

## The Norfolk News

The sugar trust is undoubtedly a powerful combination, but it is not powerful enough to influence congress to the detriment of a growing American industry.

It is claimed that an Ohio man can smoke through his ear. A good many things pass through the ear and it would seem as though it was an abuse of the member to convert it into a smoke duct in the bargain.

For old Russell Sage is only worth \$100,000,000 and who can blame him for his efforts to save a little and make more to keep the gaunt wolf of hunger from his door? His penny should call for the sympathy of philanthropists.

The European nations and their representatives have just recently discovered how much they love Uncle Sam and his children and are exerting themselves to be gracious. Kaiser Wilhelm is not the slowest of Uncle Sam's admirers and his courtesy to a member of President Roosevelt's family is marked. In nations among individuals there is nothing like strength and ambition to compel respect.

Some of the merchants of the state propose to organize to fight the parcels post bill, which is a very proper thing to do if there is any possible chance of the bill becoming a law. The mail order houses and department stores have little regard for the country merchant and unless the latter is prepared to protect his interests it may be expected that the larger houses will do what they can to injure his business. The mail order houses are now a menace to the small and independent retailer without giving them further advantages.

The Great West is the title of a new monthly publication at Omaha, the first issue of which appeared on January 15. It is published by the Peyton Publishing company, with J. B. Lones as editor. As its name indicates the journal is devoted to pushing "the great west" and more particularly Nebraska. It is a field deserving the effort and "The Great West" should be given substantial encouragement by those whom it will benefit. A considerable portion of the first number is devoted to "Good Old Knox", Pierce, Antelope, Boyd and other counties in north Nebraska.

Congress cannot afford to fall in with the trust plan of doing away with the American cane and beet sugar industry, not only because it is a growing American industry and worthy of encouragement, but they cannot afford to have the imputation rest upon them that they are under the influence of one of the most popularly disliked trusts in the country. The stake is not large enough to warrant such a risk to the majority party in congress and it is very doubtful if they will favor such action. Havemeyer and his hirelings have made their boast that congress would fall in with their wishes but it is to be hoped that they speak without a knowledge of the true situation.

A New York dispatch says that in spite of his denunciations of Wall street for Senator Charles A. Towne will engage in business there, occupying handsome offices where C. A. Towne & Co. will do a banking and brokerage business. Charley in 1896, joined with Mr. Bryan and others to save the dear common people from the evils of the money power and the trusts. Now, with others of his kind, he has deserted the common people and joined the ranks of the plutocrats. Mr. Bryan with a new \$20,000 residence can scarcely be classed with the commonest of common people longer and the cause is simply bereft of its great leaders. It is too bad, but perhaps the common people are not losers.

The advocates of free sugar must show that with the almost certain annexation of Cuba in the near future, and with that a coming condition of untaxed raw sugar, it is better now to get trade concessions with other nations while we can. They must also show that the removal of all protection from the domestic sugar growing industry is so inevitable that the benefits to be obtained from reciprocity treaties with sugar raising countries outweigh the losses that would be caused to the American industry. They must further show why it is well for the sake of free raw sugar to abandon nearly every other form of tax reduction. They have finally to show why we should not have free refined sugar if we are to have free raw sugar.—Boston Commercial Bulletin.

The isthmian canal commission has reported unanimously in favor of accepting the Panama Canal company's offer and the selection of that route by the United States, and the house of representatives will probably have their work to do over again. A number of statesmen, among them Mr. Hepburn who presented the Nicaraguan bill, are inclined to believe that the urging of the other route is merely a scheme for delay and that congress is to be prevented from taking immediate action. Inasmuch as the proposed canal is to be a permanent improvement to naviga-

tion and the expense of constructing it will be large, it is perhaps advisable that the best route should be selected and all the points considered in detail, that there may be no cause for regret in the future that the action of congress was too precipitate. It is a large question and worthy of earnest study and deep thought.

There are many minor problems—minor only in their relative sense—to these vast ones—urgently pressing for solution, and some are very close to it, says Success. We want to know how the glowworm makes heat without heat, and how to do it ourselves; how to make the high potential alternating current drive all the locomotives; how to construct an unshakable ship; how to telegraph by the etheric waves without the possibility of interference by disturbances in the same medium; how to extract solids from liquids, economically by centrifugal force only and not by filtration; how to adapt the steam turbine, as a motor, to every day uses, in place of the reciprocating engine; how to build a cotton picker as effective in gathering cotton as the reaper and mower are in gathering grain and how to photograph in the colors of nature, and how to throw high explosives with safety from ordinary guns.

The first issue of the Madison Mail, with Wm. V. Allen as editor and H. B. Allen associate, has been received. It is largely devoted to a write-up of Madison county and particularly of the business interests of the county seat, and gives indication of being a representative local publication. The editor's announcement of policy will be disappointing to some, in that it is not definite and the populists who had hoped for a strong advocate of party principles in the Mail will have cause to regret that it seems to have been launched as a paper free from all party ties, and with no outlined political policy. Those who have followed the political career of the editor expected that the editorial policy of the paper would be laid out on firm lines and that it would be outspoken for the policies the editor represented and for the party that assisted him to honor and power. Many had also hoped that it would attempt to fill a larger than a mere local field and its influence would be felt throughout the state, at least. The editor claims that there is a local field to be filled and proposes to fill it. It gives every indication of filling such a field satisfactorily and as a local paper is certainly beyond criticism. Its patronage is not large, but will probably increase as its value is established. The News wishes the Mail success.

**Give the Beet Industry a Chance.**  
The beet sugar manufacturers of Michigan are before congress with a strong exhibit for the sugar industry in that state and a strenuous objection to the trust plan of admitting Cuban raw sugar free. Their memorial in part says:

"Within two months after the Dingley law went into effect the contract was let for the first beet sugar factory in Michigan. This factory took off its first crop in the fall of 1898. Since that time twelve other factories have been erected and four more are now in process of construction. The capital invested is \$10,500,000. In 1898 Michigan paid the sugar trust \$7,000,000 for sugar consumed. In 1901 her own factories produced 125,496,000 pounds of granulated sugar, or 80 per cent of her consumption, for which she received \$5,647,320. Beets now under contract for the season 1902 will increase the output to 195,501,000 pounds, or 24 per cent above her consumption.

"In 1901 Michigan raised 69,400 acres of beets yielding 597,600 tons, for which 16,848 farmers received \$3,107,520. In the beet fields 33,707 persons found employment during the growing season, besides 2,678 factory hands during the manufacturing period."

Havemeyer proposes to save the American people something like \$36,000,000 by admitting Cuban raw sugar free, but from the showing made above he will be robbing the people in Michigan alone of the use of \$10,500,000 invested and the farmers in a single year in the one state alone of an income of \$3,107,520 not counting the wages paid to 26,385 people in that state by the beet industry. Not only will his proposed action rob the people of that amount in one state but other states will suffer in like proportion and the government revenues will be reduced at least the \$36,000,000.

The industry has been established in Michigan but three years and in that time has but fairly got a start. It would seem particularly unwise for congress at this time to do anything so vitally disastrous to the young beet industry.

**Sugar Trust Bobs Up Again.**  
The Lincoln Journal of yesterday contained a fairy tale from its Omaha correspondent, which is the most beautiful misstatement of facts that it has been our pleasure to see for a long time. It is so untruthful that it is simply ridiculous. It is not held together by enough facts to make it stand alone. The burden of the tale is that the farmers about Norfolk are very much dissatisfied with the treatment they have received from the sugar factory at this place, and that they propose to hold a meeting soon to protest against the alleged injustice.

On the face of it, the article shows that it was written by some one who is wholly unfamiliar with the conditions at this place or of the contract under which beets are grown. In truth the article is so full of glaring errors that only one conclusion can be reached, and that is that it was either inspired or written by an emissary of the sugar trust who utterly failed to gain enough information of the real facts to tell even a plausible story. It was not so long ago that the sugar trust is reputed to have purchased space on the patent side of country newspapers throughout the western states, in which it told of the disadvantages of beet raising to the farmer. It would now seem that it is trying the same tactics with the city press, and while we do not believe the management of the State Journal would sell its space in a manner so discreditable as this, yet we will guarantee that the Omaha correspondent was either mightily imposed upon or that he received something stronger than beer from the alleged "heavy land owner of Norfolk" to secure the publication of an article so clearly designed to injure the beet sugar industry of Nebraska. The Journal is blameable for publishing the article, in that it should have investigated the truth of the statements made, when the whole aim was so evidently to help the sugar trust cripple a valuable home industry.

The claim made by the agent of the sugar trust and written by the correspondent that there is dissatisfaction among beet growers is absolutely groundless so far as we have been able to learn. In truth, the contract of 1901 was more satisfactory to the farmer than any under which beets have ever been grown for the Norfolk factory. Every grower who raised beets last year has pronounced the contract the very best that he has ever worked under, and almost to a man they have pronounced themselves well pleased. Instead of protesting against the treatment accorded them by the factory, they have been keen to enter into contract for another crop this year, and when it seemed doubtful whether the factory would make such contracts on account of threatened adverse congressional action, they expressed almost as much anxiety and disappointment as the manager himself.

Only one or two sentences need be quoted to show that the correspondent either deliberately lied in the interest of the sugar trust or that he did not know what he was talking about. He says: "Their beets are cultivated with the understanding that if they contain a designated percentage of sugar with a designated percentage of fineness, they will command a fixed price." There is nothing in the contract which could by any possible stretch of imagination be construed into anything like the language stated. It is true that a number of years ago the contract did require a certain percentage of purity (not fineness—note the difference), but that has long since been entirely eliminated, and nothing of the kind was in the contract in 1901 nor is in the contract of 1902. We have a copy of the contract before us which has just been issued for this season and here is just what it says, and all it says, in regard to price that shall be paid for beets: "All sound beets will be ordered in, bought and paid for by said factory at the following rates, to-wit: All beets containing 14 per cent of sugar or less, \$4 00 per ton, and an additional 25 cents per ton for each and every one per cent of sugar above 14 per cent, fractions in proportion. An additional sum of 20 cents per ton will be paid for each and every ton of beets siloed, when delivered at the factory after November 15." Nothing is in this about requiring beets to contain a certain percentage of purity or fineness—not an intimation of it. The language of the contract is identical with the one of last year, and no test was made of purity during the whole season in settling with farmers. This would indicate that the agent of the sugar trust must have had copy of a contract a number of years old when he figured out the scheme to injure the beet industry in the underhanded manner undertaken.

Another alleged ground of complaint is that the chemical tests made at the factory are not fairly conducted, but that "having no means of making their own tests, of course the farmers have no alternative but to accept that of the factory." No alternative, eh? Let us see what the contract says on that point: "The growers are at liberty to select and employ at their own expense, any competent chemist and weigh master, to whom the factory shall give free access to its laboratory and weigh house for the purpose of checking the tests or weighings made by the chemist or weigh master of the factory." And these tests figured out an average price of more than \$4.50 per ton for the whole of the 1901 crop. The sugar trust should become better posted before it makes such wild statements.

Instead of there being such dissatisfaction as reported, the largest acreage of beets that has ever been grown for the Norfolk factory will be planted the coming season. Farmers are well pleased with the contract and they are very willing to raise beets under its provisions, which are simple, fair and clean cut, with no possible chance for controversy or misunderstanding. The sugar trust should guess again.

The Sioux City Tribune suggests that the Nebraska Spaniard who blew up the Maine has gone to keep Pat Crowe company.

Governor Savage should come home and feel the public pulse. He would find it quite feverish as far as he is concerned.

If it was as easy to run a newspaper as it is to tell someone how to do it, the editor and publisher would indeed have a sinecure.

The sugar trust is pretty shrewd, and its persistent argument that it is "the people" is not the least fetching of its assertions.

The love of the sugar trust for the people is a beautiful thing to think about, but wait until their theory is put into practice.

The record of real estate transfers continues to eloquently speak in behalf of north Nebraska realty, indicating that it is in active demand.

Perhaps Governor Savage will be permitted to go into partnership with Joe Barley in the loan business after next January. Even private citizens need some sort of employment.

Perhaps Governor Savage is in New Orleans to enter into negotiations looking toward the removal of Nebraska to Louisiana, from which it was separated after the purchase of that territory.

Two Kansas men are endeavoring to combine all the creameries of the country into a trust. They may succeed but they cannot hope to control the entire product. The hand churn and the farmer's cow will continue to be a factor.

It is said that an acre of sugo palm, which is one of India's valuable products, gives nourishment equal to 163 acres of wheat. There are probably few Nebraska farmers, however, who would be willing to exchange 163 acres of Nebraska land for an acre in India.

Another Pat Crowe, who was not Pat Crowe, has been brought to Chief Donahue's attention—this time from Colorado. These Crowes are not discovered with the regularity they were before the prize money was taken down, but this incident is a reminder that the omnipresent kidnaper is not entirely forgotten.

In the future railroads will be inclined to treat with greater consideration the fellow who steals rides, if the case of Theodore Johnson against the C. St. P. M. & O. road recently decided by the Iowa supreme court is to govern. Johnson was trying to steal a ride on a freight of that road in Nebraska. He was twice put off by the conductor but again appeared and when put off the third time he fell under the car wheels and his leg was cut off. The judgment was for \$2,000 damages.

The hotel and restaurant men in Nebraska and other states are experiencing considerable difficulty in supplying their guests with quail and grouse. The old dodge of serving these birds under the name of plover, snipe or stubble duck don't go any more. The proprietors of the Bon Ton restaurant at Omaha have recently been arrested for violating the law and are confronted with a \$100 penalty. The proprietors of the Des Moines hotel who served "plover" at the Shaw banquet, have just settled with the game warden by paying \$100 fine. Evidence is accumulating to the effect that the present game laws are to be enforced and not act merely as an incubance to the statutes.

A boarding house guest at New Castle, Pa., has sued the landlady for damages, alleging that the board is insufficient for the money paid. What possibilities such a suit brings up! If the boarding house keeper can be regulated by law what a rejoicing there will be among the boarders! If an extra tough piece of beef steak is served, sue her for damages; if the Thanksgiving turkey appears on the table longer than a week after that holiday, charge up damages against the landlady; cockroaches served in the tea should be grounds for damages. Really it is quite an entrancing possibility that this suit presents and the boarders should form an association to urge favorable legislation.

Eavesdropping, as far as the telephone business is concerned, is a risky undertaking. In Iowa a man was recently fined \$25 for listening to a telephone message passing over a line on which he owned a telephone and afterward telling what he overheard. The reason given by the court for imposing the penalty was that messages or conversations over the wire are confidential and the fact that he owned a telephone gave him no right to repeat anything he might have heard by accident or otherwise. Perhaps there are no subscribers to the Norfolk exchange who are laying themselves liable to this penalty and they may not be tempted to run the risk if they are given to understand what the penalty has been in Iowa.

The Merwin Publishing company has combined the Beaver City Times, in its 28th year, and the Beaver Valley Tribune, established for more than 16 years, under the name of the Beaver City

Times-Tribune. While Editor Merwin will continue to advocate republican principles, a department is set apart for the use of Will M. Maupin, formerly of the World Herald, who will support with his customary zeal, the opinions of Bryan democracy. The two editors are in the front ranks of Nebraska journalism and if the scheme can be made to succeed, it certainly should under their editorial management, but it is an exceedingly questionable experiment. Brethren of different political faiths should dwell in harmony on ordinary subjects but when it comes to operating under the same roof and through the same publication the harmony becomes altogether too thick and is likely to smother individuality and independent opinion. If that does not happen, the scriptural injunction "A house divided against itself must fall," is recommended to their consideration.

Sioux City people are urging a movement that will result in beautifying the municipality. It is urged that the streets are not necessarily laid out to be used for barn yards and for the storage of vehicles, old boxes and other unsightly things. Speaking of the subject Rabbi Joseph Leiser said: "A smoke dandelion is a nuisance and live wires are dangerous, and telegraph poles hideous. Advertisements are other features restrictive measures must handle. Theatrical advertisements, chiefly are the shortest blotches, especially when they are posted on trolleying, slovenly billboards. No residence property ought to tolerate an unsightly billboard. Commercial signs, too, ought to be regulated, so that no hideous business sign obstructs the view of sky or street. Then every city is attractive in so far as it has planted trees. In this respect our city has sinned most shamefully. Every street ought to be lined with trees. The lovely chronicle of time as it shows itself on trees, the play of shadow on the pavement is one of nature's most charming features. Trees are inexpensive and no tree hiders progress. Trees and parking should adorn every street, whether it be devoted to business or residences."

President Henry T. Oxnard of the American Beet Sugar association in an address on Cuban reciprocity before the ways and means committee at Washington Wednesday said: "Stripped of sentimentality and all extraneous considerations and reducing the Cuban demand for free or freer sugar to its equation, it is this: Shall the United States, through its agriculturists, produce its raw sugar and in its factories, scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific, refine its products, or shall it permit foreign lands to export to it the raw material and content itself merely with refining. That is what I fear would eventually come to pass if you interfere in any way at the present time with the existing production of home sugar. Capital is timid to a great degree, and should congress decide that Cuban sugar must be helped at the expense of American beet sugar then it will at first hesitate and eventually turn its back upon the future further development of beet sugar and throw its full force into the tropical island which we have unduly favored and stimulated. Sugar production in Cuba today is firmly established and the chief industry of the island. Even our enemies must admit that beet sugar is as the very inception of its development in the United States."

**Savage Given to Reasoning.**  
If Governor Savage had set out to choose an action that would have still further added to his unpopularity in Nebraska and especially in the north part of the state, and Norfolk in particular, he could scarcely have done worse than to slur at the beet sugar industry as he did in New Orleans the other day when interviewed by a representative of the press of that city to whom he said:

"As for the beet sugar industry of Nebraska, I feel the same about that as I do about the cane sugar industry of Louisiana. The number engaged in that industry is so small, compared with the masses to be benefited by free sugar, that there is little choice."

As all the beet factories are north of the Platte river his excellency evidently saw another excellent opportunity of making a stab at this part of the state without injury to the south half.

In speaking for the trust the governor has talked as foolishly as even Havemeyer himself could desire. Perhaps the industry is small, but infants are never large, and a youth as young as the industry in Nebraska could not be expected to have attained the full growth of manhood's estate, nor will it with such encouragement as the governor offers. With the cane industry in Louisiana it is different. That is old enough to have developed its full possibilities. The governor talks of "the masses to be benefited by free sugar." It has before been shown what a grand benefit this is which is offered by the trust, which will reap the lion's share of "benefit." Take the trust's own figures and the "people" are to be benefited \$36,000,000 worth, which divided among 80,000,000 of population, will be something less than 50 cents each. This is the magnificent saving, or promised saving, for which his excellency would sacrifice one of the leading industries of his state with the remark that it don't amount to much.

The governor's reasoning powers are

truly magnificent. He abandons thousands of dollars worth of property at Norfolk to save a small annual expenditure; he pardons the defaulting state treasurer with the apparent conviction that he is a worthy and philanthropic citizen unjustly convicted by the courts and persecuted by the people, and now he signified a willingness to generously stab a leading state industry in the back for less than a pound of sugar increase to the average purchase. His is the sort of reasoning that made Esau famous for selling his birthright for a mess of pottage, and perhaps if he had the power he would trade the state for a jackknife. The governor is an expensive luxury at home, and when he goes on a visit, The people have decided what they will do with him when the opportunity presents itself but until that time his disposition has assumed the importance of a paramount issue.

## EXPLOSION WRECKS TRAIN.

**Boiler Bursts as Denver Limited Rushes Through Victor, Ia.**

Victor, Ia., Jan. 20.—While racing down grade through this village at the rate of 40 miles an hour the boiler of the big engine drawing the Denver limited No. 5 on the Rock Island railway exploded Saturday, killing Engineer Williams and Fireman Hoare and shaking up the passengers. The Denver limited does not stop at Victor. It came roaring down the grade into the village, which past the station and striking the grade that descends into the valley of Bear creek gained more speed.

Three hundred feet from the station the boiler exploded with a noise that awakened the entire village. The engine was torn to pieces and great chunks of iron were hurled over the town. The train, with speed checked by the shock rolled and wallowed onward. The seven passenger coaches were thrown from the track and bounded along over the ties, with the passengers being bounced around inside them like corn in a hopper.

The Des Moines sleeper, which was at the rear end of the train, was overturned and rolled into the ditch, but no one was seriously hurt.

The wrecked engine was strewn over the ground for 200 feet and the mangled bodies of the engineer and fireman were found close together a short distance from the place of the explosion.

## WOMAN KILLS TWO MUSICIANS.

**Colored Inebriate Shoots Because She Was Anxious for Ragtime.**

Montgomery, W. Va., Jan. 20.—At a colored dance last night six miles south of this place, William Slaughter and William Johnson were shot and killed by Lillian Williams. Powell Calloway was mortally wounded, being struck by a stray bullet. The murderess is in jail.

About midnight the Williams woman entered the house, evidently under the influence of liquor. Proceeding to the center of the room, she ordered the musicians to play some ragtime music, and play it quick. When her demand was not complied with she whipped out a revolver and began firing at the orchestra. Slaughter and Johnson were almost instantly killed. Calloway was an onlooker at the dance and one of the bullets intended for a musician penetrated his back. Physicians pronounce his wound fatal. The murderess escaped lynching by the timely arrival of officers, who succeeded in getting her away and lodging her in jail at this place.

## ENGINEER FALLS ASLEEP IN CAB.

**Costly Wreck on the Missouri Pacific Is the Result.**

Kansas City, Jan. 20.—Westbound Missouri Pacific passenger train No. 3, from St. Louis, collided head-on with an eastbound freight train one mile east of Etlah, Mo., yesterday. The wreck proved a costly one for the road. Engineer William Masco of the freight train had fallen asleep in his cab and ran past Etlah, where he had been ordered to meet the passenger.

But one person was injured, Judge Elijah Robinson of Kansas City, who escaped with severe bruises. Half a dozen other passengers were shaken up. Engineer Masco, when he awoke and realized that he was passed Etlah and that it was too late to pull back, stopped his train and running ahead, endeavored to flag the passenger train. The passenger train was upon him, however, before he succeeded.

## SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

Judge William E. Dewitt, a distinguished member of the Montana bar, died at Butte Sunday of acute heart trouble.

B. B. Hunt of Huntville, Mo., was shot and killed at Shawnee, O. T., Sunday by John Seville, who mistook him for an enemy.

Frank Rakowski, a private in the army at Fort Canby, who threatened President Roosevelt, was degraded and sent to prison for ten years.

The White Earth agency hospital and the Woman's Guild hall in connection with St. Columbus hospital mission were destroyed by fire Sunday.

A diplomatic secret regarding a proposed coalition of European forces to defeat the United States in the war with Spain is to be exposed in the house of commons.

Professor W. C. Crossman and his 15-year-old son, William, were caught on a trestle near Brenham, Tex., Sunday and run down by a passenger train. Both were killed.

Frederick Krahnhardt, a Catholic priest residing at Josephville, Mo., committed suicide Sunday at the Alexander hospital at St. Louis by hanging himself with a bed sheet.