

Dwight Star and Herald

ESTABLISHED 1867.

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WM. G. DUSTIN, Editor.

ALLAN S. HOLBROOK, Publisher

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Three Months	.50

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DWIGHT.

The home of 2,500 of the best people on earth. Twenty miles from Pontiac and twenty miles from Morris, twenty miles from Streeter and thirty miles from Alton. Splendid territory for trade in every direction.

Dwight is surrounded by as good farm land as there is in the world, and the farmers are up-to-date and successful.

Dwight has splendid public schools, well conducted and well patronized.

Dwight has beautiful churches of almost all denominations.

Dwight has liberal merchants and business men who command trade for miles around.

Dwight is seventy-four miles southwest of Chicago, and has fine railroad and shipping facilities—the Chicago & Alton, the C. I. & S., and the Peoria Branch.

Dwight has a fine printing plant, not excelled anywhere, and newspapers

which cover the north half of Livingston county and the south half of Grundy county and for twenty miles east and west. We publish news from Ingalls, Galesburg, Kankakee, La Salle and other counties. Our advertisers reap rewards and we make a living. Our circulation is reaching closer to the 20,000 mark every month.

Dwight has a fine printing and

pressing office prints. Our paper is \$1.50 a year, absolutely in advance, and you don't have to worry about it being continued after the time it begins.

It will be stopped promptly if you don't pay after being notified by us that your time has expired. Just the same as if

we were to stop you from getting your

newspaper. We cordially invite strangers to locate in Dwight, and all the people to trade with our business men and to call at our office or call us up and tell us your troubles. Local and Long Distance Phone No. 7.

OUR HOME TOWN PAPER.

When the evenin' shade is fallin'

At the endin' o' the day,

An' a' feller rests from labor,

Jes' to pass the time away;

There's nothin' does him so much good,

Be fortune up or down,

As the little country paper

From his "Old Home Town."

It tain't a thing of beauty,

And its print ain', always clean,

But it strengthens out his temper,

When a fellow's feeling mean;

It takes the wrinkles off his face

An' brushes off the frown,

Does that little country paper

From his "Old Home Town."

Now I like to read the dailies,

An' the story papers too;

An' at times the yellin' novels
An' some other trash—don't you?
But when I want some readin'
That'll brush away a frown,
I want the little country paper
From my "Old Home Town."—Ex.

NEWSPAPER MAKING.

Much interest will be felt among newspaper men in the announcement of the New York World's new "bureau of accuracy and fair play." The purpose of this department is to check carelessness, avoid needless libel suits, to promote fair play, and stamp out fakes and fakers.

The public sometimes laughs at the smaller newspapers as collections of curbstone gossip, and looks with a certain awe at great metropolitan journals of hundred thousand circulation, as institutions dealing with great national issues on which a high standard of accuracy and truth telling is required.

In actual practice the situation is reversed. The smaller papers those that are close to a small city or village constituency, are held down very rigidly to high standards of accurate reporting. If some one's initial is printed wrong, they will hear about it next day. The most offhand remark is often accepted as containing deep and poisonous innuendo.

On the other hand, even the best of the big metropolitan papers print news on mere hearsay, affecting the most important and delicate interests of business and government. The next day the whole thing is riddled by the people who know about it, error is admitted, and every one forgets about the incident except those who are injured.

The smaller city daily and the country weekly realize fully the folly of all this. It sells papers for the moment, markets a pot boiler for today. In the long run it hurts newspaper circulation and disgusts the public. It places irritations and obstacles in the way of the true newspaper man who is working every minute to find the truth and give it to the public. The World has taken an advanced step of the first importance, and one that could do much, if imitated elsewhere, to elevate journalism into a high degree of professional dignity.

May love and friends sincere
Make 1914 a happy, prosperous year.

What has become of that man Mullhall—another squealer owned by the Chicago Tribune?

Strawberries are in the market in Chicago—not Dwight. They are only \$1 a quart. Here is another chance to increase the high cost of living.

The Associated Charities of Chicago are making an effort to raise \$350,000 to be used judiciously for the needy during the winter. This is certainly a great work and will result in untold good.

The city of Jacksonville is probably the strictest anti-saloon city in Illinois. People have been arrested and fined for simply bringing liquor into the city. The capacity of the water works, it is said, has been increased.

Editor Pindell, of the Peoria Journal, is having an awful time getting an appointment as Minister to Russia. His name has been sent to the senate by the President and referred to a special committee. It is said by the newspapers that he both talked and wrote too much.

The number of applications for state civil service examination has never been equalled in Illinois. There are 17,902 names on file and more coming every day, and it is hardly necessary to state that nearly all are hungry Democrats.

Once more we wish to thank our patrons and friends for their many kindness during the past year. It means much to us—more than any one of you would think. We extend to you our Yuletide greetings, and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The longest session of Congress ever held closed Tuesday, and the regular session opened—a kind of a rear-end collision. President Wilson delivered his message in person Tuesday, a resume of which is published in this issue of this paper. It is expected that the present session will last until the middle of summer.

The nagger and the knocker is a common nuisance and should be suppressed. We cannot understand the make-up of the nagger. He seems never happy without he is making someone else miserable. The best service the nagger could render humanity, is to turn hermit and live separate and apart from his fellowmen.

The State Tax Commission, composed of Governor Dunne, State Treasurer Wm. Ryan, Jr., and Auditor James J. Brady, are sending out a statement to all newspapers explaining the enormous state tax of 70 cents on \$100 which has just been agreed upon by the commission. They claim that both Deneen administrations levied taxes simply to make a record for economy, and not sufficient for the needs of the state, and thereby caused

a deficiency of \$5,424,730, and that the rate of 70 cents is to pay that and the present running expenses. The commission claim that the rate of 1912 should have been 59 cents instead of 38 to have left the state free of indebtedness. Still this would show 11 cents higher than that, which is quite an increase for one year, providing the state had been out of debt. The commission claim, however, that that represents increased appropriations for 1913. It's a bad mess and the taxes will be higher than ever known.

And now comes the cheering intelligence that shoes are to be higher. And yet according to the logic of the free trade propagandists, they ought to be selling dirt cheap. For years we have been assured that free hides would put the wicked trust out of business and give the down trodden masses their footwear at prices within the reach of all. The Republican party tested out that theory by putting hides on the free list and leather goods have been going up ever since. It was also tried out with coffee, but the Brazilian exporters merely put on a tariff equal to what we took off and the price wasn't affected in the least. The new tariff bill put many articles on the free list and reduced the duty on others, but up to date nobody has been kept awake by the crash of falling prices. It seems that about all we are to get out of that long advertised panacea is a new tax on incomes, to cover the treasury deficit which it has created.

In New York State an effort is being made to pass a direct primary bill, but after studying the conditions in other states which have such a law, there is much opposition. The New York World, and other papers suggest a double-header, as it were—that the governor, lieutenant governor, U. S. senators and judges of the court of appeals be nominated at a direct primary, but the minor officers, where candidates are not well-known by the voters, be nominated by conventions. If party men wish to maintain party lines they should adopt the convention system. There were never such mistakes made in nominations in all parties in Illinois as there has been since the primary law was adopted. The people who vote don't know one-tenth of the people they vote for, but in conventions they are all known. The direct primary is a direct fraud and the people, who were supposed to be benefited by it, will find it out so, if they have not already done so.

ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

Notwithstanding the efforts made

in certain high places to maintain intact the provisions of the civil service law, it is evident that the rank and file of the Democratic party are determined to have the spoils, if possible. One of the leaders of this office-hungry crowd is Representative Frank Clark, of Florida, who said in the course of a speech recently made in the house: "I am opposed to the whole civil service propaganda. I am opposed to it because I believe it to be hypocritical, insincere and fraudulent, and as suggested by a friend on my right, damnable. I am opposed to it because with Andrew Jackson I believe that to the victors belong the spoils."

That certainly is plain enough expression of the intention of the Democratic party to brush aside all the safeguards that the Republicans have placed around good, citizenship and competency during the years of its existence.

GREETING.

The proprietors of this paper extend to our friends a cordial Yuletide greeting, and wish you all a prosperous and happy Christmas and New Year.

During the past year the business men, the farmers, and people generally of Dwight and vicinity seem to have been prosperous and progressive and good will and good fellowship seem to abound in our midst. Our best hope is that these good things may continue for all time.

For your information we will say that our business has been prosperous and the influence of our newspapers is being extended more and more each year as the circulation extends farther and farther in every direction.

The influence of the newspapers increases all business connected with the printing office, and also increases the demand for advertising. To all those who have so liberally assisted us with their patronage in any manner we wish to extend our sincere thanks. To you we owe all our prosperity in the past and hopes for the future.

As we have said many times we shall continue to try to merit your confidence and support by sending our clean newspapers for the home.

Mistakes will be made sometimes, but not intentionally. Our object is to publish good, clean news and please the people, and not to cause trouble or dissatisfaction. We believe in our people and their welfare comes first.

We wish to thank those who have given this issue of this paper their liberal support, and at the same time we wish to recommend to our readers the patrons of this paper and advise them to read carefully all the an-

nouncements before they do their holiday or other trading. Don't forget that the merchants who want your trade come out in the local newspaper and invite you, and that advertisers are liberal people to deal with.

May each and everyone of the readers of this paper enjoy to the full extent the good things of life.

A Handful of Letters.

The above is the title of one of the handsomest little books which it has ever been our pleasure to review. The letters were written by Col. Frank L. Smith, of Dwight, to the Dwight Star and Herald from abroad and include both the trips Mrs. Smith and the Colonel made in 1909-11 and 1913, and circle the world, and are very interesting, as the readers of this paper well know.

Naturally there was quite a demand for the letters and Mrs. Smith formulated a plan without anyone knowing it, of publishing the letters in a neat and attractive volume, and illustrating the same, and the result is the handsome little book. It contains fine views in Ireland, France, Rome, Monte Carlo, Honolulu, Japan, Manila, China, Siberia and Germany and the letters as published.

The Foreword.

"That the friends of the writer who have expressed their interest in these letters, originally published in the Dwight Star and Herald, might have them in convenient form, they are arranged and reprinted in this little volume by the "The Leading Lady in the Prologue."

Bad Freight Service.

The freight service on the Alton for Dwight has been the worst it ever was. Many merchants inform us that the car of merchandise which comes in during the night is not placed so in the delivery vehicles can get to it until noon and sometime in the afternoon and late at that. This car often contains perishable goods. This has caused much dissatisfaction among the business men. That and the poor passenger service to Chicago has made conditions worse all the time. A representative of the road said that the matter of freight should be taken up with the local agent. This has been done but without effect, and as one merchant said to us "never will be under the present management."

All members of the Rebekah drill team are requested to meet at seven o'clock next Tuesday evening to practice. A class of several will be initiated at the next regular meeting and it is necessary that the drill team meet next week to get in shape for the initiation ceremonies.

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Law, Loans, Lands and Insurance

DWIGHT, ILLINOIS