

The Norfolk News

The next holiday will be the first Monday in September, which is Labor day.

An exchange thinks the hats worn by horses are entitled to be called plug hats, whether they are or not.

It is likely that one of the expensive luxuries of next winter will be hot corn bread and sorghum molasses.

The hot weather, though uncomfortable, has been quite healthy, very little serious sickness being reported in Norfolk and vicinity. Stand up for Norfolk and Nebraska.

The people of Sioux City in these days of prosperity and parboiled wheat are experiencing difficulty in getting girls to do the housework at wages ranging from \$3.50 to \$5 per week.

Water consumers are paying the same rates that they did before the waterworks were owned by the city. How much cheaper will electric lights be when the city owns a lighting plant?

A man named Albert Zahrapck drowned in the Missouri river at Omaha Wednesday afternoon. He endeavored to perform the feat of carrying his name from the center of the stream to the shore and failed.

It is reported that the Jim river, in South Dakota, is out of its banks. If it would but overflow in this direction or if some of that surplus water in June could be recovered the people would have cause for rejoicing.

The United States produces but 2.5 per cent of the sugar of the world and yet its people consume 25 per cent of the sugar produced in the world. This gives evidence of large fields for the development of the beet sugar industry.

Whatever may be said of Uncle Sam's lottery at El Reno it cannot be said that he is making anything out of the deal, no charge being made for a chance. It is undoubtedly the fairest method yet conceived, of disposing of government lands.

George Kennan, the author, has been ordered out of Russia because he was considered politically unreliable. American politicians will do well to pass Russia by. They may know that Kennan's fate would await nine out of ten of them.

A writer in the Ladies' Home Journal advises housekeepers to "open all the windows and blinds and let the sun and air pour through the house." She fails to explain how the sun may be obtained and does not prove that it may be poured after it is secured.

Some of the papers have figured it out that the dry and hot weather is a blessing to the country, in which case the christian people should not pray for rain but should implore for a continuance of the drought, and if one is good, one each year should be better.

If a speculator is fortunate enough to discover a Nebraska who is unweary by crop conditions and anxious to dispose of his property cheap it is his time to make a ten strike. This is an exceptional year, the land is good and will grow crops 99 years out of 100.

By proclamation of President McKinley, Porto Rico now enjoys free trade with the United States and is placed under civil government. Perhaps the democrats will now kick about the local taxation to which the people are subjected to carry on their government.

It is estimated that the Colorado river carries sufficient water for the irrigation of 8,000,000 acres. This is but one of the rivers in a large territory which would be benefited by irrigation development and the possibilities of the movement can therefore be scarcely comprehended.

In case the corn crop is a failure the beet tops and beet pulp will be in demand for feed and growers of beets should see to it that they derive every possible advantage from the crop. All kinds of feed, will be valuable and the long-headed farmer will see that nothing which it is possible to feed goes to waste.

Pierre Lorillard was very evidently a foxy old customer and it need not surprise any of the users of his tobaccos to learn that they were composed wholly of cabbage. A man who is capable of fixing up a mock wedding and marrying his mistress to his hired girl, disguised as a man, is quite likely to sell cabbage for tobacco.

In view of the drought with which the country has been afflicted those papers that are devoting space on "how to serve melons" should tell how to procure melons when there are none, or give a treatise on how to successfully overcome that gnawing melon appetite without going bankrupt by purchasing the inferior fruit obtainable.

The Iowa militia boys have at least attained distinction for a prompt obedience of officers. They were tossing a corporal in a blanket and when he was 25 feet in the air an officer ordered them

to stop. They stopped so suddenly that their victim fell to the hard ground, breaking his collar bone and rendering him insensible. The officer, if he knew their prompt obedience, was to blame for not timing his orders better.

It is now announced that Edward will not be crowned king of England in view of the entire population that may congregate, but it will only be witnessed by the peers of the realm, the diplomatic corps and the few who have official reasons for obtaining seats. All those who have been saving their money to go to the coronation, may therefore now blow it in for ice.

Those who are sometimes tempted to wash their feet should be warned not to do so by the example made of the Grand Island man who took a foot bath and died the next day. Many of us have persistently believed that it was a dangerous operation to wash the feet and now are thoroughly convinced. If you must monkey with water, pour it on the parched lawn and garden.

The populists have given up the feat of trying to deny prosperity and have suddenly discovered that the reason for the present prosperous conditions is because the administration has adopted the populist cure for hard times. It would require several years of this hot weather to render the populists incapable of maintaining an issue without admitting error. Their presumption should be embalmed for the entertainment of future generations.

It is figured that an American is equal as a consumer of home and foreign products to 10 other people of the world in general. If this is a correct rating the 77,000,000 people of the United States are equal to 770,000,000 or one-half the rest of the world. Certainly the Americans as a class live better than the people of any other nation on the globe and time is proving that they can afford it. The world's wealth is rapidly centering in the United States.

There is a good profit in chickens, as many farmers are learning. A farmer living near Humphrey is finding this out but he is not the one who is profiting. He gave his daughter two chickens and promised to feed the increase for four years if she would look after them. He says the girl now has \$64 in the bank and 300 chickens which he had to feed last winter and believes that at the end of the four years the girl will own the farm and be charging him rent.

Referring to the communication of "A Voter," as the writer understands the Fremont situation, the waterworks made money for the city before the electric light was established, which was put in largely from the surplus in the water fund, but since the two plants have been run in connection the revenue from both does not meet the expenses. This seems to be about the same situation as is here, and if a new lighting plant is put in, all precedents will be broken if the two combined come anywhere near earning expenses.

The state fair management, through its secretary, Robt. W. Furnas, in extending the compliments of the fair to the publishers of the state, is exhibiting a spirit that will be appreciated by the press. The secretary says: "There are no 'strings' on these tickets. They are good in the hands of any person presenting them to the gate-keepers; good attached or detached, and on any day of the fair." This is quite a different manner of dealing with the press than that frequently practiced by enterprises seeking the aid of the publishers and it is likely that the fair management will have no regret at the results of their generosity.

The department of agriculture wants to add the distribution of trees to that of seeds and it is a plan to be commended, especially in the west. The trees thus distributed would undoubtedly receive more consideration than seeds. Many of the seeds distributed have been inferior and of little value to the recipients, while any kind of tree would be of value to a country needing forest development. There would probably be little complaint if trees were substituted for seeds entirely, as far as the west is concerned. Forests and groves are in more demand than turnips and cabbage, the seed of which is readily obtainable by everyone.

To fuse or not fuse is the question that is agitating the populists and democrats. The result of their decision is of little interest to the republicans. The latter party now consists of more than half of the voters of the state and with fusion of the other two parties its membership will increase, while if they decide to go it alone many who have forsaken the democratic or populist parties on account of fusion will return to their first love and the republican party will win until an opponent strong enough to defeat it develops from one or the other of these parties. The situation is therefore very satisfactory to the republicans and they can afford to view the troubles of the fusionists with complacency.

The Chicago American would show a much more commendable spirit of enterprise if it would "roast" the South Omaha street fair promoters for the bull

fight fakes than to lambast the people for allowing an exhibition, in which it describes men as being tossed in the air by infuriated bulls and the animals being dispatched by the nimble footed Mexicans for the delectation of the governor of the state and his staff. In its reach for the sensational the American has worked over time. Everyone who attended the fair will be willing to testify that for a genuine, simon-pure, unadulterated fake the bull fights, advertised to take place, deserve first place in the procession.—Hooper Sentinel.

The News is not in the habit of answering innuendoes and slurs issued in the form of postal cards and gutter snipes by persons too cowardly to sign their names to their epistles. It has no apologies or explanations to make concerning its course on the bond proposition. It believed that the principle of the city ruining the business of a private enterprise was wrong, hence it opposed the issuance of the bonds. But while it was opposed to the proposition, it threw its columns wide open to the free discussion of the question and printed everything that was offered on both sides, even going to the expense of putting on three extra compositors Saturday to handle the communications that were sent in covering the issue. The votes show that a large majority of the people did not think as did The News. The majority rules. Now that the question is settled, we hope that the city government will meet with abundant success in its new venture, and that there will never be cause for regret at the action taken yesterday.

These long-distance agriculturalists pretend to have an infinite knowledge of crop conditions. A recent editorial in the Chicago Record-Herald asserts that the "scare that is now running the price of corn up to sixty cents in the Chicago exchange is the result of reports from the semi-arid region" and that "the condition of corn in the corn belt is far from a failure." The writer of the article, with superior wisdom concludes that "farmers who are not in the corn belt should not attempt to raise corn." If the Record-Herald insists on placing all localities that will suffer a total or partial failure of the corn crop in the semi-arid region the "corn belt" will suffer a material shrinkage and if all the farmers who will experience such failure will heed the Record-Herald's advice and "not attempt to raise corn" the price is likely to go to a dollar or two a bushel and remain there. The portions of Missouri, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska affected by the drought have added millions of bushels each year to the country's corn product and the production this year will be millions of bushels less than during other years. However, the farmers are not likely to follow the Chicago paper's advice and are not in the least apprehensive but that next year the crop will partially or wholly make up for the loss sustained this year.

The News has given freely of its space today to a discussion of the electric light bond proposition, which is to be decided at a special election to be held Monday. Both sides of the question are represented, as it is the policy of this paper that its columns shall always be open to a fair discussion of public questions. The News believes that the bonds should be defeated, because it is not good business for the city to put in a plant, nor is it fair to the company already operating here to establish a second lighting system. It is not good business, for it has been demonstrated that it will cost more to light the streets through the medium of a municipal plant than it will to accept the proposition of the local company to furnish any required number of lights at \$8 per month each. The city now has a bonded indebtedness of about \$68,000 while the school district is in debt \$40,000 more, which is as much as ought to be carried at any one time. The News believes in the municipal ownership of certain enterprises but when the tax payers of a city are asked to support an enterprise in competition with its leading citizens a sense of fairness puts the question in a different light. Norfolk voters are asked to tax themselves for the purpose of building and maintaining an electric light plant when there is such a plant already in existence, the property of its citizens. These citizens, provided the bonds carried, would be compelled to pay their share toward the construction and maintenance of a competing plant, forced to do so by those who have nothing to lose and little to gain. If the people wish to enter into competition with the lighting company, why not start in the telephone, the newspaper or the meat market business? Or why not open a bank or real estate exchange? With a proposition to buy the existing plant at a reasonable price this objection would be overcome but when the proposition is to establish a new and distinct system it is a long way from fair treatment to those who have their money invested in the present plant. The waterworks plant was purchased after being established by a private company and no citizen has reason to complain that it has become a municipal institution but if the city had started an independent plant, even in competition with a foreign corporation, a sense of fairness would have forbid many tax payers from supporting the movement.

There is no fear of a coal famine—anything will burn.

Puzzle.—Find Adlai Stevenson's name in today's papers.

Automatic farming might be all right if these seemingly automatic drouths could be disabled.

A show has been billed to appear in Norfolk on the 13th, but that is a long time to wait for rain.

The Sioux City Journal thinks "it would be easy enough to provide dogs with shirt waists if there were some way of buttoning them to the pants."

Even Coxe has gone wrong. He is now chief stockholder in one of the big steel plants and his army has been scattered to the four corners of the earth.

The people of Columbia are taking a considerable risk when they insult the German flag. That country not only has great respect for the government ensign but has the ability to force respect from the people of other countries.

The Chicago firm that has invented an auto-mower for farmers should now extend their sympathies to the man with a lawn, and invent a machine that will clip the grass while he sits on the back porch and inhales lemonade through a straw.

A Michigan woman gave her husband arsenic to weaken his arms so he couldn't beat her. The treatment proved successful and may become a popular method of handling husbands whose arms are too strong for the comfort of their wives.

An Ohio man caught a chicken, split it open and applied it to a wound made by a rattlesnake bite. He stands every chance of recovery but his cure is not likely to become popular. There are those who will insist that whisky is the best and only cure.

The Massachusetts young man with an inclination to marry should have no difficulty in choosing a bride. The census statistics are to the effect that the state has 70,000 more females than males. Boston, alone, has 11,000 more females than males.

If farmers and gardeners only had some of that extra gulch water in storage to use at this time they would be benefited in a large extent—and this is the meat of the irrigation question: to store the superfluous water of the spring and utilize that which goes to waste through the creek and river channels. It is a question that should interest every citizen of the west.

The World-Herald thinks when J. Sterling Morton writes about arboriculture he writes very sensibly but when he writes about politics he is senile. Perhaps it is the World-Herald's opinions that are warped. It usually admires another paper that will agree with it on matters of public improvements but cannot stand a difference of opinion on political questions. There are a whole lot of people in Nebraska who consider Mr. Morton sensible all the time.

Why So Many Young Men Fail. "One trouble with many young men who start out in business is they try to do too many things at once," says Hetty Green. "The result is that they don't know as much as they ought to about any one thing, and they naturally fail. The trouble with young men who work on salaries is that they're always afraid of doing more than they're paid for. They don't enter into their work with the right spirit. To get on and be appreciated a young man must do more than he's paid to do. When he does something that his employer has not thought of, he shows that he is valuable. Men are always willing to pay good salaries to people who will think of things for them. The man who only carries out the thoughts and ideas of another is nothing more than a mere tool. Men who can be relied upon are always in demand. The scarcest thing in the world today is a thoroughly reliable man."

The Poisonous Pineapple. "It is a notorious fact," says The National Druggist, "that the pineapple is considered the least healthy of all the edible fruit of the tropics by those who know anything of the matter. The juice of the green and growing plant is credited in Java, the Philippines and throughout the far east generally with being a blood poison of a most deadly nature. It is said to be the substance with which the Malays poison their krishes and jaggers and is also credited with being the 'finger nail poison' formerly in use among aboriginal Javane women almost universally. These women formerly (or some thirty odd years ago, and possibly do yet, cultivated a nail, sometimes more, on each hand, to a long, sharp point, and the least scratch from one of these was certain death."

A Proper Apology. "How many cranks live in this street besides yourself?" "That's an insult, sir!" "Oh, well, I apologize. How many cranks live in this street including yourself?"—Baltimore World.

A Boom. "The undertaker is very jolly this morning." "Yes. Three hundred new doctors were graduated last night."—Harlem Life.

LEARNING A TRADE.

The Danger of Making a Specialist of a Beginner.

It is generally to the interest of an employer that an apprentice should not learn his trade as a whole, but only a little section of it, says Joseph Horner in Cassier's Magazine. It pays better to keep a lad repeating the performance of one section of his craft than to teach him all. More money is made, but the apprentice becomes a young specialist, a prig in his teens, cocksure over some little piece of handicraft at which he may earn something over his normal wages, and many a lad does not become disillusioned until he has to face the world and try his luck in other shops.

And therefore the best shops in which to place a lad are not the big establishments, but the small ones, where every class of work is done and where tools and appliances are often scant. A lad will learn more in these than in those replete with every appliance and minutely subdivided into sections and groups.

The best training for a lad today is that which he can evolve for himself. The greatest evil that can befall him is to become a specialist and nothing more while in his teens. Yet that is what must happen if he spends several years tending machines or doing repetitive, unvarying tasks in one big establishment.

The best training, therefore, today is that gathered by the peripatetic youth. If a lad cannot gain experience in one place, he should move about, gathering as much as he can accumulate with one firm, then on to another, and attending training schools as opportunity offers. His views become broadened, he becomes self-reliant, and in time, having found his true work, he may settle down as a specialist.

DRESS UP FOR SUICIDE.

Said to Be an Invariable Rule With Women Seeking Death.

"If I should ever be called upon to furnish indisputable proof of the inherent pride of woman," said a police sergeant, "I would point at once to her invariable rule of dressing up in her best clothes when she goes out to commit suicide. In my experience on the force I have had occasion to handle a good many suicides and afterward investigate their personal affairs, and in every instance I have found that the poor unfortunates prepared themselves for death by donning their best bib and tucker.

"The majority of the printed reports of suicides say that the clothes of the dead woman were 'good' or 'well made' or 'elegant.' If the woman contemplating suicide owns a silk waist, she wears it. Her broadcloth skirt and silk petticoat naturally go with this garment, and she selects her best shoes.

"I have looked up the history of many of these respectably clad suicides and have found that they owned but one gown with which they could make a decent appearance on the street and that that one good dress was chosen without exception as the appropriate garb in which to make the exit from this world's stage. It makes no difference what manner of death is chosen, the costume is carefully selected.

"Let a woman sleep her life away under the influence of drugs or burn her soul out with acids or sink into the slime of the river, she clothes herself in her most becoming garments and seeks the end with apparent tranquility. Her instinct of gentility and elegance in clothes is with her to the last, and even in the face of death she shrinks from a public appearance in unbecoming raiment."—New York Sun.

High Mountains of the Moon.

The Leibnitz range attains enormous altitudes above the average level of the moon's surface and is sometimes seen projected far beyond the regular curvature of disk, thus destroying the circular contour and giving it a notched or serrated aspect. Several of the peaks of these southern mountains measure 30,000 feet in altitude, while one has been estimated to attain the great height of 35,000 feet. All the chief mountains of the moon which can be seen from the earth with a telescope have had their heights ascertained. The German observers, Beer and Maedler, have calculated the height of no fewer than 1,095 lunar mountains. The Doric mountains supply an instance of great elevation, the peaks of the three leading ones being between 25,000 and 26,000 feet high. Among other lunar peaks may be mentioned Huyghens, 21,000 feet; Hadley, 15,000 feet; Bradley, 13,000 feet, and Wolf, 11,000 feet.

Embalming.

"Practically," says an undertaker quoted by the Philadelphia Record, "every corpse nowadays is embalmed. Perhaps not one body in a hundred is buried without having the fluid injected, and that settles it. You won't read your obituary notices then. People are coming to realize this more and more, and the old dread of being buried alive is fast dying out. But these nervous individuals have got to have some sort of post mortem bugaboo to worry them. If it isn't one thing, it's another, and as soon as you convince them that they are not going to be buried alive they get grave robbers on the brain. That's why we are now making a specialty of burglar proof caskets. Fact, I assure you."

Absolute Zero.

Absolute zero is the point at which, as has been determined from experiments with gases, matter would be without a trace of heat, could be cooler no farther. This point is 273 degrees below centigrade zero. A degree of cold so intense as this is, however, unobtainable. Even the meteorites which swarm in interstellar space must be heated to some extent by the radiance of the stars.

An American Dinner Party.

Here is Clement Scott's picture of an American dinner party: "You are no sooner ushered into the reception room than you feel at home in half a second. Conversation is general and animated. Your hostess is genial, gracious and an artist in the difficult ceremony of introduction. The room and the atmosphere beam with friendliness. Introduced to your dinner companion, she is determined that you and your partner shall be friends at once. You have not to make conversation. She makes it for you. If you know anything, she will drag it out of you in double quick time, and you out of her against her readiness, wit and sly cynicism. She can discuss everything and knows something about all she discusses, but without pedantry or affectation. She has the art of appearing to like you and be interested in you whether she is or not. This may be humbug, but it is delightful humbug all the same.

"The elements of flirtation are never to be despised by man or woman of any age. This social art is generally ignored in England, and that is why American women are so supremely popular. And what is the consequence? You go home from a dinner party in England tired and bored to death or wander off to your club to try to forget it all. You go home from an American dinner party exhilarated, a little proud of yourself and saying sincerely, 'It has been a jolly and delightful evening.' At least that is what I have felt whenever I have been honored with an invitation in New York."—San Francisco Argonaut.

Humanity in Turkey.

"There's a good deal of human nature in a turkey," said a farmer. "The other day while I was settin in the barn door one of my turkeys come yerkin along and peekin right and left and finally spied a rag on the ground that every turkey had been travellin over for a week. Turkey picked it up and slatted it out. That minute every turkey in the yard started for him. He run. It evidently struck him all of a sudden that he had got hold of suthin that was mighty valuable. He run, and he dodged, and he ducked, and he run some more. Every few minutes some one of them turkeys would get him by the wattles or else by the rag, and there would be a tug of war. And at last another turkey got the rag away, and then there was another chase. Guess them darn fool turkeys would have been runnin the fat off themselves the next day if I hadn't set the dog on 'em.

"That's just the way with a turkey. Let any other one in the flock get hold of suthin, and every one of the blamed fools will start for him or her and run till they fairly drop.

"And, as I have said, there is a good deal of human nature right there."—Lewiston Journal.

A Dinner of Mule and Axle Grease.

The following is an incident of the siege of Ladysmith narrated by Sir William MacCormac: "An officer related an incident which will serve to illustrate the lengths to which things had gone as regards food. A shell fell into the mule lines one afternoon, killing one mule. In spite of other shells following the first one in rapid succession, so as to make occupation of the spot very dangerous, the men in the vicinity made a rush at the mule like so many ravenous creatures, cutting off the flesh with their clasp knives in great chunks. They then in safer quarters built fires, toasted the meat and swallowed it at once. To make them more palatable the men fried their biscuits in the axle grease provided for the carts. The want of fatty foods and vegetables was greatly felt. In spite of all their hardships nobody ever thought of giving in. The general inquired as to how many horses in the camp could carry their riders six miles, in view of a sortie being made, and the answer came back that only 12 horses in the whole camp could do it."—London Lancet.

Just What He Needed.

An invalid called on a physician for advice. The doctor wrote out a prescription, charging the patient 2 guineas for it. Some time afterward they met in the street.

"Well," said the doctor, "you are looking 100 per cent better! That medicine, though a little expensive, was just what you needed."

"Doctor," replied the patient, "after I had paid you the 2 guineas for the prescription, I couldn't afford to have it made up, so I didn't take a single dose!"—London Answers.

The English Way.

Fights are a recognized part of the school education among the boys in England. In America when boys fight it is because they are angry with each other; in England they fight because they are anxious to find out which is the better man physically. They may have no quarrel or ill feeling, but if their friends cannot agree as to their respective prowess the ultimate result is pretty apt to be a "mill."—Self Culture.

Not a Warm Garment.

"I can't find words," exclaimed the moral man, "to express my disgust for the man who uses his religion as a cloak. He's everything that's bad."

"He certainly is foolish, to say the least," remarked the practical man, "for religion such as his is necessarily so flimsy he's liable to catch cold in it."—Philadelphia Press.

Check to Frivolity.

"The Chinese minister says the costumes worn by American women strike him as being in some respects ridiculous," said Mrs. Blykins.

"Yes," answered Mr. Blykins. "That's owing to his point of view. If he had to pay for a few of them, he'd soon learn to take them seriously."—Washington Star.