



A mob may be right in principle, but wrong in method.

No, 'Rastus, the fighting did not begin at daylight at Jay.

Once in war, twice in the presidential chair but never in peace—guess who.

There are still some conservative people who think the bank book is the best "de luxe" book.

At last reports from the governor's conference, Governor Cole Blease still had his shirt on.

Friday, the 13th may be of bad omen but it won't last long and will not occur again soon.

If your toes are trodden on by Christmas shoppers, be sure to tell the salesgirl just what you think of her.

Dudish men are wearing very tight trousers, but you can still get into them without using lifting jacks.

A riot was created in a New York theatre the other night, because some chorus girls came on wearing clothes.

There is a good deal of talk about rewarding Col. Goethals, but what caucuses has he carried for the politicians?

Millions of families will eat cold storage turkey for Christmas and hope for better times when they can have ham hash.

The bogus book business would have been fine if some literary critter down at Boston had not opened them up to read them.

Chairman Pujo proposes to break up the stock exchanges, and with all these poor lambs bleating to be sheared, too!

Harvard students carve the Yale score on various buildings, thus perpetuating the literary glory of the cuneiform inscriptions.

The president-elect has 100,000 offices to distribute, but when will the needs of a growing country be met by providing a job for every applicant?

The question for congress is: How to stir up the money trust octopus just far enough to make him lash his tail without making him really bite.

A number of statesmen on being invited to the republican harmony dinner have politely replied, "Thank you for the invitation, but darned if I'll go."

According to a special dispatch from Washington, one or two congressmen were listening part of the time when the president's message was being read.

Christmas trees without candies are being recommended by careful people, but what show is there of getting the worth of your insurance policy in that way?

The national law-makers propose gloriously to refute the charge that they are a "do-nothing congress," by appropriating more money than ever before.

Senator Tillman's pitchfork has been outdone by Governor Cole Blease's exploits with the useful old implement known in the farms as the lung fork.

Quite a number of men who are not millionaires have got into the United States senate. It is strange how ambitious people will fight in where they don't belong.

A Harvard professor says an angle worm can think, but any small boy will tell you that they have a most illogical objection to being placed upon the hook.

The country correspondent who sent in the two line item: "The Italian killed his wife last night," will not probably have a very extended career in journalism.

Some of the suffragette organizations are going to join the inauguration parade, but the Barnum and Bailey menagerie has not yet consented to march.

Salvation may be free, but the small boy expects a pair of skates to be thrown in with it before he will go to Sunday School.

Shoppers the last week before Christmas should remember that the flying tackle is no longer permissible under this year's rules.

Owing to the congestion of the mail, Mr. Tarr and T. R. have not yet received the postcards they commonly exchange at this season.

They are talking of taking the desks out of Congress to make room. There will be no trouble about changes until they remove the cuspidors.

The question is being asked how shall these red flag processions be dispersed. Probably if they were all offered jobs they would soon scatter.

When they get Christmas thoroughly systematized, no doubt it will become customary to ask boot when you get the worst end of a swap of gifts.

The college students are coming home for Christmas. It is hoped they will be sternly reprimanded for waisting their time since the foot ball season closed.

Turkeys continue very high. It is not supposed that the farmers will take to raising them any more, because if they did they might make some money.

The woman's colleges are so overcrowded that some of the girls sleep on the campus. Meanwhile, the American kitchen is as empty as the halls of the Caesars.

The harvester trust is to spend \$1,000,000 an scientific agriculture. Hope it does not all go to train farmers' boys to spend millionaires' money on fancy farms.

Some of the church choirs need to be reminded that you can't change a coon song into a Christmas anthem merely by writing words about shepherds and angels.

The statement that \$200,000,000 will be needed for pensions this year affords distinct relief in congress, where fears had been entertained that there might be a surplus.

Governor Wilson has to pay excess postage on most of the letters he gets, and it is strange that the office seekers are not bright enough to send him "collect" telegrams.

If the man who made the winning touchdowns can get his hat on without using a shoe horn, he has acquired one of the most important things that any college can teach.

President-elect Wilson says he is going directly home to help Mrs. Wilson with the unpacking. Soon, too, he will have to assist her put the bur-lap on the parlor furniture.

There is a feeling at Washington that the Smithsonian collection will not be complete until Governor Cole Blease's stuffed hide is set up there along with T. R.'s wild animals.

The army men think a foreign invasion is likely, but it is more likely that they will have to be satisfied with the glory to be obtained by keeping the lawns well mowed about the forts.

The Daily Chieftain has more inches of advertising each day than all other Vinita papers combined, and it may be remarked incidentally that it reaches more people that trade in Vinita.

The county commissioners did a wise thing in leasing a safe and sanitary building for court quarters and will meet with the approval of the people of the county. By the time the present lease expires a new court house will doubtless be erected.

Vinita has expended \$69,000 in school buildings within the last two years, and now finds all her school buildings crowded to the doors and is met with the problem of soon having to turn away pupils for lack of room. Other buildings will have to be erected soon and Vinita may as well begin to consider how, where and when they are to be built.

HOW SHALL ONE EAT AN ORANGE? A rural philosopher once remarked that the only satisfactory way to eat an orange is to go out on the barn floor where there are no carpets, remove all your clothing, and proceed to enjoy the juicy golden sphere.

The annual ripening of this crop of concentrated sunshine suggests that authorities on etiquette are not fully agreed as to what is the strictly orthodox way to capture its aromatic nectar.

It is highly probable, that if you should write to the editor of the Ladies' Home Journal, he would tell you to use the pointed spoon common-

ly found on the hotel table. Still, the juices of the yellow ball are so tightly held together, that the least misplay of spoon or the slightest over-use of force sends the yellow fluid spurting out on the best table cover. This does not promote the movement for universal peace.

Much could be said in favor of the good old fashioned way of removing the skin and dividing the fruit into the segments created by nature and for just this purpose. The purist in manners may say that such democratic handling of food by the fingers is more suited to the kitchen than the dining room. Still the practical consideration remains that thereby you retain every drop of this precious ambrosia.

THE NEW COINS AND BILLS. The changes now being made in the designs of paper money and of the five cent piece are received with some derision by humorous paragraphers. Nevertheless, every man who ever had much to do with the printing business will be pretty sure to welcome the proposed changes as soon as they appear.

Any printer with an eye for craftsmanship would say that the designs of American coins and paper money have looked about like the printing that used to be put out 25 or 50 years ago.

Any man with an eye for form should see how great an improvement the Lincoln cent was over the ancient and commonplace drawing of the old copper. The slender and graceful lettering, the suppression of needless detail so as to throw attention on the central features, and the graphic illustration of the Lincoln head, create a design of which Americans may well be proud.

If you look over the types of a print shop you can detect the old faces by their coarse shading, and the stiff monotony of their box like right angles. The fat letters on the old coins and on the present paper money are like these old type faces. A good printer would scarcely care to turn out an auction bill with such ungraceful types.

It may be said that these symbols of value facetiously known as the long green pass so rapidly from hand to hand, that it makes no difference whether their designs are good or not, provided they pass at the grocery store.

Nevertheless, don't overlook the value of an example of good craftsmanship. In all the mechanical arts today, fine work, having beauty of design and delicacy of execution, commands a high price. Let Uncle Sam show that his print shop can do at least as well as a country paper!

AMERICAN FASHIONS. The New York Times takes an interesting step in offering prizes for the best American designs of women's fashions, for a spring hat, a spring dress, and an evening gown. It may well be hoped that this will encourage the growing feeling that American people are bright enough to design their own clothes.

Anna G. Noyes, in an article in the Independent a few years ago, said that while the most wonderful advances were being made in every other department of human life, in women's dress, the century had seen but three improvements. These three were the final abolition of the hoop skirt, a reduction in the number and weight of petticoats, and the union suit undergarment.

It is not strange, that when a dress-maker or a milliner puts a Paris tag on her goods, at once its beauty is enhanced in the eye of the purchaser, and purse strings loosen up? And at that it may be made in Hoboken.

Unquestionably Paris has had, and still has, many wonderful designers of women's clothes. But the gown that fits the sporty girl at Longchamps races or the Moulins Rouge comes a long way from adapting itself to the American business girl or the sedate house mother of our homes.

That Americans are capable of designing appropriate styles is asserted by the Ladies' Home Journal, which considers the walking length skirt and the tailored suit as distinctively American productions. The Japanese kimono is named as a style that has become universal and which did not come from Paris.

The essential trouble with dress reformers to date has been that they have lacked technical skill. Even if their creations had artistic symmetry of line, it was not sufficient that they should fit some wooden Indian of a lay figure.

When they came to be worn by some woman, they failed to correspond to her own physical peculiarities, and consequently fell into all the slovenly disarray of a misfit.

APPEARANCE OF PROSPERITY. One of the reasons why advertising has enlarged so much during recent years, is that alert sellers of merchandise realize that a business to succeed must carry an atmosphere of success about it.

The man who walks up to a business office in soiled clothes, with his

have good qualifications for the job for which he asks. But the chances are that he gets turned down simply on his appearance. He looks as if he had been a failure in what he had previously undertaken. This may seem a superficial way for an employer of labor to judge of an applicant. But face unshorn and his boots dirty, may he simply has to judge of a man's true nature by such exterior signs as he can detect, and usually these tell the story correctly.

The public judges of a merchant's character, of his enterprise and reliability, by similar exterior signs. First and foremost they consider his disposition to tell about his goods by advertising.

They feel that the man who does not advertise is not in the game, if indeed the ythink of him at all. They think that he does not have the enterprise to keep up with the ordinary methods by which a merchant serves the public efficiently.

They question too, whether his goods are of such standard character that he can afford to guarantee their quality and good value through the publicity of advertising. It looks too, as if they were being sold at prices that could not be made attractive to the buyer if publicly described.

A good sized advertisement, big enough to look as if a firm were on the map and in the game, has just the effect on a business that is given to a man by wearing good clothes and presenting a brisk, alert and wide awake manner. It indicates prosperity, and suggests that a merchant has a record of having given satisfaction to the public.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS. "Trimming the church" used to be a joyous and jolly proposition. Wherever evergreens of any kind were handy, the young people would scour the woods for miles around. The jolly laughter of the pickers would resound under the cathedral aisles of the forest. The crisp air of December stimulated merriment, and no one thought it was work.

Then after the evergreen had been gathered into the "vestry," what jolly times the young people would have tying the wreaths and knotting rope. No one ever called that work either.

In the city today, the regulation Christmas greens have mostly been bought at florists, with good money from widows' mite boxes.

Many churches may still be able to get volunteer workers to trim the hedges. But in many others, it has all come over to the care of professionals. All this costs money, and is simply one of the innumerable changes in habits and manners that largely account for the modern cost of living.

Furthermore, what has become of that old spirit of devotion with which the fathers and mothers used to rise early and toil late to promote the welfare of a beloved church organization? The grandfather would attend church three times a Sunday, teach Sunday school classes of turbulent boys, spend several hours a week in preparation for the same, and give one night a week to the solemn devotion of prayer meeting. The grandsons and granddaughters, on the other hand, have to be implored with patience, pleading, and persistence to go down to the church a single night and hang the Christmas rope and wreaths.

However, one cuts a poor figure with haberbros hamentations on the decadence of modern times. The reason why the boys all used to turn out to trim the church was perhaps not so much saintly devotion as the swish of feminine petticoats. It was the only chance of the week to get together with the girls. When the young people turn out for a toilsome job nowadays, it is much more likely to be genuine public spirit.

OKLAHOMA NOT A CORN STATE. From November 25 to December 10 the Rock Island railroad ran a "Kafir Corn Special" in Oklahoma, a train made up and carrying agriculturists for the sole purpose of teaching how to raise kafir-corn. A conservative estimate of the total expense of the train is placed at \$8,500. There were, of course, no charges at any of the lectures and no revenue to offset the expense.

As a credit against the cost of this train all the Rock Island has to show is the fact that 101 towns were visited and that nearly 30,000 people heard the lectures. Its hope is that a fair per cent of these people were convinced by the arguments offered and will plant kafir instead of Indian corn next spring.

It has taken Oklahoma a good many years to come to the conclusion that it cannot raise Indian corn. That is, raise it successfully year after year. Before the state was entirely opened to settlement the poor showing in corn was attributed to lack of intelligent farming. But in the past few years farmers from Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and other of the great corn states have used their utmost skill in Oklahoma and have met with no genuine success. Even the government department at Washington no wadmits what it refused to do for a long time—that Oklahoma is not a corn-growing state.

The real significance, then, of this Rock Island special train is that Oklahoma is being asked to give up corn. Kafir will grow in Oklahoma every year, and corn will not. And the change, which will come ultimately if not immediately, means that Oklahoma will drift back toward its original forte—stock raising. Kafir is a forage crop, strictly speaking, and the quickest and best way to profit from its production is by feeding it to cattle on the same farm on which it is grown.

As Missouri is, and will continue to be, one of the best corn states in the nation, it will be benefited by the change in crops in Oklahoma. We will be glad to send our corn southwest a few hundred miles in exchange for cheaper and fresher meats and believe such an exchange program will work out well for both states.—Joplin Globe.

CHRISTMAS IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Through most of the year the problem of maintaining Sunday School attendance seems increasingly difficult. Rewards of gilt pins, crosses and crowns, and illuminated and illustrated cards affect the child mind with more or less persuasiveness. But all these schemes stir the faded feet of the unwilling scholar but for a time.

The lure of the Christmas tree pulled the boy of a generation ago, who annually turned up to get his quaint copy of the stilted Roll books. It pulls the boy of today, who is willing to hear even about Habbakuk and Melchisedek, in order to help strip the shining and glittering foliage of childhood.

Not that the Sunday school scholar is satisfied with the gifts that chance and teacher may award him. It costs money to run a Sunday school. Teacher has a serious problem to make a respectable showing with the fragment of small change from an insolvent treasury.

It is the element of suspense that gives this drawing power even to a small gift. The unimaginative teacher will give a \$1.00 "Scholar's Companion" year after year. This array of school room tools makes the eyes dance the first time, but when repeated all the element of mystery is gone. The youngsters look enviously at the other kidlets, to whom there came the joy of the unexpected in the form of a 29 cent knife.

It of course looks nowadays as if you had to bribe the children to study the Bible. For wages of candy, popcorn, and jackknives, they are willing to listen, with some interruptions of turmoil, while the teacher talks about the world's one great book.

Still let no one become pessimistic. Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, runs the word. That means that you have got to satisfy the boy out of the coin of Boyland, which of course is the candy, popcorn, and jackknives aforesaid.

ENLIGHTENMENT.

We have had frequent occasion to speak of the progressive opinions of the court of criminal appeals of Oklahoma. Some lawyers question the wisdom of following the decision of these newer states. We would remind such that the architecture of our best western cities follows, not what was characteristic of New York fifty years ago, but what is characteristic of the metropolis today.

Western tendencies are modern. A man charged with murder was recently convicted in Oklahoma of manslaughter and sentenced to a term of twenty-five years' imprisonment. The trial court erroneously instructed the jury on the doctrine of self-defense. The evidence showed that the deceased was shot in the back. Oklahoma's statutes, like those of many states, provide that on appeal the higher courts must give judgment without regard to technical errors or defects or exceptions which do not affect the substantial rights of the parties.

The supreme courts of many states have deliberately ignored this statute. Oklahoma is trying to live up to it. New York has the same statute exactly. In this case the Oklahoma court said:

Upon a consideration of the entire record, we are of the opinion that while the trial court erred as to the law, the jury were clearly right in the decision at which they arrived; and that if any mistake was made, it was in convicting the appellant of manslaughter in the first degree, when they should have convicted him of murder. * * * While there is error in the record, yet we find that appellant suffered no injury thereby.

Speaking of appellate courts which reverse cases because of the ignorance of mistaken judgment of prosecutors and trial judges, where a flawless new trial could result only in a like verdict, the court quotes from one of its former decisions these words:

We decline to be bound by or to follow a line of authorities so repugnant to reason, so demoralizing to respect for law, and so destructive to justice. * * * We believe that appellate courts should faithfully and fearlessly do their duty, and decide every question presented with refer-

ence to the substantial merits of the case. In this way only can justice be administered.

Chief Justice Henry Furman of the court of criminal appeals of Oklahoma, who wrote this opinion in Fowler vs. State, 126 Pacific Reporter, page 831, was at one time one of the most celebrated criminal lawyers in northern Texas and the Indian Territory. When practicing he used, in the interest of his clients, every dodge and technicality known to the law. As a judge he has set his face against a system which he knows by experience is responsible in large part for the distrust in our criminal courts is rightly held by the public. In early life he was a common seaman, which may account for his common sense.—Collier's Weekly.

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.

When the keen-edged autumn breezes come with hint of snows and freezes, when the landscape in the morning wears a coat of frost and rime, then we mutter, how we shiver. How our very inward quiver, how we long, with sighs regretful for the good old summer time. Yet three moons have scarce passed by us since we needed precepts pious to make smooth the rock pathway for our worn and weary feet. We were panting and perspiring, we were languishing and tiring, we were grumbling at the weather man, and swearing at the heat. Oh, the autumn tints of the wildwood with the fairy scenes of childhood, and the glory of the hilltops ought to rest our weary bones; but the crisp and frosty twilight casts a gloom across our skylight, and we fill the glowing atmosphere with agonizing groans. Thus we flounder through the seasons, always giving sundry reasons why all things are brighter, better, than the blessings by our side; we go hoping, longing, fearing, toward the land to which we're steering, we are blest beyond deserving—but we're never satisfied.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

Few customs have such a hold as that of distributing Christmas gifts on a real evergreen tree.

Somehow there seems to be no Christmas spirit without it. Many poor families feel it so keenly that even a cheap artificial tree of tin foil foliage does something to create a holiday atmosphere.

It all goes to show that at times when you drop life's more sordid ambitions, nature rather than dollars produces real happiness. On Christmas eve the bronze chandelier, designed and fashioned by cunning workmen for a hundred dollars, seems like so much rubbish. The little bit of real greenery from some desolate mountain side, lighted with candles—the obsolete method of illumination used in the inconvenient home of our grandmothers, seems lovelier and more pleasing to normal unspoiled human nature.

The best things in life are not bought with cash. If you keep the heart of a child, you are happy because you enjoy simple pleasures within your reach. If you don't keep the heart of a child, the most expensive luxuries are merely like broken Christmas toys the week after.

There is a difference of opinion as to whether the break in the stock market is caused by the Pacific roads decision, or because one of the Wall Street crowd saw the moon over his left shoulder.

The New York burglar who got 10,000 nickels in a bag may have trouble in getting rid of the coins. But he can have a lot of fun riding on the street cars.

A club of Chicago girls won't marry men having less than \$5000 income, but intending purchasers would do better to wait for the customary markdown sale.

President Taft may become a professor of constitutional law at Yale. Of course he could not get a job as baseball coach right off.

"I will try to be kind. I will try to find the good in others, I will carry sunshine with me, especially into the dark places. I will try to make someone happy each day."

"Perhaps it would be better to leave out the word 'try' because the mere suggestion of 'attempting' leaves a sort of loophole for not 'doing.' On the other hand, any one of those resolves involves a pretty big contract for most of us to live up to. You can see how failure to live up to resolves like these—and there are bound to be many failures—doesn't destroy their working value."