

Topeka State Journal

By FRANK P. MACLENNAN.
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FULL LEASED WIRE REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

The State Journal is a member of the Associated Press and receives the full day telegraph report of that great news organization for the exclusive afternoon publication in Topeka.

The news is received in The State Journal building over wires for this sole purpose.

Why put off your Christmas shopping until next week or the week after? Do it now.

An Arkansas woman is the proud possessor of George Washington's trunk. There's one, anyway, that the baggage-smashers have missed.

Where the government weather men shine is in discussing weather conditions in an interesting fashion after they have become a fact.

Presumably every man who voted for Governor-elect Hodges is of the opinion that he cast one of the 29 votes that defeated Mr. Capper.

California never ceases booming its invalid immigration business. A carload of painted California oranges has just been seized in the East.

"What have we to do with abroad?" shouted a Texas statesman not so many years ago. Well, about four billion dollars' worth of commerce, this year, for one thing.

There is room for doubt that the Governor of New Jersey said to the Governor of Bermuda what the Governor of North Carolina said to the Governor of South Carolina.

Following the footballers in the world of sport, the cornhuskers are now having their innings. Nels Johnson, of near Salina, claims to have turned in 2,825 bushels in 28 days. Next!

More evidence that every rule has at least one exception: Along comes a New Yorker who asks for a divorce because he is tired of the silence of his wife. She has not spoken to him for eleven years.

Turkey has at last found an ally, but, of course, not among men. It is the approach of winter which is usually most cruelly cold and severe in the regions where the war is being fought.

Many wrathful explosions are sure to come from the old-fashioned folk over the pronouncement of Dr. Naismith, a physical culture expert, that walking is a tiresome exercise, not especially beneficial.

Such strides has the universal peace movement failed to take that the people generally are becoming familiar with "pour parlers," "protocol" and other unusual words and phrases that the experts use in connection with the winding up of scraps between nations.

Without doubt, it will be impossible to distinguish any of the 74 farmers in the forthcoming legislature from the bankers or professional men just on their personal appearance. The Kansas farmer is anything but the "hayseed" that is depicted by the jokesmiths.

Even though the present session of congress is certain to be a short one, it will be about as expensive to the people of the nation as those of longer duration that have gone on before. Appropriations aggregating more than one billion dollars will be made during its brief course.

In their plans to reduce the water rates, the city commissioners are traveling along the right track. There is no sufficient reason why the rates for a municipally conducted water service should be higher than are necessary to pay the expenses of the plant. For a city to make a profit on such a service is a practice that is entirely wrong.

With the governorship and majorities in the senate and house in their possession, the Democrats of Kansas will have none but themselves to blame if they fail to deliver the goods at the forthcoming session of the legislature. Probably they'll get into such a scrap amongst themselves that they won't accomplish much. And this will only be following Democratic precedents.

All possible assistance should be given by everyone to the crusade which has been begun by the railroads against the present extensive slaughter of calves in Kansas. That is one of the reasons why the production of beef cattle is decidedly on the decrease in the Sunflower state. Not only does this help to keep up the price of meat, but cattle are also among the most valuable adjuncts that a farmer can have for the rejuvenation of his soil.

TOPEKA'S FACTORY FUND.

Excellent success has attended the beginning of the effort of the Commercial Club to raise a credit fund of \$250,000 that it is planned to use in the development of Topeka as an industrial and business center. And surely little difficulty should be experienced in obtaining the balance. For this is one of the most substantial moves that has ever been made to place this city on an equal footing with the many thriving cities in the central west. Topeka is blessed, in every advantage for progressing industrially that is possessed by any of these cities, and also enjoys some that are superior to any held by these friendly rivals which are devoting such forceful energies nowadays for pre-eminence in the industrial arena.

Here is a plan, tried with success in other cities, where the subscribers to the fund only pay in an exceedingly small percentage of their subscriptions in cash. They merely pledge to pay the remainder of their subscription. And the credit thus pledged is to be used in the main for extensions to existing industries in the city so that they can develop to larger proportions, or to outside concerns that are looking for new locations, and which may need such credit for working capital to place themselves securely on their feet. So many safeguards are thrown around the use of this credit fund, that it is almost inconceivable that any of the subscribers to it will ever lose a penny.

The ideal subscription list would contain the names of many men for small amounts rather than the names of a few for large sums. In fact a maximum for subscriptions has been set by the promoters of the plan. But many subscribers for small sums would create the desirable condition that in the event of their ever having to make good any of the credit extended, the burden of loss would be infinitesimal on each subscriber and so small that it would not pinch him to sustain.

Then, too, in times past when any funds have been raised in Topeka for any sort of an undertaking the biggest part of their burden has always been carried by the Topekan in mercantile pursuits and the bankers, together with a small sprinkling of professional men who have always been loyal and generous in the footing of the good object. But the plan to develop Topeka as an industrial center is one—if successful and there is no reason why it should not be—that will be of material advantage to almost every man or woman in the city. It means a bigger Topeka, bigger in population and therefore in every other way. This means more business for every man in town, whether he be a retail merchant, a wholesaler, a jobber, a real estate agent, an insurance agent of either variety, a doctor, a lawyer, or any other variety of a professional man. There are also many property owners in Topeka who are not engaged in any active business or profession. A growing Topeka means an enhancement of their property values, including remunerative rentals.

All such people of means in Topeka should be subscribers to this credit fund. And if all or most of them should subscribe it could be raised in times over by the end of the week and in proportions that would not be burdensome under any exigency to any individual subscriber.

THE NEW VITALISM.

There seems to have been of late years a marked reaction, even among men of science, from the mechanistic conception of life as held by a certain band of scientists to which we refer as the "old school." In the December number of the North American Review. Something like a new vitalism is making headway both on the continent and in Great Britain. This neo-vitalism has found a forceful expounder in Prof. Arthur Thompson of Aberdeen university, who has recently written convincingly in favor of this view in the Hibbert Journal. Prof. Bunge, Dr. Haldane, Dr. Driesch, who have recently urged the biological problems that are being raised by a mechanical explanation. These men stand for the idea "of the creative individuality of organisms" and that the main factors in organic evolution cannot be accounted for by the forces already operative in the inorganic world. What standing the new vitalism has among the scientific men of this country I have little means of knowing.

When we regard all the phenomena of life and the spell it seems to put upon inert matter, so that it behaves so differently from the same matter before it is drawn into the life circuit, how it lifts up a world of dead particles out of the soil against gravity into trees and animals; how it changes the face of the earth; how it coils and goes while matter stays; how it defies chemistry and physics to force it from the nonliving; how its departure, or cessation, lets the matter fall back to the inorganic—when we consider these and others like them we seem compelled to think of life as something, some force or principle in itself, as M. Bergson does, existing apart from the matter it animates. As Sir Oliver Lodge does also. We may class Sir Oliver among the vitalists for a remark he is reported to have made recently about "the thing which by its nature is a matter confers on it what we know as vitality. . . . It does not appear to be a form of energy, but certainly is a guiding principle, utilizing the forces known to chemistry and physics and all the ordinary laws of nature for ends which appear to lie outside the known laws of the physical world."

"DEAR SIR" AND NECKTIES. Scientific management that carries efficiency to absurd lengths gets a humorous but significant rap in "The March of Events" in the World's Work for December, as follows: One of the organizations to promote business efficiency is attacking the waste of time and money caused by using "Dear Sir" and "Yours truly" and such phrases at the beginning and at the end of letters; and it reports that

BY THE WAY

BY HARVEY PARSONS.
The Family tree is the most peculiar vegetable on the job. Prunes, nuts, lemons and Hubbard squashes sometimes grow on the same branch.
At least one gent who is perfectly willing to "look 'em over" has been heard from. He wants a complete list of all appointive state and national jobs. The fact that these jobs will be distributed by low-browed Democrats does not seem to frighten him in the least.

"If I had ten-thousand scads to spend, I'd have the wad on you would be more effective in the present, than the moth-eaten original 'ten-thousand lives.' No girl wants a man to live ten thousand lives for her. He would be too darned old before he finished the first half a life.

When a woman's hat is on straight these days it's generally on wrong.
A person who talks incessantly is not necessarily a good conversationalist.

Every old bachelor is cock sure he can rightly advise a man how to manage a wife.

Neither is there much cheering nor excitement in college when its team wins a debate.

What has become of the old-fashioned man who thought the minister at his church the best preacher on earth?

The Ohio gentleman who wants to make a collection of Kansas lies, should experience little trouble in making a selection, unless he hesitates between a choice of Tom Neal and Dave Leahy. But that is merely a choice of author. Both series are good.

New York man who asked for a divorce just because his wife hadn't spoken to him for 11 years, is hereby suggested for the first prize as "most unreasonable gook in the world."

A man who is as unreasonable as that doesn't deserve such luck.

A simp who couldn't go out and peddle \$5 gold pieces at \$3.75 per copy, has no business trying to sell a book—and that goes double when the book is of his own manufacture from front cover to back.

Political philosophy from the Norton County News: When a man leaves his political party for another the party to which he goes acclaims him as having always been a leader and a shining light, while the party he leaves just as stoutly asserts that he "never amounted to much, anyway."

Observations by Glick Fockele in the Le Roy Reporter: To see yourself as others see you, don't look in a mirror. Run for office. Many a fool gets into the problem of reward, will spend time and brains in an effort to boost you along. If their friendship is strong enough, they see your feeble efforts through a magnifying glass, and will advise you to get about as well as a wise man if he has the right bunch of guardians.

Having exhausted his supply of collar bones, Barney Childfield has gone back to breaking records.

And, as a further sport item, we hasten to add that it is reported that Doc Andrews is about to meet his Waterloo.

GLOBE SIGHTS

BY THE ATCHISON GLOBE.

Some of our sympathy goes to those who live in a country where a fur overcoat is a household necessity.

You are pretty smart, but if you stay at home a good deal, the chances are you're the oldest boy can lose you in geography.

A man who can conceal the fact that he chews tobacco shouldn't worry about any of the secrets in his Dark Past.

There are so many different kinds of homes that the hired girl doesn't always wish to be treated as one of the family.

One who grows older, the Greatest Show on Earth doesn't seem nearly so great as it did years ago when it was smaller.

Take it from the shoe ads, there are many shoes which fit the feet, regardless of the testimony of your corn on the case.

New reporters are students of hieroglyphics, although one might think otherwise from viewing their notebooks.

Almost everyone is opposed to child labor, besides feeling that loafing for older folks should be more encouraged.

John Johnson is so lazy he would rather meet death in the electric chair than by hanging, as he doesn't care to do anything unless he can sit down to it.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

[From the Chicago News.] Mules seldom kick without cause.

Tariff legislation cannot effect the wages of sin.

To the victim belongs the privilege of paying the freight.

There are more lemons than plums in the world's orchard, and yesterday was a golden day.

It's downright difficult for some men to live an upright life nowadays.

Brown October for the poets; blue November for the defeated candidates.

When a girl knows that a young man loves her she always pretends to doubt it.

Considering the kind of man she marries, it is no wonder the average bride is almost always followed by a day of success and blessings, of peace and happiness.

When the tide has reached its lowest ebb it simply must turn; "it's always darkest just before dawn."

A woman does not question her husband's judgment after she breaks into the world of divorce.

There are more crazy men than brains in on the ragged edge of bankruptcy.

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