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W. S. HUSE, Publisher.

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Only two days remain in which to curb your bad habits to the swearing off point.

Sioux City claims that her ambition is fire proof and that it is determined to rise again.

There is less than a week in which to arrange your good resolutions, to become effective on the first.

New York will not be shot full of holes if it will come to Nebraska and take its stray blizzard home.

The next thing on the program is the Happy New Year when dad will be confronted with the bills for it all.

The leeman will be able to get into the game early in the season—to prepare for levying his tribute next summer.

The report that Field Marshal Oyama is to have an army of half a million will not be as welcome intelligence as the Russians might receive from the seat of war.

The "after Christmas" feeling is not so bad if you have not indulged in excesses and dissipations. And the deeper you have gone into these the worse you are off after the holiday has passed.

The next time eastern weather persists in straying across the border into Nebraska it will be permissible to arrest it for trespassing on the exclusive territory of the Italian brand of climate.

It has been estimated that Chicago spent \$22,000,000 for its Christmas observance and it is a matter worthy of mention that a very generous share of the expenditure went to provide comfort and happiness for the poor and destitute.

After furnishing Nebraska with coast Christmas weather the influence that controls got a streak of remorse and sent down a norther the day after that was frigid enough for several holidays.

There were so many who preferred to eat chicken, duck, goose and jack rabbit in preference to turkey at twenty cents a pound, that the turkey market went out through the hole in the produce dealer's stocking before Christmas morning.

It is said that the anti-imperialist league proposes to continue in business at the old stand in Boston despite the fact that their representations failed to frighten about seven or ten million voters in the recent election.

Since the returns have not been officially promulgated there is no longer any opportunity for doubt that Roosevelt has been elected to the presidency, and those who have made bets on Parker's success might just about as well square up.

There is a new play entitled "An Honest Politician." It is the opinion of an eastern correspondent that it would have a great run in Colorado, particularly in Denver, where they would be pleased to see what an honest politician looks like even though he is a fictitious stage make-up.

Some of the congressmen would desire to minimize the influence of the president in the promotion of legislation on freight rebates and enlarging the scope of the interstate commerce commission, but it is evident that the majority of the members consider it essential that action should be taken in accord with the suggestion.

And now it is reported that even the husband of Mrs. Chadwick desires to shun her society and will proceed against her for divorce. The good doctor is ungrateful. After all the fun he has had on the money of Banker Beckwith and other confiding capitalists he should be most firmly true to the instrument through which the money was secured.

The czar has probably had the hand writing on the wall interpreted and is making his promises to his people to save the government. Certainly the people have chosen a propitious time to obtain a hearing from the czar, for if he ever needed the loyal

support of the Russians it is now, when the Japanese are giving his naval and military forces all the trouble they will care to deal with. The leaders of the people are probably shrewd enough to press their advantage and will not permit the matter to rest until the promised reforms are fully inaugurated and in practice.

The sanctity of newspaperdom was observed by the fire that destroyed several of Sioux City's best blocks by leaving the Tribune building the only one standing in the burned district. The firemen may have done something toward the saving of the building, but providence evidently felt kindly and did more. The Tribune is to be congratulated for the favors it has received.

The pastor of President Roosevelt's church thinks that the whipping post would be about the proper deal for men who beat their wives and the reverend gentleman is not far from the right method of correction. A brute that will whip his wife is only to be reformed by similar treatment and with whipping posts in the town there would be a decided rarity of such cruelty.

The sympathy of the northwest is given to Sioux City which met with such a serious fire disaster when the other people of the country were thinking of their Christmas cheer and preparing for the celebration of the great day. The flames ate through one of the best business portions of the town, leaving ruin and distress in their wake, and in a few hours had consumed millions of dollars worth of property. It was a serious loss but the friends and admirers of the city hope and expect to see it rise from the ruins stronger and better than ever before. It was a magnificent section of the city that suffered from the disaster, but it is expected that buildings and business interests will be developed from the heaps of debris and wreck that will be in wonderfully improved contrast to the section destroyed. Other towns that have met with a like disaster have risen gloriously from the calamity, and it is the Sioux City way to be undaunted at anything that might happen along. The town has business men of vigor and progress, it is represented with energy in the commercial world and it will certainly build better than before when the work of re-construction begins.

CAN CONGRESS REFUSE?

For the purpose of keeping the highways of commerce, the railroads, open to the use of the public on equal terms to everybody, the president makes the recommendation that the public has asked for and one that every fair minded business man who has studied the question will approve. He asks that the interstate commerce commission be given the power to say in any case what rate is fair and that its fiat be effective until a judicial authority shall determine otherwise.

Under the present law an unfair rate can be changed only by the long, tedious, and expensive course of a contest through all the courts. Evidently only a small proportion of the shippers discriminated against can afford to make such a fight against the power of the railroads under the present arrangement. While the roads are forced occasionally to refund overcharges to shippers, they are at the same time able to continue such overcharges in other cases in defiance of all rules of law or fairness. The interstate commerce commission under the present law is a warship without guns. It can recommend, but beyond that it is powerless. The change asked for by the president reverses the proceeding. When the interstate commerce commission finds a rate to be discriminative or exorbitant it will have a right to set a rate such as it deems fair, and the railroad then has the privilege of going into court if it feels that the rate is unjust. Such a law simply gives the commerce commission the position of the lower court that has the right to enforce its decrees until a higher court shall decide differently. It turns against the railroads the injunction device which they have been so fond of applying in their own defense.

The president and the people now see clearly that it is the system of overcharges and discriminations in the interests of favored shippers under an ineffectual regulation of rates that has made it possible for certain corporations to gain control of products that could not be monopolized otherwise, and they are asking congress for the simple means of protection to which they are entitled. The railroads will make a strong fight against the proposed measure. The people are in favor of it. It is up to congress to say whose interests it will serve.—State Journal.

The democrats are reported as ready to take up the railroad reforms that have been advocated in President Roosevelt's message. They should not be in any undue hurry. The recommendations have been made by a republican president and a republican congress will see that they are duly incorporated into a law before the democrats have an opportunity of substituting them for their other "paramount" issues.

With the Lincoln hospital for the insane crowded to overflowing and the four walls of a large and substantial wing standing in Norfolk, the plan for relieving the situation should at once suggest itself to the members of the coming legislature. With only the floors and the roof to be placed and the finishing to be done there is a prompt and economical method of meeting the demands for more commodious quarters for the unfortunates of the state. With the Norfolk hospital providing for the unfortunates of north Nebraska the Lincoln and Hastings institutions should be abundantly ample for the unfortunates of the south Platte country.

Democrats have been meeting with Mr. Bryan at Lincoln and there is a suspicion that they are preparing to assert Mr. Bryan's claims to the leadership of the party at a very early date. Mr. Bryan is certainly as competent as others and his friends feel positive that under his guidance the party cannot possibly suffer worse defeat than that sustained while the tiller was in the hands of the eastern gold men. Democracy is in a hard way, at the best, and it might as well continue experimenting around until it finds its Moses, since it has been in search such a number of campaigns. Mr. Bryan's friends think that it is now capable of proof that he is the man for the place. They will certainly not concede that he will fall behind a couple of million votes as a result of the transfer of leadership.

North Nebraska farmers are next to be favored with some instruction regarding pure seed and the appropriate manner of selecting and securing the best results. The Northwestern is to run over the lines a special during the first week in January giving the farmers along the lines suggestions and instructions that will help them to better their crops, and secure greater returns from their labor. Where these seed specials have been run they have proven very popular and the farmers of north Nebraska will not be slow to avail themselves of the advantages offered. Numbers of them will be in Lincoln at the time taking the regular winter course offered by the university of Nebraska but there will be many others at home who will gladly take advantage of the generosity of the railroad and university people making the trip with the special.

The sale of \$5,000 of bonds by the town of Clarkson, Colfax county, for the purpose of providing a town water system, illustrates the credit and solid financial standing of our Nebraska communities. The bonds, which bear 5 per cent interest, were bought by a Nebraska man, who had to pay \$15 premium, against local competitors whose bids were within a hair's breadth of that of the purchaser. These bonds run twenty years, but payment is optional after five years. It is said that they will be paid soon after the option becomes effective, and that, too, with hardly a perceptible burden upon the taxpayer. The town of Clarkson otherwise has not a dollar of indebtedness. It is worth while to pause and contrast such a Nebraska town of today with the situation that existed only ten years ago.—Lincoln Star.

President Leavitt of the Ames sugar factory thinks that his factory is better located for drawing raw material from the west that can raise little but sugar beets and indicates that this is the only condition that would prevent the Ames factory from following the Norfolk factory to the west. It is perhaps more flattering than otherwise that the farmers of eastern Nebraska find ample reward in raising the numerous crops to which the soil and climate is adapted, without the necessity of doing the hard labor that is required in raising beets for similar returns. The Norfolk company has certainly offered every possible suggestion that would enable the farmers of this section to raise beets at a profit and has seconded the suggestion by bidding higher from year to year for the crop, but without success. The farmers find the growing of wheat, oats, stock and other sources of farm revenue abundantly reliable and cannot be induced to raise beets in sufficient quantity. That portion of the farming industry will therefore be relegated to the sections of country where they can raise beets and nothing else.

This is about the time that the old-fashioned kids used to keep a sharp look-out for the man with as many eyes as there are days in the year.

December has done very well in the winter line in Nebraska. Usually it is left for January and February to depress the mercury below the zero mark but old man winter has exerted his authority early in the season and it would not be surprising if he became tired early in the season and relinquishes his grip on the affairs of the weather early in the new year.

With the passing of the business rush the merchants and other influential factors can afford to devote a portion of their time to arranging that the new year about to dawn will be one of the best in the history of north Nebraska. The country is one of the best in all out doors and it should be advanced properly along the lines that it can so effectually fill. A little energy and advertisement will call the attention of the people of the drouth stricken east to one of the most fertile regions in the world and they can be attracted hither with the proper efforts. A big movement for the west will undoubtedly take place next season and north Nebraska should share in the advantages of the movement.

The incoming legislature should undertake to see that the law permitting bonding companies to become sureties for state officers is made supreme court proof. Nebraska's experience with personal bonds is not such as to create enthusiasm of the people over such a security, and it would be much more satisfactory to the general public if the bonds were placed with companies that make that their business and that go after the prosecution of a derelict official without sentimental stays on its action. With responsible bonding companies behind the state officials to see that they give honest work and correct accountings of funds there will not be the fear that the state will find it impossible to collect should there be default in any of the offices. The incoming officials are doubtless as trustworthy as any that could be selected but it is a general proposition that is right to protect the people from any possible loss.

When Uncle gets his new navy all in fighting trim, some of his nephews and nieces would almost excuse him for picking a scrap just to give a practical test of the new machinery, before the peace movement becomes so pronounced that it will be impossible for him to get a fight anywhere with a foe worthy of his steel. Only Germany or Great Britain could be depended upon with any degree of certainty to furnish the nucleus for a first class sea battle and both of these governments are so good to America and so friendly, withal, that it would seem almost like kicking up a row in the family. At the present time, therefore, it seems almost possible that the new navy will be permitted to do nothing more strenuous than war maneuvers and threaten the Turk until it will become obsolete. By that time, perhaps, the money that would go into the construction of another new navy may be used for some purpose that will prove of greater benefit to the people in general.

It is suggested that the farmers are as largely interested as any class in the proposed new national law extending the rights of the interstate commerce commission and giving it the power to enforce rates after they have found certain schedules discriminative. The trusts and the big manufacturing concerns are given rebates by the railroads to secure their business, but the farmers are not usually large shippers though they as a class give more business to the railroad companies than any other interest. The farmers and stockmen should therefore urge upon their congressional representatives that they support the proposed new law. This can be done either by petition or by letter and the congressmen or senator who is urged to support the measure and realizes that such support is the desire of a large portion of his constituency will hardly care to risk a refusal. It is believed that the Nebraska representatives in congress will realize that the state is favorable to the proposed law, but they should not be left in doubt and the small shippers who will receive the largest benefits in the aggregate should make it their business to see that the congressional delegation is thoroughly informed on the wishes of their constituents in the matter. Influences that the members of congress will recognize and respect should be set to work and special efforts should be made to inform the senators of the desires of their people, as it is in the senate, if anywhere, that the proposed law will receive its defeat.

DEEP SEA CURRENTS
GULF STREAM AND ITS COURSE THROUGH THE OCEAN.

BRINGS WARMTH TO FAR LANDS

Many Irregularities are Known to Occur in Both the Direction and in the Velocity of This Peculiar River of the Atlantic.

Seamen sometimes seem to forget that even the most permanent of ocean currents are occasionally driven out of their usual track by a succession of strong winds from one direction, and the fairy tales with respect to the alleged vagaries of the gulf stream told so frequently only tend to show that navigators rather too frequently regard that river in the ocean as not less firmly fixed in velocity and direction than if it were flowing to the sea between banks formed by the solid earth of our planet. As a matter of fact, ever since the gulf stream was first discovered about four centuries ago it was recognized by thoughtful navigators that fixity of tenure did not and could not hold for that vast body of relatively warm water cushioned off from the Atlantic coast of America by the colder waters of the Labrador current even as far toward the equator as Florida. Were it not for the gulf stream, or, more accurately, the eastern extension thereof, the average air temperature in the winter would be not less than 20 degrees below the freezing point of water on a Fahrenheit thermometer registered at the Shetland islands. As matters stand the presence of the relatively cold current from the Arctic washing our shores, inside of the warmer gulf stream, closes up the harbors of Newfoundland at the same time as the gulf stream extension is keeping the Norwegian coast clear of ice even as far to the northward as the North Cape. To put it another way, St. John's, N. F., is sometimes closed with ice even as late in the year as June, while Liverpool, which is 2 degrees farther to the north, has never been in that condition since the glacial epoch.

In fact, it has been seriously suggested that by diverting the course of the gulf stream into the Pacific, through the narrow neck of land joining the two Americas, it would be quite possible to freeze out a considerable portion of Europe. The cool Labrador current setting southward from the icy regions adjacent to the north pole impinges with greater velocity than usual upon the northern margin of the gulf stream in certain years. Cyclonic storms traveling up from the southward deflect it also, and consequently the gulf stream, although probably the most permanent of all the great ocean currents, is not invariably either in velocity or in direction. Generally speaking, this ocean river in the lower latitudes of the Atlantic is driven westward by the prevailing easterly winds acting upon the sea surface until the western side of the gulf of Mexico is attained. Thence it follows the land till an outlet is found through the strait of Florida, which, being both narrow and shallow, causes the velocity of the current to increase. Thence it sweeps northeastward outside of the Labrador cool current hugging the coast until the banks of Newfoundland are reached. About there the gulf stream proper is said to lose its identity as such, but the warm waters thereof are driven by the prevailing westerly winds toward the United Kingdom, Norway and even Spitzbergen. Many irregularities are known to occur in both the direction and the velocity of the gulf stream from time to time, consequent on wind changes and variations in barometric pressure.

Prior to the age of chronometers most extravagant views were put forward by navigators and others in a hurry to the effect that by the aid of an ordinary thermometer the longitude could be accurately determined if the shipmaster would but trouble to take a series of sea surface temperatures when in the vicinity of the gulf stream. Similarly the sea surface temperature was regarded in about the same geographical position as an infallible guide to the proximity of ice. Neither inference is true. High temperature indicates tropical origin and low temperature indicates polar origin generally speaking, but beyond this it is dangerous to predicate. The relatively warm water may be in a very abnormal position for the period of the year owing to natural causes, and a fall of 25 degrees Fahrenheit is sometimes experienced in a short ship's length on the mingling places of the warm gulf stream and cold Labrador current on a beautifully clear day without the slightest sign of ice of any kind above the boundary line of sea and sky. Many a sailing ship, after vainly trying to reach New York, has got badly leed up and run to the warmer waters of the gulf stream to thaw out both her crew and her gear, but neither the longitude nor the presence of ice can be rightly determined solely by the aid of sea surface temperatures. Nevertheless the use of the sea surface thermometer is not to be despised, because it is undoubtedly of approximate assistance in defining a ship's geographical position. The line of separation of the two currents, the cool Labrador and the warm gulf stream, is often noticeable either by the vivid blue of the saltier gulf stream in close proximity to the green color of the fresher Labrador current or by the ripple on the margin. It is said that a blockade runner from Wilmington, N. C., when chased by a Federal

cruiser, managed to escape by the observation of this friendly ripple. The blockade runner edged into the current more favorable for her, while the cruiser kept in the adverse current and lost the prize.—American Syren and Shipping.

How's This?

We offer one hundred dollars reward for any case of catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh cure. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by his firm.

Walding, Kinnan & Marvin, Wholesale druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

Take Hall's family pills for constipation.

When you're broke the girls are shy. They turn and fly as you pass nigh. Brace up old man, show some pluck. Take Rocky Mountain Tea; 'twill change your luck.

The Kiesau Drug Co.

Beware of Counterfeits.

"DeWitt's is the only genuine Witch Hazel salve" writes J. L. Tucker, of Centre, Ala. "I have used it in my family for piles, cuts and burns for years and can recommend it to be the best salve on the market. Every family should keep it, as it is an invaluable household remedy, and should always be kept on hand for immediate use." Mrs. Samuel Gage, of North Bush, N. Y., says: "I had a fever sore on my ankle for twelve years that the doctors could not cure. All salves and blood remedies proved worthless. I could not walk for over two years. Finally I was persuaded to try DeWitt's Witch Hazel salve, which has completely cured me. It is a wonderful relief." DeWitt's Witch Hazel salve cures without leaving a scar. Sold by Asa K. Leonard.

No sickly women or weak men will ever regret taking Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. It's brought happiness to thousands. 35 cents, tea or tablets.

The Kiesau Drug Co.

Mothers, be Careful.

of the health of your children. Look out for coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough. Stop them in time—One Minute Cough cure is the best remedy. Harmless and pleasant. Sold by Asa K. Leonard.

No More Suffering.

If you are troubled with indigestion get a bottle of Kodol Dyspepsia cure and see how quickly it will cure you. Geo. A. Thomson, of Spencer, Ia., says: "I have had dyspepsia for twenty years. My case was almost hopeless. Kodol Dyspepsia cure was recommended and I used a few bottles of it and it is the only thing that has relieved me. Would not be without it. Have doctored with local physicians and also at Chicago, and even went to Norway with hopes of getting some relief, but Kodol Dyspepsia cure is the only remedy that has done me any good, and I heartily recommend it. Every person suffering with indigestion or dyspepsia should use it." Sold by Asa K. Leonard.

Children eat, sleep and grow after taking Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. Brings rosy cheeks, laughing eyes, good health and strength. A tonic for sickly children. 35 cents, tea or tablets.

The Kiesau Drug Co.

A Pleasant Pill.

No pill is as pleasant and positive as DeWitt's Little Early Risers. DeWitt's Little Early Risers are so mild and effective that children, delicate ladies and weak people enjoy their cleansing effect, while strong people say they are the best pills ever sold. Sold by Asa K. Leonard.

To Prison.

St. Louis, Dec. 27.—Thomas E. Barrett, John P. Dolan and Policeman Frank Garret, convicted of naturalization frauds, surrendered to a federal marshal and have been taken to the state penitentiary.

A Good Field For Trade.

Information comes from George H. Cornelius, the American consul at St. John's, N. F., that there is room in that region for the sale of large quantities of American machinery for lumbering and pulp making, says Leslie's Weekly. Harmsworth, the great London publisher, has secured a large forest area and is now arranging for the establishment of a pulp and paper making plant to cost \$2,500,000. The United States practically controls the trade in agricultural machinery, but now, when American capitalists are interesting themselves largely in the industries of Newfoundland, American manufacturers should strive for the general enlargement of their trade there.

His Pleasant Speech.

Jack—Colonel Blank is the finest after dinner speaker I ever heard. Tom—Indeed! I wasn't aware that he had any ability in that direction at all. Jack—Well, he has, all right. I have dined with him several times, and after dinner he invariably picks up the checks and says, "That's all right, my boy; I'll pay the bill."—Chicago News.