

The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal

The News, Established, 1881.  
 The Journal, Established, 1873.  
**THE HUSE PUBLISHING COMPANY**  
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 If a man can't make good at the bottom he can't make good at the top.  
 Under present conditions Hayti would be an ideal place to send the anarchists. Why not?  
 The great reformer Thomas W. Lawson is no more. He is just an ordinary stock gambler again.  
 No eclipse of the sun this year. Nevertheless several "favorite sons" are quite sure to be eclipsed.  
 The Goulds and Vanderbilts are offering their floating ocean palaces for sale at a small part of their original cost. This is very good evidence that they were hard hit by the panic.  
 Hearst and Watson are mentioned as a very likely populist ticket. Why not put the brains at the head of the ticket and the money at the tail instead of reversing it.  
 And now Wizard Burbank has done so well in making seedless apples, some one is hoping that he will be able to turn out rainless Sundays.  
 Governor Wilson of Kentucky thinks of calling an extra session of the legislature. The troubles of some states, like those of some people, never cease.  
 Many of the towns and cities of the United States boast of fine streets, but the best of them make poor educational institutions for the boys of the country.  
 There are a good many in this old world who like to hear Henry Watterson preach against hate, then pour vitals of wrath and condemnation on anyone who fails to agree with him.  
 The statement that the emperor of Germany is a courageous man can no longer be doubted. While he was in London recently he bought some new hats for his wife without consulting her.  
 The presidential candidates this year will all be subjected to a new and trying ordeal, that of being "featured" in moving pictures by the amusement men who deal in this class of attractions.  
 Now there is talk of buying lower California from Mexico. It's attraction is the fine natural harbor of Magdalena Bay which would be of great value to the United States for a naval station.  
 The balloonists promise that this will be a good year for flying, the politicians are sure that it will be a great year for running, the immigration bureau thinks it will be a great year for moving, while the auto owners expect to go some.  
 With 175 military and semi-military schools in the United States in which 60,000 cadet soldiers are training, there seems every reason to believe that the military spirit will be kept up to a high standard and the efficiency of the army maintained.  
 Much evil has been done by permitting the railroads to ride rough shod over legislatures and courts and people, but it will only make a bad matter worse to turn the tables and try to run rough shod over the railroads. What is needed is an administration of sane justice which shall not run to either extreme.  
 Judging by the expressions of Europeans in regard to the successful journey of the battleships they expected boilers to burst, engines to break down, other machinery to collapse, some ships to be left by the wayside and others to be towed into Magdalena bay in a crippled condition. That isn't the kind of ships Uncle Sam invests his millions in.  
 James Benton Connelly, who made the cruise from Hampton Roads with Admiral Evans' fleet as far as Magdalena Bay as the special representative of President Roosevelt, rather sustains the criticism of Reuter Dahl concerning the battleships. He says that our navy can be greatly improved in construction. He inclines to the opinion that our naval architects lack creative genius, and says "Swivel chair artists in the navy department are hardly any different from politicians in any other department."

The thief who recently stole one-fourth of a grain of radium from a Glasgow laboratory is worse off than before. He cannot sell it because any one who knew the value of it would at once suspect his right to its possession since the whereabouts of the world's infinitesimal amount of radium is well known. He can not put the bit of metal in his pocket as it would promptly burn through clothing and flesh. He cannot gaze upon the speck unless elaborate precautions are taken

without blinding himself. It is very evident that the last estate of that thief is worse than the first.

The fiction that a man must not seek the presidency is still maintained. There is not a candidate in the field. Messrs. Taft, Bryan, Johnson and the rest are merely standing round with their hands in their pockets to show their willingness to serve their country if the demand should be pressing.

It is becoming more and more apparent that no scheme of general education will develop individual students according to the special talents or gifts they may possess. After the foundation of their education has been gained in the grades there should be such a course of study adopted as will best fit the pupil for the vocation in life which he or she has most aptitude for.

The Philadelphia city council authorizes the floating of a \$10,000,000 loan and Mayor Rayburn has advertised for bids. This will give funds to carry on improvements which will furnish employment to several thousand unemployed men in the "City of Brotherly Love." No wiser thing can be done by any municipality than to furnish work on public improvements in times when laborers are compelled to lie idle.

It has been suggested that The News is more strongly in favor of paving than it would be if it owned real estate on Norfolk avenue within the proposed paving district. The News never intends to urge upon some one else anything that it will not do itself, and if the city will make its paving district to extend from the river to Seventh street on Norfolk avenue including North Fourth street from Norfolk avenue to Braasch avenue, The News will voluntarily stand an assessment of just double the cost of paving in front of The News building and the Auditorium, a street frontage of eighty-two feet, and will consider it a privilege to be allowed to do this. We are satisfied that besides benefiting the town as a whole, the investment in paving will more than add its cost to the value of the property. The city may take the additional money and put it into paving intersections or do what it pleases with it. We are sincere in believing that paving is the most important measure before the people of Norfolk at this time and we in no wise desire to shirk any of the responsibility or taxes incident to promoting the best interests of the town.

Plausible as this may seem, the facts do not sustain Mr. Bryan's condition. In this matter, as in many others, Mr. Bryan has a wonderful capacity for making assertions. He is as long on theories and fancies as he is short on facts. Notwithstanding the changed conditions which every one must recognize do prevail today in the business world, there never was a time in the history of the nation with such great opportunities for men with brains to succeed as there is at the present. It is true that the opportunity which existed a generation ago for every man to go into business for himself on a small capital and to plod in a small way, has passed. But strongly as those days appeal to our imagination, in reality did the great majority of men make any large success under that system of doing business? The capital of the country has admittedly found its way into great channels of industry and everything is now done, if it is to be made a success, in a great way. But while it is easy to rail at corporations and combinations they offer to hundreds of men most magnificent opportunities in business directions which the world affords.

It is true that there are thousands of unemployed men, but it is because they are either unskilled or shiftless. It is true that the high places are not to be permanently filled by men of ordinary attainments. This the young man should understand, but he should also understand that the world is waiting as never before for men of great ability to do things in a thousand different lines and along many avenues of life there is an increasing demand for men of capacity. Moreover, this is the era of young men. Never before was the young man so eagerly sought and was such a premium put upon his services. Neither is he sought because of his wealth or social position. This cuts no ice whatever. What the great business interests of the country want are results and the one question they ask of any man who offers his services is "Can he deliver the goods?" The great positions are open to the poor boys of the country and they are by the thousands making good, but the supply is no where near equal to the demand. The great agencies like Hapgood's which make a business of employing men for others, will tell you that they have numerous \$5,000 jobs. The great problem is to get \$5,000 men to fill them.

Much as we may deplore corporatism in some aspects, it must be admitted by every candid observer that they have given as a result of their gigantic and tremendous output of business employment to hundreds of skilled laborers at salaries that would not be investigated the problem more deftly. Take the United States Steel Corporation for example. It is a well known fact that its executive force is almost exclusively made up of poor

boys. Almost without exception, the men who are at the head of these great departments commanding princely salaries have known what it is to be poor in the genuine experience is to be poor in the genuine experience of the boy who struggles without pull and without any special favor. They enter the departments with an eye to business, with a willingness to work, with a patient persistence, and under the direction of able, alert, trained men they themselves have become the masters of the situation. And yet these men are so few in numbers compared to the real needs for the carrying on of this business and others similar to it, that Andrew Carnegie has established in Pittsburgh the largest technical institute in the world with the soul aim of supplying trained men for these different positions. In this institute the poor boy has all the chances of the son of the wealthiest man in the country. Similar institutions are springing up all over the land and there is going out an urgent demand that young men train their hands, their eyes and their brains in such a manner as to deal with the practical affairs of commercial and industrial life. The Steel company is not alone. Regardless of the fact that public criticism has exhausted itself on much that the Standard Oil company has done, here is another great corporation, whatever its other sins may be, that has been conspicuous in giving splendid rewards to the young men who have done their work well. Perhaps no other corporation in the country values its salaried men more highly and gives them more substantial recognition than Mr. Rockefeller's company.

IS OPPORTUNITY WANTING?  
 One of the stock arguments which Mr. Bryan includes in almost every speech he makes is that young men have no longer any opportunity to succeed in life because the present conditions of our industrial and social system prohibit it. To use a phrase of his, "monopoly is closing the door of opportunity to your boy and my boy."

There is an intense restlessness among the people and there is a constant demand that the government provide work for unemployed. This is especially true when times are a little slack in the factory towns, but what is needed more than anything else in the American situation today is a truer prospective of what life means and what it should bring. The country is growing in population as well as wealth but in some respects the growth is of a smaller character. It is unquestionably true that there is an immense amount of wealth within the limits of the United States and that the per capita of values is greater than anywhere else. But is lamentably true also that that wealth is very largely in the hands of a few rather than the many. What is needed is a better distribution, so that more people can enjoy the blessings which a competency brings rather than that the many should be surfeited with the misfortunes of luxury.

HOMES FOR THE PEOPLE.  
 The tendency of the age is such that it only serves to increase these unnatural conditions. The minds of the people are diseased with a mania for living in groups. It is because of this that the great cities are more and more becoming immense centers of population, while the country districts are being left to neglect. At the present rate of increase New York may have a population of seven millions by 1920 and Chicago, it is predicted, within fifty years will have ten millions of people. The contrast with this statement is found when a view of the farming districts of the country is taken. It is more noticeable in the eastern states where abandoned farms by the thousands are noted only a few miles distant from the great cities, but it is also true that in the Mississippi Valley and the newer west there is no such proportionate growth and settlement on lands as there is in the cities. The people have gone, not money mad, but city mad. They crowd into great apartment houses and into tenement houses and would rather be inconvenienced, suffering from lack of sunshine and fresh air, than to live more isolated lives in independence and comfort.

It is a mistaken notion. What is the remedy? There was never in the history of this country such an opportunity for men to get comfortable homes and lands to till as there is today. Never was the government doing so much to provide homes, irrigation, forestry and other departments are spending millions to provide conditions such as previous generations have known nothing about. The trouble is with the people themselves. They have a wrong conception of life. They want to live on Easy Street, ignoring the conditions which make for an independent livelihood. They need to have more of that initiative which the pioneers possessed who settled these flourishing states of the great central west. Speaking of these the New York Independent says: "The men who first settled on these farms had to walk or drive ox teams hundreds of miles. They had to fight Indians, wolves and bears. The early settlers in Kansas and Nebraska had to live in houses cut from the sod. There were no shade trees and no fruit. The drought and grass hoppers destroyed their crops year after year. They saw no one outside the family for

weeks at a time. If they had anything to eat more than corn bread and potato they thought themselves lucky. We do not pity these pioneers of the plains, we admire them. In spite of their privations, they lived healthy and happy lives and founded churches, schools and colleges."

Nebraska offers today just as great opportunities for other thousands of families as it has in the past. Farming has become, not the dreary existence of former days, but in its stead one of the most attractive occupations on the face of the earth. In this splendid Elkhorn valley, in which Norfolk is situated, and the lands stretching far to the westward, is an area fertile and full of possibilities in which there are thousands of acres still waiting for the husbandman's care. The men who occupying the flourishing farms in this region are no longer shut off from their neighbors. Better roads, good railroad communication, telephones, rural free delivery, the daily newspaper—all these bring the farmer in close contact with the world every hour of the day. He is the real king of America. His number should be multiplied many times. Never were farm products so eagerly sought for at high prices as they are at the present time. It is a mistake and a most serious one for thousands of people to cling to city life with all its privations when there are such possibilities for health and comfort and independence on the farm. The people not only in the slum districts, but thousands of them who are struggling for a mere existence under the shadow of the great sky scrapers of some metropolis, need something of the initiative and energy possessed by the men who have made these great western states bud and blossom as the rose by their earnest endeavors and by their willingness to suffer some of the privations of life that they might become strong. Those privations no longer exist, Nebraska cordially invites thousands of these people to share in the splendid prosperity of its citizens and here obtain for themselves an independent foot hold on a soil as fertile as any out of doors where they can live and breathe the spirit of independence under God's sunshine amongst the best possible conditions. Here are homes amongst a free, intelligent thrifty people awaiting men if they will only take them. There are prizes here to be had for the asking. They are not for the indifferents; they are not for the lazy; they are not for the uninitiated, but for the men who are willing to work, who have pluck and brain and brawn. The chances on the splendid farm lands of Nebraska are incomparable to any which the over crowded districts of the great cities have to offer.

It would be well for the country's future if this could be realized by thousands. Fortunately more and more are realizing it and Nebraska and its sister states are receiving more of the young vigorous of the country week by week, who by their endeavors will gain homes for themselves and help to maintain the most prosperous common wealth of the nation.

AROUND TOWN.  
 Can't the weather man take a joke? Take it all back: This is not the time to shed.

A fire can't start early enough in the morning to get ahead of the Norfolk fire department.

President Roosevelt vetoed that dam bill. But for the matter of that, he's vetoed a good many of that kind.

What's in a name? It was Ward's "Smoke House" that caught fire and got smoked up Wednesday morning.

"There is hardly a word in The News, advertisements and all, that I don't read every single night," said a Norfolk man. "I begin at 7 o'clock and there isn't a line in the paper that escapes me."

Clear the track for Easter clothes. The big fish stories and radishes are asprouting.

This kind of weather is enough to make any man forget all his troubles.

The iceman to bat! It's getting about the time of year to shed.

Every day this week is the rabbit's busy day.

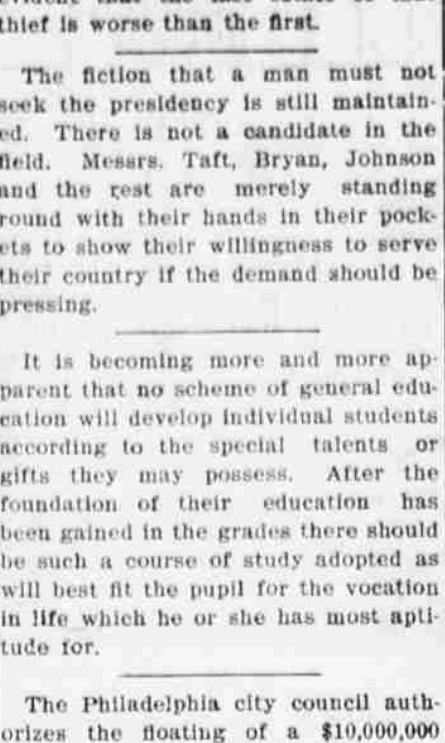
Here's where the coal bill gets a black eye.

There are women in Norfolk who can tell you which Easters were rainy and which were not, for the past twenty years.

One little five-year-old boy said the other day to his mother, who had been sick for seven weeks: "Just think, mother, I got out of having my toenails trimmed and my ears 'skittled' for seven times."

It almost shakes one's faith in human nature when a curly headed, blue eyed boy like Julius Hulff, three times city clerk and ex-secretary of the Madison County Sunday School association, et cetera, et cetera, will deliberately drop poetry and resort to fiction to vent his spleen. Take that story about the misspelling of P. J. Fuesler's name on the city ballots,

J. D. Sturgeon, Mayor-Elect of Norfolk



J. D. Sturgeon, mayor-elect of Norfolk, will on the seventh of next August have been a resident of this city for twenty years. As the new mayor is fifty-four years old the most active part of his life has been spent in Norfolk.

This year Mr. Sturgeon was elected mayor by the largest majority ever given a candidate for that office in Norfolk. A year ago he ran for the same office against the same man and was defeated in every ward in town. Sturgeon's life has been marked by many of these ups and downs but up or down it can be said for him that he has always had a smile and a boost. The way he accepted defeat last year and then took off his coat and worked the harder in the public movements in which he was interested explains not only the man's character and disposition but also what success he may have achieved at any time.

Mr. Sturgeon started in life with no capital but his energy. Norfolk has before this found opportunities to utilize that energy. Sturgeon is a hard worker. When he has met reverses he has smiled a little and kept on working.

The mayor-elect is a hoosier. He was born on December 21, 1853, on a farm four miles from Logansport, Ind. When he was four years old his parents moved by wagon to Polk county, Iowa.

He never had a look-in for a college education. He went to a country school when a boy and he went barefooted to school most of the time. So did the other kids over in Polk county. In this fashion he got a common country school education.

Sturgeon has virtually supported himself since he was eleven years old. His first work was of course on his father's farm. The first money he ever earned came when he was eleven years old. He herded cattle for a farmer for forty cents a day. Later he worked out on a farm for a month.

Sturgeon grew to manhood in Polk county near Vandala not far from Des Moines. He married when he was twenty-one and stuck to farming until he was twenty-nine years old.

By an accident he was thrown in company with a man selling sewing machines about this time. As a result in 1882 he went to Grinnell, Iowa, and arranged to work by the month for J. W. Hulzinger. For three and a half years he worked out of Montezuma selling sewing machines and organs.

Mr. Hulzinger is a frequent visitor to Norfolk. He has an art and novelty business in Des Moines and he travels through this territory in the interest of this business.

After traveling for the Singer Manufacturing company for a year or so Mr. Sturgeon came to Norfolk in 1888 to take charge of the office and the local business of the Singer company.

In 1892 he entered business for himself. In a few years he became pretty widely known as "Sturgeon, the piano man." He finally adopted the phrase as a sort of a trade mark. He carried on his business over a big territory and has made his house well known in north Nebraska. He is president of what is now the "Sturgeon Music company."

Because of his energy and push Sturgeon has always made good as a traveling man. Back in 1893 he won a free trip to the world's fair for selling more goods for a certain house than any other traveling representative during a given period. He has been a prominent worker in the United Commercial Travelers. On two occasions he has been selected to represent the local council at the state meetings and at this time is one of the delegates to represent the Norfolk council at the state convention in this city next month. So when the grand council of the U. C. T. is welcomed in Norfolk it will find the mayor of the town as one of its delegates. With a U. C. T. man as mayor Norfolk will be able to give a true ringing welcome to that big bunch of representative commercial travelers who are so vitally concerned in the welfare of the state and whose good will counts for more possibly than that of any other single class of men. Mr. Sturgeon also belongs to the Odd Fellows, the A. O. U. W. and the Woodmen of the World.

He has been twice a candidate for mayor of Norfolk, never for any other office. Last spring when the republican party was looking around for an available candidate to head the party ticket Mr. Sturgeon was prevailed on to accept the nomination. He accepted the nomination as a sincere compliment as it always should be accepted. He started a vigorous campaign. He was beaten at the polls. He was beaten badly. He did not like it. No man would. But he became more of a booster than ever. He went into public movements with more vim than before. Today Sturgeon is secretary of the Norfolk Commercial club. He is chairman of the finance committee of the trade promoters' association. He was the prime mover in the "exchange day" project.

The time came around this spring for the republicans to present a candidate for another battle of the votes. Sturgeon was willing to make the race again. He felt that he could do better the second time. He did. He was swept into office with a majority that set a new record in Norfolk. And the man who lost every ward in Norfolk in 1907 carried every one of the same four wards in 1908 by larger majorities than were polled against him the year before.

So Sturgeon is mayor of Norfolk, the thirteenth man to be elected to that office. Twelve men have served before him. Herman Gerecke, the first mayor, was elected the first time back in 1886. Norfolk as a municipality has advanced steadily since that time, sometimes slowly, sometimes with perceptible progress. There is much still to be done and there will be much still to be done when Sturgeon gives way to another mayor but the mayor-elect will enter his office next May determined to do all he can to show some substantial advancement when his term of service is up.

accuse other milliners and dressmakers of copying his styles.

Two sisters living in Atchison quarreled many years ago. One of them recently said: "We had a fuss thirty years ago. Let me see: what did we fuss about?"

There is nothing brave in taking one's medicine "like a man." The saying should be changed to taking it like a woman. It is the women who can take medicine without making a face.

Every man imagines that fortunes may be easily made in some other part of the world. Every field looks green in the distance; it is not until he reaches it that a man sees that stumps and bad places are as numerous as in the field he left.

The dogs of North Atchison, particularly in that section north of Division street and east of Fifth, have been holding a fathers' congress every night this week. Last night the noise was simply disgraceful. At least a hundred fights were pulled off among the fathers, and there was barking, and snarling, and all the other dog noises. Dozens of people were unable to sleep.

One wise man states a proposition. Another wise man says the proposition is foolish. What is the truth? Half the time we don't know whether we are right or wrong although all the time trying to do right.

We have noticed that when a small boy goes into a store, he always leaves a boy on the outside, and when detained, he will go to the door two or three times and call out: "All right Bill; in just a minute." You will often see a girl going down town alone to do an errand, but you will never see a boy alone. He will start out alone and wind up with four or five boys and a dog.

ATCHISON GLOBE SIGHTS.  
 We don't suppose there ever was a milliner or dressmaker who did not