

TO INCREASE TAXATION

Proposed to Make Companies Pay \$100 for Each Agent.

MEASURE MEETS OPPOSAL

New Street Car Railway Co. Accepts the Franchise.

Quite a fight developed in the city council last night over the proposition to tax every insurance company maintaining an agency in this city \$100 a year and an additional \$50 for each additional agent.

An ordinance was introduced amending section 2 of ordinance 1845, relating to this subject, making it read: "Fire insurance agents—Each company represented by an agent, \$50 for each six months; provided, that when any company is represented by more than one agent, that each agency is to pay \$50 for six months."

The present taxation is \$20 per year for each company, not counting the number of agents it has. An attempt was made to bring the ordinance to a passage, but it was defeated.

There were a large number of insurance agents present, some being in favor and some opposed to the ordinance. Councilman C. I. Davidson was bitterly opposed to the ordinance, declaring it nothing more nor less than an attempt upon the part of some of the larger agencies to secure a practical monopoly of the insurance business.

"The intention of this ordinance is to drive small insurance agents out of business and put the insurance business in the hands of a few of the larger well established agencies. At present there are fifty-seven insurance companies represented in this city. The annual premiums paid in this city amount to \$5,750 per annum, taking the average of the last year. This would make the average premium received by each company somewhat less than \$1,000 a year. This proposed tax of 10 per cent upon the premiums is unjust and will result in driving many of the smaller companies out of business in this city, as they will be unable to pay the tax, especially if they are represented by more than one agent. In the case of larger companies it will result in placing the business in the hands of one firm, thereby working a hardship on the smaller real estate insurance firms and practically driving them out of business. I think a tax of \$50 a year for each company doing business in the city, irrespective of the number of agents, would be fair and just."

Jack Ludlum, by permission of the council, spoke in favor of the ordinance. He stated that the insurance companies doing business in this city were represented by nearly ninety agencies, and the purpose of the ordinance was to put the insurance business on a business basis and not allow it to be carried by men who pursued the insurance business as a side line to some other vocation, thereby working a hardship on those engaged wholly in the business.

Sam Woodard was opposed to the ordinance and declared the proposed rate of taxation exorbitant. He declared that rate was double that of any other city in the state and that it was an attempt to drive the business out of the city. He stated that the insurance companies doing business in this city were represented by nearly ninety agencies, and the purpose of the ordinance was to put the insurance business on a business basis and not allow it to be carried by men who pursued the insurance business as a side line to some other vocation, thereby working a hardship on those engaged wholly in the business.

An ordinance was passed yesterday that part of Wichita street and the alley between Douglas and First street on the west side of Wichita street which will be covered by the proposed Missouri Pacific depot and grounds. The plans of the building were submitted to the council and approved. At the request of General Attorney J. H. Richards, of the Missouri Pacific, the time for the final completion of the building was extended from September 1, 1899, to November 1. A resolution was also adopted authorizing the mayor to complete the purchase of the ground for the depot, the deed to be made in the name of E. B. Merriam, the Missouri Pacific to provide the money for the purchase and the refunding of the \$500 option fee.

Upon a motion by Comptroller Talling the city attorney was authorized to prepare an ordinance making it a misdemeanor for any publisher, second-hand or junk dealer to purchase any goods from a minor and providing a fine of \$50 for the violation of the ordinance. Chief of Police Cullen made a short talk concerning this ordinance and declared that the present practice of allowing second-hand goods from minors simply fettered crime and that these concerns were, in fact, regular kindergartens for criminals.

J. S. Campbell made a proposition to the council to sell the city ground for a new park on East Fifteenth street. The proposed plot of ground is estimated to contain fourteen acres, and Mr. Campbell offers to sell the same for \$75 an acre. A petition was also received requesting the establishment of the park which was signed by F. Herron and thirty-four others.

An ordinance was passed granting right of way to the Santa Fe for a sidetrack on Mason street from Division to Kellough street.

Fire Chief A. G. Walden was instructed to purchase a No. 2 hook and ladder truck, equipped with a 25-foot extension ladder operated upon a turntable. This is the latest invention in extension ladders and can be raised by two men, while the present ladder requires six men to raise and is by no means so efficient or as capable to do good work. The cost of this new truck will be \$2,500. Chief Walden has been working to secure the action of the council for some time and he declares it will increase the efficiency of the department fully one-third.

The labor unions presented a communication to the city council asking why more union men were not employed upon the street force of the city and alleging that non-union men were given the preference.

The hack men had a complaint. They petitioned the council to revoke the tax upon their conveyances, as they alleged that there were a number of other vehicles in the city carrying people for hire, which did not pay tax. The matter was referred.

A letter was read from W. B. McKinley accepting the franchise offered by the city for the street railway system, which was approved by the council at the meeting held December 23. The letter was filed with the city clerk as Mr. McKinley's official acceptance of the franchise.

HOOD'S PILLS. Rouse the torpid liver, and cure biliousness, sick headache, jaundice, nausea, indigestion, etc. They are invaluable to prevent a cold or break up a fever. Mild, gentle, certain, they are worthy your confidence. Purely vegetable, they can be taken by children or delicate women. Price, 25c. at all medicine dealers or by mail of C. L. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

SECRET IS OUT. HARRIAGE OF COLLEGE GIRL AND FARM HAND. Mrs. Joy Asks Divorce Before Friends Knew She Was Married.

Two boys are likely soon to be but one, if a Friends' university girl is permitted to have her way. Yesterday Mrs. Emma Joy filed a petition in the district court asking for a divorce from her husband, Ross L. Joy. This is the unromantic end of a Kansas romance. This couple were married secretly on the 4th of last January, while the girl was attending Friends' university. Mrs. Joy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, are respectable farmers, who live about six miles south of town. And Mr. Joy was the hired man.

The old people never thought that there was any attachment between the two and never paid any attention to their actions. Last fall the girl came to town and entered the Friends' university. What induced her to marry Joy is not known—it might have been the name. While she was at the university the young man left the farm and came to town. It is supposed that he saw the girl often and persuaded her to marry him.

After the marriage the girl went back home and attended school as usual. She did not tell her mother for a week. Joy kept his distance and nothing was suspected. Finally Joy went out to the farm and the pair sought her parents to forgive them, but Mrs. Mitchell is said to have gotten a tea-kettle full of hot water and threatened to scald Joy if he did not get out, and ordered him to never come back.

Seeing that it was no use to try to win the good opinion of his parents in law, Joy came to town and never went back to his wife.

In her petition Mrs. Joy charges her husband with adultery and also alleges that he spends much of his time in the company of low women. She prays the court to grant her a divorce and give back her maiden name of plain Emma Mitchell.

BOY'S AWFUL RIDE. Dangled to Stretcher on Runaway Horse—Brought to Hospital.

Mr. J. E. Over of Beaver county, O. T., was in the city Saturday to see his little son who has undergone a severe operation at the Wichita Hospital. The boy, who is 15 years old, was reported to be doing nicely and will get well, the physicians say.

The little boy had an experience which he may well feel proud to live over and be able to relate. Several weeks ago he was riding a horse out on the ranch, and the animal became frightened and threw him. In some manner he remained fast to the horse and was dragged a distance of half a mile. The boy's head was banging downward but did not quite reach the ground, or he would have been brained. When he finally became released the horse kicked him on the leg, breaking it at the thigh. In re-setting the leg the bones did not knit and it was becoming serious with the boy. When he was brought here the leg was re-broken, and the surgeons found that the fragments had grown to the bone, rendering proper adhesion of the two ends of the fractured bone impossible. The fragments were scraped away, a half inch of the bone saved off, and the thigh re-set.

Mr. Over owns a cattle ranch in Beaver county. He is residing at the favorable outlook for his little son.

FRISCO OPERATIONS. Bryan Snyder Talks of Railroad Building in Oklahoma.

Bryan Snyder, general passenger agent of the Frisco line, was in the city yesterday to approve the plans for the change in the ticket office of the Frisco on the corner of Main and Douglas. The Frisco will occupy the front portion of the room while the rear will be occupied by Charles Mosbacher, the new offices being separated by a partition.

Mr. Snyder says that work is progressing rapidly upon the construction of the new branch of the Frisco from Sapulpa to Denison, Texas, and that the construction work will be completed in ten or eleven months.

The Frisco is also constructing a line from Beaverton Springs into the Kellieville mining district in Arkansas. Mr. Snyder says that he looks for great activity in railroad building in Oklahoma in the next year or so. He thinks there is a great field for these operations and that even the great number of proposed lines can be constructed and operated, after once established, to advantage on account of the rich natural resources of the country. He says that the Frisco is now contemplating the construction of a line from Oklahoma City to Acme, Texas, but that nothing is definite as yet.

WHICH WAS MASTER? Man and His Dog Made a Scene in the Sedgwick Block.

A man and his dog were wandering around town the other day. They attempted to pass through the door of an attorney's office in the Sedgwick block when both the dog and the man fell sprawling into the hallway. The dog gave a yelp and the man a groan. When they got up the dog stood with his tail between his legs and looked anxiously at his partner, waiting for him to tackle the dog first. The man looked at the dog loweringly and said: "You go in (into) there. If you do you'll get more than 'I' have." The dog rose in and the master turned and went down stairs.

F. A. McCoy, a resident engineer of the Santa Fe, was in Topeka yesterday.

HITCHCOCK SIGNS IT

Fight for Wichita and Southern Survey Ended.

MAY ENTER INDIAN LANDS

Order Was Bitterly Fought by Other Promoters.

The officers of the proposed Wichita and Southern Railway company received permission yesterday from the secretary of the interior to proceed with the work of survey through the Indian lands from the Kansas line to South McAlester. The permission practically insures the building of the new road, for the rest of the survey and right-of-way has been completed and the capital is awaiting call.

Secretary Hitchcock's order is as follows: "Office of Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C. Permission is hereby granted to the Wichita and Southern Railroad company, its president, secretary, directors, engineers and agents, to locate their line of railway, and make permanent survey thereof through, upon and across the Osage reservation, Creek and Cherokee nations in the Indian Territory as follows: Beginning on the north line of the Osage reservation, near the northwest corner of township 23 north, range 7 east, in the Osage reservation, Oklahoma territory, thence easterly to about the center of township 27, range 7 east, of the Indian meridian, thence following down Little creek to the east line of the Osage reservation, thence south into the Cherokee country to the south line to the crossing of the Arkansas river near Tulsa, in the Creek nation, thence south by way of Okmulgee to a point twelve or fifteen miles south of Okmulgee, thence in a southerly direction to South McAlester. HITCHCOCK.

The favorable consideration of Wichita and Southern's plan by Secretary Hitchcock is another victory for Wichita. The granting of the permission is said to have been hotly contested by Oklahoma and St. Louis capitalists, who are interested in a paper railroad known as the St. Louis, Oklahoma and Eastern, who endeavored to secure the permission for themselves. These gentlemen had two hearings before the interior department and each time endeavored to persuade them that the St. Louis, Oklahoma and Eastern was a bigger thing than the Wichita and Southern. The department couldn't see it that way and gave permission to the Wichita road, which will, as such as circumstances will permit, be sent on steam engines and varnished cars through the lands of the three great tribes. In the contest before the department the officers of Wichita's road say they are greatly indebted to Senator Harris for his great assistance. The outcome marks one more victory for Wichita.

HIS PLATFORM SMASHED. I. P. Campbell's Fight for Shippers Comes to Nought.

The platform on which Attorney I. P. Campbell of this city was building his bid for the Populist nomination for congressman, was broken to smithereens by the supreme court of Kansas last Saturday, and now Mr. Campbell's friends say he will have to seek a new issue. Mr. Campbell's platform was to enforce the law compelling railroads to furnish transportation to a shipper of stock. Such a law was enacted by the Populist legislature, but was on Saturday declared unconstitutional by the supreme court. Mr. Campbell, it is said, has about twelve suits pending which he has brought for clients on this law, and now, of course, all of the suits will be dismissed. The first suit was Mr. Campbell's own, which he brought against the railroad company for making him pay his fare from Kansas City shortly after the enacting of the law. Mr. Campbell had shipped a car of cattle to Kansas City and got his pass up. When he came back the conductor made him pay his fare, and Mr. Campbell brought suit to recover. The interest which Mr. Campbell has taken against the railroads in this matter has given him quite a reputation among shippers and a good standing with the Pop of the district.

A dispatch relative to this law and the other Pop law taxing judgments, which was also declared unconstitutional, says: "Topeka, Kan., Feb. 12.—The supreme court today declared unconstitutional two laws of importance enacted by the Populist legislature. One is the law providing for the taxation of judgments; the other is the Populist law requiring railroads to furnish free transportation to shippers of stock.

Chief Justice Dozier wrote the opinion in the transportation case. Associate Justice Smith wrote the opinion in the judgment case, which was forewaded in a decision on a motion several weeks ago. The decision in each case was unanimous.

"The court says with reference to the law requiring railroads to furnish transportation to shippers of stock: "Such law is a deprivation of property without due process of law and a denial of the equal protection of the laws, and is therefore unconstitutional and void under the fourteenth amendment to the federal constitution."

The police judge's report was handed in yesterday. During the month of January 14 arrests were made; the fines amounted to \$192.50, and the forfeits, to \$2,345.50. Total, \$2,538.00.

BEECHAM'S PILLS. Cure bilious and nervous illis, sick headache, disordered liver and impaired digestion. 10 cents and 25 cents, at all drug stores.

Where You Reside. Does not make any difference so long as you reside in Wichita. We deliver goods promptly to any part of the city, and assure you best quality groceries and provisions for lowest money. Give us your next order, either at the store or by phone.

Kernan & Co. Phone 22. 121 E. Douglas

AT Cash Henderson's. Fifty new Suits for Ladies just received yesterday. They will be put on sale this morning at popular prices. If you want the very latest at a "snap" you can't afford to miss them. 119-121 N. MAIN STREET.

The Beautiful Bathsbeba's. Husband, Uriah, was a good man and brave, but he stood in the way of David's desire. To get rid of him David ordered him placed in the fore front of battle—on the "firing line." That's where we've placed all our winter overcoats, on the "firing line." They're good overcoats, and price-worthy, but we desire the room they occupy for our new spring goods and we're going to "fire" them out if low prices will do it. \$7.00 overcoats and ulsters will be "fired out" at \$4.85. \$10.00 Kersey Beaver and Melton overcoats will be "fired out" at \$7.35. \$12.00 Irish Frieze ulsters will be "fired out" at \$9.85. \$16.00 Coverts and unfinished Worsteds will be "fired out" at \$12.35. \$18.00 Vicunas, Montagnacs and Chevriots will be "fired out" at \$13.65.

"A TRAINING IN CLEANLINESS IS A FORTUNE." COMPLETE YOUR EDUCATION WITH SAPOLIO. Just Received... A Full Line of KENNEDY'S. Fine Cakes, Crackers and Biscuits, Almond Macarons, Assorted Wafers, Afternoon Tea Cakes, Rockaway Butter Wafers, Arrow Root Biscuits, Opera Wafers, Windermer's Biscuit, Royal Toast, etc. Weinschenk SPOT CASH GROCER. Phone 22. 112 East Douglas.

Just Compare Jenness Miller \$3.50 Shoes. And you will see they are the best Shoes on earth. ROY Parlor Shoe Store, 110 North Main St.

Down With Monopoly. St. Valentine's Day is not the exclusive property of the tender-hearted unmarried. Is there a truer sweetheart in all the world than that dear "old girl" who has blessed your life for this last score of years? Then slay St. Valentine's Day to rise! A dozen silver forks, or a silver vegetable dish, or a jeweled brooch, sent with your love on the Fourteenth, would establish a new order of things in your life, and break the monopoly now enjoyed by the youngsters. Does the wife reserve less than the sweetheart? Does sentiment only go with blindness? Commemorate this 10th of February by a gift to the dear old girl!

Sign of the Time I. F. VARNEY, Jeweler, 121 N. Main.

SOAP. We have a small lot of Lenox and Santa Claus Soap which we will sell at 10 bars for \$1. Sales limited, 25 bars to one purchaser. This is 25 per cent less than cost today.

West Side Eagle. Old Stand, New Store. New Goods, New Firm. We carry a good line of strictly first-class Groceries, Provisions and Produce and sell at the lowest cash prices. We solicit your patronage and will make it to your interest to trade with us.

C. HOLMES. Phone 87. 102 West Douglas, Corner Sedgwick.

BY AN A TAILOR? SEE GLOSSER. 127 N. MAIN ST.

TAKE THE MISSOURI PACIFIC, KANSAS AND NEBRASKA LIMITED. Leave Wichita at 2:30 p. m., arriving at St. Louis next morning at 7:30, making direct connections with all lines east. No change of cars. Elegant service. City ticket office, 131 North Main street.

THE KEYSTONE. On North Main Street, which has been running successful for eleven years, it will know as one of the cleanest houses in every respect in the city and is guaranteeing its reputation for the future. J. D. SCHOLLENBERGER, Proprietor.

THE KEYSTONE. They say that the outside man digest stones, and broken glass. We wonder if an outside man tried to digest an American (Wichita) Kitchen Utensil. The men who wash up and wash the food look—Wichita Union.

THE KEYSTONE. Rates: \$2 and \$3 Per Day. B. L. EATON, Proprietor.

Trade at Fulton's—It Pays. Old Timers. Who keep a close tab on the weather say that we have about the same amount of cold weather every winter. If this will hold good this winter, we've a great deal of cold weather before us yet. If you are not properly clad, better come here and buy good, serviceable, warm Clothing and Underwear at out-of-season prices. We have a large and excellent stock of Winter Suits, Overcoats, Ulsters, Mackintoshes, Underwear, Caps, Gloves, Etc. and our prices are enough lower than any other house in Wichita to make it to your financial interest to trade here. Best quality, lowest prices, our motto. C. R. FULTON, Wichita's Greatest Clothing Store.

Strictly Cash Basis... On and after February 15, we will run Our Business on a Strictly Cash Basis... Every article taken from the store must be paid for at time of purchase. Our patrons will find that they will save money on their purchases, as our goods will be marked lower than ever before. Quick sales, small profits.

Valentines and Art Novelties. In new ideas. Some are hand decorated on satin; others made of celluloid and fancy paper, all suitable for remembering your little friends. The cost is but a trifle. Let us show them to you. C. A. TANNER & CO. 122 North Main.

Geuda Water. received fresh from the Springs daily. We have established a permanent Depot in Wichita for this Famous Water at 145 North Emporia Avenue and are prepared to deliver at your door, any number of the water you wish, in any quantity. The next best thing to visiting the Springs is to drink the water at Home. W. W. SPENCER, Phone 136. 145 N. Emporia.

Imperial Flour... Demand it. All grocers keep it, and if they haven't they'll get it for you if you insist, and you should insist, it's your money. Imboden Milling Co.

MARtha WASHINGTON HOME. This large four-story building is admirably fitted and furnished for the care of the sick. No infectious or contagious diseases admitted, but all other diseases that are usually treated at hospitals are successfully treated here, including Whooping Cough and Morphine Habit, absolutely guaranteed. Women, married or single, can find a safe retreat here during confinement, and a home in every case found for the child if required. A home for the poor and rich alike, as all operations and medical treatment are free, and the only charge that is made is the ordinary hospital fee, which is just enough to pay the running expenses of the institution. The best of references given when required. Write for circular to the "Martha Washington Home." HOTEL CAREY. Rates: \$2 and \$3 Per Day. B. L. EATON, Proprietor.

Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. The best remedy for Consumption, Croup, Whooping Cough, Croup, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, Asthma, Whooping Cough, Croup. Small doses; quick, sure results. Dr. Bull's Pills are Constitutionally Pure, and are sold by all druggists.