

Every sick woman who does not understand her ailment should write Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass. Her advice is free and always helpful.

Ten per cent of English trade union shipbuilders are out of work.

Fruit acids will not stain goods dyed with PUTNAM FADELESS DYES.

Uranium is a metal used in the glass and pottery business and costs \$86 a pound.

If you tire of buckwheat, try Mrs. Austin's famous Buckwheat flour for a change. Made from the great food cereals.

Duststorms annually do an immense amount of damage in Australia.

Mrs. Austin's Buckwheat pleases the whole family, from the baby to grandfather. Makes a healthy, hearty breakfast, satisfies.

It is said that some of the Venetians—those who have never been to the mainland—have never seen a horse in all their lives. A showman once brought one to a fair and called it a monster, and the factory hands paid a quarter to see the marvel.

It was a woman who invented the tack puller, which is now so widely used in this country. The tack puller is simply a large like arrangement by means of which the tack holding a carpet to the floor can be easily and speedily pulled out.

Though there are many goats in Malta they have no regular grazing ground but the heards are driven along the roads and hillsides, where they pick up anything they can find. Near human habitations the tomato can crop is usually large.

A birth, a marriage and a death occurred on the same night, within five hours, in the home of Edward Criswell, at York Springs, Pa. At eight o'clock in the evening a niece was married, at ten o'clock a grandson was born, and about one a. m. Mr. Criswell died.

Oil is being used as fuel on a number of steamers sailing between San Francisco and Honolulu.

"The Proof of the Pudding Lies in the Eating."

The doctors are dumbfounded, the druggists astonished, and the people excited and joyful over the wonderful cure and tremendous sales of the great Remedy, St. Jacobs Oil. Every case of Rheumatism—some of many years' standing—has given way to this powerful remedy. Thousands of certificates like the following can be furnished as to its value:

George Seeger, Publisher of the Chilton, Wis., "Volkswort," used St. Jacobs Oil for "almost unbearable pains in the back, which had completely prostrated him." A few applications cured him entirely.

Mrs. Fred Eberly, Bellaire, O., was for a long time severely troubled with Rheumatism. St. Jacobs Oil instantly relieved and entirely cured her.

Rev. Dr. B. Pick, of Rochester, N. Y., suffered so intensely from Rheumatic pains that he was unable to preach. Several applications from a bottle of St. Jacobs Oil "relieved him."

F. Radder, Cleveland, Ohio, says: "Two applications of St. Jacobs Oil cured me of great and long-continued pain in my foot."

Messrs. C. L. Brundage and Son, Druggists, Muskegon, Mich., write:—"St. Jacobs Oil has a wonderful sale. We sold eight bottles at retail yesterday. This will give you some idea of how well it is liked in this section."

Mr. Louis Hinkel, of East Posten, Kill, N. Y., says:—"I call St. Jacobs Oil the best liniment I ever used. It cured me of Rheumatism and pain in the back."

Herman Ritter, Manchester, N. H., writes:—"I have tried St. Jacobs Oil, and found it excellent. All those who have purchased it, speak of it as 'simply incomparable.'"

Geo. G. Effie, Palestine, Ill., writes:—"I was in bed suffering from a swollen leg. I used St. Jacobs Oil, its effect was wonderful. The following day I attended to my business again."

Dr. Otto Fuhs, Reading, O., writes:—"The sale of St. Jacobs Oil is constantly increasing; it is praised by everybody, and never fails to give entire satisfaction."