

Route No. 3. The roads on the route are closed for the holidays. Wm. Krumland and Miss Seefeld were guests of Arnold Schasad Sunday evening. Miss Hilma Mohrman returned home last Saturday from a visit at Defiance, Ia. Prof. Schmiding of the German school is spending the holidays at his home in Seward. Herbert Books of Phillipsburg, Kas., has been visiting the family of Peter Schmidt. Mrs. John Kotler has been spending several days visiting her father, Mr. Theodor Mook. Frank Kotler will return to the state university Monday, where he is studying for a civil engineer. Fred Bangmann returned to his home at Riverdale Saturday, after a week's visit with relatives and friends. On account of the illness of her daughter, Mrs. O. B. Preston, Mrs. L. E. Seefeld was called to Monroe last week. The program and Christmas tree at the German school was a success in every particular, and the program well rendered. Gustave Brunken, who is farming near Laboma, Okla., is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Brunken. A. J. Mason, principal of the Duncan schools, accompanied by his family, spent Christmas at the home of his parents. Owing to the critical condition of their mother, Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Bisson of Oalunet, La., and Jessie Bisson of Tulsa, Okla., arrived last week. The Misses Edith Mitchell and Julia Skups returned to their home in Omaha Tuesday, after spending a week visiting the family of John Kotler. Carrier No. 3 extends his sincere thanks to the patrons for remembering him at Christmas time. In one box there was a snow white goose, trimmed with pink ribbon, and attached to it was a very pretty Christmas card. One little patron of a few Christmases handed us two packages, saying that one was for you and for your mama. We thanked the little giver for his kindness, and out thought turned to her from among the angels no doubt looked down and smiled upon the generous little giver. The Farmers' Telephone company held their regular meeting Monday afternoon at the Regan school house and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Ernest Arndt, president; Fred Meyer, vice president; Robert Krause, treasurer. A representative of the Bell Telephone company was present and submitted a proposition whereby their line could be connected with the Farmers' line for long distance service. The proposition was very favorably received and the matter was turned over to the board of directors with power to do in the matter what they thought best. Route No. 1. Louis Bargebach of No. 14, was a pleasant caller on Route 1 last Sunday evening. Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Reed spent last Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Devlin. The Misses Nellie Deninger and Jose Johanssen were leap year callers at the home of Herman Milke last Sunday evening and report splendid results. And "Old Sanny" did not forget the carrier by any means. He was the recipient of an abundance of candy, meat and confectionery, and "Old Dobbin" was remembered with two sacks of corn. Two fine ducks were also among the gifts received, each with a curl in their tails. The children Christmas program at the Looske Creek church was held on Christmas afternoon instead of Christmas evening. A very large attendance of parents and patrons, and a very enjoyable time is reported. The program was in charge of Prof. Reese, and was carried out without a hitch. Last Thursday afternoon Miss Grace Benson, teacher in District No. 10, gave Christmas tree at the school house. A literary program had been prepared and was given before the distribution of the gifts, which was excellent, a large number of the pupils taking part in the exercises. The entertainment was a success, and was attended by a large crowd of people. Advertiser's Letters. Following is a list of unclaimed mail matter remaining in the post office at Columbus, Nebraska, for the period ending December 30, 1908: Letters—Bank of Columbus, Dan E. Chamberlain, Frank Effie, Charles K. Henry, Mrs. Joe Quisenberry, Mrs. Eliza Smith, Frederick W. Shaw, Mrs. H. S. Wesch. Cards—Roy Bivins, Mrs. Jack Carter, Mrs. Elizabeth Camal, Mrs. Ida Effie, H. A. Fidelity, Willie Hoessel, Mrs. Mary Kueck, Miss Anna Loeko, Jacob Lise, Myrtle McPerry, Miss Roscoe, Kellie P. Schmidt, Miss Addie Williams, Christ Schreiber, Frank Scholz. Parties calling for any of the above will please say advertised. OARL KRAMER, P. M. Marriage Licenses. Lewis A. Boney, Columbus, 25 Nellie L. Sloan, Columbus, 19 Cecil J. Talcott, Fremont, 30 Edith May Fuller, Minden, 22 Harry W. Oalkins, Columbus, 22 Minnie M. Kappertick, Cheyenne, 19 Clyde E. Clark, Creston, 34 Helen A. Hoedrick, Leigh, 19 Otto C. Weber, Leigh, 24 Magdalena Jenny, Leigh, 28 John H. Bensch, Lindsay, 21 Keith R. Otis, Lindsay, 19 Martin W. Stakness, Oregon, Mo., 23 Maude L. Greenleaf, Oregon, Mo., 18

Farmers' Institute January 5 and 6. We wish to call attention to the fact that the Institute will be held in the Y. M. C. A. building. Everybody invited. R. Y. Lisco, President. Albert Stenger, Sec'y. Route No. 5. Thomas Brothers and E. L. Oloot both shelled corn Monday. C. W. Skorpas and family spent several days in Columbus last week. A. W. Hahn and family are visiting friends and relatives at Osceola this week. S. A. Bell moved last week from the J. W. Kinsman place to the Bide Oloot place. Quite a number of farmers on this route are hauling both corn and grain to market this week. Things are never out of season on this route. We saw a horse with a fly net on it one day recently. Some of the young folks from Columbus were enjoying the skating at the Black ice pond last Monday afternoon. A. W. Kummer bought a new rubber tired open buggy for a Christmas present for his wife last week. The old batch-lors are coming out in the grandest style—girls, look out. The batelors are going fast and so is leap year, so you will have to hurry. Mr. and Mrs. L. Hahn, parents of the carrier, entertained quite a number of their children on Christmas day. There were present L. Hahn, sr., Ed. Hahn, A. Kummer, H. F. Hahn of Billings, Mont., A. W. Hahn of Dolores, Colorado, L. P. Hahn, J. H. Hahn, Herbert Hahn of Silver Creek and F. L. Hahn as the men folks, and all of them sat down to the feast at the same time. The men were allowed fifty-seven minutes and four seconds in which to eat. The ladies' table was set immediately after the men had finished, and they were allowed an even two hours to finish. The ladies present were Mrs. L. Hahn, Mrs. A. Kummer, Mrs. Ed. Hahn, Mrs. L. P. Hahn, Mrs. A. W. Hahn and Miss Hedwig Schuck. The only members of the family who could not be present were Mrs. H. F. Hahn, who was called to the bedside of her mother at Billings, just a few days before Christmas, and H. D. Hahn and family of Hartford, Kansas, who found it impossible to be present. The carrier on this route was well remembered this Christmas by the patrons of the route. Last week it kept him pretty busy hauling home the many gifts which he received. Last Wednesday the carrier opened the mail box at the Mrs. L. A. Cockson home and found it full to overflowing with a fine white duck, which by the way, is the carrier's favorite folk, which had a card tied to its neck reading "Merry Christmas from Mrs. L. A. Cockson and family." Again on Thursday he found a sack of oats at the mail box of Ohsa. Wileynski, and last Saturday he found a sack of oats at the box of Frank Jarecki, with a note in the sack stating that it was a Christmas present. Also on Saturday he received a sack of oats from W. H. Thomas with Christmas greeting. A sack of oats was also found at the Fickle corner where there is a wheel with eight boxes. The sack was leaning against the post with a note pinned thereon stating that the gift was from August Fickle, who has not missed giving the carrier a remembrance since he has been on the route. The carrier wishes to thank the many who so kindly remembered him at this glad season, and wishes them all a very happy new year. The Road to Success. John G. Johnson, Philadelphia's famous lawyer, was talking in the smoking room of a liner about work. "In my youth," said Mr. Johnson. "I was ambitious. Ambitious in an aim and a desultory way. In early youth, of course, one understands neither life nor one's self. "An aged millionaire questioned me one day good-humoredly. "You are ambitious?" he said. "I am," I agreed. "Why," said the millionaire, "do you want to rise?" "So that I can do as I like," I answered. "The millionaire smiled and shook his head. "Ah, my boy," he said, "it is only when we do as we don't like that we succeed." Whether Are We Drifting? This has been called the century of the rising generation, and doubtless many of the privileges of children over their parents would shock Solomon could he revisit the earth. But with all its tolerance in this direction it is amazing to read of the suit of a school boy in London against his mother, whom he had summoned to a magistrate's court for assault for kissing him. She performed this apparently harmless osculatory act in the playground of his school before his play, and so probably hurt the youngster's feelings. The mitigating feature in the matter was the Solomonic magistrate who dismissed such a ridiculous case. But that it could ever have reached a civilized court is the significantly typical aspect. Many Suicides from Bridge. By jumping over Dean Bridge, Edinburgh, a man named Alexander Young, of Coatbridge, has committed suicide. Since it was constructed over 200 persons have thrown themselves from this bridge. COAL. We have all the leading grades of soft coal. Also Pennsylvania hard coal and semi-anthracite furnace coal. NEWMAN & WELSH.

MAINE GHOST ON HORSEBACK. Peculiar Spook That Has Struck Terror to Farmer Folk. The horseback riding ghost is the very latest variety that has appeared in Bowdoinham, and he is a particular spirit, making visitations only at certain times. The hunter's ghost, they call him, and the big man on the big white horse who comes galloping down the Lisbon road on the full of the moon right up to the side door of Sunny Crest farm strikes terror to the heart of the farmer folk as he raps smartly with his riding-whip on the panels of the door. Whenever one appears in answer to the knock the ghost, so they tell the story, wheels round and disappears at a gallop, turning into the old woods road much used in revolutionary times by the soldiers of that stormy period. Ghost of the old Cap'n, they call him, connecting this horseback riding spook with a certain officer of unsavory fame who once haunted the district of Maine. It is on the hunter's moon when the ghost rides abroad, and nervous people on the Lisbon road are much disturbed by this galloping horseman.—Lewiston Journal. A FEW OF LIFE'S PARADOXES. All True, Though at First They Seem to Read Rather Odd. Peace we secure by armaments, liberty by laws and constitutions, the consummate result of artificial breeding and training; health, strength and wealth are increased only by lavish use, expense and wear. Our mistrust of mistrust engenders our commercial system of credit; our tolerance of revolutionary utterances is the only way of lessening their danger; our charity has to say no to beggars in order not to defeat its own desire; the true epicurean has to observe great sobriety; the way to certainty lies through radical doubt; virtue signifies not innocence but the knowledge of sin and its overcoming. The ethical and religious life are full of contradictions held in solution. You hate your enemy?—well, forgive him, and thereby heap coals of fire on his head; to realize yourself, renounce yourself; to save your soul, first lose it; in short, die to live.—Prof. William James, in Hibbert Journal. Ancient Uses of Bloodhounds. Although the use of bloodhounds for tracking criminals still survives, another ancient use of these dogs seems to have died out. Bloodhounds were at one time often called upon to assist an army in the field, the forces with which the earl of Essex suppressed the Irish rebellion in the time of Elizabeth, for instance, being accompanied by 800 dogs. In the Scottish clan feuds and the wars between England and Scotland bloodhounds were regularly employed in tracking fugitive warriors, and both Wallace and Bruce were hunted in this manner. Wallace is said to have baffled his pursuers by killing a follower and leaving the corpse for the hound to find, while Bruce adopted the less cruel plan of wading some distance down a stream and ascending a tree which overhung the water. Success. "He has achieved success who has lived long, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the trust of pure women, the respect of intelligent men, and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty nor failed to express it; who has always looked for the best in others and given the best he had; whose life was an inspiration; whose memory a benediction."—Bessie A. Stanley. Blindness. "There are various degrees and kinds of blindness, widow. There is the congenital blindness, ma'am, which perhaps you may have observed in the course of your own experience, and which is a kind of willful and self-damaging blindness. There is the blindness of party, ma'am, and public men, which is the blindness of a mad bull in the midst of a regiment of soldiers clothed in red. There is the blindness of youth, which is the blindness of young kittens, whose eyes have not yet opened on the world."—Charles Dickens. Curious Mexican Indians. Buried in the heart of a civilized, powerful and progressive foreign people, a little handful of Indians have lived for 300 years and have continued to keep during all that time their national characteristics, their traditions and their individuality. If you seek them you will find them in Amatlan de los Reyes, a village in the state of Vera Cruz, Mexico. They are the Amatecos. The Amatecos are perhaps the only people in the republic who have succeeded in retaining for themselves what is practically self-government. Willing to Oblige. "When you feels any temptations comin' along," said the friend and adviser, "you mus' say: 'Get thee behin' me, Satan.'" "Da's what I done said," answered Mr. Erastus Pinkley, "an' den I 'magines I hyuht Satan answer me back: 'Da's all right. We's both gwine de same way, nobow, an' 't don' make no diff'ence to me which leads de pubeccion.'" Blame Safer Than Praise. As the Sandwich Islander believes that the strength and valor of the enemy he kills passes into himself, so we gain the strength of the temptation we resist. But as soon as honeyed words of praise are spoken for me I feel as one that lies unprotected before his enemies. Blame is safer than praise. Water Will Have Long Flow. When New York city gets its water from the Catskills, the longest flow will be from a point 130 miles from the city hall.

ANNOUNCEMENT

To the People of Columbus and Vicinity:

We have taken possession of the H. P. H. Oehrich stock of Groceries, Queensware, Hardware, Seeds and Paints, and invite you to call and meet the new firm.

Mr. Krumland has been an employe of the old firm for the last seven years in charge of the Hardware department, and will continue to look after this department.

Mr. Johannes, who takes charge of the Grocery department, has been employed in that line for the last year or more at Avoca, Neb.

Courteous Treatment and Prompt Delivery

Soliciting a share of your patronage, we are,
Yours truly,

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CHILDREN OF EXALTED TASTES. Little Ones Used to Dignitaries of High Estate. A well-known family in Catholic circles, living in Spring Garden street, and blessed with three very small daughters, spent last winter in Rome, where the small daughters were sent to school. The family, being quite hospitably inclined, entertained quite lavishly some of the dignitaries of the Vatican. Returning to Philadelphia, they received a hearty welcome, and among others some of their old priest friends called to bid them welcome home. The mother, always proud of her three small daughters, sent for them to be brought downstairs to see the father. After awhile they came, the three little golden-haired girls; but they only stood in the doorway of the spacious room and refused to come any further. The mother, much mortified at such behavior, said to the eldest: "Come here, dear; don't you remember good Father—who used to come and see us from the cathedral?" There they stood, the three little blonde tots, and looking most disapprovingly at good Father—who, the eldest spoke: "We like cardinals," is what she said.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

NO WONDER SHE DIDN'T KNOW. Woman of Experience Not Hasty in Expressing Opinion. Before he had been in the car three minutes most of the women passengers and some of the men were explaining to their neighbors what they would do with the little imp if he belonged to them. Spanking was the popular remedy, and if that boy had received then and there all the paddlings that his critics were aching to administer he certainly would have been well blistered. To the general babel of advice and fault-finding, however, there was one woman who contributed nothing. She was a gentle, gray-haired body, who remained ungruffed in the midst of the most tempest raging. "If that child was mine," said the determined woman beside her, "I'd make his mind if I had to half kill him. Wouldn't you?" "I don't know," said the little woman, mildly, "what I'd do." "You don't," said the determined woman. "Well, I know. But maybe you are not used to children? Maybe you never had any of your own?" "Oh, yes," said the little woman. "I brought up 13. That is why I don't know what I would do."

Concrete Not Modern. Concrete is a very ancient material for construction, but reinforced concrete is scarcely half a century old. It is said to have started in a happy idea that came to a Frenchman who wanted large flower pots for his plants which should not be thick and clumsy. He reinforced them with wire. Nowadays we see glass reinforced in the same way, especially about elevator shafts. Colignet and others developed the reinforcement of concrete for buildings, at first merely useful buildings like conservatories. As early as 1874 a concrete villa was built on the north shore of Long Island sound, but it was many years before the idea "took" here, although in France, Belgium and Germany it was seized upon with avidity.—Smith's Magazine.

AND ALL THIS FOR A QUARTER. Gorgeous Description of Attractions of Old-Time Circus. "There will be presented a resplendent series of sublime, moral, interesting, instructive, amusing and wonderful scenes, which would appear entirely too fabulous if expressed in an advertisement. They must be seen to be duly appreciated. These great displays will unfold in all the loveliness and beauty of enchantment, carrying the minds of the bewildered or spell-bound spectators off on the gentle wings of the imagination to such pagantries as they might dream of after reading a few pages of 'Arabian Nights Entertainments.' Words are really wanting to give adequate expression. Webster's unabridged falls most signally in language to fully portray a semblance of the reality. Zoonomy may be learned at this great college in a single evening. Here the visitor will see splendid specimens of the zygocatholys race that live upon the earth, or float and poise upon the wings of gold and silver plume in the cerulean arch; and in reference to these corps of superintendents in courtly dress will elucidate the peculiarities of each with guarded circumlocution."—From an Old-Time Circus Poster.

BUSY LOOKING AFTER OTHERS. Physician Had Had No Time to Notice His Own Family. A little Cleveland girl returned to school the other day after an absence on account of measles. The teacher noticed that the child still had "em." She called up one of the school physicians, and he said the pupil would have to remain out of school another week. "Didn't your parents know that you weren't over the measles yet?" inquired the teacher. "No'm," replied the child. "You see, mother doesn't know much about 'em, and pop's a doctor, and he's been so busy with measles lately that he didn't have time to notice that I was still broken out." Her father is one of the most prominent physicians in town.

TREATMENT THAT "GROWS" IRON. Peculiar Property of Castings Put to Practical Use. Why should an iron grate bar become warped, twisted and cracked after long use? The reason appears to have been discovered by Alexander E. Outerbridge, Jr., of Philadelphia, who tells us that cast iron when heated and cooled swells so that a bar of it becomes not only longer but thicker, and that this increase in size may continue with subsequent heatings and coolings until the volume of the bar is 40 per cent. larger than it was originally. Microscopic examination shows that the texture of the swelled bar has become coarser grained. This discovery, which was made about three years ago, is now put to practical use in various ways. For instance, a gas engine piston that had worn small was caused to "grow" by this method until it again fitted its cylinder. Again, several tons of steam radiators that had been condemned as too short were successfully treated until they could be used as at first intended.

NORMAL THEORY IS DISPROVED. Quite Preposterous in the Light of Present-Day Extremism. Philosophers seldom tire of booming the normal and deprecating the all-round abnormal tendency. They insist that the normal life is good for our bodies, and eke for our consciences. But this is absurd. We cannot enjoy ourselves and at the same time be normal. Every pleasure is something which is abnormal to us. Every man and woman at the present day who sets out with the object of achieving distinction, or popularity of any description, must be abnormally good or abnormally bad before it can create an impression. The "normal" theory is a preposterous one. Imagine a woman in normal clothes! At the present moment woman has attained the pinnacle of notoriety in the opposite direction, and on its topmost point is set her hat. Imagine the successful athlete in a normal condition. Imagine the winner of a motor race as a normal pleasure-seeker; and there are others—too many to mention.—Philadelphia Record.

Paying the Price. "Is it not some reproach upon the economy of Providence that such a one, who is a mean, dirty fellow, should have amassed wealth enough to buy half a nation?" Not the least. He made himself a mean, dirty fellow for that very end. He has paid his health, his conscience, his liberty for it; and will you envy him his bargain? Will you hang your head and blush in his presence because he outshines you in equipage and show? Lift up your brow with a noble confidence, and say to yourself: I have not these things, it is true; but it is because I have not sought, because I have not desired them, it is because I possess something better. I have chosen my lot, I am content and satisfied.—Anna Letitia Barbauld.

A Restrained Grief. Back in the ridges of Tennessee two mountaineers got into an argument. Words led to blows, and in the light that followed one of the men was killed. A neighbor rode on ahead to the dead man's cabin to prepare his wife. He found her seated at a table eating apple dumplings. He broke the sad news to her as gently as he could. She listened quietly, with a dumpling poised in the air half way to her mouth. When the neighbor paused she stuffed the dumpling into her mouth and said: "You jest wait 'till I finish this hyer dumplin' an' then you-ell 'll hear hollerin'."—Harper's Monthly.

The Truly to Be Pitied. Stevenson: Pithful is the case of the blind, who cannot read the face of the blind; the case of the deaf, who cannot follow the changes of the voice. And there are others, also, to be pitied, for there are some of an inert and insouciant nature who have been denied all the symbols of communication, who have neither a lively play of facial expression, nor yet the gift of frank, explanatory speech; people truly made of clay, people tied for life into a bag which no one can undo. They are poorer than the gypsy, for their heart can speak no language under heaven.

The "Jim Crow" Law in Heaven. Uncle Wash, an aged colored man who is given to seeing visions, was recently regaling a group of brethren and sisters in the church with a dream of heaven that he had had the night before. As he was graphically describing its gold-paved streets, its gates of pearl and the hosts of white-robed, fair-haired angels playing upon jeweled harps, an old woman interrupted with the query: "See any niggahs dah?" "Huh," he snorted, indignantly, "Goes you s'pose I went 'round to de kitchen?"—Philadelphia Ledger.

Catching Rats. Do rats drink water? Do they require water? The best way to catch these rodents is to put any animal substance, well perfumed with oil of rhodium, into a trap. This induces them to enter readily, and even draws them from a considerable distance, as they are extremely partial to this oil. An ounce of oil of rhodium will cost you 50 cents. Catnip to a cat is nothing like rhodium to a rat. Oil of rhodium is made from a species of bindweed, and is used in perfumery.

Troubles Nitigated. A clever man turns great troubles into little ones and little ones into none at all.—Chinese.

Words Uttered by a Speaker. A ready speaker will utter about 7,500 words an hour in making an address.

Origin of Fireworks. Fireworks were originated in the thirteenth century by the Florentines, and later were popularized in Rome.

Jerusalem's Gates. The gates of Jerusalem are still closed at night.

Camel a Tame Animal. There is said to be no record of the existence of the camel in a wild state.

Offes Unknown to Each Other. Coincidence and wealth are not always neighbors.—Messenger.

A Dutch Proverb. Much would have been and but all—Dutch.