

The Norfolk News

Richard Croker is about to raise an approved breed of democratic roosters—in England. He is preparing to engage in the chicken business on a large scale.

The annual distribution of free seeds by the congressmen and senators is on and the person who does not receive enough to plant a garden patch or farm is unfortunate.

If the government should seize the coal mines and the coal carrying roads there would be a lot of volunteers to help get the fuel to the people if, volunteer work was necessary.

When the state is discovered where no legislator can suggest a desirable change in the laws there are a whole lot of people who will be ready to emigrate to it and establish happy homes.

The steamship St. Louis has arrived in port and now it is rumored that its overdue experience was merely another scheme of the promoters of the St. Louis exposition to advertise that event.

This is the season of the year when all that some people have to do is to wait for spring. It is not so with the publisher of a newspaper. His work goes on regardless, and if anything is a little worse and more of it.

During his jubilee year Pope Leo received 32,000 gifts, the estimate value of which was \$2,000,000. Some of the gifts were very costly, among them being the emperor of Austria's present, a statue of solid gold nearly seven feet high, representing "The Good Shepherd."

With the troubles between the trust and the independent manufacturers and dealers in cigars and tobaccos increasing it is likely that for the benefit and protection of the users of the weed it may be necessary for the government to next take possession of that industry.

A Kansas district judge has taken a turn at the bible public school question, and has decided that the bible can be read during school hours if the teacher so decides. He rather offsets that decision with another in which it is held that Sunday theatres may do business in Topeka without molestation.

We are glad to notice that Governor Mickey advocates the rebuilding of the Norfolk asylum. The Lincoln asylum is filled to overflowing and the state must provide for the insane so they may have proper treatment. This state has too much valuable property at Norfolk to be allowed to go to waste.—Pierce Call.

A panic among the coal dealers of Chicago is due today, the grand jury having voted to indict a bunch of about 40. If that body can cause them to tremble in a degree equal to the shivering that has been done by the common people recently there will be considerable satisfaction to their victims who remain alive.

The fact that the national conventions are but 18 months ahead has spurred the democrats to renewed efforts toward discovering the logical candidate for their party during the coming national contest. Eighteen months is quite a while but at the rate candidates for that position are being discovered it is none too long in which to disclose the needed leader.

Cupid has proven himself greater than Morgan in at least one particular. The American capitalist has endeavored to secure an interest in the Cunard line of steamships but failed. Now a pretty American widow is about to invade the company and marry one of the wealthy members of the famous shipping family. America nearly always wins out in one way or another.

The money in circulation in the United States on December 1 was \$3,352,710,158, an amount per capita of \$29.62. This is a greater amount than has ever before been in circulation in the country. This is certainly against the opinion of some that there will be some hard times during the next few years, if, as the democrats have held, a large circulation of money will prevent hard times.

The big passenger steamship, St. Louis, unlike the city after which the vessel is named, is lost and the people know nothing of its whereabouts. The city itself, with its plans for its big Louisiana purchase exposition, is still very prominently before the public gaze and likely to remain there with its efficient corps of advertisers at work, until the big show is a thing of the past.

The German press is irritated over the interference of America in the Venezuelan dispute and asserts that that country has never recognized the Monroe doctrine. Whether they recognize it or not, so long as they keep from running contrary to its provisions the people of this country who support the doctrine will be satisfied and Germany may keep out of trouble.

A Vermont dispatch states that a young woman was blinded while weeping at the funeral of her grandmother,

by getting some of the powder from her face into her eyes. There is a moral in this for those who will look for it: If women must use powder they should either not weep and run it into their eyes, or they should use powder that would not be injurious to their optics.

Some democrats pose as free traders and yet when it comes to the test they admit that there is a necessity for a tariff and it is probable that the Wilson-Gorman tariff was the nearest approach to free trade that will ever happen. That came too close to suit the majority of the people and the business interests were a long way from being fostered, so that it is doubtful if the people will ever favor even that near an approach to free trade.

It is again reported from Europe that American art collectors are ruthlessly swindled by the dealers across the pond. They go over with plenty of money and appear so anxious to spend it regardless of the value they receive, that unreliable dealers have established a thriving business in copies and forgeries. Wealth does not seem to produce critics of art any more than it produces literary talent, and so long as some Americans have large wealth they will continue to spend it foolishly.

If it is a test between the coal barons and the United States government, the people will hope that the government will triumph, and will support the government in every way they can. It would be humiliating indeed for the American people to be compelled to admit that the coal barons can do as they please with their coal and prices, even to freezing the people to death, and the government not have power to say a word against the action or enforce an order to prevent suffering.

The people of South Carolina should now realize what the Tillman family is like, and should retire them from the honors that have been heaped upon them. The senator appears to have been quite effectually squelched by his colleagues since his fistic encounter, and there is little chance for doubt but that the people will see to it that the lieutenant governor is quite as effectually withdrawn from public attention as the senator, since his murderous assault on the editor of the State.

The report that the legislators tributary to Hastings are opposed to the rebuilding of the Norfolk hospital for the insane is emphatically denied by the Republican of that city, which, in reply to such an insinuation by THE NEWS, says: "THE DAILY NEWS is mistaken if it thinks the people of this city are 'knocking' against the rebuilding of the Norfolk asylum. Hastings is not built that way. Hastings will be found standing up for its wants and needs and will not be found in opposition to the aspirations and needs of our handsome neighbor to the north."

A remarkable experiment is reported by Dr. Burrows of Bellevue hospital in New York. A woman, recently a mother, was dying of blood poisoning, her temperature being 108 and her circulation 160. Formaline is known as the most efficient of antiseptics, and the physician determined on a desperate resort. He injected 500 centimeters of formaline into her left arm. The effect was almost instantaneous, and the woman recovered. The doctor is pursuing his experiments as to the effect of such an injection on animals.—State Journal.

If leading democrats continue to insist that their party can only be successful through a recurrence of hard times, many of their followers will hope and work for such a condition with increasing fervor. There are a lot of democrats and other people, however, who would prefer to retain prosperous conditions, rather than have a democratic victory, with the panicky results that followed the last national success of that party. There will be found in the country a whole lot of voters who do not care what party is in power so that the government is well conducted and there are prosperous conditions for the people.

It is reported from Washington that the chairman of the judiciary committee has introduced a resolution in the house the object of which is to ascertain whether or not congress has the power and the necessity has arisen for taking possession of all coal, coal beds and coal mines in the United States, and all lines of transportation agencies, instruments and vehicles of commerce necessary for the transportation of coal. There are numerous people in the country who are not fanatics and are above being fanciful, who consider that the time is at hand when the government should govern, or delegate that power to some of the larger corporations, and the sooner it is determined which is to be supreme the sooner will the people know to whom they must own allegiance. This action of the chairman of the judiciary committee is the most sensational that has been presented to the people in many years and there are those who will hope that the government may have new power and new significance from this time on.

Some of the friends of the measure for the rehabilitation of the Norfolk

hospital for the insane had judged from the reports from Lincoln that one object of the Sears resolution was to prevent an appropriation for this purpose. Mr. Memminger objected that the resolution was rather broad inasmuch as the state had suffered the loss of the penitentiary and the asylum at Norfolk, both of which ought to be rebuilt. Mr. Sears explained that the intention was not to cut off appropriations, but only to make provisions for paying before the bills were passed. He agreed that for the time being it would cut off repairs, but there was no use going ahead with anything until the revenue had been secured. This explanation was evidently satisfactory to the supporters of the rebuilding bills as many of them were registered in support of the Sears resolution, which carried by a vote of 79 to 17 against. Therefore no bills appropriating money can be passed to their third reading until the matter of revenue is provided for.

Robert Armstrong, 29 years of age and the youngest man ever appointed to the assistant secretaryship of the treasury, is a living exponent of the fact that the door of opportunity is not closed to the young men of America. Seven years ago Mr. Armstrong was working for \$8 a week on a Des Moines newspaper, and he now occupies one of the most responsible positions in the country. He has been energetic, and though he met with many discouragements he has persisted until he has advanced to an enviable position. What Mr. Armstrong has done, other young men may do, if they will but aim high enough and permit nothing to discourage them. As a young man Mr. Armstrong lacked persistence and was inclined to switch from this to that. His employer endeavored to teach him to complete what was undertaken. One morning at breakfast he made an attempt to spear a pancake with his fork and finding that they were beyond his reach set back in his chair and waited for them to be passed. His employer advised no one to pass the cakes; that if they were not worth getting they were not worth having. Young Armstrong got the cakes and he also received a lesson that has influenced his entire career. When he has started to accomplish something he has gone at it with energy and an intention of succeeding. A pancake lesson would be valuable to many other young men.

Compulsory Education. County Superintendent O. W. Crum is endeavoring to have the compulsory attendance law, passed by the legislature of two years ago, enforced in this county. Several previous efforts have been made by legislatures to pass such a law but they have been ineffective and inoperative. Mr. Crum thinks the law now on the books is a good one, and there is no question but that it should be enforced. It provides that all children between the ages of 7 and 14 years must attend some school two-thirds of the time that the school is taught in the district of the child's residence. It provides a fine of not less than \$5 against any parent failing to comply with its provisions. Children residing more than two miles from the school house are exempt. In the January issue of the School News Mr. Crum says:

"Last month I sent out notices in the form of circular letters to 201 families whose children had attended less than two-thirds of the time school had been in session, and also notices to the directors, who are truant officers, to be served on such parents. There were 352 delinquent children in these families. These notices went to 51 districts. There were 26 districts that had not had enough school to require notices; they will be notified this week.

"We hear a great deal about the greed of soulless corporations in manufacturing centers, where profit is made from the labor of the tiny fingers of childhood. If we would look around us we would discover conditions equally condemnable on the farms of Nebraska, where parents make farm hands of their children at nine to eleven years of age, and turn them out to fight life's battle uneducated and ignorant of the common things of life. In notifying these parents I am merely doing what, the law requires me to do."

A few of the replies received by the superintendent are published. One of the more defiant one says: "These are our children, and we don't know as its any of your business whether they attend school or not. We will take care of our children and you will have all you can do to take care of yours." Of the replies the superintendent says: "Some speak kindly, others show irritation. Some make good excuses; some criticize the county superintendent; others the teacher; while others criticize the school board. It is the object of THE NEWS to bring these differing interests closer together, and officers better acquainted with each other and their work. The county superintendent is not above criticism. He wants to be criticised. He has all these interests and individuals to meet and deal with. He has made mistakes, and will make more. The man who makes mistakes is dead, and we are very much alive, and shall continue to do our duty by the children of the county as the law requires. Patrons who do not send their children to school will continue to hear from this office, and from the truant officers."

A woman committed suicide in Omaha because she was pursued by the ghost of her husband, and yet there are incredulous people who will continue to maintain that there is no such thing as ghosts.

During the balance of January Lincoln will entertain 15 conventions and state meetings. The capital city is getting an enviable reputation in that line and the business men are undoubtedly profiting considerably thereby.

Senator Dietrich is attempting to interest congress in the establishment of an experimental farm in the western part of the state. It is a further step toward the reclamation of the arid west and it is to be hoped he may be successful.

The Grand Island Independent wants the people of that city to celebrate the Fourth of July and dedicate Hall county's new court house at the same time. It is a little early to speak of it, but the Independent no doubt has as its motto, "the early bird gets the worm."

The B. and M. is to shorten its route to the Black Hills by taking out several kinks in its line just west of Lincoln. The proposed change will leave Seward three miles from the main line of that road and the business men and citizens have taken action to induce the company to rearrange its plans so that it may not be thus isolated.

The Falls City Journal has a wireless report from a coal town that a certain dealer has been detected in the act of selling five, six and seven dollar coal from the same bin. The message goes on to state that the mob has him and is debating the minor point whether to burn him at the stake, bury him alive or freeze him to death in a cold storage.

Sometimes the only thing that brings a railroad to the attention of all the people is to have a disastrous wreck on its line, but they could hardly be accused of employing that method to advertise. Passengers will make quite a detour to escape a trip over a road noted for its wrecks. They prefer a line less noted in that particular.

County Attorney English of Douglas county is investigating the coal exchange of the state metropolis with a view to ascertaining whether or not there were grounds for prosecution under the anti-trust laws. Some peculiar conditions are being disclosed, but it is not thought by the prosecuting officer that there will be sufficient disclosures to warrant a prosecution.

The socialist state committee is already out with an appeal for funds with which to prosecute the work of organization during the present year. They have been flattered with the showing made during the past year and propose to prosecute the work until their party shall be in condition to fill the shoes of populism, which is undoubtedly their ambition, and is aided and abetted by the politicians of other parties.

Every county in northern Nebraska is vitally interested in the rehabilitation of the asylum at Norfolk. Even if it be possible to save a few cents by overcrowding other state institutions such saving is but a small per centage of the increased cost in mileage and per diem of transporting patients. The loss of the Norfolk hospital has already cost the counties in its territory thousands of dollars.—Madison Chronicle.

The Oakdale Sentinel, which has been content to present its readers with no more than a galley of local matter each week since about the year 1 of its existence, the other week outdid itself and set almost three galleys. The exertion was paralyzing hower, and last week the usual child's dose greeted its readers. The Sentinel's ten inches of advertising no doubt indicates the appreciation of the merchants of that place for the hustle of the publisher.

A correspondent to the Lincoln Journal objects to the enactment of a pure food law by the present legislature because he considers it a scheme of manufacturers to force on the people higher priced goods than they have been purchasing. It may have this tendency in some instances but it is not objectionable to the people on that score. People should expect to pay more for genuine maple sugar than for brown sugar in which oobs have been boiled to give it the proper flavor.

The firemen of Talmage have undertaken to provide that town with a park. They offer to set out the trees and care for the park for a period of five years, free of charge. The objection was then raised that the town's finances were low and the firemen again came promptly to the rescue and offered the loan of \$100 until the returns came in from taxes in the spring. It would seem as though Talmage was almost bound to accept the offers of its enterprising firemen, and there are towns, larger than Talmage, that will envy that town its department of enterprising firemen.

It is now more than intimated that Prof. Schurman's change of front on the Philippine question is the result of his disappointment is not being awarded

with a diplomatic appointment after his term of service on the Philippine commission had expired. It has been generally supposed that he had some reason for making his violent change of front on an important question, but there are many who will be loth to believe that his sentiment would be influenced in such a selfish manner. They supposed that he was above any such considerations.

It is apparent that some newspapers and their correspondents are afraid that the pope will live too long to permit their use of the story of his death. When they do not have him sick and likely to die they are publishing something regarding an approaching event that may prove fatal to the aged head of the Catholic church. They have already discussed his possible successor at length and one who was considered the chosen man has disappointed some of them by passing away in advance of the pope, whose place he was to fill. Perhaps on the whole it would be just as wise to wait until Pope Leo is dead before discussing these matters.

A Maine farmer buncoed some bunco men proper in Boston the other day. He went in response to a green goods circular, paid \$2,500 for \$10,000 of coin of the realm and when the bunco men insisted on wrapping it up for him he objected. A fight ensued in which the farmer was the victor. He packed all the money in sight in his grip and departed for home. The bunco men complained to the police that they had been robbed but soon afterward disappeared. Of course they meant to swap packages with the farmer after they had wrapped the money up. If a few more swindlers could be given such a lesson their business would soon languish and die.

Some of the democrats think that the manufacturer should not be consulted regarding any proposed tariff changes. In this instance they are probably consistent. It is not difficult to believe that the importer, the agent of the foreign manufacturer, was the man whom the democrats consulted when they were last in control of the national administration, anyway it was he and his foreign backers who were benefited, if anyone. The people of this country, manufacturers, producers and consumers were far from being pleased with the results of the democratic experiment and would much prefer that the American manufacturer should be consulted hereafter.

It is occasionally allowable to present figures that indicate prosperity else the people might forget that times are any better than they were. The Massachusetts state labor bureau presents some interesting figures under this head. The level of population, employment and earnings in February, 1898, is given at 100. For October, 1902, the following figures are noted: In population, 110.93; in employment, 117.77; in earnings, 142.27. It will be seen that employment has increased much more than population and earnings much more than employment. In fact, wages have increased nearly 50 per cent since 1898, and far more than 50 per cent as compared with 1896.

For a real strenuous legislative session the people are advised to look toward Colorado. There a force of 50 sheriffs is required to preserve order and it is anticipated that the trouble is but just beginning. The republicans control the house and the democrats the senate. The republicans opened hostilities by throwing some democrats through the transom and the senators tossed a bunch of republican members of the upper house into the discard heap. The senate is divided into two bodies and the real contest will be on when it comes to balloting for United States senator. The announcement is patiently awaited by those opposed to woman's rights that Colorado is a state where the women lend their aid toward electing the legislative belligerents.

Irrigation enthusiasts will meet at Lincoln January 23 from all parts of the state. The irrigation movement means a great deal to the people of the west and of Nebraska. If the millions of acres, now useless because of a lack of moisture, can be put to use in growing crops and forage the west will have entered upon a new era. And a country that can produce grass for grazing even of limited quantity and indifferent quality can certainly be made to produce something better if scientifically tilled by intelligent men who will manage to increase the amount of moisture by irrigation or otherwise. There is certainly a future before the arid portions of the west and the irrigation enthusiasts have a work to perform in promoting its interests.

If it is true, as reported, that the United States senators are planning the overthrow of President Roosevelt as a candidate for renomination by the republican party, the rank and file of the party will keep an eye on the proceedings and will endeavor to see to it that such plans are frustrated. In the first place the people will receive such reports with a large degree of allowance and in the next place they will endeavor to take measures precautionary against such a movement. It is believed by the people that there can be but one motive

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for desiring the defeat of President Roosevelt, and that is that he is proving too aggressive in the interests of the people and against capital and the trusts. If he is defeated on this score the people may see to it that someone is elected who will be as objectionable to these classes as is President Roosevelt. They admire his record and will not be averse to entrusting him with the chief office of the land for another term. They will be averse, however, to allowing the members of the senate or any other body to dictate as to whom they shall be permitted to vote for to fill the chair of the chief executive.

It is noticed that many merchants do not give proper credit to customers who pay cash for what they buy. The customer who runs an account of \$20 to \$40 a month is given greater credit than one who spends that much cash, because at the end of the month the merchant realizes just how much the credit man has purchased and if he is at all good when it comes to payment he is determined a good customer while the custom of the cash man is ignored. Just the opposite should be the case. The cash customer deserves the best that is to be given while the merchant realizes that many customers who ask credit are not entitled to a place on his books. The cash customer is naturally independent and one merchant is not likely to corner his trade unless he makes special efforts to invite that class of custom, but when a merchant does secure such a customer it should be to his interest to retain him. The bill of a credit customer is frequently discounted, while the man who pays the cash is charged full price. The man who runs an account is likewise, very frequently, given greater accommodations than the one who pays cash. People who pay cash under these conditions are frequently induced to run an account and the result sometimes is that a good cash customer is converted into a poor credit customer and the merchant may be let down for quite an amount finally.

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