

## The Lake County Times

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### COMMUNICATIONS.

THE TIMES will print all communications on subjects of general interest to the people, when such communications are signed by the writer, but will reject all communications not signed, no matter what their merit. This precaution is taken to avoid misrepresentation.

THE TIMES is published in the best interest of the people, and its utterances always intended to promote the general welfare of the public at large.

### THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS, LITTLE ONE.

Christmas has slipped away into the past again with its attendant joys and pleasures. The annual question of Santa Claus has been brought up and disputed and a number of otherwise loving and adoring parents have done all in their power to crush the faith of their little ones in Santa Claus. A little girl named Virginia wrote to an editor and informed him that she was told there was no Santa. She asked the moulder of public opinion if it was true. He said:

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished."

"No believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that is no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world."

"You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished."

"No believe in Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

### HIS NEWSPAPER FAULTS.

President Roosevelt's critics continue to spend their time in presenting their compliments to him in a way that no other president has ever been presented. Mr. Roosevelt is a favorite subject with editorial writers, who handle him without gloves. The editor of Harpers Weekly speaks of the president in the following novel way:

"It is interesting to notice the close analogy between President Roosevelt's standard and recognized faults and those of live and able newspapers such as at times he fights. He is rash, inaccurate, belligerent, a great butler-in, and hates to own up when he is beaten. So it is with most of the able papers. Some of them are not so honest as he is, but most of them are almost if not quite his equals in verbal accuracy. The reason of the likeness between him and them is very simple, and lies in the similarity between the life they lead and the life that he leads. The life of a live newspaper is a tremendous rush. So is his. The newspaper usually has more events and facts to handle and serve hot than it can more than imperfectly attend to before it goes to press. An honest newspaper does its best to handle them honestly, and often does wonders at it. So with the president. He goes to press nearly every night after a day packed lid-full of decisions, discourses and deliverances. What he puts out is out for better or worse and he can't get it back. A newspaper's life is like a football game. It follows the ball with all its energy until time is called. Sometimes it plays clean; sometimes not. It makes rapid decisions in the heat of conflict, and then stands by them the best it can. That is very like the president's life, too. He follows the ball for all he is worth, and when another player gets his way there is a bouncing concussion. When he fights a team of newspapers, as he is doing just now, there ought to be a squad of umpires and referees to see fair play and impose fines when the rules are broken."

### HOLDUP MEN IN THE CALUMET REGION.

That lusty champion of justice and order, that good right arm of the law in Whiting, Chief Patrick Lawler, is responsible for strange tidings which come from the Standard Oil city. The gist of them is that Mr. Lawler was rudely approached by bold highwaymen on Saturday night and held up. He waged spectacular battle with a trio of bandits, who fled after encountering his good right arm and now he knows that the stories of midnight robberies in Whiting, that have been appearing in these columns of late, are no myth. One citizen who saw the tussle between the chief and his assailants, did not exactly redden to Whiting's glory, by fleeing ignominiously without going to Chief Lawler's assistance. The Whiting holdups in themselves are of course inconsequential, but they point out the fact that this is the time of the year when the Chicago toughs and vagabonds are driven out of the city and infest the Calumet region. The cities of Gary, East Chicago, Indiana Harbor and Hammond should be prepared for an invasion. It may come any night. It will be well to get out the old shot gun and the revolver and be ready for the midnight thug. A good dose of lead is the thing for what ails him.

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION blames hard times for wife desertions. Nonsense, wives are necessities not luxuries.

### THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

December 29.

1734—Robert MacGregor Campbell ("Rob Roy"), a famous Scottish outlaw, died. Born March 6, 1671.

1817—American colonization society, which aimed to return free negroes to Africa, formed in Washington, D. C.

1829—Georgia refused to permit the Indians to set up an independent government in that state.

1835—Patent for revolting firearm issued to Samuel Colt.

1837—Steam "Caroline" captured and destroyed at Niagara Falls.

1862—Federal force captured Fort Van Buren, Ark.

1871—Great fire in Little Rock, Ark.

1889—Charles I proclaimed kind of the navy. In the same year he was

## Heart to Heart Talks.

By EDWIN A. NYE.

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### THE CHILDREN OF BELGRADE.

Modern history has its "children's crusade"—the crusade of the children of Belgrade.

The children's crusade of the middle ages was warlike for the recovery of the holy sepulcher; the children's crusade at Belgrade was against war.

Recently Austria annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina. The jingo patriots of Servia sent up a howl for war.

Such a war meant the ruin of Servia.

The crown prince, the most dissolute prince in Europe, celebrated the war spirit by getting drunk and lashing people in the streets with his whip.

A hideous blood demand filled Belgrade.

The people there have learned they have little to gain by political changes, and they are tired of being killed to please princes.

It was the women who acted.

They would not let their husbands be butchered without protest, but knew the swashbucklers would not hesitate to kill them also if they marched.

But the children!

Soldiers would not dare slaughter the children. And so the boys and girls were organized and drilled. Banners were made and lines of march outlined.

The very day when the crown prince made his grand stand ultimatum, saying to the minister, "Remember you speak from 300,000 bayonets!"—on that very day the children of Belgrade marched.

They came from all directions into the great square, singing and carrying banners bearing the legend:

Please Save Our Papas For Their Homes.

When the great palace square was full the singing ceased, and at a signal the shrill voices of the children shouted in unison:

"O king, let us have peace! Do not send our fathers to war!"

King Peter, who favors peace, but struggled with the hot passions of the war party, appeared at an upper window and graciously greeted the children.

The result?

At that hour THE WAR SPIRIT OF SERVIA WAS CRUSHED. It has not been able to raise its head again.

All of which true and pretty story illustrates the Scripture that "out of the mouths of babes and sucklings is ordained the strength to still the avenger."

appointed first assistant secretary of the treasury, and resigned from that office in November, 1887. In President Arthur's administration Mr. Chandler was secretary of the navy. He was elected to the senate in 1887 to fill an unexpired term, and was re-elected in 1889 and 1895. After his retirement from the senate he served as president of the Spanish treaty claims commission. Mr. Chandler is best known, perhaps, for the part he played in the presidential campaign of 1876, when, as was claimed, he went to Florida and seized that state from the democrats, thus securing the election of Mr. Hayes.

## RANDOM THINGS AND FLINGS

My Word, what a chance for "grape-vine" specials when those aerograms begin to come to Hammond.

### ALL A MAN HAS TO DO TO MAKE HIS CONVERSATION INTERESTING TO A WOMAN IS TO TALK LOVE TO HER ALL THE TIME.

Mr. Roosevelt would make himself stronger in the hearts of a great many people if he would extend executive clemency to Messrs. Gompers and Mitchell, but whether it would be proper or not is another thing.

All the world is ready to admire the taste of a man who fell in love with a young woman and married her because she thanked him when he gave her his seat and when she turned around there was no "gap in her plaque."

"Congress is setting," declares a country contemporary. Setting sun or setting eggs or just sitting?

Always  
Let your wife  
Have her own way.  
She is sure to be most amiable  
When she don't have  
To take it.

Frank Parenheads.

Frank long often gazes wistfully toward Jasper, and his sighs are really pitiful. Hope she will be good to Frank for, besides being a first class machinist, he is a real good boy. (When he is asleep.)—Marble Hill Cor. Pickens County (Ga.) Progress.

Women will give up wearing birds on their hats just as soon as the stores begin

## UP AND DOWN IN INDIANA

### PIONEER MINISTER DIES.

The Rev. George W. Biogette, of Anderson, 83 years old, died of heart failure at his home in Meridian street after a brief illness. The death of Mr. Biogette marks the passing of one of the pioneer ministers of the Eastern Indiana Conference of the Christian church.

### BANKS ARE BULGING.

Deposits at the Fort Wayne banks were heavy last week, reflecting the big holiday business enjoyed by the retailers. Although there were two bank holidays in the week the clearances totaled \$54,847.82. For the corresponding week of last year the clearances were \$50,160.84.

### FARMERS LOSE IN FIRE.

The plant of the Milan Milling company at Milan burned to the ground Saturday morning. The loss falls upon the owner, John Helmuth of Napoleon, and a large number of farmers, who had wheat there. The loss is \$10,000, with no insurance.

### XMAS ENTERTAINMENTS TABOOED.

On account of an epidemic of scarlet fever in Warsaw, municipal authorities refused to allow any public Christmas entertainments here. Sunday school sessions also are barred next Sunday.

### AGAM CORDIALLY WELCOMED.

Henry E. Agar, believed dead for two years since his supposed drowning in the Wabash river, returned to Princeton Saturday morning to receive a cordial welcome by his former acquaintances and friends.

### MISSIS TARGET; HITS BOY.

While shooting at a mark on a stump at the home of Dan Catt, eight miles west of Petersburg, Will Catt, 11 years old, son of Plaid Catt, shot Lloyd, his cousin, also 11 years old, son of Dan Catt, in the back, mortally wounding him. The shot was fired from a rifle and penetrated the body.

### FEARS OPTION; SELLS OUT.

Fearing that the county local option or one that be passed covering less territory may be felt in Shelby county within the next few months, John Thompson of Shelbyville, one of the two saloonkeepers in Shelby town

### SELLING MORE EXPENSIVE TRIMMING.

There is no fear that the three year old emp. of China will do too much talking. But he may do considerable crying, however.

### THE WEST SEEMS TO BE JUST AS POOR A PLACE FOR THE YOUNG WOMAN WHO WISHES TO WED AS IT IS FOR THE ONE WHO WANTS TO GET A DIVORCE.

A Chicago burglar broke into a hospital and took everything he could lay his hands on. He failed to take the patients' temperatures, however.

### THE ONLY HENPECKED MAN WHOSE HOME SEEMS TO BE HAPPY

Is the chap who can't keep away when His wife is Talking.

We have just run across a story entitled the "Folly of Extravagant Giving," but have decided to pack it up nicely in the morgue for use next year.

Some men's idea of a happy ring is to pick out the richest girl they can get and let it go at that.

President Castro seems to have done all his shopping early.

Yo, heave, ho! The rumble of the water wagon.

President Roosevelt to take part in a conference on the conservation of the natural resources of North America, to be held in the White House on Feb. 18.

W. L. Buchanan, United States commissioner, is off the coast of Venezuela, according to wireless dispatches received from Curacao.

Great pressure is being exerted upon the members of congress for the passage of a postal savings bank law.

Canada and Mexico are invited by President Roosevelt to take part in a conference on the conservation of the natural resources of North America, to be held in the White House on Feb. 18.

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