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Our National Capital

Events of Interest from the Seat of Government by the News Special Correspondent, J. E. Jones

CLEANING UP THE EXPRESS COMPANIES

Washington, D. C., Jan. 2.—When the United States Express Company liquidated and quit business the forepart of the year, it evidently saved itself a lot of trouble. The Adams and American Express Companies have closed their books on a disastrous year and the Wells Fargo officials are taking the solace in re-auditing the statistics of earnings in the sweet, fat years before Uncle Sam became weary of the extortionate rates of these separate organizations that used to get together in arranging to squeeze the public, just as they get together to-day in order that they may not be forced an inch farther than is absolutely necessary, to escape the artillery fire that has followed in the clear pathway that the government parcel post siege guns have made. The Postmaster General, in his recent report, recalls that the original advocates of the parcel post predicted "that possibly 300,000,000 parcels would be handled during the first year," whereas more than 800,000,000 parcels are now going through the mails annually. Increases like 200 to 500 per cent. in a single year, have not been unusual. In some of the big postoffices. Many people who have watched the parcel post development, and the antics of the express interests, are inclined to believe that the parcel post rates are very unsystematically arranged, and it is even declared that the express company officials have been doing a little "crowding" over their claim that the parcel post was handing the unprofitable business, while they still took the cream off the top of the bottle. But the confessions of losses and deficits by the companies, and the growing satisfaction among the people of the country in their own method of carrying packages in the mails, indicate that a proposition that selfish business interests strangled for years, is at last making good in a decidedly beneficial manner to the country.

The Troubles of Mankind

While Europe is struggling in the death-grapple of war the congested population of the larger cities is confronted with its problems of food, shelter and clothing. It is estimated that upward of 350,000 men are out of employment in New York alone, and the bread lines and free lodging houses are caring for more unfortunate people than at perhaps any previous time in the history of the country. President Wilson and his advisers trace the trouble entirely to the war, but there are other viewpoints, and one of these lays the blame upon domestic conditions, and attempts to prove that the country has been in a state of near-panic since last Spring. President Wilson has sharply reminded England that it must quit its interference with our foreign shipping. He has put the complaint of this government up to England strongly. His view of the matter is that Europe is taking the pie out of the mouths of Americans, and that our people are being sustained on crusts because of the foreign war.

Events in History

Shortly after the middle of November, the people of the United States became very much excited over the report that Turkish forts had fired upon a launch sent out from a United States warship. A good many newspapers demanded that these insults from Turkey be met with armed force.

This item is merely to direct attention to the fact that some of the "greatest causes" for going to war are merely imaginary. Militarism in Europe made an accumulation for just such instances

Vardaman's One IDEA

For twenty years Senator Vardaman has been making himself "useful" or "useless,"—according to the way the reader wants to look at it—in fighting every movement for the advancement of the Negroes. His latest proposition is to amend the Constitution of the United States in such a way as to deprive the colored people of their right to vote. Vardaman evidently does not know that the Civil War is over and in his efforts to oppress the colored people is also going to try to have a law passed for "jim crow" cars in the District of Columbia. There are a few Vardamans left, but they are passing on like the millionaire who once bought seats in the Senate. Men with race hatred in their hearts, and accentuated long hair are getting scarce.

The Man From Missouri

The man from Missouri, who "wanted to be shown" must have been Senator Reed, since from the first he has stood in the way of the plans of President Wilson, always demanding that he "be shown." He blocked, or delayed, so many pieces of pet administration legislation that he became decidedly unpopular at the White House, and the President even went to the extent, in one of his statements, of pointing out Senator Reed and two or three other Senators, as standing in the way of Democratic policies. Senator Reed has even found his stool removed from the pie counter, and he has retaliated by kicking over some of the President's appointments, by defeating confirmation. It is understood that the "knife is out" and that the White House and the Democratic Senators who are not in harmony with the Chief Executive have reached the parting of the ways. The defection is hardly big enough to be called a "split" in the party, but it is big enough to cause a whole lot of concern to Democratic party leaders.

President May Not Go

The original plan was that the Atlantic fleet should leave Hampton Roads on Washington's birthday for the Panama Canal; and that special warships and steamers should take President Wilson and a great cargo of officials and citizens to the canal. Standing on the bridge of the good old Oregon, it was planned that President Wilson should lead a fleet of warships of the world. When the program was being perfected in July, acceptances were received from Great Britain, Germany, Russia, France and all the rest of the great powers. The European warships are unusually busy—so busy in fact that the heads of the various governments are not even taking time to send their regrets. The effect has been somewhat disappointing so far as America is concerned, and whether the President goes to California by way of Panama or not, the initial part of the show is doomed to be much sadder than anticipated. The White House has been giving out intimations that the President will be "very busy" in March and may have to disappoint the exposition boomers.

Crowding the Old Fellows Out

First Assistant Postmaster General Roper, in his report welcomes the elimination of superannuated employees without regard to length or value of service. The Postmaster of Washington has pursued a policy of suspending former soldiers of the Union Army, and the Civil Service Commission of Washington is also endeavoring to force from the public service the men and wo-

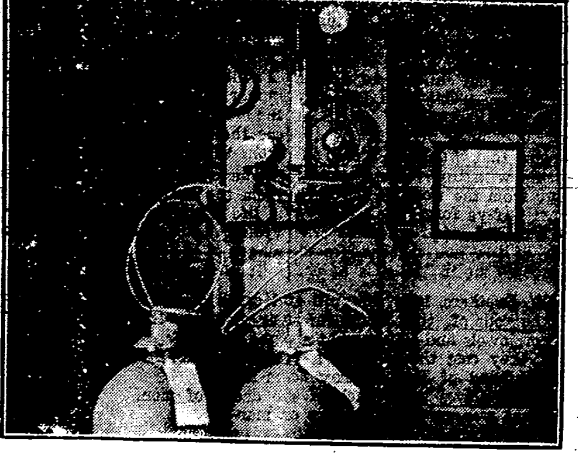
New Ways of Making Water Safe

PUBLIC HEALTH HINTS
Prepared Each Week For the Readers of This Newspaper by the New York State Department of Health.

THE cold months of the year, and particularly the late fall and early spring months, are the times when water supplies are most likely to spread disease. All cities and villages should look to the safety of their water supplies at this season. The modern methods of CHLORINE DISINFECTION make it easy to secure a safe supply at a low cost.

The fall rains and the melting of the snow in spring are likely to wash a great deal of polluting material into lakes and streams which may be fairly clean at other seasons of the year. Two towns in New York state, Warrensburg and Hudson Falls, have already suffered this autumn from outbreaks of water borne diarrhea.

No RUNNING STREAM or SMALL POND which has houses and barnyards on or near its banks or to the shores of which campers and picnickers resort can be relied upon to be at all times safe. In LARGE LAKES disease germs which may be washed in often die be-



PORTABLE APPARATUS FOR WATER PURIFICATION

fore they reach the intake of the waterworks. Even in large lakes, however, currents caused by the wind or in other ways may carry pollution for MANY MILES. A typhoid epidemic at Auburn was caused some years ago by pollution carried for four miles down a stream and for ten miles across a lake.

The safest way is to PURIFY all surface waters from streams or ponds before using them for drinking. This can best be done by building sand filters, which keep the water always clear and bright as well as pure. Filtration, however, is expensive, and water supplies may be made SAFE for communities which cannot afford to filter them by the very simple process of disinfection with bleaching powder or chlorine. Chlorine given off from powder or added directly to the water solution or as a gas quickly DESTROYS ALL DISEASE GERMS without giving any taste to the water (if it is properly used) and without injuring it in any way. The amount of chlorine used is very small and the cost very slight.

The State Department of Health has a small chlorine disinfecting plant which it can send at a few hours' notice to any town in which water borne typhoid or other disease breaks out. For some of the victims, however, this will be TOO LATE. Wise city and village and town authorities will install their own disinfection plants BEFORE THE HARM IS DONE.

men who have been giving the best years of their life to their country.

Andy the Chameleon

The canny Scotch Laird of Skibo Castle declares that, no European war must be fought to a finish. This same Andy, former master of American industries, who gives his wealth for libraries and public buildings, is the main support of a great peace proposition in the United States, and this peace propaganda may be an elegant thing for some people, but there is a growing suspicion that it is "blowing its money" and getting nothing in the way of results in return. But all this may be an erroneous notion, for possibly the Carnegie Society may be doing some real good" for world-wide peace that the people of the United States have not yet heard about.

MANY DISORDERS COME FROM THE LIVER. ARE YOU JUST AT ODDS WITH YOURSELF? Do You Regulate Living?

Are you sometimes at odds with yourself and with the world? Do you wonder what ails you? True you may be eating regularly and sleeping well. Yet something is the matter! Constipation, Headache, Nervousness and Bilious spells indicate a Sluggish Liver. The tried remedy is Dr. King's New Life Pills. Only 25c, at your Druggist.—Advertisement.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve for Skin Eruptions.—Advertisement.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA
The News \$1.00 per year.

CHILDREN'S COUGHS — CHILDREN'S COLDS BOTH ARE SERIOUS

When one of your little ones shows symptoms of an approaching Cold, give it Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey at once. It acts quickly, and prevents the Cold growing worse. Very healing—soothes the Lungs, loosens the mucous, strengthens the system. It's guaranteed. Only 25c, at your Druggist. Buy a bottle to-day.—Advertisement.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve for Sores.—Advertisement.

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Pain leaves almost as if by magic when you begin using "5-Drops," the famous old remedy for Rheumatism, Lumbago, Gout, Sciatica, Neuralgia and kindred troubles. It goes right to the spot, stops the aches and pains and makes life worth living. Get a bottle of "5-Drops" today. A booklet with full directions for use. Don't delay. Demand "5-Drops." Don't accept anything else in place of it. Any druggist can supply you. If you live too far from a drug store send One Dollar to Swenson Rheumatic Cure Co., Newark, Ohio, and a bottle of "5-Drops" will be sent prepaid.

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Of course not every want ad that you answer will mean business, and profit, to you; but Some of them will.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

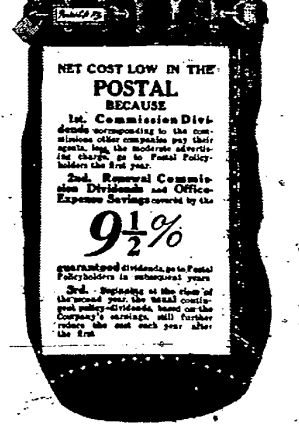


Protection for the Home

The strongest desire of husband and wife is the welfare of their children. The husband works hard to provide for them, and would be glad to know how best to safeguard them. The wife works hard, too—in the home—and is equally interested with her husband in sound insurance protection, such as that offered by the

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