

### The Ill Wind

THE cold wet rain kept sloshing down, and flooded yard and street. My uncle cried: "Don't sigh and frown! It's splendid for the wheat!" I slipped and fell upon the ice, and made my forehead bleed. "Ghee whizz!" cried uncle, "this is nice! Just what the ice men need!" A windstorm blew my whiskers off while I was writing odds. My uncle said: "Don't scowl and scuff—twirl dry the muddy roads!" If fire my dwelling should destroy, or waters wash it hence, my uncle would exclaim, with joy: "You still have got your fence!" When I was lying, sick to death, expecting every day that I must draw my final breath, I heard my uncle say, "Our undertaker is in, and it away you fade, it ought to cheer you up to know that they will help his trade." And if we study uncle's graft, we find it good and fair; how often, when we might have laughed, we wept and tore our hair! Such logic from this blooming land should drive away all woe; the thing that's hard for you to stand, is good for Richard Roe.  
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### Business Conditions Sound and Healthy

SO FAR, there is nothing but good news and encouragement in the word that comes from eastern financial centers, bearing upon the general course of trade and industry, and the outlook for the future. Exports are breaking all records, while imports are not up to maximum, bringing about a very favorable trade balance that will mean the piling up in Europe of great gold reserves to which the United States is entitled when it feels the need. The trade balance in our favor during October was the greatest in the national history. The exports are chiefly manufactured goods, and the manufacturers have of course been built up under the American national protective tariff system, which has made it possible for the United States to enter the markets of all the world and has helped to make this nation the greatest exporting nation on earth.  
Trade is not exactly booming over the country, but all commentators agree that the holiday trade will be up to the usual mark. Wholesale and retail trade everywhere are sound and active, with more advance buying than has been the rule of recent months. Speculation has been reduced to a minimum, and the volume of business on the New York exchanges has fallen below the lowest records of a quarter century. But the money of the people is being used to a greater extent in normal and legitimate employment rather than in gambling which after all makes up a considerable part of stock market transactions at all times.  
Bank statements the country over, are regarded by the financial writers as indicating sound conditions conservatively met, with no undue expansion or encouragement of speculative outlay, but with all due regard for the needs of going businesses.  
The worst feature in the whole situation is the inability of the railroads to make the necessary expenditures for renewal, replacement, new construction and equipment. The interstate commerce commission is now considering the application of the roads for permission to increase freight rates in eastern and central territory by about 5 percent. Such an increase would not be felt by the ultimate consumer in the least degree, but it would enable the railroads to make some fair effort to keep up with the needs of their territories and maintain the standard of service which the American people require.  
In general, the business situation and outlook are sound and favorable to future improvement. There is absolutely no reason to apprehend any recession from the present state of business development and advance, nor is there likely to be any greater stringency in the money market than has existed during the last few months, while improvement in this respect is confidently looked for immediately upon the enactment of a currency bill.

### Calloused To the Good Things

MAYBE it's all right to become calloused to the bad things, as to a large extent we have all become with regard to affairs in Mexico, but it is not all right to become calloused to the good things. El Paso is not so far advanced that she can permit herself to be indifferent to a single item making for her prosperity and progress. And the enlargement of the El Paso smelter, now under way, is one of those things that might well be celebrated with enthusiasm, but that there is danger of failing to note with the emphasis due its importance.  
The El Paso smelter is spending \$350,000 to increase by one-half its copper output. A few years ago the item would have caused a tremendous amount of congratulation among our people, the after luncheon orators would have spoken of the event as "marking a new era," there would have been special cars to the site, the breaking of ground by a couple of governors with silver spades, and maybe a "pee-rade" past the principal saloons as Abe Martin says; with, of course, the inevitable banquets. Today, the event of "beginning grading for the extension" passes almost without notice.  
It is, in a way, one sign of El Paso's growth, that we are all so indifferent; but it is nothing to be proud of, and this city suffers in proportion as it is indifferent to such news.  
No city ever becomes so large but what the employing of one more workman, the building of one more cottage, should be an event faithfully chronicled and duly comprehended as important in itself.  
The El Paso smelter is one of the largest producers of copper matte in the world, and turns out a substantial fraction of the world's supply. The enlargement of this plant is an event of signal importance in the mining world. Coming at this time, when mining is being greatly stimulated in the American southwest partly by reason of the cessation of work in Mexico, the news is particularly welcome as indicating the increasing importance of El Paso as a center of the metal mining industry.

### To Rob and Be Robbed

AN OLD TIME gambler writes to The Herald asking that this paper take up the matter of the crooked games in Juarez and expose them. He says the faro game is robbery, and "the crap game is so crooked that the dice would turn over a log if they were tied to it"—which is something of a classic in itself. He pays his respects to the roulette, poker, and shell games in terms equally forceful and definite.  
The writer of the letter seems to have been surprised at what he saw. But any anybody should be surprised to see a crooked "game of chance" being run for the benefit of the house, is the real thing to be surprised at. Anybody who goes against a gambling game expects to get something for nothing—expects to get a roll of somebody else's money without doing anything to earn it. That is the robber's instinct. The "house" sometimes has to learn new tricks in self defense.  
Among the weak and immature, the gambling instinct is something that should be treated by government as a disease to be fought and quarantined against like any other plague. And the men who promote gambling and make it their professional business to make new gamblers all the time, are dangerous to any community, like the rats that carry bubonic plague. The town that will tolerate them is very far gone, financially and morally.

### One-Sentence Philosophy

JOURNAL ENTRIES.  
(Topeka Journal.)  
Any number of people lose their heads without suffering serious consequences.  
Black sheep of the human variety are like black birds. They flock together.  
What's sauce for the goose ought to be sauce for the gander, but it generally isn't.  
It is peculiar that bridge is so popular among women in view of the fact that it places a ban on conversation.  
GLOBE MEDITATIONS.  
(Philadelphia Record.)  
Many a fellow who aims at happiness is a mighty poor snot.  
The man who never pays his debts continues to borrow trouble.  
The man who never pays his debts will be healed as well as well healed.  
Don't object to a little abuse. Many a man has been kicked out of his home by a woman who has been kicked out of her home by a man.  
There are many different kinds of fools, but don't try to be all of them at once.  
POINTED PARAGRAPHS.  
(Chicago News.)  
The school for scandal has no vacations.  
The matchless beauty starts the conversation with a man does enjoy spending money if he can't afford it!  
Most men spend more time talking it over than working at it.  
Some women get more joy out of a grievance than out of a blessing.  
A woman can heat a man at an argument, but that proves very little.  
GLOBE SIGHTS.  
(Atholion Globe.)  
It is hard to keep your friends, and use them, too.  
Hold your patience and your job, it is about the best piece of advice we can think of just now.  
About the rarest type of man is the one who makes a mistake by sticking to it.  
Another thing in favor of the Ben Davis apple is that it doesn't keep as long as canned fruit.

### Waters Swirl In Waco

One Day In El Paso Is Worth 40 In Flood-Stricken City, Says Tom Leas, El Paso Chief of Police.  
IT is impossible to approximate the damage done by the floods at Waco, Texas, which left hundreds of persons homeless, according to Tom Leas, who returned from that city Sunday.  
For three days there were no train communications out of the flooded city, and for that length of time Waco was practically isolated. Train communications from Waco south had not been established up to the time that Mr. Leas left there, which was Friday night.  
A heavy downpour started Monday morning and continued until Friday night, Mr. Leas said. The waters began to swirl in the downtown section of the city, inundating the lower portion of the city. Houses were swept away, and hundreds were homeless. The city was practically isolated. The city was practically isolated. The city was practically isolated.

### ABE MARTIN



Folks who discuss Mexican politics are mighty careful not to mention any names. Next to a 14 year old boy their haint nothin' as worthless as th' average opinion.

### 14 Years Ago Today

From The Herald This Date 1899.  
Juan C. Creel, of Chihuahua, is in the city.  
A Blumenthal went to Los Angeles yesterday.  
Charles T. Russell, a young attorney, is in the city, with a view of locating.  
J. H. Payne sails today from New York to Liverpool. He will spend two months in England.  
Superintendent W. R. Martin and chief clerk Taggart, of the G. H. went up the line of the White Oaks yesterday.  
El Paso public library as fast as funds will allow. A list of books to be purchased with the \$350 donated by Andrew Carnegie. A room has been fitted up for the library on the second floor of the city hall.

### Youthful Farmers Win Trip

Eighty Boys and Girls of Corn Clubs See Washington at Expense of the Department of Agriculture.  
By Frederick J. Haas.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—EIGHTY fortunate girls and boys will be given the time of their lives in Washington for a week, beginning December 11, under the auspices of the department of agriculture. It is a well merited good time, for the boys and girls who are a champion either at corn or potato raising, or at gardening and canning. The children come from 30 states and are in the number of which many an adult would be proud.

Two of these champions come from Utah. Hattie and Fred, 14, had the best garden and the largest amount of product as well as the best net profit of any girl in her state. Fred is the national champion of all the boys' potato clubs. He obtained a yield of 382 bushels of potatoes from his half acre tract. If any adult farmer in the country has exceeded that yield, the department of agriculture has a record of it. So, in the opinion of many experts, Merle Hyer is the champion potato raiser of the entire country. He did a number of boys in the management of his crop which the average potato farmer overlooked. He planted selected seed potatoes taken from the hill by hand. When other farmers stopped cultivating their potato fields, Merle kept on cultivating with a result which surprised every other farmer exhibiting at the Utah agricultural fair.

Because of the exceptional quality of his seed, Merle Hyer is permitted to sell his seed potatoes under the "4 H brand" label which has just been awarded to him by the department of agriculture. This label is the latest development of Uncle Sam's effort to standardize agricultural products for the children's clubs. To secure the labels, which are supplied free by the state agents in charge of club work, a club must have a guaranteed variety or strain to begin with, and must select the seed potatoes by hand from the hills. The hill stands in a committee of three appointed by the state agent. All seed potatoes must be free from scab and other diseases. The club must sign all labels used on seed packs, stating the yield per acre, and the average number of tubers of uniform size on the hill. This was the purchaser may know definitely what crop to expect from the seed purchased.

Girls Join Movement.  
In 1908 the boys were enlisted in corn club work. The interest was then extended to potatoes and now includes several other articles. The girls of the party visiting Washington are sent by the state of Colorado because he is the champion sugar beet grower of the state.  
The object of the club work was to bring the boys to the attention of the department of agriculture in improving the quality, the quantity and the value of the crop raised and to make it profitable to the raiser. It is the object of the girls to bring to the attention of the department of agriculture the quality, the quantity and the value of the crop raised and to make it profitable to the raiser. It is the object of the girls to bring to the attention of the department of agriculture the quality, the quantity and the value of the crop raised and to make it profitable to the raiser.

### "This Is My Birthday Anniversary"

AN EXCHANGE names "mistress of arts" as an appropriate degree to be given to the girl who can count the following among her accomplishments. The Herald says Amen to the suggestion most heartily. The requirements for the degree are:  
Never fuss or fret or fidget.  
Never keep anybody waiting.  
Shut the door, and shut it softly.  
Have an hour for rising, and rise.  
Always know where your things are.  
Learn to make bread, as well as cake.  
Keep your own room in tasteful order.  
Never come to breakfast without a collar.  
Never go about with your shoes unbuttoned.  
Never let a button stay off 24 hours.  
Speak clearly enough for everybody to understand.  
Be patient with the little ones, as you wish your mother to be with you.  
Never let the day pass without doing something to make somebody comfortable.  
The El Paso boys and girls having birthday anniversaries on December 9 are:  
Carl J. Moe, 17.  
Richard Pearson, 12.  
Helen Agurte, 13.  
Glady's Harley, 12.  
There is a ticket at The Herald office for each of these young folks, admitting two to the Unique theater. Call on "Miss Birthday" for it.  
Julia Linahan, 16.  
Christina A. Strayer, 14.  
Robert Wulff, 15.  
John Armstrong, 8.

### The Case of the Trolley Man

The Daily Newslet.  
"THAT'S very simple," smiled the great detective. "I knew you were a trolley official because I saw you drive up to my door in an automobile. You say something is worrying you?"  
"Yes," said the tall, thin man, "something has been troubling me for the past hour and I can't for the life of me think what it is. I hate to be worried unnecessarily, so I thought the quickest thing to do would be to come to you."  
"Hm," said the great detective. "Everything all right at the office?"  
"Absolutely. Even the office boy has proved himself a jewel."  
"Hm. How about things around the house?"  
"Oh, excellent. My wife hasn't showed up since last Tuesday when she went shopping, but I can't say there's anything really worth worrying about."  
"Hm," said the great detective. "I have it!" he exclaimed after he had pondered a while with his long fingers crossed in his ears. "As you entered the room, I remember now (for I have trained myself to observe every little thing to matter how apparently superfluous) I noticed that a thin spiral of blue smoke—like tobacco smoke—curled from one of your trouser pockets. Have the goodness to investigate."  
The tall, thin man felt in his right trouser pocket and drew forth the will lighted end of a cigar.  
"Oh, bother!" he said. "I could have sworn I threw that away. I must be growing a little more non-committally and accepted his fee."  
(This is one of the regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

### The Searchlight

MICROSCOPIC MELTING TESTS  
Taking a piece of metal no larger than a drop of water and dividing it into 65,000 parts is itself no mean job, but to take one of those tiny parts and determine to a minute fraction of a degree the heat required to melt it is a task that only a scientist could perform. And yet that is being done by the government in the Bureau of Standards. Under one process the specimen, placed under a strip of platinum, and one observer watches it with a powerful microscope while another watches the electric current that flows through the strip of platinum, both looking through a window of mica or plate glass, while electric heat is applied.  
The process combines the microscope and the pyrometer in one instrument, thus permitting a single observer to watch the melting process and to take a record of the temperature at the same time. There is a tiny incandescent lamp, connected with electrical instruments for measuring the current and for controlling its flow. The eye can see the lamp filament, the specimen being heated by the current, and the lamp filament, the melting point of the tiny specimen with one hand, while the electric current is maintained in both the lamp and the platinum strip, so that the two lights continue of the same brightness, continuing the process until the melting point is reached. Here, seeing that the same amount of brightness is maintained in both the lamp and the platinum strip, the observer can read the temperature at the same degree of brightness as the platinum, and an easy calculation shows him just the microscopic particle.  
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### 100 Years Ago Today

ONE HUNDRED years ago today president Madison sent a special message to congress, requesting that body to pass an embargo act to prohibit all exports from the United States. The purpose was to prevent the British armies in America and the British fleets that were blockading our coasts from receiving food and supplies. On December 17 congress agreed to establish the embargo, to continue in effect until January 1, 1815. The act met with considerable opposition, particularly from the coast states, because of the disastrous results to their commerce. The press of the time bitterly denounced the measure. By its opponents the act was commonly referred to as, reading the title backward, the "O grab me act."  
(This is one of the regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

### Letters to The Herald.

[All communications must bear the signature of the writer, but the name will be withheld if requested.]  
MAIL CARRYING STEAMERS.  
Editor El Paso Herald:  
If it is in your line to answer my question, I would appreciate hearing from you relative to the following:  
Do any ships, carrying mail, go from New York to Atlantic coast ports to Japan, or from Japan to New York, when do they sail? How long time taken in crossing and when will same arrive in Japan?  
(Postmaster J. A. Smith says that the postal guide gives no steamers plying between Atlantic coast ports and Japan.—Editor.)

### Dragons

BY GEORGE FITCH, Author of "At Good Old Straws."  
DRAGONS are very scarce now, and command a higher market price than sea serpents. But 1000 years ago they were a great pest, and no valley was complete without a large and fierce dragon. They were a controllable appetite for beautiful maidens.  
The dragon was a hideous monster as long as a torchlight procession, with 1000 candlepower eyes and a breath like a blast furnace flame. He had four legs and 24 claws and a 100 horsepower tail with a red hot end. His scales were as tough as battleship steel and with his large sharp teeth he could chew up a knight, armor and all, using his spear later for a toothpick. He was carnivorous in the extreme and after he had camped in a valley for a few years the census enumerators concluded it a waste of time to work the territory.  
Considering all this, it is a wonder that the population of the world was not worried through at all. When we reflect upon the character and disposition of the dragon, we are inclined to wonder, inclined to doubt that he really had any ancestors at that time. Yet, cold, sober history records the fact that dragons were almost as many as boys, and every dragon the world has known or suspected came to a violent end.  
The dragon was not accomplished with the aid of dynamite and galling guns. Every dragon was exterminated by some righteous knight armed with a brave heart and a spear. No matter how many wicked knights the dragon had previously massacred, he always met a good knight in the course of time. Then it was all off. The good knight picked out a likely spot back of the dragon's collar bone and charged. The dragon blew two prairie fires and a volcano out of his nostrils, opened his mouth and let loose a torrent of fire and tore up acres of earth with his claws, and mowed down forests with his tail. The good knight's spear touched him and he curled up like a punctured spider and died like a collipee.  
dragons because of their bravery. And as the dragons were too big to skin they never brought them home to have them stuffed and presented to the museums.  
This natural history lost its greatest treasure and there are now no dragon pelts on exhibition. We can't help thinking that with all their bravery the good knights were very careful about preserving the great unnatural resources of the world ages.—Copyrighted by George Fitch Adams course the act was commonly referred to as, reading the title backward, the "O grab me act."  
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### GOOPPS



RUTH WAITE  
Why should a Goop like Ruthie Waite Be willing to exaggerate? Because, the plain and simple truth Is not quite good enough for Ruth! She cannot tell a story straight, But always makes it twice as great! Don't Be A Goop!  
(This is one of the regular features of The El Paso Herald.)

### Advice To the Lovelorn

By Beatrice Fairfax.  
OF COURSE.  
Dear Miss Fairfax:  
I am in love with a young man two years my senior. We are both employed in the same place, and I usually take my home with him, and always appeared to like me very much.  
He asked me for one of my silver rings, and I lent it to him, and in return he gave me his ring. About two weeks ago I came in and he told me that he had sold his ring and seemed cold toward me all day. Now he doesn't even pay attention to me when I pass his desk. Do you think I ought to ask him for my ring?  
Get your ring, and never again make such an exchange unless a marriage engagement warrants it.  
Dear Miss Fairfax:  
Is there any such thing as stamp language? If so, which you tell me just what the different meanings of it are.  
I am glad to say that few know the stamp language these days. The time is past when a man or maid told his love by passing a postage stamp upside down.  
Don't try to learn it, my dear. It is a waste of mental effort and time.  
(This is one of the regular features of The El Paso Herald.)