

VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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Subscribers Attention!

It is necessary for us to call the attention of our subscribers who are a year or more in arrears to pay up. We know the amounts are small and to you may seem insignificant but mean a good deal to us.

The postal regulations require us to keep our accounts more closely collected up than formerly and though perhaps illegally so it is better to meet their requirements than to try to buck against the powers that be.

If you can't pay all your account pay half of it or as much as you can spare at this time.

We would be glad to have everyone pay a year in advance but will be satisfied if you pay up to date to meet the requirements of the post office department.

We hope to offend no one in making this announcement and believe you will respond generously. We will mail you receipts as fast as your money is received, showing the date to which you are paid.

We have tried to give you a good paper and tell the news in a readable manner of this section of the country. Our subscription list shows that our efforts have been appreciated and now your several remittances will assist us to do better. We want to show you. We like encouragement.

I. M. RICE.

The Parcels Post Bill.

Do you want it or not?
Who will it benefit and who will it hurt?

This bill has been talked in congress for ten or twelve years but each time it comes up the express companies have managed in some way to strangle it, or get it out of the way. A great deal of noise has been made by a retail dealers association or American League as they are styled and they are sending out tens of mail to merchants asking them to have something done in their communities, petitions signed and sent to congress opposing the Parcels Post. They go into details of what the evils will be and enlarge upon their imaginative ideas until they got one or two stores in Chicago doing the business of the whole country, country towns gone to kersmash, the merchants cut of business and people moved back to the country. They also picture express companies as favoring the bill.

What nonsense!
The bill originally was designed for competition, not as a helpmate for the express companies, which are all fighting it, and have been since it was first introduced.

What will be the effect of the bill?

Simply this:
It will make package shipping easier, and if that will not benefit the whole people, then why?

Another bugaboo.
It's alright for mamma to say Jimmie can't have any candy because it tastes good and he'll eat too much of it and make himself sick. Somebody must act as our mamma in this case and I suppose we'll choose the express companies—nit!

The merchants will profit because they will have occasion to ship 100 packages to a farmer's one under the law.

Yes, sir, frame the law right as it was first intended and we're for it.

This is THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT.

Gordon Wants a Mill.

A flouring mill was so important in earlier days to each community that few settlements were made without a miller in their midst and few settlements thrived until a miller was with them to grind the grain. He was one of them in all the social and religious affairs of the early days, and those were the days of the old fashioned preachers and schools and the village blacksmith.

The miller ground wheat, rye and corn for a share and took his toll from the farmer's grist with honest precision.

How different are conditions of the present time when the miller buys his grain from the farmers at 85 cents per bushel which is less than 1 1/2 cents a pound or \$1.50 per cwt, and sells a 48-pound sack of flour at \$1.40 to \$1.75 per sack, which just about doubles the price in grinding; or half the weight of the wheat is sold in flour at double the cost and the remainder together with the shorts and bran is profit for the miller and the retailer, the latter getting a small profit.

It is no wonder we see these institutions growing from small concerns to mammoth proportions, fostered by the toil of hundreds of farmers who toil from early till late in the fields and find the price low when they have been successful and high when they've nothing to sell.

We do not need to go away from home to find the octopus. If we're looking for leaks in the laboring man's purse we can find it in our own door yard almost, though people have a habit of looking off yonder—distance lends enchantment to the view, in which ever way we choose to concentrate our thoughts and adjust our glasses—when right at home we have the rats gnawing away at the sack of malt.

Regardless of these conditions existing and have been for a number of years, the people are approached with a proposition to contribute a building site, a bonus or a water right to encourage a mill to locate in their midst, which will after being located pay the farmers the city market price for wheat minus the freight rate from the city and if the farmer doesn't like it he can ship his wheat and get no more for it and the miller can ship in a few carloads to supply the mill while he's waiting for Mr. Farmer to come to time and save him the freight both ways on the cost of his wheat.

It is no doubt a blessing to the country to have a flouring mill but no less a blessing to the mill to exist in a country where it can get wheat less the freight to the Chicago market and be enabled to put flour upon the market in Chicago as cheap or less than a miller in Chicago.

While the people may be grateful for a mill, the mill ought also be grateful for its field of opportunity and in return for patronage give support to the institutions that have nurtured its growth and the elements that have made possible its existence.

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT is in favor of lower freight and express rates. Our legislature should cut down the freight rates especially and look into the high express rates with a view to a proper adjustment, though the former is the burden mostly felt. We can all ship by freight when the express rates are too high. Cut down the freight rates first.

We hope the merchants who are worthy of patronage will advertise in THE DEMOCRAT and we believe they will. Our farmer friends should look over the columns of this paper for articles they need for their own benefit and because we should help one another.

Let's have some competition for high express rates. Guess that'll cut 'em down. That'll benefit everybody.

STEHR HELD FOR DEATH OF CHILD

Coroner's Jury Says His Cruelty Killed Little Stepson.

STEPFATHER ON THE STAND

Henry Stehr Tells Coroner's Jury How His Little Boy Happened to Freeze His Feet—Will Be Charged With First Degree Murder.

Norfolk, Neb., Jan. 25.—Murder in the first degree is practically the charge made against Henry Stehr of Norfolk by the verdict of the coroner's jury, which, for two days, has been investigating the death of his three-year-old stepson, Kaurt Stehr, who died Sunday, following amputation of both feet, which had been frozen and allowed to rot with gangrene before a physician was called.

The stepfather, aged twenty-four, hurried to the county jail at Madison as soon as the verdict was made known, County Attorney Nichols declaring he would not leave the man in Norfolk over night. Feeling against Stehr is intense.

The coroner's jury says in its verdict:

"After viewing the body of the child and listening to evidence, we find the child's death was caused by the inhuman treatment and cruelty of the stepfather and the mother. The body of the child was greatly emaciated and badly bruised in various parts, the feet being frozen and rotted, rendering amputation necessary, resulting in tetanus, which was the immediate cause of death. We further find that the inhuman and cruel treatment of the stepfather, Henry Stehr, was done with felonious intent and was the indirect cause of the death of the child."

Stehr Testifies.

Stehr was on the stand a half day, during which, at one time under the gaze of his accusing sister-in-law, he burst into tears. In telling how the child froze his feet, Stehr said it came about like this:

"We had no coal and we used to pick some up in a sack. That night it got very cold and we had no fire in the stove. I did not think it would be so cold. We woke up during the night from the cold. I looked after the children and found that they were both cold. Our own bed was froze stiff on top. I took the small child in bed with us. I found Kaurt's bed was damp and everything was frozen. I put dry covers under him and covered him up. I put covers right over the frozen ones. The next morning when we woke up we found the boy all wet and almost frozen. The room was filled with snow and the walls, doors and windows were frozen. So I think the feet were frozen that night. The smaller baby was not frozen, but very cold."

Stehr admitted that he had punished the child frequently.

"I used a strap with the buckle off," he said. Some of the bruises were made this way. His half-brother on the stand said he had seen Stehr strike the little tot with a pair of ice tongs. Stehr declared that when the child's feet turned black with gangrene he surmised something was wrong and bathed them in hot water every other night till the flesh dropped off, then he had his wife call a doctor.

Stehr admitted that he and his wife sometimes locked the house and left this child with a fourteen-months-old baby there alone. The baby, whose screams when it was locked up alone in the dark house Sunday night induced neighbors to break in the door with an axe, is now cared for by those neighbors. Mrs. Stehr left the child locked in.

PETITION IS WITHDRAWN

John L. Webster Paid Fee in Miles Case Out of Court.

Lincoln, Jan. 25.—John L. Webster has been granted his request, filed in the supreme court, to withdraw without prejudice his petition for an order allowing him attorney's fees in the Miles will case. He asked for \$25,000. The court grants his application for the withdrawal of the request. Webster was attorney for Samuel Miles, who lost in his attempt to establish the validity of the St. Louis will and to break the one made in Nebraska involving an estate worth over \$1,000,000. It is said his fee was paid out of court by Joseph Miles, who got most of the estate.

Pacific Mutual Wins.

Lincoln, Jan. 25.—The Pacific Mutual insurance company of California won a victory in the federal court when Judge Munger sustained the plea of the company and declared that it had a right to do business in Nebraska. Ex-State Auditor Searle barred the California company from Nebraska because local concerns were not admitted in that state on reciprocal terms. The ruling of the insurance department is reversed.

Twelve Anarchists Put to Death.

Tokyo, Jan. 25.—Twelve anarchists, convicted of conspiracy against the throne and the lives of the imperial family, were executed in the prison here. Those put to death included the alleged ringleader, Danjuro Kotoku, and his wife.

Theatre goers of Valentine who desire good, clean performances, are assured of the same in the engagement of The Barrington Stock Co., at the opera house the balance of the week. This company comes well recommended from surrounding towns and they guarantee satisfaction or money refunded. Tonight they offer a three act comedy, entitled "The Morning After," which is said to be a laugh producer from start to finish. Four good specialties. Friday night they offer "The Girl of The Sunny South," a sensational four act comedy, with special scenery and effects. Saturday night they present a dramatization of Marie Corelli's famous novel, "The Vendetta." A special matinee of "Rip Van Winkle" will also be given Saturday afternoon at 2:30.

WHEAT PRICE DECLINE

Liberal Receipts in Northwest a Disagreeable Surprise to Bulls.

Chicago, Jan. 24.—Wheat values gave away in the last hour this afternoon, new buyers becoming discouraged at the absence of any improvement in the milling demand. Furthermore, receipts in the northwest were so large as to form a disagreeable surprise to the bulls. Closing prices showed a net loss of 3/8¢ to 3/4¢. Corn finished a shade to 1/2¢ off, oats unchanged, and hog products 5c lower to 3 1/2¢ higher. Cash prices:

Wheat—May, 88 1/2¢; July, 95 1/2¢; Sept., 93 1/2¢.
Corn—May, 26¢; July, 21 1/2¢; Sept., 24 1/2¢.
Oats—May, 24 1/2¢; July, 21 1/2¢.
Rye—Jan., 22 1/2¢; May, 18 1/2¢.
Lard—Jan., 89 1/2¢; May, 83 1/2¢.
Hogs—Jan., 10 1/2¢; May, 9 1/2¢.
Chicago Cash Prices—No. 2 hard wheat, 57 1/2¢; No. 2 corn, 47 1/4¢; No. 2 oats, 32 1/2¢.

South Omaha Live Stock.

South Omaha, Jan. 24.—Cattle—Receipts, 7,000; steady; beef steers, \$5.10 @ 6.20; cows and heifers, \$3.40 @ 5.30; stockers and feeders, \$4.50 @ 5.90; bulls, \$4.40 @ 5.00; calves, \$3.50 @ 8.25. Hogs—Receipts, 10,500; 5c higher; heavy hogs commanded as much as \$7.50; lights brought the high figures, tops reaching \$7.70 and a considerable proportion of light mixed moving around \$7.65. Sheep—Receipts, 8,500; 15c lower; lambs, \$4.00 @ 5.75; ewes, \$2.75 @ 3.80; yearlings, \$4.00 @ 4.60.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, Jan. 24.—Cattle—Receipts, 4,000; steady; beefs, \$4.75 @ 7.00; western steers, \$4.50 @ 5.80; stockers and feeders, \$3.75 @ 5.70; cows and heifers, \$2.80 @ 6.10; calves, \$7.25 @ 9.25. Hogs—Receipts, 18,000; steady; light, \$7.70 @ 7.95; heavy, \$7.65 @ 7.90; rough, \$7.65 @ 7.75; pigs, \$7.50 @ 8.05; bulk, \$7.75 @ 7.85. Sheep—Receipts, 25,000; weak; natives, \$2.50 @ 4.40; westerns, \$2.70 @ 4.50; yearlings, \$4.50 @ 5.60; lambs, \$4.25 @ 6.20.

House Cleaning

On The Farm Simplified and Lightened By

Old Dutch Cleanser

Housecleaning has no terrors for the housewife who uses this wonderful, all-round Cleanser. It keeps everything in and about the farmhouse in spick and span condition in half the time and with half the labor required by old-fashioned cleansers. This one cleanser

Cleans, Scrubs Scours, Polishes

In the kitchen, dining room, sitting room and bed rooms, and does it quicker and better. The best thing for pots, kettles, pans, floors, in the dairy, etc. No caustic or acids. Hygienic. This ideal cleanser works mechanically—not chemically.



CAPITAL REMOVAL ADVOCATES BUSY

Delegates From Eight Counties Hold Meeting in Omaha.

Omaha, Jan. 25.—Committees from Bloomington and Kearney, and representatives from eight counties of the state were in Omaha, and at a meeting,

which was held at the Rome hotel last night, tried to get Douglas county interested in the movement for the removal of the state capital from Lincoln to either Kearney or Grand Island.

The committee expects soon to establish in Omaha a publicity department, which will give circulation to the full plans of the movement.

On Feb. 10 special trains will be run from all principal points in the state, according to Bernard McNeny of Red Cloud, to Lincoln, when the matter will be taken up with the legislature.

We Have Finished Invoicing

and find we are overstocked on some lines. To close out we will sell

CORN KING MANURE SPREADERS That cost us \$110.00 for \$75.00

We believe that there will be an advance in the price of Lumber and advise our customers to build while it is cheap. A complete line of Posts, Barb Wire and Staples that we are selling exceptionally cheap. You will save money and be assured of getting the best quality by purchasing of us. An examination of our Lumber will convince you that we carry the largest stock of the best grade and at lowest prices.

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Rosebud Stage Line

D. A. WHIPPLE, Propr.

Valentine Headquarters at the Chicago House

Rosebud " " " Rosebud Hotel

Leave Valentine at 8 o'clock every morning, Sundays excepted.

Arrive at Rosebud at 2 o'clock p. m.

Leave Rosebud at 8 o'clock every morning, Sundays excepted.

Arrive at Valentine at 2 o'clock p. m.

Dinner at Britt at 11 o'clock a. m.

Special attention to passengers, baggage and express or packages.

Leave orders at headquarters or at the Red Front store.

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For Whiskey

Go to the

Stock Exchange Saloon

VALENTINE'S PURE LIQUOR CENTER

Walther F. A. Meltendorff, Propr.

Cigars, Tobaccos, Confectionery Hot and Cold Lunches

Short Order Meals. Bakery Goods

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