

TOPEKA STATE JOURNAL

By FRANK P. MAG LEENAN.

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The State Journal is a member of the Associated Press and receives the full day telegraph report of that great news organization for the exclusive afternoon publication in Topeka.

The news is received in The State Journal building over wires for this sole purpose.

The Philippines seem to be good for something. The possibilities of their forests are said to be great.

President Pullman, of the National league, wants pitchers' slabs on the level. There are some other features of baseball which might well be placed on the same plane.

A good many people will incline to the belief that the endorsement of Gov. Hughes, of New York, for the presidency, by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., is anything but a boom for Hughes.

Evidences are ever piling up all the time that Topeka is a fine place to live in. Health reports indicate that there are few localities in the state which are as free from contagious diseases as is this city.

No other place would have been appropriate. The U. S. S. Kansas is to be one of the four battleships in the first division of the big fleet that is to circle "The Horn."

Now will the White Leghorns cackle and crow with increased energy and good reason. Some of their tribe won the egg laying contest which has been conducted during the past year by the State Agricultural college.

Think of the time this New York commuter has wasted. He has traveled forty-eight miles each way to work every day for fifty-three years.

Talk about consideration for one's friends. Here are bunches of it. A Baltimore Poie committed suicide the other day after he had drafted a will setting aside \$200 to be expended for wine, beer and whisky to be drunk at his funeral.

Announcement by the gas company that there is no air in the gas mains clears up the situation and removes a lot of doubt. But the majority of the consumers will now ask what is in the mains besides gas that makes the meters work so fast.

Military airships will be quite as unpopular with the officers and men assigned to run them as are the submarine boats with the officers and men of the navy.

One "blue Sunday"—that is one with all places of amusement closed—seems to have been quite enough for New York city. Only 350,000 persons, who have been in the habit of patronizing such Sunday shows as have been permitted there, had no place to go but out.

Talk is being indulged in around Pittsburg, Kan., which is finding its way into print, to the effect that there will likely be bloodshed in Crawford county if the temperance folks do not cease their efforts for the enforcement of the prohibitory law in that locality.

News item: "Congress met, then adjourned." This will be the procedure for days to come.

National legislators, like state legislators, never think of getting busy until the sessions are drawing to a close.

They don't have time to do a lot of things they ought to have done. This is looked upon as a good excuse when election time comes around again for their failure to enact laws the people desire.

"Aldolphus," the private car of Mr. Busch of Anheuser fame, is certainly a modern Pegasus. A car is surely going some when it can be in New York and Kansas City, Mo., the same day.

This remarkable feat must have been accomplished, for in the Kansas City Star for Monday night Mr. Busch was interviewed as being in New York city and also as being in Kansas City and the car was with him in both places.

From some of the bills introduced in congress it is evident that though "Populists" are few and far between these days many of the principles they stood for are being urged by men who are styled neither as fools or fanatics.

Sonator McLaurin has introduced a bill permitting persons owning bonds of the United States to deposit them in the treasury and receive notes to an

amount of their full value. This was one of the "crazy" pet schemes of the "Pops."

GUARANTY FOR DEPOSITS.

Agitation for the creation of guaranty funds to protect the deposits in banks received an encouraging impetus in Chicago last night from Charles N. Fowler, chairman of the committee on banking and currency of the house of representatives, during the course of a speech on the financial situation which he delivered before the Illinois Manufacturers' association.

Mr. Fowler pointed out that a tax on the banks to create a suitable fund of this sort would be well nigh infinitesimal. Supposing that the banking of the next forty years should prove upon the average as safe as for the last forty years, Mr. Fowler declared that a tax on notes issued by national banks of one-fifth of 1 per cent would pay the notes of failed banks.

"Now it is a matter of record," said Mr. Fowler, "that 80 per cent or four-fifths of all the deposits of national banks which have failed have been paid; therefore an annual tax of one-fifth of one per cent would pay the remaining 20 per cent. Hence a guaranty fund of 5 per cent would last 120 years; and of 2 per cent would last for 50 years. Certainly there is no insurance, life or fire, that is to be compared in point of safety with that proposed here."

Most pertinently true is this statement made by Mr. Fowler. Objections to the establishment of funds to guarantee deposits have come from bankers chiefly on the ground that they would impose too severe a burden on the banks in the creation of such funds.

These objections are swept away by Mr. Fowler, for he shows that these burdens would be most minimum in drug stores.

A measure to provide a guaranty fund for the deposits in the Kansas state banks was slaughtered in a ruthless fashion at the last session of the legislature. It was not given the slightest consideration after it was introduced by Senator Fred Quincy of Salina.

Such legislation has the endorsement of Governor Hoch and Mr. Royce, the bank commissioner. It also meets with the decided approval of the people, excepting possibly a good many bankers whose aversion is like that of pawnbrokers.

In view of the stand taken by Mr. Fowler legislation may pass congress providing for guaranty funds for the deposits in national banks. Kansas legislators should take the first opportunity to enact similar legislation for the banks and the people of this state.

If there is any valid reason for this change which Frank Harrison, Republican, and Frank Simms, Democrat, a majority of the commission, have decided is necessary, they have not made such reason public. They have no criticism of the management of the place by Mr. Taylor. They merely announce that they have promised the position to Betts, whom they consider to be a "good" man for it. Maybe Betts is a good man for the place, but it will take a lot of convincing evidence to make the people of Shawnee county believe that he is a better man for it than Mr. Taylor, or even others that might be selected if Mr. Taylor must go.

During the number of years that Mr. Taylor has had charge of the poor farm he has worked with unceasing energy to make it a model institution. That he has succeeded is best evidenced by the fact that persons who are qualified to speak with authority, say it is the best managed institution of its kind in the state. There has never been a breath of scandal concerning the management of the poor farm under Mr. Taylor's regime. And this is, while not unusual for a man of Mr. Taylor's known integrity, an unusual condition incident to the management of poor farms.

Under these circumstances, knowing of Mr. Taylor's ability to run this county institution for the care of the poor as it should be run, it would seem to be the gravest possible error of judgment on the part of a majority of the county commissioners to make a change in the management of the institution for the sole purpose of providing a place for Betts, whose ability to manage the establishment properly is an unknown quantity and probably a questionable one.

Betts is likely better known to Topeka and the people generally of Shawnee county, than is Mr. Taylor. Betts is a blacksmith by trade and a politician by inclination, a politician of the "ward heeler" type. "Paddy" unusual distinction as a detective on the police force. While holding this job he did little else but draw his breath and pay. He was a candidate for the Republican nomination for sheriff two years ago, but the voters chose Mr. Wilkerson instead of him. Betts was known as the candidate of the "wets" in this campaign. That could hardly be considered a recommending qualification for a superintendent of the poor farm.

So when one stops to think of the known qualifications of Mr. Taylor for the place he has filled so acceptably for some time and realizes the inexperience and other things which Betts would carry to the place, it would seem to be a most serious mistake for the county commissioners to make this change. This is especially true in view of the fact that the county commissioners generally have discharged their duties in office in a most admirable fashion on about every proposition which has come before them.

There must be ulterior, or personal motives, behind the decision of Commissioners Harrison and Simms to make this change. Betts has a following among a certain class of politicians in Shawnee county, or rather in Topeka. Mr. Harrison is a candidate for re-nomination and election to the board of county commissioners. Mr. Simms is being talked of as the Democratic candidate for sheriff. Have they decided to take a chance of demoralizing the present excellent condition of affairs at the poor farm by superseding a competent superintendent by a man who is inexperienced to say the least, simply for such personal political benefit as might accrue to them through the efforts of Betts? Perhaps.

But maybe this is a wrong conclusion to draw. Perhaps Mr. Harrison and Mr. Simms have promised this place to Mr. Betts without considering the matter adversely. Formal action by the county commissioners has not been taken as yet on the ousting of Mr. Taylor and the elevation of Betts. It would do harm to Mr. Harrison and Mr. Simms to reconsider their determination in the matter, regardless of any promises that they have made to Betts. One bad, or ill advised, promise broken is worth a thousand kept. And it would seem best for the interests of the people of Shawnee county and the inmates of the poor farm to retain Mr. Taylor in his present position, rather than to place Betts in it. If Mr. Taylor must relinquish the job perforce, it would appear that the county commissioners could find a man better fitted for the place through experience and other ways than is Betts.

JOURNAL ENTRIES

Money put in a winter overcoat is a better investment than if it was put in some of the mines that are advertised.

A whole lot of self confidence is frequently misplaced.

When a man is down it's not the time to strike him. Chances are he hasn't anything.

If the price of meat gets any higher a look at it will be sufficient to take away the average man's appetite.

Many women witnesses would like to tell their age before the oath is administered to them.

It seems a trifle inconsistent to refer to men-of-war as sister ships.

JAYHAWKER JOTS

The people at Isabel will have to go without their regular Sunday service. The pastor of the flock at that place has gone fishing in Colorado.

There is a bankrupt church in Key-stone, Scott county, and whenever the minister arrives to hold services one of the faithful mounts a horse and makes the announcement of the meeting to the congregation in the name of the Holy Spirit.

Another wonder of nature is attracting the attention of Salinates. H. A. Ludes received a bunch of bananas at his grocery store last Saturday. Hanging to one of the bananas was a large black snake which is now in captivity and being exhibited to the curious multitudes.

Charles Thompson, who has been missing from his home in Junction City for nearly a year, has happened to reach the interior of South Africa. His mother, Mrs. J. S. Thompson, received a letter the other day to this effect from her wandering son. He does not say that he is doing or anything about coming back.

Dan M. Forsythe went jack rabbit chasing on Thanksgiving day, says the Howard Courant, and he is telling some great stories about the speed of his greyhound. He says in rounding up one Jack, the greyhound turned so quickly under full speed that he snapped off the neck of the animal and showed the de-tailed hound to prove it.

Helpful hygienic hint from the El Dorado Republican: "A professor of gabiology says the world is besieged, besought, berated, befuddled and beset by the fact that people talk too much while 700,000 die in this country every year of gabiitis. People's throats and lungs are torn to splinters from talking too much. They talk through their mouths their throats, their hats and their chests until they talk themselves into their graves. Stop talking and you will not catch the gabiitis, says this great scientific professor."

W. R. Armstrong, of Doniphan Station, says the Atchison Globe, has eighteen acres of corn that is husking ninety-two bushels per acre, by actual weight and measurement. It only needed a good wind to blow the husks into the wind and it would be ready for the mill.

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KANSAS COMMENT

HARVESTER TRUST SUIT.

In the suit between the International Harvester company and the Shawnee county jury has returned a verdict against the company on forty-two counts, which makes possible a maximum fine of \$100,000. The suit is the result of a complaint that the Harvester company were to accept the finding of the jury—which it won't—the state would yet have to stand idle, and the trust would have lost its title. There has been throughout Kansas from the beginning a feeling of dissatisfaction with the manner in which this action against the trust has been carried out. The outcome more than justifies it. The most of us will recall that in the prosecution of a representative of the Kansas Grain Dealers' association two or three years ago, an officer of that organization was found guilty of monopoly practices and sent to jail. There should have been similarly a criminal prosecution of the Harvester trust. The average man's mind can suggest nothing too mean to say about the Standard Oil company, but the Standard has been a salt, compared to the International Harvester trust. The average man's mind can suggest nothing too mean to say about the Standard Oil company, but the Standard has been a salt, compared to the International Harvester trust.

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THE VILLAGE MERCHANT.

Upon the quiet village street, With standing stoop and open door, Those panes are meagre for display, Through which scarce shines the light of day.

Behold the simple country store, About the door are grouped the things Most useful for the farmer's needs; Some rakes and hoes, an axe and spade, Some iron nails on wheels laid A box or two of garden seeds.

Long shelves of canned stuffs greet the eye, Each counter, too, is burdened well; With rakes and spades, and axes and shovels, And scores of other things like these Send forth a most inviting smile.

The merchant, now a man of years, Behind the counter spends each day, Or looks over some musty book With slow and scrutinizing look To keep a just account always.

Began he here when but a boy, He looks with pride around his store; Or looks over some musty book, A simple, honest trade it is— He seeks enough and nothing more.

He's never been to foreign lands, Nor yearned his neighbor to excel; He has passed his life in giving yet not asking praise And served his township long and well.

On Sunday he is found at church, The same receives his loving care; He has a prayer book, a hymn book, And in the midst of services His voice is heard in song and prayer.

Now who successful more than he, And who more worthy of a name? No other man, perhaps, so hard or sage In this or any other game— Shall more deserve enduring fame.

Upon the quiet village street This man has built his monument; No tower of stone, a simple store, And nothing more— Who would not be like him, content? —Joe Cone in N. Y. Sun.

JOHN BIGELOW AT NINETY.

John Bigelow, lawyer, journalist, statesman, diplomat, useful citizen, celebrated his ninetieth birthday in New York city last evening.

Rather, his friends celebrated it for him, as the veteran sat quietly in the reception room while all the messages of congratulation and flowers were brought to him and all the afternoon friends called to pay their respects.

He was during the afternoon reception, for although not formally arranged for it grew to be such, were numerous members of his family, with their four generations represented in the room when Mrs. Butler K. Harding, daughter of Mr. Poulton Bigelow, called with her child, John Bigelow's first great grandchild.

John Bigelow chatted in lively spirits. He said: "I work so that I may not get superfluous on the stage. And it is much to be permitted to work at 90."

Mr. Bigelow was a fine study as he greeted his friends, his head often thrown back to turn a pleased glance at the fashion in which he had a member of the family would take from the latest arriving box or to laugh as when a mighty package revealed being filled with golf clubs all in flowers.

The veteran's abundant hair is not white but gray, as are his flowing side whiskers, of old-fashioned cut. Noting these and the color of his face, one could imagine him a youngster of 70 uncommonly well preserved.—New York Sun.

Good For Bank Clerks.

One new thing proposed at the bankers' meetings had special reference to bank clerks. The bank clerk in the country will be pleased to know that the new thing may go through before the time of next convention.

The new plan is to admit the Bank Clerks' association as part of the Bankers' association and give all the tellers and clerks a chance to attend the conventions and have a voice in the management of the association.

And why not? said a cashier of a big New York bank, while he sat with cashiers of other banks throughout the country. "The paying teller is in fact, almost as important a man in any bank as the cashier. He can break a bank quicker than any other one man on the premises. By dint of checks and memory he holds his own in the five hours of banking, the paying teller catches perhaps thousands of checks. At a single glance he must know whether the signature is correct or not. The teller is also a careful student of the human face. If he does not know the faces of his customers as well as the faces of their checks, he is not doing his job. He does not break a bank in the large cities the paying tellers sometimes have as much as five or six million in their hands. They are trays of trust speaks volumes for the high average of honesty among the hundred thousand or more bank clerks of the country."—Leitell Weekly.

Washington's Fruit Crop.

Washington is becoming a great fruit growing state. The apple and berries already shipped out of the state this year have brought \$10,000,000 into the state. Figures compiled by the Northwest Horticulturist show that approximately 10,000 cars of apples, pears, plums and cherries were shipped out of Washington from the opening of the season up to the middle of the month.

Roughly speaking, these cars averaged about \$1,000 each of income to the farmer growers of the state, giving a total of \$10,000,000. Last year approximately 6,000 cars were shipped during the season, with an income in total of probably not more than \$6,000,000. The prices for fruit this year are more than this. Of the 10,000 cars shipped so far this season, 6,000 cars were apples and plums, 4,000 cars were pears, plums, cherries and cherries.—Los Angeles Times.

Jewish Paper Succumbs. The only Jewish paper in South Africa ceased to exist. In the last number, just received, the editor, in the course of his vaudeville, reads his people a severe lesson because of their unwillingness to read the "South African Jewish Chronicle." He says that when the paper was started its greatest support came from non-Jews, and that his religious friends were the best patrons of the publication after it had been launched. Persons who might be tempted to try when the unsuccessful publisher had been founded on experience: "While the community is willing to partake of the innuendoes that are told, it is not willing to accord that financial support which is so necessary to its existence."—New York Tribune.

NOT MUCH OF A CHUMP. The Pittsburg millionaire who had disinherited his son for marrying his wife's French maid, and who has now taken him back to the team, is not altogether a chump. The young man has shown at least that there is one form of work that is not so easy that he can do, and do well, and that is no small matter.—Colorado Springs Gazette.

THE EVENING STORY

The Catch of the Season. (By Cecily Allen.)

"Wint, if you don't get down and be quiet, I'll be overboard in a minute. I've warned you two or three times now and I'm through."

"Talk about being quiet," said Wint, "I have clacked incessantly like a sitting hen, ever since I threw my first line. No wonder we don't get a bite."

"You've turned around to look at his friend Jack Barnes, lighting his pipe meanwhile. 'All right, you clumsy old thing. I know what I'm talking about,' grinned Jack. 'You move about in this little rowboat as if it were an ocean-going steamer. Look to your line this time, or you'll be overboard.'"

Wint turned suddenly at the mention of the long-awaited bite. Clumsy he might be, but Jack loved his chum just because he was clumsy. It was always needed his help. The turn was fatal. Wint lost his balance, his foot slipped on the wet bottom of the boat, and he went overboard with a splash. He expected a dip. Fortunately the water was only five feet deep, and Wint's head appeared above the water in a few moments. He was still clinging to the rope.

"Curses on you, Jack Barnes. You did that purposely and you'll pay for this," grumbled Wint, as he tried to climb aboard the whistling cough. Jack's convulsions of laughter did not help matters much, and when he did stop for a moment it was only to hiss coals of fire upon Wint's wet head.