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FRIDAY, DEC. 5, 1902.

All correspondence and communications for publication in the News-Letter must be addressed direct to the paper, or no attention will be paid to them.

**A WORD TO THE WISE, ETC.**

Quite frequently some of the merchants of Highland Park are heard bewailing the fact that so many of the people go to Chicago, Waukegan and Evanston to do their trading when they can procure just as advantageous bargains right here at home. That may all be true, but how are people to know this unless they are told that it is a fact? The merchants of neighboring towns keep them enlightened as to the wares they have for sale by advertising in the newspapers, and when a purchaser is in need of an article he knows he can get it there, because it was seen in the newspaper, and he goes where he knows he can get it, rather than make a tour of half a dozen stores and then possibly not find what he wants. The holiday season is now open and if you expect to keep trade at home, you have most certainly got to let the people know what you have to sell, and that you are making prices that will successfully compete with those offered by merchants of neighboring cities. Read the advertisements in the NEWS-LETTER and you will profit thereby.

Congress met Monday for the short session. President Roosevelt's annual message was received, and in it he reviews many questions now before the people and offers remedies for a few. He

says the country is on a great wave of prosperity and that the tariff must not be touched. He says it is up to congress to deal with the trust evil. On the money question he favors an elastic currency. Cuba must have reciprocity with the United States and that Porto Rico is prosperous. The war is over in the Philippines, but we must have a larger navy. He devotes some time to capital and labor, and says harmony should be cultivated between employer and employe. While the message was not as lengthy as some, it was read and criticized or commended by the mass of people from a partisan standpoint.

Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma are all asking for statehood, but the prospects are that Oklahoma will be the only one to get it. The politics of the other two are a little "off color" at this time. This is wrong but nevertheless true. When a territory is eligible to admission, partisan politics should have nothing to do with the matter.

The republicans of Illinois are having a monkey and parrot time over the selection of a speaker for the lower branch of the legislature. The Lorimer machine has John H. Miller up for their candidate, and the "antis" are for L. Y. Sherman.

A vigorous effort is to be made at the short session of congress to rush the ship subsidy bill through. It is hoped that there are enough honest ones there to defeat this, the most gigantic steal that has ever been proposed in congress.

Army circles at Fort Sheridan were given a surprise this week when announcement was made that Sergeant Reginald Wescott, of the Ninth battery, had been married in Chicago Saturday to Mrs. Ives, former wife of R. S. Ives, until recently superintendent of the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric railroad. Mrs. Ives was granted a divorce a few days before Thanksgiving. Mr. and Mrs. Wescott are now stopping at the Park hotel at Fort Sheridan. Mr. Wescott enlisted in the army a few months ago and met Mrs. Ives at Highwood, where she resided. Since enlisting Wescott fell heir to a fortune of \$15,000, and it is said he will now try to get a discharge and return east with his bride. His home is in Utica, N. Y. Mrs. Wescott was formerly Mary K. Russell.

**FORT SHERIDAN.**

Sergeant Harry Swentzel, Troop L, 2d Cavalry, stationed at Fort Sheridan, was the recipient of a handsome medal (leather) on Nov. 18, 1902. It appears that while the mounted soldiers were at horse exercise in the morning two of the battery horses became excited and ran away, notwithstanding the frantic efforts of the rider. As they passed Troop L, the brave (?) sergeant grasped with his trusty right hand the bridle of the madly galloping horses and after repeated efforts and a fine exhibition of horsemanship brought them to a stand-still amid wild and thunderous applause from his fellow troopers. The gallant sergeant was uninjured with the exception of a scratched face, which it is thought happened the night before when he was fooling with a cat. The shock, however, required a bracer and he pulled his freight for a well known Highwood cafe, where his credit is good. He managed to make "retreat," and taking the opportunity of his presence Sergeant Leonard called the troop to attention and handed him the above mentioned medal, which, by the way, was made by the troop saddler, and expressed his gratitude in having such a hero for a bunkie. The medal was made of finest bridle leather, two inches long and set with a handsome chunk of red sealing wax. It was impossible for him to reply to the presentation speech and he left the troop in tears. It is understood on good authority that that he will receive a certificate of (dis)mit from the war department. The goat Sergeant Swentzel was riding belongs to Sergeant Webb, and a finer specimen of the Rocky mountain sheep has never been seen at Fort Sheridan, and on account of the part he took in the rescue he received an extra large feed of oats and the promise of a new set of shoes.

**RAVINIA.**

The pupils of the Ravinia school enjoyed a pleasant visit one afternoon last week from Mrs. Russell and her guest, Mrs. Woodwhite, of Chicago, who presented the school with an attractive engraving entitled "The Burial of the Bird."