

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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TERMS:

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1908.

Tuesday evening, Dec. 8, Mrs. Boyer and Miss Jordan gave a six o'clock dinner in honor of Miss Kortz—the bride to be.

The guests present were the Misses Driscoll, Gordon, Nelson, Collette, Sherman, Hoenig and Tennant. Miss McKechee and Miss Cyphers were unable to attend because of illness.

An hour and a half was pleasantly passed in the enjoyment of a most elaborate and beautifully served four-course dinner. At each place was an artistic little guest book, carrying out the color scheme of Red and white. The table was tastefully decorated in hearts and arrows. On the backs of the arrows were found subjects for toasts to the guest of honor. For a moment the weighty subjects created consternation. However, the toasts given were original and exceedingly interesting.

Miss Nelson responded to "Looking Backward" in a pretty tribute to the memories of friendships.

Miss Hoenig in her response to "The Ideal Wife" said she could best describe her by "pronouncing the name, Miss Kortz."

"The Ideal Husband" was described by Miss Sherman in a eulogy of the coming groom.

Miss Tennant gave "A Receipt for Happiness in a Cottage Built for Two."

"In How to Hold the Heart of the Husband," Miss Gordon advocated the theory that it can be done by "keeping him always guessing as to how much you really care for him."

In Miss Collette's response to "How to Keep His House in Order," she said:

Alack! alas! his house in order
Kept her busy, busy, busy;
Kept her hurried,
Kept her worried;
Made her flutter, mutter, sputter,
Keeping all his house in order.

Miss Driscoll responded to the toast "Looking Forward."

The guests were asked to search for bags of rice, which, upon being opened, were found to contain small souvenirs indicating the occupation of the future husband of the finder. Without a doubt the fates guided the search, for Miss Kortz was directed towards the sack containing the rancher's spur.

The delightful evening was brought to a close by Miss Jordan reading Riley's "My Bride to Be."

From Holt Co. Independent:

John Donovan of the Madison Star-Mail has been appointed deputy Oil inspector for his district. Brother Donovan has been, and is, one of the strong party workers and is entitled to any good thing that may come his way, and we hope the good things may come thick and fast.

The republican president-elect, in looking for men to help him carry out the Roosevelt reforms during his administration, has selected J. Pierpont Morgan's son-in-law, Herbert L. Satterlee, to be his assistant Secretary of Navy. This ought to be convincing that the republican party is fighting the trusts and combines!

Dr. Meham, osteopath, has moved into his new office rooms over the Red Front store. Telephone No. 155.

L. L. Stoner has recently been nominated on the democratic ticket for the office of county treasurer of Morrill county, Neb. A special election will be held December 22, to fill a vacancy in that important office. Mr. Stoner was for many years a resident of Cherry county and is remembered kindly by a host of friends here who heartily wish him success. He is a brother of Miss Lillian Stoner, for many years county superintendent of Cherry county and now matron at the state normal at Peru. Late lived for a number of years on the Jake Martin farm north of Valentine and for a time assisted G. P. Crabb in the county treasurer's office. He is honest, capable and in every way a reliable man for the office to which he aspires, and THE DEMOCRAT joins with many citizens of this county in wishing him success.

Rev. Wm. Williams, the minister of the German Settlement, had the misfortune to let his team get away while closing a gate on the way into town. It was a young black team that he had recently bought from Henry Porath and they didn't seem to understand that it took some time to close a wire gate when it is cold and started off without their driver, ran into a telephone wire which probably broke a bow in the top of the buggy and broke the seat loose from the box and otherwise battered the top. The buggy didn't upset and there was little damage, considering the long run. The team came into town all right and probably much faster than they would have been driven, but were not going fast when stopped at the Club Feed Stable. Louie, Buck recognized the team as one that Henry Porath had owned and people westward were notified. John Porath came in response to the Rev. Williams' call by telephone that he was afoot and took him in and they came to town together, after hunting several hours in the hills for the team which they supposed had got lost, as the falling snow covered up the tracks and trail and they were unable to follow them.

Stock Food Swindle.

Exeter Enterprise: A lot of farmers in the neighborhood of Exeter, who are too poor to take a local newspaper, or too dishonest to pay for one, got beautifully taken in by a stock food swindle very recently. This is the way it is worked: The agent approaches Mr. Pumpkin Husker with this proposition: "Can I leave you 100 pounds of my valuable stock food free?" Sure, says the non-news-reader, who is always on the lookout for something free. Of course he is willing to sign a little agreement. And if the little agreement turns up in the shape of a promissory note, due at a Hebron bank, why should an ex-county clerk of Fillmore county kick himself? And while nobody may perhaps sympathize with the victims of this particular swindle, it is a good object lesson to honest people to be careful in the matter of signing papers for strangers.

Street Auction.

A market sale will be held at Valentine Saturday, Dec. 12th, at one o'clock p. m. Household furniture, farming implements, etc., will be sold. Anyone desiring to place anything on sale at this time list property with Wm. Haley, jr. T. W. CRAMER, Auctioneer.

Supper.

The Presbyterian ladies will serve you next Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Bethel hall. Booth opened at 2:30 p. m. Supper at 5 o'clock. Usual price, 35 cents.

M E N U

Chicken Pie	Baked Beans
Mashed Potatoes	Celery
Celery	Pickles
Cranberry Jelly	Cabbage Salad
Ice Cream	Sherbet
Cake	Tea
Coffee	

Reward.

Strayed from my pasture Aug 27 1908, on soldier creek, 8 miles N. W. of Rosebud, two Buckskin geldings with black stripes on backs, black main and tails weight 800 to 900 lbs each; one branded box R on left shoulder also a brand on left neck under main other branded O M on right hip. Notify owner. 47 2 Snow Fly. Rosebud South Dakota.

MORE MAIL-ORDER BUSINESS.

Every local merchant in Nebraska has felt the unfair competition of the eastern mail-order house. There is a state association of merchants, the object of which is to make sentiment antagonizing the mail-order business. The local merchant contends that it is unjust to him, a local taxpayer, to permit a company paying no taxes in the state to ship into a Nebraska community merchandise at prices less than the local merchant can afford to sell for, because of the insurance, tax and rental rates he is compelled to pay for the privilege of doing business. He is casting about for some means by which the mail-order business may be stamped out.

In this connection, it is interesting to cite one phase of the situation in Butler county, brought about by some of the towns whose people voted not to issue liquor licenses. A David City banker writes that immediately upon the adoption of the dry policy, there sprang up an active mail-order business in wet goods. The same is true of Beatrice. All such money, of course, leaves the county, and while as much liquor as formerly may be consumed, the volume of local money is depleted.

It is said on good authority that every Saturday night trains from Kansas City to Topeka carry mail-order original packages of wet goods for the individual consumer at Topeka.

A well known citizen of Cook, Neb., writes of the mail-order business in wet goods as applied to that town, as follows: "In one month there has been shipped into Cook seven and one-half barrels of wine and whisky and twenty barrels and five cases of beer."

The Chamber of Commerce of Savannah, Ga., has issued a circular stating that the new prohibition law of that state has created an immense mail-order traffic in liquor amounting to something like \$200,000 a month, which is leaving the state, and in return for which liquor is received for local consumption.

During the days when the policy of prohibition was sought to be enforced in Iowa, the mail-order business from Omaha houses into the various towns of western Iowa was enormous; the money, of course, leaving the local communities of Iowa to enhance the profits of Omaha dealers. The enactment of the Mule Tax law in 1894 put a stop to most of the traffic.

These instances are few compared with the large number within the knowledge of the people of Nebraska towns which have gone dry. The federal supreme court has, in three notable cases, decided that no valid law could be passed to prevent a citizen of one state ordering liquor shipped from another state for his own use; therefore the original package mail-order traffic in wet goods is strictly legitimate from a legal point of view, or at any rate, the right can not be abridged by law.

It is a question for local merchants and taxpayers to decide for themselves whether or not they shall favor a local policy which would be certain to build up an immense mail-order business, thus creating a constant drain upon the money of any town adopting that policy.

THE SNYDER BANNER.

Manager Gus H. Weber of the Snyder Banner, discussing the mail-order liquor trade, says: "With prohibition every taxpayer will have to cough up more money proportionally—but the 'jug houses' do business just the same—depriving the towns of their annual income of license, and at the same time increase the mail-order trade which has become a heavy drain on local merchants all over the country. We do not believe that people could

not exist without liquor, but while we are positive that some so-called prohibitionists insist on its use we are going to stand for license, to which the community is more entitled than those jug houses ever dared to be.

To give a plain illustration of how liquor trade is going abroad we wish to relate the following story which recently came to light: A well known citizen in a country town called at the depot asking the agent if "his books had come." The agent replied that no books were received at the time. Later the same party inquired by telephone about the expected merchandise, when the agent replied, "Yes, your package is here, but there are no books; it is billed as liquor." Seeing that he was caught in a trap our citizen refused to accept the package. It is not necessary to state that that man will vote for county option, but he must have the booze."

CLAY CENTER SUN.

The editor of the Clay Center Sun makes the following significant comment:

"It has been said in our hearing many times that the business of Hastings has fallen off greatly since the saloons were closed. The extent of that decline, as reported in some instances—once-half—did not to us seem possible, but that there has been a heavy decline we are forced to believe. What follows such a decline in business? Discharge of help. We cannot guess how many worthy ladies and gentlemen are thrown out of employment.—Does one hundred overstate it? We guess not. Half of these will miss their salaries, though perhaps small, exceedingly, and as much as the ladies might abhor saloons wouldn't they feel that the presence of the saloon, so far as they are concerned, where the evil effects are not seen in their families, can more easily be endured than the want of the weekly stipend that they receive when business is better and their services are needed in the stores? We learn recollection, whenever it has come to a downright contest between the "puritans" and their more broad-minded fellow men, it has generally been the self-righteous that have done the emigrating.

Better "let well enough alone." It is my firm belief that the present agitation has been started by self-seeking politicians only to distract the attention of the people from far more serious evils.

It is universally conceded that commercial exigencies and educational influences are steadily advancing the temperance cause. Let these good influences continue, but from an acrid "We won't" with its personal recriminatory campaign of "You will!" and insinuations and long-enduring animosities, Good Lord deliver us.

One who has been through the "crusade" of the early seventies and the hard-fought campaign of 1899 ought to have formed decided opinions about the futility of well-meant but impractical legislation.—Respectfully, John Knight, Editor and Publisher.

GENEVA GAZETTE.

Syracuse, Nebraska, went dry and the town board had to cut expenses to meet the pocketbook they were to carry for the year so they cut out the street lighting service, reduced the salary of the treasurer, did away with the office of attorney and made the water and light commissioner act as town clerk.

The prohibitory law in Georgia, which went into effect the first of January, stopped the manufacture and open sale of liquor. The secretary of the Commercial club at Savannah says that the club has sent agents over the state to ascertain the effect of the law upon the business of Georgia. He writes that insofar as an estimate can be made at this time, he finds that merchants are losing hundreds of thousands of dollars of trade a month, which is going to outside dealers of liquor who are shipping liquor into Georgia in original packages. The commercial clubs of Georgia have combined to see what can be done to keep such money in the state. They hold that there is just as much liquor being consumed as ever.

Be it remembered that local option as defined by the Slocumb liquor law affords the fullest measure of home rule. It is a vital quality of the law. Destructive it, and the whole structure must fall. So-called county option, as defined by the Anti-Saloon league, is intended to destroy this element of home rule by putting the power in the hands of rural voters to dictate to the taxpayers of villages and towns as to what they shall or shall not do.

Pretended county option means that the limits of villages and towns shall be ignored, when the people of a whole county may be permitted to vote to prevent the issuing of liquor licenses. With such a law as that in effect, the home rule of villages and towns would be destroyed, and their policy with respect to the control of the liquor traffic would be dictated by the farmers of the county, who pay no taxes in the towns.

The secretary of the Fort Scott Commercial club says that owing to the blight of prohibition in Kansas, immigration into that state during the last twenty-four years has been less numerically than the birth rate. He says the policy has put a check upon the material progress of the state as compared with other states, whereas Kansas is naturally one of the most productive states in the union.

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