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For the baby, ask for certified milk from Alamito farm.
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WHEN THE FOURTH WAS SAFE

Celebrations of Long Ago that Really Did Honor to the Day.

OMAHA'S EARLY OBSERVANCE OF OCCASION

me Recollections of the Demonstrations Made by Citizens on the Nation's Birthday in the City's Youth.

Abolition of the modern Fourth of July celebration—or, rather, the extraction from it of the large possibilities for mischief, maiming and murder—is a demand of the public which seems close to accomplishment at present. Those who fear the day will be lost to glory and to patriotism when the sting is extracted and a sane celebration enforced have only to talk with the old-timers of their acquaintance to realize that the real celebrations of the day and the giving to it of clean honor and uplifting enjoyment were held in what seem like ages ago to the present generation.

When the expectation of $5 worth of firecrackers in town created a sensation, as a young old man tells herein, there was the properest thrill to the day that has ever been experienced. Then, if a community spent $25 on the fireworks feature, the year in which it was done was thereafter used to date from in recounting events.

When the long string of farm wagons moved from the country to the town, and then in solid column to the scene of "the doin's"—those were the days when real, old, original Americanism held sway.

To read the Declaration, to hear some rambling but vehement talks from orotorical citizens, to eat, to drink home concoctions, to be merry and neighborly, to enjoy innocent gossip and strong argument—ah, such a day, my masters, were treat enough to linger with one through a year of hard work.

And all the women folks and all the children were a comforting feature of those celebrations. If one of the children or grown folks had to stay home to mind the stock or because it was churning day or on account of sickness, the deprivation was made up by some precious concession that squared the account beyond cavil.

Glories of a Bygone Day.

To have a stone bruise or rheumatism or neuralgia was no good excuse to stay away from the gathering place of the country side on "the Fourth." And the wonderful day when the new fire company walked out in all its helmeted glory was only eclipsed on that other day, later on, when the returned veterans of the war—most of them still young and chipper—began the marching which was continued for years and years before they were compelled by the heavy hand of age to conserve their strength for Decoration day alone.

What youngster who saw them can ever forget the side-show men who ever and anon attracted his attention by their cries so that he was almost tempted to pass the ice cream stand and the place where the gingerbread animals held the gaze of the farmer boy enthralled? And what a wonder the traveling contortionist and tight rope walker was! And what sore spots and bone aches resulted from barnyard and haymow rehearsals of his specialties!

And don't you remember, boy, that the money you were given to spend that day you have been counting over to your pals reminiscently ever since when you meet them? And can't you argue for an hour over the disagreement as to whether you bought striped stick candy or butter taffy? Of course you can, and enjoy the hilarious bout better than you ever did grand opera.

Time Can't Efface These.

Oh, the games we played, and the songs we sung!

Let them go; they were just the trimmings compared to the first ice cream, when we ate with shoes and stockings on and felt like Solomon on a gorgeous spree in the new hickory shirt and jeans pants and roundabout that mother had made between times. Dear, dead pioneer women! Hats off to you!

My, My! How different boys were then; and girls, too, in the days when a linsey woolsey dress was awful nice and a white one a dream, to be worn with proper modesty and smoothed with most careful touch.

And how the future foot ball players, base ball fans, politicians and bankers, and society queens, school ma'ams and store clerks clung to papa and mamma! How shyly they entered into acquaintance, with what hesitancy started some world-old game, and by and by what gusto they worked up for "pom pom pullaway" and "ring around a rosy!" The days of the Kerry dances in Granuaile were not more boisterously unrestrained or angelically precious to memory.

All these thoughts come thronging to the mind of the easy-resting old-timer as he reads the proclamation of Mayor Moores today. Just gather a bunch like C. A. Baldwin, Harvey Link, Dr. George L. Miller, Judge Wakeley, M. J. Feenan, Judge Doane, William Emerson, Mike Dee, Pat McArdle, and a hundred others you will readily recall. They will give you food for thought and tell you wonderful happenings of past Fourths until the cows come home.

Ages ago some poetical Irishman wrote a rollicking song about "The Jolly Old Groves of the Pool." It was and is a "come-all-ye" to thrill the heart of the ramblers from Cork and Clare and the County Mayo; to arouse good fellowship between men of the Black North and the Catholic South even.

But let some of the men named above tell you of the pleasant groves where Omaha folk disported in the past. Though now nearly all vanished, they are to sense and memory dear, full of ghosts' twere royal pleasure to meet. There is no wraith of the thousands who wander therein—smiling and happy old-time boy and girl—but would be welcome, thrice welcome, in any form.

Groves of the Good Old Days.

There was Saunders' grove, and Redick's, and Rogers', and the big one part of which is now Bemis park, and Surphur Springs, and the green aisles out Bellevue way. And overlooking the pleasant prospects for the eye then and now was Capitol Hill. There was where the cannon was located that served notice on any one who might be asleep that the Fourth had arrived with all its years of added glory! And there were bunched the enthusiastic gunners, who kept the signal of great joy sounding as long as they judged it ought to sound. They were serving notice on all the world that the starry banner close by was flying high and wide for freedom and for promise. The stars of glory sparkled anew every Fourth on Capitol Hill, you bet.

Some of the picnic places were quite a spell away from the central points in those days. Saunders' grove is now cut by Harney from Twentieth to Twenty-fourth. Redick's grove was about Thirty-second and Leavenworth. Sulphur Springs was at the point where Joe Redmond wants to establish Gray Eagle park, over on the brow of the north bluffs. At Sixth and Hickory was about the location of Rogers' grove. Bemis park is what is left of a piece of picnic timber that extended from Burt to Hamilton and from about Thirtieth to Thirty-seventh. Cuming street was not yet thought of.

As a rule the volunteer firemen had charge of the picnics after their organization. There was a parade, with spick and span uniforms on manly men; the "masheen" shone resplendent; there were games galore, with no hint of professionalism or pelf, and there were speeches, orations, generally with the mayor as prize attraction on the platform unless some stray statesman of wider repute happened along. And more satisfying baskets will not be found set down in the Elysian fields. That all the old boys will swear to.

Stories of the Fourth.

Stories of the old Fourths before a mayor's proclamation was necessary to save people from danger—the older day proclamation was to go out and participate and be joyful—could be strung out to fill The Bee. The two recitals here given will serve as keys to all the yarns that might be spun.

County Clerk John C. Drexel has always been an enthusiastic celebrant of the Fourth. "The first real celebration that I recall in Omaha," said Mr. Drexel, "was in 1863 at Sulphur Springs, then located away out of town, but now a long way inside the limits. Everybody rode in farm wagons which formed a long procession. I distinctly recall that as we passed the old court house, which stood on the present site of the Paxton block, that morning the members of a jury which had been out all night on a murder case, stood in the window af the jury room in the upper story and regretfully waved their hats and handkerchiefs at us. If I am not mistaken that was the first murder trial in Omaha and the accused, a man named Tator, who had shot his victim in the vicinity of where the celebration was held, was found guilty and was hung.

"We had no oration that year, but we had plenty of substantial, home-made eatables and drinkables to make up for the lack of eloquence. Besides, we had games of all kinds, in some of which Indians participated. There were almost as many Indians as whites in attendance and yet there was no trouble except in one horse race. The son of a neighbor of ours was thrown off at the starting point and fell into a big basket filled with custard pies and fresh crullers. He was not hurt much, because the woman who owned the pastry failed to lay hands on him before he got up and away. Otherwise there would have been a badly spanked boy. That was a day I never will forget, because I was not that boy.

Train Spoke Once.

"George Francis Train made his first public appearance on such an occasion in Omaha on the glorious day in '64, when we held the celebration in Rogers' grove. Herman Kountze now has his residence near the ground where the picnic centered. That was also the day when the disappearing bison and antelope first became a part of standard Fourth of July orations. They have been in ever since, so far as I have heard the talks, and with the passing years have got further and further away. Now I believe they are almost out of the talks and we may not hear them mentioned at all this year.

"Mr. Train talked in his leisurely way all afternoon, and it was that day he caused some folks to smile cynically by predicting that some day a big railroad line would cross the river at this point. He also told with convulsing effect how we were then standing right over the spot where China was located on the other side of the world. 'When they want to hurrah in China,' said Mr. Train, 'they bow and wave their hands downward instead of throwing them over their heads as we do.' At school next day a fat boy was imitating Mr. Train, and as he threw his head down he hit it against a rock. Then he threw the rock through the school house window and became the original anti-Chinese agitator. But that was the way we used to do, keep on celebrating the Fourth in imitation of our elders for a month or so.

"The greatest sensation of one of those early days was a rumor that some man was coming to town with $5 worth of firecrackers. Every boy who could get a dime or nickel was laying for him to get five or ten of the crackers. There was bitter disappointment when the man did not come, but we spent the money for candy and had a sweet revenge. I do not think there are now any women old enough to have been with us then, but I know the girls had as much fun as the boys. My, my, how the years go by, and yet I feel young enough to make one more run for office. They raised strong men them days."

Exciting Day at Red Cloud.

"The most exciting and altogether unique Fourth of July celebration that I ever participated in," said Judge Estelle, "was at Red Cloud in 1873. There were but a few structures all above ground in the town, among them the general store of Governor Garber, a small hotel and another store which the builder concluded not to use and which was utilized as a temporary court house. All the settlers of the county, numbering probably 350 or 400, were to gather at Red Cloud for the celebration. The day before we went to the creek bottoms and plucked everything green we could find to make an arbor. There were exercises to be held and the dancing afterward. H. S. Caley, a brother of Attorney Caley of Omaha, was the big man of the day, and I was to respond to a sentiment on the program.

"Just before we got started on the hurrah business there were signs over the hills. They were unmistakable and within a few minutes a herd of quite 500 buffaloes arrived on the scene. They paused on a rise overlooking the bottom where we were celebrating. As the buffalo came to a halt the populace gathered at the arbor and began to get busy. A hunt was on in a jiffy, and such a hunt as it was! I am sure the like was never seen at such short notice. All thought of speechmaking or anything else but buffalo was abandoned.

"The animals were quickly scattered, many racing about between the buildings in the town. Half a dozen probably were killed and one calf captured after a hard chase. It was afterward sent to Columbus, O., I think by the man who secured it. We had lost our real celebration, but we gained many a juicy steak and a most jolly impromptu barbecue was held. It made up for all the formal program which was shattered, and much more. That celebration and hilarous hunt is still talked of by the old settlers in and about Red Cloud."

NEW LAWS GO INTO EFFECT

Cigarette Smokers Therefore Laid in Supply Friday and Dealers Quit Traffic.

Friday was the biggest day the cigarette and cigarette paper trade has ever known in Omaha. Everybody who likes to smoke cigarettes laid in stocks. Saturday morning found the anti-cigarette law strictly obeyed by the tobacconists. What the dealers had left they shipped back to the jobbers, losing little if any money in the transactions. In place of cigarettes many kinds of "little cigars" and leaf-wrapped cigarette tobacco were displayed in the shops.

The cigarette law, together with a lot of others that did not have the emergency clause attached, went into effect Saturday, July 1. Among the others is the automobile law, which requires all owners of whiz wagons to register with the secretary of state at the price of $1 and to get a beautifully embossed seal in return.

Another law creates the office of state registrar of vital statistics, to whom local registrars must report births and deaths and other matters quarterly on forms provided. In Omaha the health commissioner becomes the local registrar.

It is allowable now for cities and villages to establish a poll tax of $2 for every male of voting age.

WARNING.

To Our Policyholders in the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States.

One of our friends (the enemy, a would-be competitor) who misrepresents one of the smallest and weakest companies in the United States, a company that by its sworn statement spent 122 per cent of the expense loading while the Equitable spent but 90 per cent in 1904, is diligently advising Equitable policyholders to surrender their policies. He alleges that a prominet Omaha gentleman has canceled policies in the amount of $25,000, on account of the recent disturbance at our home office.

This is an absolute and unwarranted misstatement and the insurance on the life of the gentleman in question in the Equitable is as large today as it has been any time within the last twelve months—$10,000—having been renewed in May and $5,000 in June, 1905.

The Equitable is a rich and sound company and I wish to warn all our friends not to be deceived by dishonest and unscrupulous persons who are trying to promote their own interests at your expense.

The great majority of the Omaha Life Assurance agents are honest, upright men and would not for a moment resort to dishonest methods for self-aggrandizement, and with the exception of the above mentioned I do not believe a single one of them would put himself on record as recommending any of the Equitable policyholders to discontinue their insurance in the society. Yours truly, H. D. NEELY,

Manager.

Brodegaard's Weight.

May 1 Fred Brodegaard, the jeweler, at 115 South Sixteenth street, offered three prizes, a gold watch, solid gold brooch and fountain pen, to the persons who would guess the nearest to Mr. Brodegaard's weight. The contest took place May 31 and the first prize went to Mrs. A. Schonboe, who guessed 265¾ pounds, the actual weight being 265½ pounds. The second prize was divided between thirteen guessers, all guessing 265 and 266, as follows: Miss Effie Smith, Blair, Neb.; F. Rasmussen, Blair, Neb.; A. Jackson, O. H. Weston, Ed Petersen, Miss T. Rubin, 3901 North Thirty-first; Hazel Bruce, 3539 Grand avenue; Mrs. J. A. Johnson, 1196 Farnam; Mrs. D. Christensen, Burhong, Kan.; Miss Anna Holmes, Brown block, city; F. W. Obersteler, Bennington, Neb.; Carl E. Pinker, Bennington, Neb.

Third prize went to Julius Schuett, 1307 Leavenworth, city, guessing 266¼.

Mississippi Train Wrecked.

JACKSON, Miss., July 1.—The eastbound passenger train on the Queen & Crescent railroad was wrecked at midnight near here. None of the passengers were killed, but several were seriously injured. Governor Vardaman was in one of the sleepers and escaped with a shaking up.

WATER COMPANY SUES NEWS

Asks Fifty Thousand Dollars Damages for Saying Water is Impure.

CLAIMS PUBLICATION WAS LIBELOUS

Suit is Filed in the United States Circuit Court for Article Printed Fifteenth of June.

The Omaha Water company Saturday morning filed suit in the United States circuit court against the Omaha Daily News for $50,000, claimed as damages for alleged libel contained in an article published by that paper June 15 under the headlines, "Boil Water You Drink; Some Typhoid Found in Omaha, and It Pays to Be Safe; Comes from City Water, etc."

The petition states in effect that the water company is a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Maine and the Omaha News Publishing company is a corporation organized under the laws of Nebraska; that the Omaha Water company furnishes to the people of Omaha, South Omaha, Dundee, Florence, Benson and East Omaha excellent and healthy water, which is absolutely free from typhoid germs and for purity is second to none in the United States or any other country, and that its property is worth from $7,000,000 to $8,000,000; that appraisers are now at work in setting a valuation on the plant with the purpose of making an award; that these proceedings are had for the purpose of the eventual purchase of the property of the water company by the city of Omaha.

The petition, which is filed by Hall & Stout, attorneys for the company, says the News has been its constant foe in public matters and has printed numerous articles involving the company whose veracity the plaintiff denies.

The last publication, the company contends, damaged it in the sum of $50,000.

SECRETARY TAFT AND PARTY

President's Daughter, Representatives and Senators Pass Through Omaha Sunday Morning.

The official party of Secretary Taft, sent to the Philippines to investigate conditions in the eastern possessions, is due to arrive in Omaha this morning at 9:30 over the Northwestern and leave over the Union Pacific shortly afterwards. A special train is provided, which will leave here ahead of the "Overland Limited," which is scheduled to leave at 9:40.

As far as the officials of the Union Pacific are advised, the death of Secretary Hay will make no difference in the journey of the party. The members of the party are:

Secretary Taft, Washington, D. C.; Colonel C. R. Edwards, Washington, D. C.; Senator F. E. Warren, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Senator T. M. Patterson, Denver, Colo.; Miss Roosevelt, Washington, D. C.; Miss Boardman, Washington, D. C.; Miss McMillan, Washington, D. C.; Captain J. R. Thompson, Washington, D. C.; Representative E. F. Hill and wife, Norfolk, Conn.; Representative W. A. Jones and wife, Warsaw, Va.; Anoonic Torres, Washington, D. C.; Miss M. Taylor and sister, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. De Bree Higgins, Boston, Mass.; Representative W. S. McNary and wife, Washington, D. C.; General T. H. Bliss, Washington, D. C.; Major Guy Ledie, Washington, D. C.; Representative G. E. Foss, Boston, Mass.; Representative T. Otjen, Milwaukee, Wis.; Fred Carpenter, Washington, D. C.; W. R. Pedige, Washington, D. C.; George Long, Washington, D. C.; Monico Lopez, Washington, D. C.; Arthur Brooks, Washington, D. C.; William Fannell, Washington, D. C.; Representative A. A. Wiley, Montgomery, Ala.; Representative N. Longworth, Cincinnati, O.; Two maids, Cincinnati, O.; Representative M. E. Driscoll and wife, Syracuse, N. Y.; James A. LeRoy, Durango, Mex.; A. W. Ferguson, Watertown, Conn.; Senator N. B. Scott and wife, Wheeling, W. Va.; Representative S. E. Payne and wife, Auburn, N. Y.; Representative H. A. Cooper, Racine, Wis.

The official program and itinerary in the Philippines is: Monday evening, August 7, reception by Governor and Mrs. Wright; Tuesday evening, August 8, Chamber of Commerce banquet; Wednesday evening, August 9, reception by Major General Corbin at Army and Navy club; Thursday evening, August 10, dinner by Archbishop Harty; Friday evening, August 11, banquet by prominent Filipinos; Saturday evening, August 12, ball by city committee.

Leaving Manila, evening of August 13, the route by transport will be as follows: Iloilo, morning of August 15; Zamboanga, morning of August 17; Jolo, morning of August 18; Cebu, morning of August 20; Tacloban, morning of August 21; Catbalogan, August 22; Legaspi, August 23; Sorsogon, August 24; Batangas, August 26. Return to Manila, August 27.

Not the Car Robber.

Charles McLaughlin and Ralph Dillon, arrested at 2:30 Friday morning at 1911 Martha street by Captain Haze and Sergeant Sigwart, on suspicion of having been implicated in the street car hold-up at Hanscom park Tuesday morning, were discharged in police court Saturday morning. While it is said the men answer in a general way the descriptions of the parties who robbed the car men, they could not be identified. As yet no one is in custody that can be charged with the crime.

"WHIZ! I WALK A MILE"

Is a laconic definition of a toboggan ride. It's quick work going down the slide, but it's a long climb back to the starting point. It is very much that way with health; it is quickly lost and slowly regained. When the first symptoms of failing health appear, proper care may prevent the descent to utter weakness and debility. Usually the complication of disorders known as general debility has its origin in a diseased condition of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. These diseases are perfectly cured by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It cures through the stomach disorders which have their origin in a diseased condition of the stomach.

There is no alcohol in the "Discovery," neither opium, cocaine nor other narcotic.

"I was all run down; had no strength; had sharp darting pains all through me; head and back ache every day," writes Mrs. Frank Caswell, of Salamanca, N. Y. "I was also troubled with a distressed feeling in the stomach and pain in front of the hip bones. I had a severe cough and it nearly killed me to draw a long breath. I was so sore through my lungs.

"I wrote to Dr. Pierce, telling my symptoms as near as I could. He sent me a very kind letter, advising me to try his medicines, which I did, and before I had taken them a week I was decidedly better. I took two bottles of the 'Golden Medical Discovery' and two of the 'Favorite Prescription,' and am sure I never felt better in my life than when I quit taking them."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are a cure for biliousness.