

THE LAND OF THE AZTECS

D. MATHEWSON RETURNS FROM A DELIGHTFUL TRIP.

WENT TO THE CITY OF MEXICO

The Party With Which Mr. Mathewson Traveled Was Given a Private Reception by President Diaz—Trip of a Lifetime Thoroughly Enjoyed.

Mr. D. Mathewson has just returned from a delightful and instructive trip into Mexico, and talks interestingly and enthusiastically about that sun-land of the Aztecs who were conquered by the disciples of Christopher Columbus.

Mr. Mathewson had the good fortune to be a guest of the Stillwell party over that new railroad, the Kansas City & Orient, which when completed will be the shortest trans-continental line in North America. There were about eighty guests aboard the Mexican special when they left Kansas City—six of them being from Nebraska, and the remainder being scattered from California to Maine. "It was a jolly crowd" said Mr. Mathewson, "and everybody was prepared to make the best of the trip."

Mr. Mathewson spoke in particular of his visit to the City of Mexico, and was much impressed with the manners, customs and appearances of the senoras, señoritas and senors of that city. He says there is not at present a strictly American hotel in the city, but that another year will see such an institution completed and that an effort will be made to make it a winter resort for those who can afford to go down into the Spanish republic.

An American banquet had been planned for the party, but owing to the untimely accident which caused the death of the United States consul the day of their arrival, it was not held. President Diaz, however, held an informal reception at his private residence and personally met each of the party who attended. This was an unusual occurrence as all such receptions are usually held in the government building, but his masterly sense of etiquette realized it would simply be a private reception, instead of a public affair, if held in the city at the capitol.

The president can talk very good English, but his Castilian blood tells on such an occasion, as he adheres strictly to the Spanish of his fathers and had his interpreters present to assume their office of translating all Spanish and vice versa. It will be one of the occasions which will forever remain green in the memory of Mr. Mathewson.

The mid-day parade of the elite and aristocratic of the city was a feature difficult for the Americans to comprehend. The stores and stalls are all closed from 12 until 2 o'clock, and the gaily decked turnouts of the wealthy senors, as well as all who can afford an outfit, are to be seen driving up and down the principal streets. Of course the fair señoritas accompanied by their fond mammas, tutors or chaperones appear in all their Mexican-Spanish finery, while on the walks and galleries in front of the buildings are crowds of the gay young Mexicans dressed in the height of fashion with cigarettes in the choicest Cuban make, who salute their favorites and friends in the vehicles as they pass along. It is a custom carried hither in early days from the Spanish capital of Madrid, and is therefore honored from generation unto generation as are their other non-progressive customs, which retard the growth of all the Latin republics where the people think and plan much more for holiday than they do for work. Three days were spent in the city at the base of the mountains and still it is over a mile above sea level.

The new road over which the party traveled is already over 1,600 miles in length, and will be pushed across to the Gulf of California and become a competitor for the Isthmian canal—when both are completed. Mr. Mathewson says it is a country of great promise, and that good lands are now selling in northeastern Mexico for \$1.25 an acre and upward, and that it is an excellent cattle or ranching country.

President Diaz is making all kinds of concessions to bring Americans and American industries into his country, and the new American bank in the City of Mexico has doubled its business during the past year. The country is now on the gold basis which has added substantially to its bond value, and that it will certainly prove a boon to it commercially, is what Mr. Mathewson is inclined to think.

THE ROUNDUP.

It was Saturday morning before Christmas and a lady had purchased a couple of nice linen table cloths at one of Norfolk's best stores. The Roundup happened along and a wag seeing the pretty table linen which the handsome lady clerk was wrapping up, was led to tell of his experience in table cloths.

He said he had always liked a clean, white tablecloth above all other things about a house and despised the yellow old-cloth in use in so many homes, and restaurants in small towns. Once upon a time he was down in Arkansas. Down there in several other southern states a hotel license of \$50 a year is necessary for every landlord to pay, and as a consequence in some very small towns this becomes a bur-

den and there are no hotels. The wag said that one evening he was compelled to stop at a hamlet without a hotel and inquired at the general store and postoffice, as to where he might secure lodging. The genial P. M. told him that Sam Buster sometimes kept "strangers over night," and pointed out the Buster home. The place was visited and the accommodations secured from Mrs. Buster, who was a typical native and who "chawed snuff" and talked through her nose. A good supper was prepared which consisted of fried chicken, hot corn bread and baked sweet potatoes, very well served, and the table had a clean white cloth over it, which made the food taste ever so much better. At a late hour Mr. Wag turned in and found a clean sheet on the bed. He slept splendidly after his day's ride and good supper, and arose later than he intended the next morning. Going to breakfast he found the table set on a plain clean wood top table, and the hostess asked him to excuse her for not having a table cloth, as he had slept too long and she could not get the sheet for the table in time to have it for breakfast.

The other morning while several of the teachers were waiting for the train some of them were telling of ridiculous things which happen in the school room. This one in particular said the little folks had some very funny notions. She was explaining what made a compound word, and said the word bird's-nest was compound and that the hyphen between the two words was necessary to make it compound. Then to drill the class she proceeded to learn how well the matter was understood. Asking how one could tell a compound word from any other she was astonished to see that none could tell her, and was just about out of patience when one of the youngest held up his hand. The teacher was very much encouraged and said, "Now, Harry, you tell the class what that little mark is for," pointing to the hyphen. "It's for the bird to stand on," was the response, and "I just felt like fainting," is what the teacher said.

HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

WEATHER HAS BEEN FAVORABLE FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK.

NEW WING IS GETTING ALONG

More Has Been Accomplished Than Was Thought Could Be Done This Season—Other Betterments Around the Institution.

The work on the new wing to the hospital for insane is being pushed during the good weather and considerable more headway has been made than was expected this year.

Superintendent Alden has likewise been taking advantage of the good weather to get along the improvements about the hospital and grounds that are directly under his charge. The roadway from the entrance of the grounds to the buildings has been completed and it is now in first class condition. The roadway was built by giving it a heavy foundation of cinders, on top of that laying a coating of crushed brick and then another layer of cinders. Dr. Alden expects to make the public roadway all along the extent of the state property of the same material.

A new ice house, 24 by 60, has been erected which will be filled with ice this winter. At the time the hospital was burned a plan was on foot to construct a pond on the grounds from which could be gathered ice, but it was never completed, and it will be necessary to haul ice from the river again this winter as of old. In the interior of the house a cooling room has been constructed, where meats and other articles will be kept in summer. The old ice house was practically gone, the sills and lower portions being decayed.

A hog house 20 by 40 and a cattle shed 20 by 90 are among the other new improvements at the institution. These have been substantially built and painted white.

A green house 20 by 70 built of brick is ready for the roof, and a blacksmith shop 18 by 25, also of brick, has been completed. The brick used in these buildings is salvage from the walls of the old burned buildings.

Clerk-Carrier Examination.

An examination for clerk-carrier position in the postoffice service will be held at Norfolk, Nebraska, in the Post-office building, on Saturday, January 13, 1906, beginning at 9 o'clock a. m.

Persons desiring application blanks or any information concerning the examinations should inquire of the local secretary, or at the money order department in the postoffice building. The applicants will be examined in spelling, arithmetic, letter writing, penmanship, copying from plain copy, U. S. geography, and reading of addresses. The age limits are from 18 to 45 years.

The salaries for such positions range from \$400 to \$1,000 and all new appointments are started at the minimum salaries. There are positions in cities of less than 75,000 population where the salary goes as high as \$1,700. All applications must be sent in by January 10, before 4:30 p. m.

WANTED—Bright, honest young man from Norfolk to prepare for paying position in Government Mail Service. Box One, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

What could be nicer for a Christmas gift to a young man or young lady than beautifully engraved cards?

TOO BIG FOR CANNERY

SUGAR FACTORY BUILDINGS TOO LARGE FOR J. WALDO.

INSPECTED PLANT YESTERDAY

Came With Idea of Arranging to Start a Canning Factory Here but Concluded That He Could Not Use so Much Room and Power.

J. Waldo of Dexter, Iowa, was in the city yesterday looking over the old sugar factory buildings with the view of occupying them with a canning factory. Mr. Waldo has been successful in the canning business in Iowa and he believed he saw a good opening here for a similar industry. After looking over the premises, however, he concluded that the buildings and power plant are too large to justify their use for a canning factory, and he left for home this morning, having given up the project.

The great buildings that were occupied by the sugar factory up to a year ago, the ten boilers with a total capacity of 1,000 horse power, and the 240 acres of land upon which the plant stands, contain a magnificent proposition for some one who wants to start a manufacturing industry on a large scale, and Mr. Waldo undoubtedly figured correctly when he concluded that a canning factory large enough to occupy all the buildings and consume all the power available could not be made profitable. While an abundance of the kind of products that are preserved by canning are raised in this country and more would be were there more than a local market, yet an institution of the size that would have to be installed to occupy the buildings would be of such magnitude that it would be practically impossible to supply it with raw material.

FRIDAY FACTS.

M. Nichols of Foster was in the city Thursday.

B. F. Preston of Osmond was here last evening.

H. W. Abts was in town over night from Columbus.

E. M. Starcher of Fairfax was in town over night.

Joe P. Muller of Humphrey was in town over night.

Henry Brinkmeyer of Seward spent the night in the city.

A baby girl is reported at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Kline.

H. P. Gill of St. Edward transacted business in town yesterday.

F. Moore of Creighton was visiting friends in the city yesterday.

R. A. Motes of Randolph transacted business in town last evening.

J. Higbee of Meadow Grove was a city visitor yesterday afternoon.

Senator W. A. Meserve of Creighton was a Norfolk visitor Thursday.

Miss Mary McDoole goes to Omaha tomorrow morning to visit a few days.

Mrs. C. H. Vail went to Sioux City this morning to visit with her friend, Mrs. Howe.

Joe Hight and Miss Myrtle Clark are visiting friends at Walker, Iowa, during the Yuletide.

Mrs. Martin Erickson of Hoskins is in the city looking after her ante-Christmas shopping.

Willis McBride and family of Elgin will be guests at the C. H. Reynolds fire during Christmas time.

Miss Fleming left at noon today for her home in Aurora, where she will spend Christmas with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Weatherby and Mrs. Warrick went to Omaha today to spend Christmas with Mrs. Shoemaker.

Miss Helen Tanner of Battle Creek, who is just returning from school at Gilron Hall, Winnetka, Ill., visited with Norfolk friends between trains yesterday.

Louis Beltz and his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Frank Beltz of Stanton, called on friends and did Christmas shopping yesterday.

Miss May Olney of the city schools, will spend her holiday vacation with her friend, Mrs. Robert L. Cheney of Leslie, S. D.

Evan S. Mickey, son of and book-keeper for Governor Mickey, was in the city yesterday and paid a visit to the Norfolk hospital for insane.

Al. Hermann, who has been employed by Mr. Fuessler, the tailor, has gone to California to secure employment and improve his health.

Mr. Shreve Shinn of Sioux City, a coffee chef and expert, is entertaining the public today and tomorrow at the Fair Store with a coffee party and invites you to come and see him.

Senator F. J. Hale and daughters, Misses Elizabeth and Leah, were in the city Thursday, having come from Battle Creek to attend business matters and look at the ante-Christmas sights.

Miss Bessie Freeland left today for Sioux City. From there she will go to Cherokee, Kansas, and visit during the holidays, after which she will go to her parents, who have recently moved to Greeley, Colo.

Emil Mescher and wife and John Winter and wife of Ionia, Wis., are here visiting relatives, the former with his uncle, Julius Wichert near town, and the latter at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Winter.

A. C. Anderson, formerly one of the commissioners of this county, but of late years a resident of Houston, Minn., is here visiting old friends and acquaintances, and reports that fortune has favored him up in the north-land.

Mrs. H. E. Truman goes to Boulder, Colorado, today to join her husband.

who has been there for several weeks. It is rumored that they may make the Joiden state their future home, although she is at present expecting to spend only the holiday season in that land of mountains.

Misses Maud Reese and Rosella Cole are planning a masquerade party at the home of the former on Wednesday, December 27.

A baby girl is reported at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Winter. It's birthday will be on the shortest day of the year—December 21.

There were no doings in the police department yesterday except a "Weary Willie," who was given a night's lodging on the "downy" couch in the city jail.

The Trinity social for the Yuletide will be held at Marquardt's hall on the evening of the 29th. The invitations will be issued within the next few days. There are other social events to be held during the holidays which will be delightful events for the young people interested.

The Christmas shoppers were taking in the shops last night and most of the store people seemed in a very gracious mood over the manner in which the dollars were rolling into their tills.

Misses May Johnson and Georgie Blakeman will give a 6 o'clock dinner to a number of their friends at the home of the latter the day after Christmas. The party is in honor of Leonard Hagland of Lincoln.

There is always optimism and happiness when the people's pockets are well filled with money. This is shown to a marked degree this holiday season. The people have the money and are buying the very best of everything and no wonder merchants have that optimistic feeling.

Ernest Spora has just completed a nice residence on his place, four miles east of town, in the edge of Stanton county. He is a young bachelor farmer and Dame Rumor says that new house indicates he is contemplating a different life from that of a bachelor at no distant day.

Damasus commandery, Knights Templar, will observe the custom of giving the annual Christmas greeting at the asylum (Masonic hall) Monday at 10:30 a. m. Toasts to the eminent grand master will be given and received, and the usual ceremonies in accord with the spirit of the day will be observed. All sir knights are cordially invited.

Never before in the history of Norfolk have the merchants shown such handsome displays of Christmas wares for old and young, white and black, saint and sinner, christian and infidel as one can see by visiting the many places where toys, candies, jewelry, clothing, groceries and other articles are sold. It is truly astonishing how much of these goods are being sold and also surprising how cheaply one can purchase the presents.

The eighteenth annual ball of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen will be one of the principal features of Christmas in Norfolk. The boys of Elkhorn Valley lodge, No. 101, never do things by halves and this year they expect to exceed all previous efforts. The decorations of Marquardt hall, where the party is to be given Monday evening, will be elaborate, and the cut flowers will be the finest that green house can produce at this time of the year.

The city schools close with appropriate Christmas exercises in the various rooms this afternoon for the holidays, and will remain closed two weeks. This will give the teachers and students a nice long rest. Those whose homes are out of town will leave today and tomorrow to spend Christmas at home. After that many of them will attend the state teachers' meeting in Lincoln, and they will return to work on January 8 with new ideas and refreshed by the change. It goes without saying that the pupils will improve every moment of the holidays.

INITIATION AND BANQUET.

Men of Three Links Have a Good Time Last Night.

The I. O. F. lodge, No. 46, of this city had an interesting work last night and three new candidates were initiated into the beauties of the inner chamber and now realize that to be an Odd Fellow and live its teachings means much more than the uninitiated ever dreamed of. The three link people usually have a good time in conferring the third degree, and from reports of last night's work this was an extraordinary event in their calendar of doings for the year just closing.

S. R. McFarland, who has been their efficient secretary, and who was also secretary-elect, resigned his office and is succeeded by Mr. E. R. Hayes who will be the scribe during the ensuing year.

After the work was over the members present, with several visiting brothers of other lodges, but who reside here, partook of a delightful banquet. At the close of that interesting part of the program Mr. C. E. Burnham, P. G., as toastmaster set the speechmaking going and toasts were responded to by the following Odd Fellows, some of whom belong here, and others who live here, but as yet have not transferred their membership to this lodge.

Dr. D. K. Tyndall, George N. Beels, P. G. M., S. R. McFarland, secretary, E. Doughty, P. G. P.; C. F. W. Marquardt, P. G.; M. C. Hazen, P. G.; P. H. Beels, P. G.

The toasts all pertained to topics of the order and were very well taken care of by the speakers who responded to the toastmaster.

Try a News want ad.

A RUSSIAN IN NORFOLK

ARRIVES HERE TO REMAIN WITH HIS UNCLE.

LEFT RUSSIA FOUR WEEKS AGO

Came From the Town of Chweidun in Western Russia and Knew But Little of the Troubles of the Czar's Empire at the Time He Left.

A little personal in Saturday's News announced the arrival in this city of Max Gordun from Western Russia, to visit his uncle, S. M. Rosenthal.

A personal of the arrival of a Russian in this city at the present time is of more than ordinary interest, when it is considered that the czar's country is now a land of revolution where brother fights brother, and no man is safe, whether he is for or against the government, and an interview was sought with the young man.

He is of Hebrew parentage, who were born in the German empire. Mr. Gordun is a young man of seventeen years and speaks good German as well as the Russian tongue of the West Russia which has a dialect of its own, as is the manner in most of the European countries. He also understands Hebrew.

When asked what he knew of the troubles in the land which he has hitherto called home, he had but little to say, thinking at first probably that he was being followed by one of the czar's secret police who are popping up all over the world at unforeseen moments. When assured, however, by his uncle that he was at liberty, in this country, to talk as he desired on the subject, he still hesitated and finally said but little had transpired in his native town of Chweidun to make it uncomfortable before he left, except that there was considerable excitement as some brief news came from the interior parts.

He also said he had read more of the troubles since he left the Russian soil than he had heard in all his life while living in that land. He further said many were prepared to move away in event of the troubles becoming local, and that there were many of his own countrymen who would only be too glad to come to America of which he had heard so much.

He left Russia a little over four weeks ago when everything looked much more promising than it does today, while thousands are being killed in Moscow and South Russia. When told that the papers today reported that thousands were being slain in the revolution now in progress in Moscow and other cities, he said that he wished that his parents were here.

West Russia has many German colonies and it is the cause of the German language being spoken almost as much as the Russian tongue.

He was asked to write the name of his native town in Russian and German, and as it appeared in Russian, it was about like this, "Xhudaan," which in English is Chweidun, pronounced "Shadon," with a broad sound on the "o." The Russian tongue is one of the most difficult, being partly Greek and a mixture of dialects. They have no letter "h" in their alphabet, but the sound of that letter as we pronounce it is most commonly used.

Mr. Gordun is very much impressed with this country, having come via New York where he was welcomed by many people of the Hebrew race. He is also surprised that so many speak German, thousands of miles from his home and in a land called America, where he supposed that only the English tongue prevailed.

For the present he will remain with his uncle, Mr. Rosenthal, at the Bee Hive store, and study English and become acquainted with American ways and customs, and it is to be hoped that he will prosper in Norfolk and be pleased with his new home.

WANT REPEAL.

Talk of Dispensing With the County Assessor.

Some state officials who have watched the operation of the county assessor law are urging that the work done by those officials ought to be left to the county clerks and the precinct assessors. Men who have been out in the state report that they have discovered evidences of sentiment in favor of repealing the law at the next session of the legislature. By many advocates of the new revenue law, the county assessor feature has been regarded as an essential to the enforcement. It is urged that the county assessor, exercising jurisdiction over the precinct assessors was bound to insure a uniformity of assessment as between the various districts of the county. The fact that he is endowed with plenary powers and supervises the work, has been regarded as an important argument.

It is now charged that the county assessors have not done what the framers of the act had intended them to accomplish. It is alleged that in many of the counties they have done but little work, which might readily have been left to the county clerks. One of the objects to be attained by making the change would be to save the salaries paid to the officials, which range from \$250 in the smallest counties to \$800 in Gage county, \$1,800 in Lancaster and \$2,400 in Douglas county.

At the last session of the state legislature, an effort was made to secure the repeal of the county assessor provision and a return to the elective pre-

dict assessors, but it was defeated by the friends of the revenue enactment who claimed that the election of the assessors locally would bring about a return to the old haphazard method of assessment. The plan broached now indicates that an effort may be made to retain the appointive.—Lincoln News.

Warnerville.

H. J. Morris is baling hay to go to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Patrick Carberry is seriously ill at his home two miles northwest of town. The new church was crowded Saturday evening, when the Methodist Sunday school had a Christmas tree for the children.

Ralph Miller has accepted the agency for the Harding Cream company of Omaha, and will handle cream, eggs and chickens the coming season.

Milt. Webb has leased O. D. Munson's farm for the coming season and will take possession the first of March.

A petition to the management of the U. P. R. Co. asking that a station and an agent be furnished this town is being circulated and receiving many signatures.

THE PORTER IS HARD HIT

THE AUTOCRAT OF THE PULLMAN FEELS EFFECTS OF REFORM.

WILL ORGANIZE LABOR UNION

With the Discontinuance of the Pass the Pullman Car Porter Finds His Means of Living Gone and Wants More Wages.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—Discontinuance of railroad passes has ruined the business of the Pullman car porter. The reform may please the railroad president, but the autocrat of the diner and sleeper views it in another light. It has driven him into an ordinary labor union in the hope of protecting his interests.

Pullman car porters hitherto have depended largely on the "tips" of passengers. Their wages have been fixed accordingly. Now, the passenger who used to ride on a pass pays his tip into the ticket office for transportation. The expectant look of the negro porter is met with the chilly stare of a man who feels that he is not under obligation to the roads or any of its servants. The porter cannot live on the chilly stare, as he was wont to do on the tip, and he is to demand better wages, hence a movement to organize the Pullman porters has been started. The organization is known as the American Association of Railway Employees.

A porter on the Lake Shore road said he believed the only salvation of the dining car porters was to organize a union and fix a scale of wages, without taking tips into consideration. "Tips are so far and few between now that they are not worth considering," he said. "We ought to be paid living wages and we can get that when we are well organized."

WARNER SILENT AS TO FORCE.

New Marshal Declines to Say Whom He Will Appoint.

United States Marshal W. P. Warner of Dakota City, appointed as the successor to T. L. Mathews, arrived in the city Thursday morning and is at the Her Grand, says the Bee. Mr. Warner was asked in reference to the re-appointment of the present force of deputy marshals. He said:

"I see such a report has been sent out from Dakota City. I have nothing to say about the matter just now. I have not been officially notified of my appointment as yet, nor have I received my commission, nor have I executed my bond. Consequently it would be imprudent for me to say anything just yet. I will visit the marshal's office this afternoon, but I cannot take hold until I have been officially notified of my appointment. I shall go from here to Lincoln this evening. My visit here is an informal one and I must be excused from saying anything just at this time."

GRATITUDE OPENS DOOR

INDIAN REMEMBERS KINDNESS OF EARLY BOYHOOD.

COMES TO RESCUE OF FRIEND

Youth Who Protected the Indian Boy at School is Remembered in Later Days When He Was Serving Time for Killing His Sweetheart.

St. Louis, Dec. 26.—James Seketer, an Indian, has procured the release from the penitentiary of Ottawa Willig, a school chum, after eight years of effort. Seketer entered a public school in St. Louis twenty years ago. The boys made fun of him and he beat one. A dozen white boys pounced upon him and Willig took the Indian's part. Eight years ago Willig, in a fit of jealousy, killed his sweetheart and was sentenced to twenty-five years in the penitentiary. Seketer championed his old chum's cause and succeeded at last in getting a pardon from Governor Folk.

Almost everybody in Norfolk who can read, reads The News. Advertising in The News will bring results.