

The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal

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PACKERS COME TO AGREEMENT.

In Kansas City it is claimed that an end to the packers-stockmen's fight over post-mortem inspection of cows, is at an end. Packers in Kansas City have agreed that the post-mortem rule shall apply only to dairy cow stuff, and this is claimed to be a victory for the commission men. It is said that the fight ended with that agreement.

The fight began six weeks ago when the packers put into effect a new rule regarding the post-mortem inspection of cows. The packers determined that they would not pay for any cows until after post-mortem inspection has proved the animals to be sound. Commission men claimed this was unfair and that the inspection ought to be made on the hoof. The commission men in Kansas City look at the settlement as a winning for their side of the case.

HIGH WATER MARKS.

The past week has been one of moment in commercial Norfolk. It has not been a record week for gaining new industries or building castles in the air. But it has been a week that marked a highwater mark in Norfolk's commercial importance in more ways than one.

A Norfolk bank, for the first time in the history of the city, reached the million dollar mark in deposits. Wednesday marked the biggest day's business ever transacted by the local express companies. Both incidents, which came along in the ordinary course of events, may serve as gauges to the city's prosperity.

As the territory radiating from Norfolk extends and increases, Norfolk is constantly increasing in commercial importance.

This, as the commercial center of a vast area, is constantly drawing here in more and more lines of business, the trade of the northwest.

Norfolk is growing in importance. The growth is a steady one and a better one because it is steady. Every highwater mark in any of the city's industrial barometers serves to give satisfaction to Norfolk people. The constant growth of the town in a commercial way exemplifies Norfolk's judgment of itself, based upon its location.

UNWRITTEN LAW.

Harry Kendall Thaw is not going to have such an easy time next fall to secure a jury disagreement as he did last spring in his trial for murdering Stanford White. The "unwritten law" plea which aroused for a time so much sympathy for Thaw and his wife, Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, is suffering from a reaction. The "unwritten law" has been overworked. The brainstorm has been used with too much effect and sentiment is rising up in favor of verdicts delivered in strict accordance with the written law.

The trial of Thaw, the recent acquittal of Judge Loving in Virginia and the acquittal of Frank Brink are instances which serve to react against freeing murderers under the "unwritten law."

A Chicago professor took the unwritten law wave as his topic for Fourth of July and told students that the courts would disintegrate if the silly custom continued.

It is folly to make laws for the punishment of murder and then to free murderers because they are able to work upon sympathy outside the law. It is folly to free men who ought to go to the gallows, because they apparently were excited at the moment of killing, when the law says they ought to hang.

There will be a reaction from this sort of yellow law. After a while it will be necessary to line up close to the written law in order to enjoy freedom.

ATTACKS VACCINATION.

Elbert Hubbard ought to be smiling. Elbert Hubbard dubbed himself a Philistine because he wanted to throw stones at the "chosen people." Among the "chosen people," according to his early account, was Mr. Edward Bok. Later that portion of the medical fraternity which upheld vaccination as a grand good thing for preventing smallpox became the target for missiles hurled by Fra Elbertus, and now he ought to rejoice because his attacks upon the vaccination habit has been indirectly upheld by one authority.

James R. Brewer, secretary of the state board of charities in Maryland, after having made a personal investigation, takes the center of the stage and announces a new danger which people undergo, in his judgment, when they submit to vaccination. He says that vaccination is directly and primarily responsible for the alarming spread of tuberculosis among us. He

holds that vaccine virus, taken from cows, carries tubercular germs into the system more rapidly than any other method. He claims that the time is not far distant when the laws will prohibit vaccination instead of punishing those who refuse to submit to it.

Last winter Elbert Hubbard made a long attack upon vaccination. It ended in a reply from some physician. May we not expect a reply from some physician to the attack made by Mr. Brewer?

NEW LAWS IN NEBRASKA.

A large number of new laws became effective in Nebraska yesterday. The measures enacted at the last session of the legislature not carrying the emergency clause, are now all in force. The state has made no provision for informing the public just what the new laws are. Dependent upon charity, as it were, the state's business in this regard is woefully neglected. Many persons will no doubt be made criminals because they are not informed as to the new laws restricting their acts, and such as these will suffer penalties very unfairly. Newspapers will in most instances print briefly a synopsis of the more interesting features of the laws. But the state ought to provide for sufficient publicity to inform the entire commonwealth as to the nature of the new enactments.

Among the new laws are those: Providing for investigation of swamp fever in horses, tuberculosis in hogs; appropriating \$6,000 for traveling expenses of judges of supreme and district courts; suppressing bucket shops; fixing minimum state bank capital at \$40,000; requiring state institutions to deposit cash funds with the state treasurer; making the theft of chickens or pigeons of \$5 value a felony; increasing court reporters' fees; permitting county judges to charge \$3 for marriage license fees; providing for the election of county assessors in the fall of 1907; requiring county institutes to be held in June, July or August; authorizing county judges to receive unclaimed legacies; providing for the maintenance of detention homes; prohibiting discriminations in prices of commodities; abolishing dower interests; relating to the division of property in cases of divorce; amending the drainage law; providing for the incorporation of grand and subordinate lodges; preventing the sale of liquor within two and a half miles of an army post; requiring the recording of marks and brands; for the creation of a municipal railway fund in cities of 25,000 or less; making the poll tax \$2.50 payable in cash except in villages or cities; repealing the statute permitting the state board of public lands and buildings to investigate complaints against state superintendent; fixing coroner's fee; establishing primary election system; providing for pure food, pure milk and pure drugs; providing for the use of road drags on the public highway; fixing limits and liability of villages for damages and defective streets; providing for the division of counties in road districts; for a special levy for improving country roads; for the division between county and road districts of road funds; providing maximum freight rates on certain commodities; preventing stopping of trains across a street for more than five minutes; requiring railroads to sell 1,000-mile mileage books for \$20, good for anyone or any number of persons; reducing express rates twenty-five percent; prohibiting the employment of night telegraph operators under twenty years of age; allowing cities of 1,000 to 5,000 to extend water mains to connect with private property.

One of the most prominent of all these laws is the direct primary provision, the effects of which are already being felt. There will be no conventions this year to nominate candidates for office, as in years gone by. Candidates are already filing their announcements with county clerks under the provisions of the new law.

THE SCANDALMONGER.

When will talkers refrain from evil-speaking? When listeners refrain from evil-hearing.—Hare.

God pity the innocent victim of a scandalmonger! Society hangs men who murder their fellows with knives and pens. The mob lynches those brutes who by beast force rob innocent women of their honor. We put in jail the man caught stealing mere money and we send to the penitentiary that person who deals in business frauds. The commercial world shuns the man whose word is false so far as commercialism goes. But a worse criminal than all of these, the scandalmonger, is allowed to run at large unmolested by the law and not even looked down upon as it should be by all that stands for decency in the human race.

More vicious than the murderer of flesh who destroys life with a lead bullet and pays his penalty on the gallows, is this scandalmonger thing that steals about in the dark and, with his victim's back turned, sinks deep into human character—just as precious and just as sacred as human life—the poisonous blade of unfounded

slander. And yet, the knife dripping with blood of some fellow being's fair name and reputation, this sneaking creature tiptoes softly on and on, ever stabbing when opportunity affords, and never molested by the strong arm of the law, never complained against in the courts, never blacklisted by the world to any great degree.

The world gets red in the face and grabs its gun when some ignorant brute of a negro slips upon a helpless girl or woman and makes her the victim of his diabolical beastliness. Yet this same world, inconsistent it surely seems, will fold its hands and grin a knowing grin when some even more culpable because more intelligent brute steals around in the dark and commits a more grossly wicked crime by besmirching the fair name of helpless womanhood—the fair name that is woman's most priceless possession.

"Down with the thief!" "Down with the counterfeiter!" "Down with the man who is cheating us in our money matters!" shouts the conscientious world, bound to see the public morals raised to the proper standard and bound to protect the public from dishonesty and pickpocket. Yet the same old world sits with its legs crossed, ears gaping wide, eagerness beaming from the eyes and attitude, to catch the slightest new tale of gossip, accepting the false for the truth and never once questioning the guarantee, only to make all haste in repeating the yarn, grown a little with age to be sure, to the next lover of mankind, ears equally open and brain equally prepared for the scandal seed to be sown.

Men in business hesitate to say that which they do not know to be true, realizing that unreliability means business destruction and the blacklist. Yet people who represent the intelligence of a community, supposed to represent all that is high and lofty and admirable in life, will be often among the first to set the example for retailing the blackest kinds of falsehood—the falsehoods that are based on riotous imagination and which destroy the good name of innocent men and innocent women without cause.

Far better the scavenger who goes about his garbage work and does it honestly and without harming his fellow man, than the human vulture who swoops down into the sewers of life seeking fragments of spicy slander with which to satisfy a filthy appetite.

There is reason for gratitude in the fact that not all the world is a scandalmonger. There is reason for joy in the fact that there are men and women, clean minded and clean lived, charitable enough to always give the benefit of a doubt and wholesome enough in soul to find so much pleasure in the good things of life, the joys and the successes of men, the sunshine and the songs of birds and the rippling of waters, that the black and unwholesome scandal yarns that are forever whipping up like a whirlwind, tossing down the street and dissipating themselves in the distance, are all crowded out for lack of space.

Properly enough there are laws restricting newspapers to the truth. Just as properly there ought to be compulsion, from public sentiment if nothing more, for people to speak nothing but the truth.

Communities have characteristics just as have individuals. In the small town, communities get close together in their lives. To make the life of any community ideal there should be, among other things, a righteous regard for the truth and a wholesome contempt for the untruth, particularly where a fellowbeing's name is concerned.

THE NEW TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

An important step in Norfolk's life was taken when the city council passed the ordinance granting a franchise to a second telephone company. Whether or not it was a wise step, considering the welfare of Norfolk as a whole, remains for the practical operation of the second telephone system to demonstrate. Now that the franchise is granted, however, it is to be hoped for the sake of Norfolk's future good that the innovation of the second talking system may prove a positive benefit and not a umbrden. It was a grave responsibility that was placed upon the shoulders of the city council when they were required to solve the problem. It was a question affecting the city not only for the present but for all time to come, and the responsibility of determining whether the voting of the franchise would be imposing a burden upon the people of Norfolk or pushing Norfolk forward along the route of commercial progress, was by no means insignificant. It was a question not to be settled upon the basis of personal likes or dislikes. It was a problem not to be solved by prejudice one way or another. It was an abstract, impersonal public question the effects of whose settlement must be felt by the citizens of Norfolk during the entire life of the city and because of the importance of this responsibility it was essential that members of the council investigate the various phases of the dual phone question thoroughly before casting the final vote. And while no

exhaustive research was made by the council to ascertain the true situation in other cities where two systems are in operation, yet it is to be hoped, now that the franchise is granted that the city at large may not have cause to regret, after the new wires get into practical operation, the judgment of the present administration.

It would perhaps require several years of practical operation to demonstrate the true benefit or the true disadvantage of a double telephone system. For this reason The News believed that exhaustive research into the situation in cities where two lines had been operating for several years, before the franchise was granted, in order to get genuine facts from a disinterested and competent source, would be no more than fair to the people of Norfolk who must abide by the judgment of its eight councilmen. And while such an investigation was perhaps not made as extensively as could have been done, the people of Norfolk will hope, for the sake of the welfare of the city as a whole, that the best thing for Norfolk's good has been done.

There were strong arguments both for and against the granting of the second telephone franchise. There can be no question but that the double service will involve additional expense and additional annoyance to the people of Norfolk. Whether the benefits accompanying the double service would offset and overbalance those objections, was the question put up to the city council. And there can be no denying that it was a question of no slight moment, entailing no slight responsibility for all time upon the men who settled it by their votes.

On the one hand it was argued, and not without reason, that the installation of a second telephone system would involve two telephone bills for every business house at least, two telephone books to consult, two bells to jingle and two instruments to confuse. It was further argued that the establishment of a new \$50,000 phone system would simply mean that the people of Norfolk, sooner or later, would be compelled to dig down into their pockets and pay that \$50,000. A second telephone service is not going to be installed for fun, and it must be conceded that the public will not only pay the cost, but pay also a dividend upon the original capital invested. So much for the objections.

In reply to the arguments against two systems and favoring a single telephone system, were chiefly the arguments that the independent telephone company would bring Norfolk into closer touch with a vast territory in the northwest; that closer contact would mean commercial expansion for Norfolk; that Norfolk's prestige as a business center would be intensified; that toll line rates throughout this section would be reduced; that telephone service over the new system would be cheaper than over the present system; that many more telephones would be installed throughout the city and county, resulting in more extensive and therefore more valuable service; that the new system would be a "home" industry, to an extent, leaving a quantity of its expense money in Norfolk for supplies, etc. The strongest arguments in favor of the new system were the facts that Norfolk would be brought into closer touch with people out through this territory, that more extensive telephone service would result and that toll rates would be reduced.

There was nothing easy in the task of weighing over the various points for and against the double service. Unless new benefits could be realized, it would be easily unwise to grant a franchise to a second company which would mean additional expense and additional inconvenience. But these benefits, and striking ones, were forecasted by those interested in the new system. And it was to thoroughly test the comparative worth of the benefits or the disadvantages of the double system, as demonstrated after several years of practical working, that The News believed the city council ought, in fairness to the whole people of Norfolk, to make a complete investigation in other cities which have already gone through the experience and know from practical operations whereof they speak. The view of one man in another city, or a dozen men, would not be sufficient upon which to base an action of so much importance, for good or bad, to the people of this city. The true worth to a whole city, considered from all sides, could alone be cited as a basis for voting upon the franchise.

The question of a second telephone system in Norfolk was one beyond and above a personal matter. Personally Mr. Stadelman, general manager of the new company, is an energetic, whole-souled, progressive and ambitious gentleman. He has made friends in Norfolk, as he deserved, and Norfolk will only too gladly welcome him as a citizen because he has the earmarks of a "live wire" and because Norfolk today is in need of just as many "live wires" as can crowd into the city limits. But the question of a double telephone system for a city was one broader than personal likes or dislikes. It was one that ought to

have been studied in the practical operation very comprehensively before being settled. Now that it is settled once for all in Norfolk, however, Norfolk people will hope that the step taken will prove to be a wise one, bringing benefit enough to more than offset the burden entailed. And Norfolk at the outset will view the matter optimistically, hoping that the second system may prove as desirable an institution as Mr. Stadelman, its general manager, is a citizen.

AROUND TOWN.

But it's fine for the corn.

If you can't boost, don't knock.

It was knee high by the F—, all right.

Maybe Herman doesn't like Joe's board.

Two bands proved to be two many at Hadar.

It's a different kind of music in the air at Hadar.

Now if we can only keep shy of an early frost!

Norfolk is going ahead, despite statements to the contrary.

"Faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity."

The Hadar drouth is said not to have been broken even by the rain.

Talk has a reputation for being cheap. But it may become expensive.

They're wearing a bunch of counterfeit curls now that cost \$5 per bunch.

Talk is getting cheaper in Norfolk. Rates have been reduced on business telephones.

A girl visiting in Norfolk says she wouldn't marry any man who says "female" or "victuals."

An Omaha girl engaged to be married says she likes her fiance almost as much as she likes her dog.

When a book agent asks for a list of susceptible "literary people," for heaven's sake protect your friends.

Herman Boche has twice succeeded in killing other men but he failed three times yesterday to end his own life.

How do you like to answer the telephone, only to be asked by a voice that you do not recognize, "Who is this, please?"

A Norfolk woman feeds pancakes to the cow. The cow is still alive, but its days will probably be shortened by several years.

With two telephone systems, will there be twice as much talking in Norfolk? There's too much talking here now along some lines.

The new phone bell will ring by New Year and the new school bell will ring by January 15. Meanwhile the Bell phones will keep on ringing.

Who said Charles W. Fairbanks was cold blooded? The vice president jumped into the lake to save a girl's life, and without the slightest thought of publicity or his presidential aspirations.

When Oxnard bellhops meet Pacific bellhops on the street, they call out: "Hello, Foote." When Pacific bellhops meet Oxnard bellhops on the street, they call out: "Hello, Schiller."

Thirty-six deaths and something less than 2,000 injuries resulted from celebrating the nation's birthday. Couldn't the nation be held responsible, inasmuch as it had the birthday that caused the blood to flow?

With pretty nearly \$75,000 being spent for a new passenger station and a new high school, there is building activity to burn over on Phillip avenue. Within a block, the two new structures are going up. And each is being built to replace a building destroyed by fire.

Norfolk once more can thank its lucky stars for having escaped a severe storm. That bunch of tornadoes that swept over the northwest, with punctuation points at Long Ine, Creighton, Petersburg, Niobrara and Gregory might as easily as not have swung into Norfolk, but a good natured fate preserved us.

A fourteen-year-old boy called out this last night to a comrade a half block away: "I made a dime easy. Mamma told me she'd give me a nickel if I got home by half past six. I got that nickel and then she sent me up town for some groceries. The fellow in that — store cheated himself out of five cents and you see that nickel goes in my pocket, too. Wasn't that easy?" All of which goes to prove that the place to begin in elevating the "public conscience" is on the small boy growing up.

ATCHISON GLOBE SIGHTS.

The man who whines makes other people look pretty good by comparison.

Some men hate bull dogs so they would censure one for chewing an agent.

If an old man likes a rocking chair

he can't make any claim to being old-fashioned.

If a woman brags a good deal on her kin, it is a sign they live in another town.

Hit John Barleycorn every time you get a chance. Even behaving his best, he is meditating mischief.

We have noticed that when a woman hears that another woman was never in love, she says, "Bah!"

The new neighbors next door always turn out better than their furniture looks when it arrives on a wagon.

Before she undertakes it, the average woman says every day for a week: "I just must wash my head today."

When an agent calls to collect, he is not nearly as polite as he was when he called to coax you into signing the contract.

When a man kills himself for a woman she gets lots of sympathy, but when a woman kills herself for a man she is laughed at.

The pudding with the most plums in it for a newspaper reporter is the man who hates his kin and tells all he knows about them.

If a man borrows your lawn mower, and fails to return it, don't become discouraged and let your grass become ragged; borrow another lawn mower, and go to work.

It is going to be hard when a woman gets to heaven and finds herself flying around in a one-piece robe, with no cause for feeling in the back if her skirt and her waist are together.

People have been bothered so much by soliciting committees that many citizens who are amiable at all other times, become disagreeable when approached by such a committee. And you can't blame them much; passing the hat has become a tremendous nuisance. And half the time it is unnecessary.

An Atchison expert in flirting says that when you take hold of a girl's hand, and she doesn't say anything, but gets that cold, steel gray look in her eyes, as if she had sick headache, you had better let loose and run. But if the girl grabs her hand away, and says, "Now you stop!" the expert says keep right on; it's all right.

OVER NORTHWEST PRAIRIES

Anoka Herald: We expected to get our paper out on time this week but the first of the week some of the boys were shooting off some fireworks in front of Hammerlun's store—we thought we would celebrate a little too, and getting hold of a roman candle we commenced to shoot, and we did shoot, but not in the direction that was intended, for instead of the fireball going the right way it went backwards and the result was that we caught it, leaving us a pretty badly blistered palm on the right hand. This was the first roman candle we ever tried or shot, and we swore off right there of ever trying to shoot any more of them. Mell Hagerman, our telegrapher, had a similar accident, getting his right hand quite badly burned.

Rural Route No. 3.

Mr. and Mrs. John Faubel, jr., were visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Peter.

Mrs. Charles Herschlog and daughters left Wednesday morning to visit with her sons at Stanton.

Aug. Huebner made a business trip Sunday morning to Stanton, returning Sunday noon.

Sheriff Dwyer and Attorney Van Wagenen and families of Pierce were in Hadar Sunday evening.

Two regular northbound freights were delayed several hours last week here owing to a misplaced switch, which caused the coal tender to leave the track. The proper official at Norfolk was given immediate notice thereof and was ready to come up with the wrecking train, but their services were not required.

Oscar Huebner accidentally slipped on the grass while playing at a neighbor's and cut a gash fully two inches long which caused the little fellow to be quite restless, but he is much better today.

Mrs. Ed Morris is still quite ill with the attack of rheumatism at this place.

The bowery dance which was held July the Fourth was largely attended and everybody reported a jolly time.

The Hadar Concordia band is going to Winside Sunday to furnish music for a missionfest given there.

Misses Mary Brisso and Edna Nodrow went to Pierce on Tuesday.

Otto Huebner of Albion was in Hadar over night Sunday.

WATCH THIEF GETS THIRTY DAYS

Charles Russell Will Spend a Month in Madison Jail.

Thirty days in the county jail at Madison was the sentence pronounced on Charlie Russell Wednesday morning, when Russell admitted stealing a watch belonging to Chris Glissman. Russell had no defense when brought before Justice Eiseley. Russell said that Wednesday marked his first appearance as a prisoner in court. He is a young man of twenty-two, claims to live in Minneapolis and says that he is an orphan. Russell has been in Norfolk for about a month and will spend about the same length of time in Madison.