

The Norfolk News

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A correspondent asks, "How shall I furnish a small veranda to make it look attractive?" Pretty young women are very attractive on a veranda.

Twentieth century entertainments and articles of merchandise are the rage. Something on the Eighteenth century order would probably relieve the monotony and prove just as popular.

Col. Bixby of the State Journal thinks "there is nothing sweeter in this world than a school ma'am, unless it might be two school ma'ams." But if they should happen to be "new" women and insist on a right to assist in running the government—?

Three bills have been introduced in the legislature providing for a punishment for kidnapers, the penalty for the crime ranging from three years imprisonment to a life sentence and if there is injury to the person kidnaped a punishment by death. Nebraska will not be without a law for the offense very much longer.

There are those who would like to see a return to the good old days of the stage coach as a safer means of travel. Such people should be gratified to learn that the proportion of passengers injured then as compared with the present was sixty to one. The "varnished keers" are a pretty safe method of travel considering these figures.

One feature of the establishment of reservoirs and irrigation would undoubtedly be the great aid toward the prevention of droughts in other parts of the country that would be given. No matter where established these reservoirs and irrigation ditches would afford a source of supply to the natural elements that go toward the distribution of water in rain, and other parts of the country than those directly tributary to the reservoirs would be benefited.

A Billion Dollar Country. The United States passed the billion mark in the value of her exports the year McKinley was inaugurated, and when the returns are in for December, will have five hundred millions to add to the billion as the record for 1900. For the eleven months ending November 31, our exports amounted to \$1,308,913,000. We have overtaken and passed the figures of the exports of the United Kingdom by several millions and now surpass every nation on the earth in foreign trade.

The exports of the United Kingdom have not decreased, however, and exceeded for the year last past that of any previous year in her history. So our great strides have been made in the face of the liveliest competition ever experienced. Twenty-five years ago our exports were less than half of those of the British empire. It is a tremendous growth in a quarter of a century.—Nebraska State Journal.

Century Strides. The development of a century in this country and the balance of the world is wonderful. In 1800 there was not a cooking stove in the United States, today the average housekeeper would not know how to get along without one, but they are being gradually supplanted by electricity in the cities. In 1800 the Indian canoe was practically the only floating vessel on the Great Lakes; now there are several thousand steel steamers and their number is constantly increasing. During the century the population of the world has doubled and the population of the United States has been multiplied by 14. During the century the center of population in the United States has moved westward 305 miles. The total value of agricultural products of this country in 1800 was \$100,000,000, in 1900 they are about \$5,000,000,000. In 1780 the first Sunday school was organized, at present there are 110,000 Sunday schools in the United States with 2,500,000 teachers and 9,000,000 pupils. Then it took a month to cross the Atlantic now it is done in a week.

One hundred years ago one-sixth of the people in this country were slaves, today there is not a slave on the American continent. The first practicable steam boat was built in 1802 and the first railway locomotive in 1804. In 1800 there were 903 postoffices in the United States and 1,875 miles of postal routes, in 1899 there were 75,000 postoffices and 497,000 miles of postal routes. In 1816 it cost 25 cents to send a letter 400 miles, today for two cents a letter may go as many thousand miles. In 1800 all surgical operations were performed without anesthetics. These are but a few of the marks of progress during the past century but they furnish a basis for a drift of thought as to what wonders have been accomplished. It is a great and growing age without a doubt. Will the next 100 years show as wonderful progress?

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

THE CAPITAL DURING THE BREATHING SPELL OF CONGRESS.

Getting Ready to Dispose of the Canal and Shipping Bills—England and the Waiting Game—Interesting Information on Shipping Bill.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—So far as national legislation is concerned, the present or immediate population of Washington seems to be utterly indifferent. Everybody seems to have abandoned himself to merrymaking and to the enjoyment of social pastimes. During the week just past no thought of pending measures seems to give any considerable concern to the press of the city, and even the correspondents here of the great dailies of the country turn their thoughts more to personal than to public matters. Washington, in fact, like all other portions of the United States, is given up during the closing days of the year to have a good time and without worrying as to the future of legislation.

The breathing spell, however, is giving those massed on each side of the great measures now pending opportunity to strengthen their lines, to repair their weak spots and to get ready to make onslaughts upon the weak points of the opposite side. This seems to be eminently true of the two great isthmian canal advocates—the advocates of the Panama and the advocates of the Nicaragua routes. The manner in which Great Britain acts upon the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, all seem agreed, will decide the fate of canal legislation during the current session. Quite a few are beginning to believe that the British government will defer action until it is too late for congress to pass any canal-construction bill.

Judging from the amount of space given up to the discussion of the details and the prospects of the shipping bill in the press of the country, it is one of the most prominent subjects in the public mind today. The enemies of the bill have been putting forth the statement that the passage of the measure will be of no assistance to American shipping and will in no way increase the tonnage under the American flag in the foreign trade. The friends of the bill have countered on this assertion by pointing out that no one will be permitted to enjoy a dollar's worth of benefit under the bill until he has actually had built and put into operation in our foreign trade new vessels, constructed in American shipyards. So, they say, if the bill does not increase American shipping it will take nothing from the national treasury.

The rural press of the country seems to be devoting its consideration of the bill to that feature which will be of greatest benefit to agriculturists. The friends of the bill are assisting them in this by saying that unless the new American ships put into existence under the bill are willing to carry our exports cheaper than they are now carried they will not secure the carrying of them and that unless they do carry cargoes outward they receive no compensation under the bill. Senator Frye is being widely quoted as having said in his speech in the senate that, while the bill will take nine millions a year from the treasury, it will effect a reduction in freight rates of fifty millions a year.

The opposition to the shipping bill does not deny that its passage would add to the fierceness of the competition between American and foreign vessels and that ocean freight rates would, probably for years to come, be greatly lowered and the general shipping interests of the entire world be most seriously affected. The friends of the bill admit the truth of this, but they say that the effect will be to force the adoption of economies in construction and in operation that will still yield a profit to the shipowner. It is here that Yankee ingenuity is expected to come to the assistance of prospective American shipowners and place them, with brand new, much more economical ships than foreigners possess, in a position to earn a profit in operation, however fierce the competition of the foreign ships now enjoying 90 per cent of our ocean carrying.

It seems to be generally agreed, so far as this particular measure is concerned, that the president will be the deciding factor as to its passage. If he indicates, in that tactful way which so impresses our national legislators, that he regards the passage of the shipping bill as of vital importance to our national security and our national welfare—as he has been quoted as saying—then, beyond a doubt, the bill will be passed, with such amendments tacked to it as its enemies can succeed in forcing upon its friends to minimize its effects so far as possible.

It is well known that the president discourages in every way, and at all times, the suggestion of an extra session. Certainly the house has made it clear that it will not be due to any delay in that branch of congress that necessity for an extra session will arise. The amount of work performed by the house during the two weeks preceding the holiday recess has rarely, if ever, been equaled by any legislative body. The senate seems indifferent to such an example, and the delay and drag in legislation will be in that branch, as it always is, and most exasperatingly so during the short and therefore limited session. J. B. ACRE.

KITCHENER SENDS THANKS.

Advices Cape Colony to Organize Force of Mounted Men to Assist Him.

Cape Town, Jan. 4.—General Kitchenier has sent a dispatch to General Forester-Walker, in command of the British forces at Cape Town, saying: "I am glad to hear of the ministers' action. Give them all the assistance in your power. Use trains to get these colonists south of the enemy. Ask the premier to inform me if I can help in any way. Inform him that the army are few, but very mobile. Well mounted men are most required to surround them or drive them north."

The action of the ministers of Cape Colony referred to by General Kitchenier is the calling on the loyalists to assist the military by the formation of a paid defense force.

WITHHOLDS REPORT.

President Declines to Grant Senate Request in Cuban Funds Case—Supports Secretary Root.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The president sent a message to the senate declining to transmit the Lawshe report in regard to the irregularities in connection with postal affairs in Cuba. The declination is considered exceptional, and it is possible it will create more or less discussion. The president's message is as follows: To the Senate of the United States: In reply to a resolution of the senate of Dec. 10, 1900, directing the secretary of war to transmit to the senate the report of Abraham L. Lawshe, giving in detail the result of his investigations, made under the direction of the war department, into the receipts and expenditures of Cuban funds, the senate is informed that for the reasons stated in the accompanying communication from the secretary of war, dated Dec. 28, 1900, it is not deemed compatible with the public interest to transmit the report to the senate at this time.

Secretary Root's explanation to the president was couched in the following language: The document referred to is a confidential report of an investigation made under your authority for the purpose of enabling you, through this department, to properly direct the prosecution of certain offenders against the laws of Cuba. The prosecutions are now pending. While they are pending, it is not, in my judgment, compatible with the public interest that the report should be made public. I transmit a copy of the report, together with the resolution, for your action of instruction.

Another cadet who bears a famous name is U. S. Grant III. He is the grandson of the soldier president. He is just finishing his first year in the academy. The story of his appointment is a most interesting one. When the lad celebrated his seventeenth birthday, he went to Washington and called upon President McKinley. Taking a small, neatly folded package from his inside pocket, he handed it to Mr. McKinley, telling him it was a communication which his grandfather had penned 30 years before.

The package was addressed simply to "The President of the United States" and contained a request that if his grandson, Ulysses S. Grant, should ever desire to enter the Military academy at West Point he would like the president to appoint him.

President McKinley was deeply affected at receiving this message and without a moment's delay signed the order that enabled young Grant to enter the academy.

That General Grant remembered the dignity he himself had experienced in getting a cadet appointment was shown by his requesting an unknown president to appoint his grandson, if such a one should ever come into existence, to a cadetship in the national institution.

In manner and bearing there is a vast difference between the two Grants. The first was short, stout, stubby, heavy, but rather sluggish, according to report, in mind and body, "quiet and slow in everything he did," as one of his classmates naively put it.

U. S. Grant III is tall, well built, soldierly and graceful, quick and energetic in his movements, fond of athletic sports and a good, bright student.

The treatment of the third Grant when he fell into the hands of the yearlings was scarcely different from that of his ancestor, except on some occasions when he almost wished he was the first of his line to be a soldier. The yearlings have a way of making the sons of great men feel so miserable that a challenge to a fist fight is really a relief to them. Both Fred Grant and U. S. III have frequently experienced this feeling.

Young Grant occupies the same room which his father, General Fred D. Grant, vacated when he graduated 30 years ago. The room where General U. S. Grant lived during his stay at West Point was in the old north barracks, demolished in 1851.

A classmate of young Grant is Cadet Douglas MacArthur, son of the military governor of the Philippines. He is one of the handsomest cadets in the corps and is just finishing his term as a plebe. He has a high standing in his class and will undoubtedly be given a corporal's chevrons after the coming examinations are finished.

Cadet James M. Hobson bears a name more or less known to fame. He is a brother of the Merrimac hero. He is a classmate of young Sheridan and will also go on a furlough this summer.

As West Point is a democratic institution none of these young men has been

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CHEAP RATE HOMESEEKERS EXCURSION Tickets on sale via the "North-Western Line" To Points on FREMONT, ELKHORN & MISSOURI VALLEY R. R.

NAMESAKES OF FAMOUS FIGHTERS. West Point Has a U. S. Grant, a Phil Sheridan, a MacArthur and a Hobson. BY MARK NORRIS.

C. W. BRAASCH, DEALER IN HARD COAL AND GRAIN. Exclusive agent for the Celebrated Sweetwater Rock Spring Coal the best in the market. TELEPHONE 61.

Among the cadets in Uncle Sam's big military school at West Point, from which another class is soon to be graduated, are several descendants of America's most famous fighters. Among other names on the rolls are those of Philip H. Sheridan, U. S. Grant, James Hobson and Douglas MacArthur. Cadet Sheridan is the son of "Fighting Phil," one of the most dashing cavalry officers of the civil war. Within a fortnight young Sheridan will have finished his second year at the academy and will begin his three months' furlough, which is the only leave of absence allowed a cadet during his four years' course. When he returns in September, he will enter the second class.



CADET PHILIP H. SHERIDAN.

He received his appointment from the president direct. He was born in Illinois and is 23 years old. Sheridan is the picture of his famous father. Short of stature, but with the eye of an eagle, he bids fair to make an elite trooper. His work in the riding hall attracts attention even at this early day.

He is not among the stars, or first five, members of his class, but is far enough from the "goats," or lowest men, to feel perfectly at ease regarding his standing. At the June examination last year his percentage in English was 71, French 29, mathematics 49 and discipline 43. He had 95 demerits for the year, which is rather below the average. Cadet Sheridan is one of the most popular men in his class, especially with the girls.

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POPULAR PUBLICATIONS—POPULAR PRICES

Table listing various publications and their prices, including North American Review, Harper's Magazine, and others.

Railroad and Business Directory.

R. R. TIME TABLE. Fremont, Elkhorn & Mo. Valley. Union Pacific. Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha.

Among the Poultry. "Good morning. How do you do this morning?" said the duck, meeting the hen. "None of your business," replied the hen. "You are no doctor." "Quack!" squawked the duck angrily. "That's what I said," cackled the hen.—Detroit Free Press.