

The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal

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The Journal, Established 1877.
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Divorces in America have doubled since 1880.

The Hatien revolution scheduled for last month was delayed by heavy rains.

December arrived in dignity and might and very promptly put an end to all that Indian summer foolishness.

Francis Joseph ascended the throne of Austria Hungary sixty years ago and is still doing business at the old stand.

San Francisco is still furnishing sensations. The chief of police has succeeded just to keep up the city's reputation.

And now a Chicago professor says that kissing is to be relegated to the lower classes in the future. Pity the poor rich man!

The man who gives the world a square deal generally gets pain in kind while the one who does not, sooner or later gets the worst of it.

With uncertain eggs retelling at three cents apiece and the hens on their midwinter strike, the outlook for Christmas cake is a gloomy one.

It cost \$1,200,000 to carry on the campaign which elected Mr. Taft. It was quite a sum of money but then the people have got an extra large president.

A trade dollar bearing the date 1884, recently sold for \$284. Less than half a dozen were struck off that year hence their unusual value.

Rockefeller and Archbold are earning their \$1.50 per day by relating reminiscences some of which are proving well worth the money to the people.

An excellent plan has been proposed in New York to establish farm colonies for habitual tramps and vagrants. Labor will be compulsory, but not cruel or monotonous.

The forestry commission is begging that the people who wish to help along the preservation of what forests remain, hang up their stockings this year and spare the young spruces.

James J. Hill predicts a steady improvement in business conditions for the next few years but no boom. Those who have experienced booms hope the sagacious railroad president is right.

Charles Brodie Patterson, special student of longevity, says it is possible for a man to live forever. Without taking issue on that point with the learned specialist, we would like to inquire if he can run for the presidency as long as that?

If it takes two terms in the presidential chair to fit a man who had done no small amount of literary work before, to become an editor, what an amount of natural genius most men who get there without this distinguishing training must have.

Dr. Mitchonikoff is strenuously experimenting on a dope to prevent the ravages of old age—the elixir of youth which has been earnestly sought for by each succeeding generation. If the doctor survives his own treatment the world may then take some stock in it.

Mr. Archbold has explained very fully and kindly that the Standard Oil company put its competitors out of business for their own good. Isn't it strange how slow these men have been to appreciate the disinterested beneficence of this great corporation?

Every business man in Norfolk will feel more comfortable with the fire inspection, which has just been undertaken, finished. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure and such prevention as this ought to place Norfolk in better condition than ever before to resist the slings and arrows of outrageous flames.

It begins to look like Holt county Democrats have been laboring in vain for Democratic majorities in this county the past dozen years. Of the many and varied applicants for a state job under the Democratic governor no announcement has appeared yet of a Holt county man annexing a state salary—O'Neill Frontier.

How about Art Mullen?

Northern Nebraska and southern South Dakota have every reason to make this one of the most joyful Christmas seasons yet experienced. Crops have been good, prices for the products of this region are high and prosperity is general. This section has money in the bank and there's reason for a merry holiday season.

very best sellers on record. The proceeds of the sale go to charity, which with the fact that the author is Queen, accounts for the great demand for the work. The book consists mainly of reproductions of photographs taken by her majesty, many of which show members of the royal family.

Mr. Achbold says that the Standard Oil company put its competitors out of business for their own good. Strange that some men haven't heard yet that the theory of "The divine right of kings" was exploded a long, long time ago.

Mrs. Frank Gould "shuns publicity" in her divorce case. In this Mrs. Gould has the company of a vast number of "undesirable citizens" of all classes. When people do that which will not bear the light of day they always avoid publicity.

With the acreage of winter wheat considerably lessened, and the condition averaging not high, there are prospects that all of the farmers of northern Nebraska and southern South Dakota who have planted winter wheat will make a good profit next summer.

And now some old pessimist is trying to establish the idea that Paul Revere and his famous ride were merely creatures of the imagination. If he had been with Paul on that memorable night, he would have been convinced that he was a lively myth. That "midnight ride of Paul Revere" will remain a fixed star in United States history long after these prying investigators are dead and gone.

The suggestion is made that every ex-president be retired as commander-in-chief of the army and navy. This is a position which he occupies during his official career. It is not active, unless war should occur, but would carry with it an ample salary and a dignified position. Whatever is done should be with a view of maintaining the dignity of the presidential office and the independence of the individual.

To try to dodge the issue is out of the question. Socialism has got to be faced in America as it has been in England. So far as it seeks to pervade society with a sense of universal brotherhood, the spirit of socialism meets a hearty and almost universal response. But to its method of accomplishing this—the abolition of industry based upon profits as the reward of service, there can be no such general response.

The Pacific peace pact between Japan and the United States which agrees upon free and peaceful commercial development in the Pacific, is a very sensible agreement. There is no earthly reason why there should be war between the United States and Japan or any other country and the signing of this agreement, even if it is informal, will go a long way toward settling war as a possible issue into the remote background.

The recent mine disaster at Marriana, Pa., in which every man in the mine was killed, impresses the country once more with terrible emphasis that in some way these men who work in the depths of the earth ought to be protected from such cruel deaths. Instead of less lives being lost each year than the preceding one, the death rate seems to be on the increase. Cannot American scientists and inventors do something to save the unfortunate miners?

England and Russia have recently come to an agreement concerning Persia which gives Russia the northern third as her sphere of influence, while British influence is to be supreme in the southeastern fourth. The shah is as changeable as the weather vane. One day he promises his people a constitutional government and the next day he decides to remain "king of kings," as he styles himself. Probably England and Russia will eventually administer Persia much as France and England did Egypt before the Arab's rebellion.

Lord Roberts, England's greatest soldier, frankly expresses the fear that when the psychological moment arrives, Germany may accomplish what Napoleon failed to do—successfully invade British dominion. Von Moltke, Germany's greatest tactician, once remarked that he knew twenty ways of landing an army into England—but not one of getting it out. That condition still remains true. Lord Roberts' warning may stir up more military activity, but it will not alarm the Britons who have depended on their great navy ever since it repulsed the Spanish Armada and became mistress of the sea.

The administration has decided upon a further extension of the civil service reform. The fourth class postmasters of the more populous section of the country extending north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi will be affected by the new ruling. The present system lays upon the congressmen of each district the responsibility

for those who wish to qualify, the aim is to insure the employment of only such persons as are qualified to give the government good service. The plan has not yet been tested but as it has worked satisfactorily in other departments it is probable that it will in this.

A wealthy New York woman, who conceals her name, has recently built in New York a handsome five story fire proof hotel at a cost of \$150,000. It is known as the Harlem Boys hotel, and is designed to meet the needs of boys without natural protectors. It isn't a free boarding house, although the youthful patrons do get more for their money than they could think of getting elsewhere. Board, lodging, washing, ironing and baths for \$1.05 per week—how does that strike you? It is a novel benevolence, but wisely administered has wonderful possibilities for the uplifting of these homeless boys, and what class of unfortunate needs a helping hand more than the homeless boy?

That portion of Texas lying west of the Pecos river and between New Mexico and the Rio Grande is shut off from the rest of the Lone Star state by mountain ranges and arid plateaus. Feeling their isolation the people of this portion of the state which comprises an area somewhat larger than Pennsylvania are seeking admittance into the union as a separate state. All that is necessary to accomplish their desire is to gain the consent of the whole people of Texas. This, however, they are not likely to do as the Texans are inordinately proud of the dimensions of their great state which rivals France in size. If France can support a population of 45,000,000, the Texans think their state can do as well. Within a generation the state expects to cast more electoral votes than New York does now. If Texas desires to retain her territory, she must endeavor to keep her outlying territory pacified and in touch with the rest of the state. Since the state capital is as far from the leading city of the Trans-Pecos country, as Minneapolis is from St. Louis, this is not such a simple task as it sounds.

JUDGE SULLIVAN'S RESIGNATION.

The secret behind the resignation of Judge Sullivan from the supreme court of Nebraska two days after he had been appointed to the place by Governor Sheldon, is generally agreed to have been the probable fact that the Democrats have determined to contest the legality of all four of Governor Sheldon's appointments. The program as it has been urged by W. H. Thompson and others is for the legislature to ignore the canvass made by the state canvassing board and the proclamation and subsequent appointments by the governor, but to proceed to make the canvass itself on the ground that until the canvass is made by the legislature nobody knows whether the amendments creating two new judges was carried. Then after declaring the result Governor Sheldonberger will issue his proclamation and make his appointments.

It is pointed out, however, that if Sheldon has any doubts about the appointments he has just made being legal, he can still circumvent the Democratic plan, since the newly elected governor cannot make act until after the legislature has canvassed the vote, and in the interim between that announcement and the inauguration he could re-enact what he has done recently. Governor Sheldon, however proposes to stand by his action of Monday, believing it to be legal.

THE WORLD'S INTERVIEW.

The action of the New York World in making the amende honorable to the German emperor for publishing a fictitious interview, purporting to be the same as that which was to have appeared in the Century magazine shows what conscientious responsibility rests with the press of the country in general, and how very carefully a newspaper must constantly be on its guard lest it be "stung."

The Century magazine was to have printed an interview with the kaiser. When it became evident to the German ruler that publication of the interview would cause trouble he requested the Century to suppress it. This was done at the expense of getting out an entirely new edition of the magazine, destroying the original. Naturally every New York newspaper was hard after a hint as to what the interview contained. One night the World got a story that seemed to be authentic. It was sent to the man who wrote the original magazine interview and he read the proofs; without making any comment on the proofs, other than to correct them, he gave the World every reason to believe that the story was authentic. The story came at a very late hour, when the owner and editor of the paper were asleep. It was published and later proved to be without foundation. The World thereupon cabled the kaiser, apologizing for its mistake, and printed an editorial in which it expressed its regrets in the matter.

This required moral courage. And this incident, compared with the action of Hearst's paper in New York

be an authentic interview, but never offered any sort of an apology when the falsity of their story was proved.

THE PRESIDENT'S ENCOUNTER.

Two newspaper men have just been added to the Annanias club by President Roosevelt. Delavan Smith, publisher of the Indianapolis News, and William M. Laffan of the New York Sun, are the latest persons to incur the chief executive's wrath. Both are referred to in terms even more burning than the "undesirable citizen" phrase, "Abominable slander and falsehood," "lies," and "mendacity for hire" are some of the choicer expressions.

The president wrote his letter to William Dudley Foulke of Indiana. Mr. Foulke is the same man to whom the president wrote some time ago declaring that federal patronage was not being used to further the Taft campaign.

Foulke had written the president enclosing a clipping from the Indianapolis News as follows:

The campaign is over and the people will have to vote tomorrow without any official knowledge concerning the Panama canal deal. It has been charged that the United States bought from American citizens for \$40,000,000 property that cost those citizens only \$12,000,000. Mr. Taft was secretary of war at the time the negotiation was closed.

There is no doubt the government paid \$40,000,000 for the property. But who got the money? We are not to know. The administration and Mr. Taft do not think it right that the people should know. The president's brother-in-law is involved in the scandal, but he has nothing to say. The candidate's brother has been charged with being a member of the syndicate. He has it, it is true, denied it. But he refuses to appeal to the evidence, all of which is in the possession of the administration and wholly inaccessible to outsiders.

For weeks this scandal has been before the people. The records are in Washington and they are public records. But the people are not to see them—till after election, if then.

The president denies the charges of graft and then flays the two editors for things that their papers said. The two editors briefly replied, Laffan declining to enter into a controversy with the president because he said Roosevelt had too light regard for truth in a controversy. Smith said the trouble with Roosevelt was that that paper declined to burn incense under the nostrils of a man greedy for incense fumes.

The language used by the president is pretty strong. It seems regrettable that he should have thought such words essential to maintain his standing among the people of this country.

As a general proposition the American people hold the view that the dignity of the presidency should be maintained at highest possible level and that bitter personal encounters between the president and private citizens, in which the president takes the aggressive and resorts to bitter epithets, should come only as an extreme measure. A president can hardly take the time to fly into a rage and enter the public prints every time his administration is criticised. If the criticism be untrue, it will die of its own weight and the papers in question in this instance were hardly entitled to the compliment of so much attention from the White House.

The people of the country would have taken no stock in the charge of graft in the Panama purchase, even without these attacks. The middle west did not even realize that these charges were being made until the president brought the matter to their attention. The public has too much faith in Roosevelt's integrity to make such personal attacks from the White House at all necessary in refuting these charges.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

President Roosevelt's message, delivered to the new session of the Sixtieth congress at noon Tuesday, will be read with interest over the entire nation, as the Roosevelt messages always are.

The president points out at the beginning the fact that the nation is prosperous—a fact which ought to mean much to all citizens.

In regard to railroad control, he reiterates his view—a view which has logic to back it—that the federal government must control all transportation lines, both interstate and intrastate, if control and regulation are to be effective.

The president has deemed it wise at this time to call down those demagogues who are seeking to ride into public favor (and public office) by the mere act of attempting to discredit and destroy all forms of business. The demagogue, he says, is a dangerous foe to society.

The president does not accept the socialistic theory that the government should own the tools of production, but he sees the advantage of having machinery, etc., owned as much as possible by the worker. In the case of farmers this merely means that the farmer should own his own land, this being a more desirable condition than that in which the land is owned by absentee landlords.

The postal savings bank, favored in the Republican national platform, and as against the visionary theory of a

proved by the government, he argues. The point is a good one that corporate finances should be so supervised by the government that the ordinary citizen may intelligently and safely invest his money in corporate stocks. As it is at present the average man is fearful of putting his savings into certain industrial stocks and bonds which ought to be perfectly safe and the value of which should be known to every reader in the land. If this were the condition, corporations would not experience the difficulty in getting cash which they sometimes meet.

More stringent legislation along the employers' liability line is urged.

A good word in the matter of salary is put in for employees of the government. Half holidays during the summer should be granted to government employees, he says.

Defense of the courts is made and higher salaries are asked. The salaries paid our judiciary are all too meager. A rap is taken at Samuel McGeer. Forest preservation is deservedly given attention.

Navigated rivers as well as those that are navigable, are spoken for. Action on inland waterways at this session is urged.

Parcels post is urged, along with Postmaster General Meyer's theory, and the president makes an attempt to convince the country storekeeper that his interest, as well as those of the farmer, will be best served by the establishment of a limited parcels post. Those opposed to this will argue that this would be but the entering wedge.

The public health is a matter worthy of attention, in the president's view.

The immediate admission of New Mexico and Arizona as states is urged.

Progress on the Panama canal is entirely satisfactory, the president says.

Real progress is being made toward self government in the Philippines, the message says.

Japan treated the fleet well and receives special recognition for the welcome in this message.

A new system of promotion in the army is urged as advisable.

Probably one of the most important features of the message is that part in which the president urges a revision of the anti-trust laws so as to permit the formation of those combinations which would work for the public benefit.

All in all the message is more constructive and less passionate than those sent by the president last year. At the same time it rings with the same Roosevelt force that characterized all of those.

AROUND TOWN.

Do your Christmas shopping while the moon stays bright.

Little girls can never get killed on the football field, when they grow up, anyway.

If you don't want one of the prizes for yourself, give your votes to some friend. It costs nothing to vote.

One man hit another on the nose at Spencer and broke that feature of the victim's facial make-up. By the time the story got to Norfolk it was told that the man had shot his daughter and wife and tried to commit suicide.

John Williams, who formerly lived at Ainsworth, has spoiled the solution of a mystery and turned everything upside down again. Some time ago a man was found near Valentine. He had been murdered and the body thrown into the Niobrara river. Mrs. Williams of Ainsworth went up to Valentine and identified the body by certain marks that she knew positively marked her son. She was making every preparation to have the body brought to Ainsworth and buried when son John wrote her a letter denying the allegations and proving an alibi. So the whole affair is in the air again.

ATCHISON GLOBE SIGHTS.

A fool soon finds out that he can make a big noise.

Women talk too much about marriage to suit the men.

In humming around, a man strikes many a trail that he recognizes.

When a husband is mean, patience in his wife is never regarded by any of the neighbors as a virtue.

We confess that we are often unable to distinguish between genius and insanity.

You can't make a man mad by making fun of his doctor. Men are given to abusing their doctors, but women won't stand it.

If a woman makes a cake for a church provision sale, that means a gem in her crown, and if she buys it back, it means another gem, but where does her husband come in?

The right person to visit when you take a vacation is the landlord of a hotel, who will charge you regular rates, and not say afterwards that you sponged on him.

Brides are seldom good cooks, but it is not on record that their poor cooking ever made a man sick; another proof that if a man is hungry at his

JOHNNY DUMPER TELLS OF A TRICK ON THE WASH WOMAN

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 5.—To the Editor of The News: Did you ever read "Peck's Bad Boy?" I found an old copy in a second hand store on sixteenth st. last week and I bot it for fifteen cents. Sumboddy had rote this vurse on the first page:

"Read not this book
My youthful friend,
Or fear the gallus
Will be your end:
For kidish kussedness
On the level,
Peck's Bad Boy will
Raise the devil!"

I read it enyway and like to a dide a lafing, but dont you think them jokes sound better in a book than in real life? I no if I'd ever tride eny of them jokes on my Pa before he dide he'd a tand me till I'd never wanted another.

After I'd red it I lent the book to the nite elevator boy. He reads "Diamond Dick's" libry all nite between calls and he's getting awful tuf. I thot mebbe I cud get him wend away from that Diamond Dick trash and get him interested in good literature if I went easy like, so I started by lending him "Peck's Bad Boy."

He got to thinking about them jokes and yesterday morning he thot he'd try one on the scrub woman that cums every morning at five o'clock to scrub the hait-ways before the gets up. He sed it always give him a tired feelng to look at her; he liked to see folks with a pleasant look on onct in a while, and he was going to have a circens and liven her up a bit. I told him he'd better not give the poor old woman enny more trouble than she had. He sed that was all rite, he wudnt hurt her enny and I forgot about it (till yesterday morning I was getting up early and I hurd a racket out in the hait). I went out and found that scrub woman on the staires with the mop water running all over her and a couple of stove-pipes at the bottom. She was groneing and eudent get up. She sed she thot her back was broke. She sed sumboddy put them pipes on the staires and it was dark like and she never saw them and they rold out from under her and the water flue all over her and she fell half way down staires.

I remembered that Peck's bad boy played that same joke on his Pa and Ma and I new at onct the elevator boy had did it. But I didnt peech eos I felt that it was partly my foit for lending him that book.

I helpd the woman up but she eudent walk without leening on me and she sed it hurt her awful to walk.

I sed I'd call the nite-clerk and she sed, "Oh no, dont let him no or he may get another woman to work here."

So I helpd her down staires, (they dont allow scrub wimmen to ride on the elevators,) and when we got to the side walk I ast her where she livd and she sed over a mile away down towards the river. I sed we cud take the car pretty neer there and she sed "Oh no, she cud walk and save care-fare," but I had sum money and we got on a car and road within three blocks of where she lived. People stared at me in my good clothes helping along that poor woman in a faded dress all sope suds but I didnt care. She lived in an upstaires room of what uster be a store bliding and I helpd her up the steps. She was all shivering for it was a cold morning. A little girl opend the door and sed in a thin voice, "What's the matter Mama?"

I ses, "She's all wet and cold, you'd best blid a big fire."

The girl whose name's Jinny and she's ate years old ses, "There aint no coal left and Ernie's just gone with his little wagon to hunt sum along the

Yours,
Johnny Dumper.

A GASOLENE RIDE.

We were eating lunch in a wood afar While our chauffeur fixed our touring car: He pumped a tire and tightened a cam And loosened a bearing that threatened to jam, Then calmly remarked in accents slow That our gasoline guage was getting low, And, as nearly as he could figure it down, It was twenty miles to the nearest town.

We packed our baskets in the tonneau, And, donning our goggles, we said, "Let'er go!" Our chauffeur was calm, though fearful much, As he opened the throttle and shifted the clutch: The motor roared with its motive force Of a mile a minute and forty horse As we took the road that quiet day With gasoline twenty miles away.

Around a corner and over a bridge, Down through a hollow and up on a ridge, Skirting ravines where the brooklets flow, Passing farms where cornfields grow, Up and down and around we flew, Over and under, between and through, Roads that were sandy and roads of clay, With gasoline fifteen miles away.

A rooster stood in the road and crew, What it was that hurt him he never knew, An old hen crossed with fifteen chicks, When she looked around she had but a sly, "What's the matter with you?"

We scarcely felt the diminished speed As our chauffeur steered our exhausted steed Over a road as smooth as a floor For a distance of fully a mile or more: We shed a tear and breathed a sigh At the thought of letting the old cat die.

As we tore along our murderous way With gasoline only ten miles away,

We met a man with a span of mules; He cried "Let up, you crazy fools!" Each donkey stood with her ears ahead

As if she feared we would strike her dead, But ere they had even time to shy We tooted our horn and passed them by,

But we heard behind a receding bray With gasoline only five miles away,

Faster and faster yet we flew, Each valve and connection working true,

Each cylinder doing its level best To land us in town before taking a rest:

Our chauffeur watched with eager eye, For our fuel supply was running dry; The last drop vanished to our dismay With gasoline more than a mile away.

Have you ever thought how far a wheel

A ton of rubber and brass and steel Fitted with every device of man To minimize friction all he can, Hurled at seventy miles an hour Will carry itself with its pent-up power?

If not, you should have been there that day With gasoline nearly a mile away.

We scarcely felt the diminished speed

As our chauffeur steered our exhausted steed

Over a road as smooth as a floor

For a distance of fully a mile or more:

We shed a tear and breathed a sigh

At the thought of letting the old cat die.