

**An Agricultural Surprise.**  
"Eastern visitors to the West are generally prepared for any phenomenal showing in the line of agriculture, stock raising and the like," says a Colorado man, "but once in a while they are taken by surprise. A New Hampshire man who was spending his vacation on a ranch in Colorado went out one morning to inspect a large incubator in which the young chicks were hatching. In one corner of the incubator a neglected peach seed, encouraged by the warmth of the atmosphere had burst, and a tiny sprout several inches long was growing out of it."  
"Suffering Caesar!" exclaimed the New Hampshire man as this caught his eye. "Do you hatch out your peaches in this country?"—Kansas City Independent.

**Only One "BROMO QUININE"**  
That is LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for the signature of E. W. GROVE. Used the World over to Cure a Cold in One Day. 25

**The Villain!**  
"You wish to employ one of our detectives to watch your husband?"  
"I do."  
"May I ask what has aroused your suspicion of him?"  
"He sent me a bunch of violets and a box of candy from town yesterday!"  
—Kansas City Times.

**Large Contract.**  
"What are you going to do now, Colonel?" inquired the intimate friend.  
"I expect to spend the remainder of my days," said the retired statesman, "living down the lies that have been published about me in fourteen political campaigns."

**VOLUMES MIGHT BE WRITTEN**  
Of the Success That Awaits the Farmer in Western Canada.

The story of wheat farming in Western Canada (that portion of Canada lying north of Dakota and Montana) has been frequently told, but it will stand a lot of telling, and still retain its touch of interest. During the year just closed 277,376 persons made their homes in Canada as compared with 215,912 for the year 1906, an increase of 61,464. Those from the United States numbered 56,551.

A writer in industry recently said: "To-day the Dominion of Canada is witnessing a mightier movement of population than ever stimulated a Biblical writer to pen a chapter of Scripture." The same writer says: "From the Rhine and the Rhine river valleys; from the port cities of Germany and the farms of the Fatherland; from the peasant soil of Russia; and out from the grimy Lancashire and over-populated Yorkshire the discontented and ambitious of every clime are seeking to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by the fertile soil and exhilarating climate of the Empire of the North."

Continuing, the same writer says: "While a million human beings throng the shores of the United States every year, the smaller number arriving in Canada come with a more well-defined purpose." The question has been asked, why do these people come to Canada? The available land between the Mississippi and the Pacific has been exhausted, and the farmers within that territory find that their sons have to seek newer climes. Canada offers one hundred and sixty acres of land free to each. This land yields from 20 to 40 bushels of wheat to the acre. In Southern Alberta, the winter wheat belt of Canada, as high as 60 bushels per acre have been harvested. Less yields than the one mentioned have netted the farmer as much as \$25 per acre. There are no words that tell the tale so effectively as those of the farmer himself, the man who has ploughed the fields, sowed the grain, and with folded hands rests, while nature, bounteous in that country, in less than three months, placed at his disposal hundreds of acres of ripened grain, now waiting the arrival of the reaper, and therefore we reproduce the following letter. Any agent of the Canadian government, whose advertisement appears elsewhere, will be pleased to give information regarding the district mentioned or any other that may be in mind:

St. Holmes, Esq., Canadian Government Agent, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:—In 1905 I located on a claim about 30 miles from the town of Wadena, on the Canadian Northern Railroad, have lived on my claim most of the time since. I consider this to be one of the best districts in the country for grain growing. In 1906 wheat averaged from 30 to 51 bushels per acre on some of my neighbors' farms, within 4 miles of my claim. Oats go from 75 to 100 bushels. It is also a good country for stock. Where I am there is plenty of fuel. Homesteads nearly all taken, the settlement being largely Germans and Americans, all well-to-do. I left Wadena in February, 1907, returning April 25, and that I missed part of the winter, which the old settlers tell me was one of the worst they ever saw, but there was no suffering, as the people are pretty well fixed, and there are no hardships in that country. At last there has been known to be a winter that sells at from \$10 to \$12, closer to town it is higher.

In the summer we have all sorts of wild fruits very plentiful, and I never saw better vegetables, and game is so plentiful a man need not starve for want of something to eat. Plenty of good water, too. You need not hesitate to recommend this district, but the homesteads are nearly all taken, most of the homesteaders are living right on their claims.

(Signed) FRANK MORRELL.  
Kelvington, Sask.

**FEBRUARY 22.**  
No country's had a hero  
More steadfast, true, and great  
Than Washington; a captain  
To guide the ship of state  
With hand more strong and steady,  
Or eye more true and keen—  
Long live his name, his deathless fame  
Let memory keep green.

In our love we set apart  
His birthday every year,  
With reverence tell the children  
His history so dear;

'Tis for him we bow a knee,  
And bend the willing knee,  
For him we fly our banner  
Upon the land and sea.

So let the honored name survive  
Of our great Washington;  
To our country he was father,  
Yet America's best son.



Of all the holidays in the calendar Washington's birthday is dearest to patriots, for on a bleak 22d of February, in the year 1732, was born the man without whom the American commonwealth would have been impossible, or, at the best, a century delayed. It is even a better day than the Fourth of July, for that is but the celebration of the day when the Liberty Bell announced that independence had been proclaimed. It is easy to say fine things—it is only a little more difficult to think them; but to live them—ah, that is another matter.

**How Washington Looked.**  
George Washington was exceedingly tall, and, when young, quite slender.

**SHADE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON: "HEAVENS, CAN THIS BE MY LITTLE SON SAMUEL?"**



—St. Louis Journal.

Washington was a man who made his ideals into realities. He was the first American—unquestionably the greatest one. No President since has excelled his lofty patriotism. Here is a man greater than kings—a man who declined a crown and who set the finest example in history when he tossed President-elect Adams at a farewell dinner and retired to Mount Vernon, genuinely glad to relapse into private life again.

It is not merely as a conqueror of tyrants that Washington still lives in the hearts of good Americans. In all history there is no character so fine or rare. Those who read facts say that Washington's mental make-up was of the most violent and dangerous passions, all under perfect control. From a youth he was marked, for he came of a masterful mother and had inherited her traits to a degree. No other could have pulled the faltering, bedraggled Continentals through the struggle with the British and their hired mercenaries as did this strapping Virginian, who was, indeed, the Father

of his Country, since he and he alone was its creator.

It is a common thing in these later days to glorify our Revolutionary forebears. Everybody who wore the blue and buff is presumed to have been running over with patriotism and a desire to defend home and country. The patriot farmers have been much sung, but the songs never tell how they went back to their farms after having been "embattled," and proceeded to watch the campaign from afar and criticize its every move. Students of Continental history know how the militia fled at the first fire; how the innkeepers kept their paint brushes ready changing George III. on their signs into George Washington, according to which troops were the nearer. The turncoat farmers were as willing to sell feed and forage to the invading redcoats as to the ragged Continentals—more willing, in fact, since the redcoats were backed with good red gold, while the Continentals had only the depreciated currency of the gasping Republic. Oh, it is great history to read, the splendid fight of the infant Republic against a mother country strong and proud and fighting for prestige, as she is fighting now. But there are pages in it, torn and blood stained, and not so fine—pages where, if you be a good American, your own tears blot the pages that are thick with suffering. These are the chapters that tell of a weak-kneed and divided Congress, full of bickering, full of politicians, as Congresses were in the beginning, are now and evermore shall be—a Congress that halted and stammered and hesitated, that voted confidence but no provisions, and allowed men to pledge their private fortunes for a cause that should have been dearer than their life blood. There are chapters that tell of the schemes and machinations of Washington's enemies—of the men who coveted his place and desired to supersede him. You cannot read dry eyed how he begged for stores for his dying men at Valley Forge, how he walked among them, freezing for lack of houses and blankets, and dashed the tears from his own eyes as he saw the blood tracks over the snow. Such a man was the Father of America.—Cor. San Francisco Chronicle.

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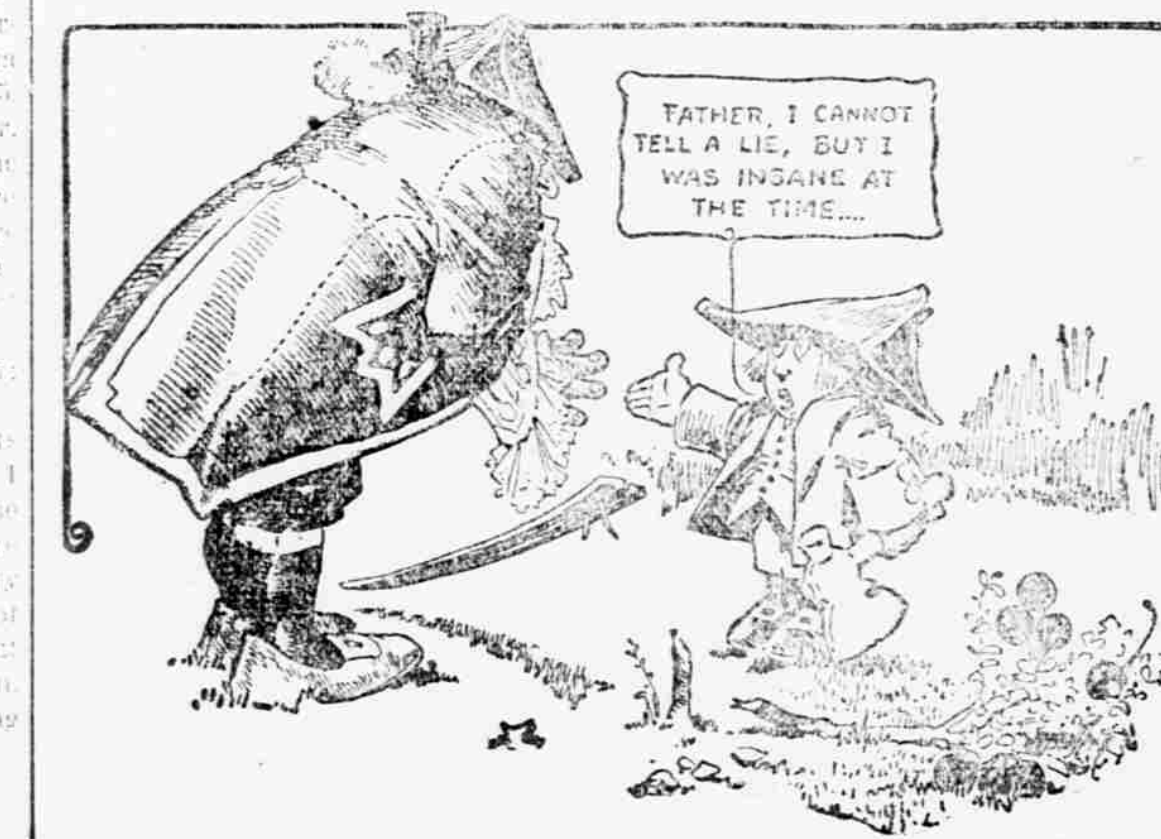
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Married couples in Norway may travel by rail for one fare and a half.

**GEORGE WASHINGTON UP TO THE MINUTE.**



## COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

**CHICAGO.**

Conditions of trade in the Chicago district are summarized in the weekly review issued by R. G. Dun & Co., as follows:

Trade activity felt the check imposed by the severe weather and the marketing of farm products was restricted, but the general conditions toward recovery remain encouraging and a healthier tone appears in the leading branches. Much attention is devoted to the course of distributive dealings in mercantile lines, and thus far the indications are mainly satisfactory.

Good headway is made in reducing both local and country stocks, although clearance sales are yet in evidence.

The markets for wholesale staples show a large attendance of visiting buyers and increasing selections are noted in the textiles, footwear, furniture, clothing and hardware. Road salesmen report more numerous orders and the outlook is better for spring and summer wares, but there is some hesitation due to a feeling that cost may yet go lower.

Agricultural conditions remain exceptionally good, and with a continuance of high values for grain the prospects become brighter for wider consumption of necessities.

Financial affairs reflect gratifying reaction from the depression and more funds seek investment. Money is in greater supply, with the discount rates easier.

Additional resumption in the iron industry and further decrease of idle workers furnish the main developments in the principal lines of production.

Woodworking is more extensive than a month ago, and this imparts a better tone to lumber dealings.

Failures reported in the Chicago district number 32, against 37 last week and 26 a year ago.

**NEW YORK.**

While retail trade in some lines of wearing apparel has been helped by the coldest or stormiest weather of the winter, other branches of trade and industry and transportation have been interfered with sufficiently to make the week as a whole a rather quiet one the country over. Wholesale and jobbing trade has been rather quiet, and while there are signs that improvement along conservative lines is making progress, the caution as regards spring buying is as marked as ever. From the Southwest come reports that some canceled orders are being reinstated. From the South come advices of slow trade and collections, but some lumber mills are reported resuming with stocks reduced by the recent shutdown. Eastern trade reports are of quiet, except where helped by special weather-born demand. Business failures in the United States for the week ending Feb. 6 number 272, against 350 last week, 198 in the like week of 1907, 204 in 1906, 207 in 1905 and 202 in 1904. Canadian failures for this week number 50, as against 44 last week and 18 in this week a year ago.—Bradstreet's Commercial Report.

## THE MARKETS

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime \$4.00 to \$6.15; hogs, prime heavy, \$4.00 to \$4.50; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, 9½c to 10½c; corn, No. 2, 58c to 59c; oats, standard, 50c to 52c; rye, No. 2, 82c to 84c; hay, timothy, \$9.50 to \$15.00; prairie, \$8.00 to \$12.50; butter, choice creamery, 27c to 33c; eggs, fresh, 22c to 26c; potatoes, per bushel, 62c to 73c.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$5.75; hogs, good to choice heavy, \$3.50 to \$4.65; sheep, common to prime, \$3.00 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2, 9½c to 10c; corn, No. 2 white, 54c to 55c; oats, No. 2 white, 51c to 52c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$4.50 to \$6.00; hogs, \$4.00 to \$4.50; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, 98c to \$1.00; corn, No. 2, 55c to 56c; oats, No. 2, 48c to 50c; rye, No. 2, 81c to 82c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$5.50; hogs, \$4.00 to \$4.65; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, 97c to 98c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 50c to 51c; rye, No. 2, 85c to 86c.

Detroit—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$5.25; hogs, \$4.00 to \$4.65; sheep, \$2.50 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, 97c to 98c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 54c to 55c; oats, No. 2 white, 52c to 54c; rye, No. 2, 81c to 83c.

Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2 northern, \$1.06 to \$1.08; corn, No. 3, 51c to 56c; oats, standard, 52c to 53c; rye, No. 1, 81c to 82c; barley, No. 2, 90c to \$1.01; pork, mess, \$13.50.

Buffalo—Cattle, choice shipping steers, \$4.00 to \$6.00; hogs, fair to choice, \$3.50 to \$4.95; sheep, common to good mixed, \$1.00 to \$3.25; lambs, fair to choice, \$5.00 to \$7.75.

New York—Cattle, \$2.00 to \$6.10; hogs, \$3.50 to \$4.50; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.50; wheat, No. 2 red, \$1.00 to \$1.02; corn, No. 2, 62c to 63c; oats, natural white, 50c to 58c; butter, creamery, 28c to 32c; eggs, western, 22c to 27c.

Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 mixed, 94c to 96c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 50c to 57c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 50c to 52c; rye, No. 2, 78c to 80c; clover seed, prime, \$11.40.

**INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS.**

The Merchants and Shippers' warehouse in Buffalo was burned. Loss \$200,000.

The school of commerce of New York university has announced a course in practical advertising.

Fire destroyed every building in Twin Lakes, Minn., the population of over two hundred being made homeless.

"The Toilers" is the name of a club launched in New York at a meeting of eighty of the city's hotel clerks.

**WANTS BIG ARMY.**

**Major General Bell Says Uncle Sam Should Have 250,000 Men.**

A United States army of 250,000 men. That is what Maj. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, chief of staff, says Uncle Sam would need if involved in war with any first-class power. "We should not allow ourselves to nurse a false sense of security," says this man, who is in charge of the United States army, in his annual report, "or continue to entertain the illusion that a brave, but untrained, unorganized people can grapple successfully with another nation better trained and organized."

This is from Gen. Bell's report, in which he asks the government to consider important facts, recommending an increase in the army and the restoration of the canton.

"It is a modest assumption," says Gen. Bell, "to say that the United States will, if involved in war with any first-class power, require the immediate mobilization of 250,000 men, to be speedily followed by as many more, with a possible ultimate additional increase of four times that number."

"One division, 18,000 troops, is, of course, not sufficient to meet any need at a time when isolation has become a thing of the past, and we have points of a possible friction in so many directions. That we can first in any popular outburst raise volunteers in great numbers may be admitted. We



GEN. J. F. BELL.

have the men, the money, etc., but we will not have the time to convert these men into soldiers able to cope with the trained soldiers of other nations. It can be safely relied upon that the remoteness of war largely depends upon preparation to meet it. Unless other great nations are wrong and wasting time and money, they are giving us an object lesson which Americans will some time have to learn by costly and humiliating experience, and which it is the urgent duty of professional soldiers to point out; namely, that time and training are both necessary to convert an untrained volunteer into a soldier, whether for infantry, cavalry, artillery, engineers' or signal corps. The last great war clearly demonstrated that the side which is ready and acts promptly gains a decisive advantage.

"The engineer force as now organized is insufficient for the needs even of proper peace training of the army. During the past two years, on not less than ten or twelve occasions, actual necessities for engineer troops have arisen which could not be met, because of the relative smallness of this branch of the service."



Reports are to the effect that the Wisconsin Central is securing a through route between Chicago and Winnipeg by the way of Duluth.

The management of the Pennsylvania road has issued instructions that wherever possible business shall be transacted by train letters instead of telegraph. The order is in the interest of economy and has resulted in reducing the daily number of messages sent from the Broad street station, Philadelphia, by nearly 2,000.

On New Year's eve culminated a unique movement for industrial temperance when a pledge of total abstinence signed by 25,000 employees of the Northwestern railroad went into effect. It started among the employees after it had been made known that the management was selecting the drinking men for dismissal in reducing the force.

The railroad companies doing business in Missouri have about decided not to contest the State 2-cent fare law, because they are now confident that the reduction of traffic shown by their figures since the law went into effect will satisfy the courts that it is inequitable and confiscatory. A Missouri Pacific official said the receipts had declined 30 per cent in the last ninety days, and a Wabash man said that the combined loss to all the roads in passenger traffic alone was \$5,000,000.

It is estimated by members of the car service committee that between \$700,000, 000 and \$1,000,000,000 worth of equipment is idle in the country and that it is therefore costing the railroads nearly \$4,000,000 a month in interest charges to maintain it in idleness. There are 375,000 freight cars standing idle on sidetracks throughout the country. It is stated that for every thirty freight cars which have become idle an engine has been put in the shops, which would mean that fully 12,000 locomotives are without loads to haul.

## ARMY DISCOURAGED IF PAY IS NOT RAISED

**Officers Deeply Concerned Over Future if Men Are Not Given Adequate Compensation.**

**MORE INFANTRY IS NEEDED.**

**Half-Filled Regiments Result of Low Wages for Work—Enlightening Article by General Carter.**

Washington correspondence.

One could not exaggerate if he would the spirit of actual hopelessness with which the officers of the American army will view the future if Congress fails at the present session to pass the bill granting an increase of pay to the rank and file. At some of the posts there are barely enough soldiers to do guard duty as it ought to be done. It is a present condition with which the army officers are concerned first, and it is a future condition over which they are concerned second. The future condition is the more serious, because it means that if things go on as they have been doing the country and its island possessions will be defenseless.

Men who have worn shoulder knots since the days of the civil war say in all seriousness that unless the people bring pressure to bear upon Congress to provide adequate pay for the soldiers the people will find themselves, as far as the regular army enters into the matter, practically without defense, and reduced almost to the stage of having no seasoned force as a nucleus of efficiency for untrained national guardsmen and green volunteers. Post libraries, recreation rooms, field athletics, comfortable quarters, good food, good clothing, free medical attendance and plunge and shower baths all avail nothing to attract men to a life which would draw them by the thousands if a decent allowance of pay for the service they render in peace, and always have been willing to render in war, were added to the inducements.

Joint encampments of the regulars and the national guardsmen will be held next summer. The regulars enjoy camp as well as garrison service, though the duties are harder. It is the belief of officers of the army that these encampments, into whose military life the national state soldiers enter, would induce enlistments from the national guard by the hundreds if the men knew that their pay would be commensurate with the work they are willing to do for their country.

In a recent number of the North American Review General William H. Carter, commanding the Department of the Lakes, has an enlightening article under the strongly suggestive title, "When Diplomacy Fails." It is written by an officer not given to sounding trumpet alarm notes and who for the worth of his service was made a Brigadier General years before the time when under the ordinary rule of promotion he would have been entitled to wear his star.

Army officials believe that if the establishment were enlarged post life would be far more attractive because of the greater number of soldiers in the garrison. If the proposed advance in pay is passed by Congress the officers also believe that there will be no trouble in keeping the ranks filled, and that re-enlistments will be the rule rather than the exception as they are today.

**MISSOURI BANK ROBBED.**

**Five Bandits Wreck Building and Terrorize Town of Rich Hill.**

Taking \$25,000 after dynamiting and wrecking the building of the Farmers and Manufacturers' Bank in Rich Hill, Mo., five bandits, heavily armed, terrorized citizens early the other morning and after exchanging shots with the sheriff's posse escaped to the rough country south. No one was injured. A terrific explosion caused by the dynamiting of the vault of the bank awakened the town half an hour after midnight and the population hurried to the two-story brick bank in the center of the city. Many arrived in time to see the robbers riding away. Some of the citizens opened fire on the fleeing bandits and the latter returned the fire. Cashier J. W. Jamison said that all the available cash in the bank was taken by the robbers. The building was ruined and several other buildings were damaged by the explosion. The sheriff organized a posse, but the robbers had a good start.

**Against Lone Women Diners.**

A jury has decided that Mrs. Harriet Stanton Blatch cannot compel the Hoffman House of New York to serve meals to her after 6 in the evening, when she is unaccompanied by a man. Mrs. Blatch at once appealed the case, and she will be supported in carrying the matter to the highest court by the Consumers' League and the Federation of Women's Clubs. A bill to prevent the discrimination against women by hotels in this way has been introduced in the legislature.