

Omaha's Hackmen and the Service They Render to the Public

INCE old Nero, to escape the jealous chidings of Poppea, sneaked out through the back door to have his personal and trusty chariot...



JOHN B. CARVER



JOHN W. EVERETT



AL WEIDNER



AL SMITH

Necessary to Urban Life. In Omaha, as in every city of metropolitan pretensions, the street hack is an established institution...

Old timers in the business will tell you that the golden days of "hacking" are gone. They recall with fond recollection the days when a dollar was hardly counted as fair pay for any sort of a ride...

Thrifty Drivers Do Well. Many of the drivers of the early pleasure vehicles saved their money until they became owners of their own horses and rigs. A very justifiable pride was taken in the possession of a swell four-wheeler...

Wisdom is Theirs. Wise in the ways of the world hackmen have been and are. Changes in human nature they never look for, but it is a pretty swift game of hide-and-seek...

ing degree. Physically, the drivers wear like iron, largely owing to their outdoor life and association with horses. Very rarely do they die, and the life is so attractive to men of just the right temperament that about all of them stick to the finish.

Views of an Old Timer. "Jack" Carney is the oldest man on "the boot" in Omaha, as to service and years on earth. His memoirs, if carefully and truthfully written, would furnish food for the keenest sociologists to digest.

"Hackmen draw all too much blame for other folk's failings. It is natural that this should be so to a certain extent, and up to any reasonable measure we do not object to shouldering a share of trouble, to ease the other chap. But the general public that does not come into close touch with us—especially the women who are altogether home-bodies—get many a tale handed to them which puts the hackman away to the bad in their estimation."



ALFRED WALLACE



FRED FIELDS



CLINT DEMOSS

game is all played, the men in this business will not fare as badly as the unforgotten would suppose."

regulars of long standing. "Al" Brown and "Jim" Tucker, who stand with Carney at the Henshaw, and have stood for many years, backed up his reasoning with instances along similar

lines. Tucker has been on the Henshaw beat longer than either of the others. Only last May he disposed of a carriage that had done service every day in the year, with rare exceptions, for sixteen times twelve months.

military training. If he had cared to practice up on that end of life De Moss might now have been at least a drill sergeant. He has a good eye for effect and a love for a good horse that would have made him an ideal cavalryman.

Swells of the Guild. The Beau Brummels of the local aggregation of hackmen—and there are quite a few who are more than passingly handsome—are "Johnny" Dugan (Everett) and John B. ("Doc") Carver.

Story Told by the Kids. Herman Borsky and Ray Bishop, who have their stand at the Paxton, are the "kids" of the local hackmen. Borsky was one of the jurors who tried Pat Cross recently and Bishop is an officer of the union.

Drivers at the Depot. "Joe" Suttley is the veteran of the depot bunch. With his mates he has seen many a chap come off the train "like a h-l-roaring tiger," only to start home later "tame 'nuff 't eat out'n yer hand."

Omaha's Hack Equipment. There are no hansoms in Omaha today; nearly all are four-wheeled, with a few coupes. The two-wheeled with the man up top behind had quite a vogue here a few years back.

Pioneer Union Men. The Omaha hackmen set the pace for the whole country in the matter of organization. It was in 1884 that the local street men got together in an organization for the betterment of the business and for mutual protection.

Quaint Happenings in Every Day Life

Love Touches in Old Age. BROOKLYN papers tell of a millionaire resident there who lives with his wife in a handsome home. They are both past the middle age, but the happy couple retain one custom which they established in days when they were poor.

Life Saving by a Dog. A remarkable story of life saving by a dog is told at Innsbruck. Two persons were ascending Mount Elivo, which has an altitude of about 6,300 feet.

Flow of U. S. Swords. A plow made of swords used in the American civil war has been placed in the hall in Geneva, Switzerland, in which the treaty was signed regulating the indemnities.

Kite Lifts Man Thirty Feet. Prof. Alexander Graham Bell, who has been experimenting for some time at his laboratory at Beinn Bhreagh, Baddeck, Canada, with flying kites of the tetrahedral form of construction, succeeded last Wednesday in getting his latest designed kite, which he has named the "Frost King," to lift a man named McBeard, weighing 165 pounds, to a height of thirty feet and supporting him there steadily.

Youngster Kills Giant. Mitchell Shadrick of Columbia, Mo., a giant, said to be seven feet in height, was almost instantly killed Christmas night four miles west of Columbia by an 18-year-old boy, Henry Jonas, who brought him down with a stone no larger than a walnut, thrown from a distance of forty feet.

Joyful Christmas Gift. Three years ago last September Mrs. Washington A. Cunningham, wife of the grocer at Malones, Ind., suddenly lost her speech. All efforts of physicians and friends proved unavailing and the family had settled down to the assumption that the mother had lost her vocal powers for good.

low of 10 years, had greatly admired his mother's singing and it was a loss to him especially to miss her cheerful voice. Boy-like, forgetting the misery he was inflicting, he appealed to her again and again to sing to him, Christmas day, at home with his mother, he demanded that she sing.

Costly Religious Crown. Seventeen hours of religious services preceded the crowning of the statue of "The Virgin of the Pillar" in the Cathedral of Saragossa.

A Great Explosion. The recent firing of sixteen and one-half tons of nitroglycerin in Aboukir bay was a great spectacle and considered one of the finest object lessons in the power of high explosives on record.



HERMAN BORSKY



FRED COWLER