

BRIEF COMMENT.

STAFFORD county has twenty-nine sub-alliance organizations, with a total enrolled membership of 1,300.

WILL John J. Ingalls be returned to the U. S. senate? Hardly, if the farmers of Kansas know themselves, and they think they do.

We have made arrangements to have several new correspondents send in the news from the outside townships. We hope they will "come to time."

WHAT will now be done about lighting the streets of Great Bend? Shall we let the matter quietly die out, or shall we push ahead and gain the light?

SOME of our readers who reside in the city may not have noticed that there was an election last Tuesday. Such is the fact, however curious it may seem.

KANSAS is the wedge which will open to the country an era of prosperity never before equalled. She is industriously at work within herself now and the good results will spread to her sister states.

GENERAL MANAGER ST. JOHN, of the Rock Island, has issued a circular informing employees that they will be discharged and not re-employed if found intoxicated either on or off duty. That is a reform that will prove a great good to the railway service.

WHEN the people of eastern and southern states desire to escape the disasters of high waters, cyclones and hurricanes, they should seek the broad prairies of Kansas. No use of staying in a country where you are liable to either be drowned like rats or lifted on the wings of the wind and scattered promiscuously. Come to Kansas.

WE thought the wind of last Thursday, as it tore around the corners, carried off hats, signs, chimneys and brick-a-brack, was terrific; but how insignificant it appears when reading of whole towns devastated, cities dismantled and hundreds of lives lost in the south and east on the same day by the terrible wind. See full account of the storm in the inside pages of this paper.

THE Register last week called the attention of the people to the deplorable condition of Great Bend concerning cemetery privileges. This is a matter that concerns everyone, and should receive the attention of our people. The cemetery should not be a thing for speculation, but should be under the control of the people, and the sooner we take steps towards placing it in better shape, and more to the best interests of the general public, that much sooner will we get the vexed question settled. It would be well to call a meeting of our citizens and discuss the best plans to pursue.

WITH this number the DEMOCRAT begins its seventh year of usefulness, and we hope to so increase its good work during the coming volume that no family in Barton county will feel contented without its weekly visits. During the volume just closed it has so rapidly increased its circulation that it now leads all competitors in the county, and men who understand the business of advertising have recognized that it is the very best medium in the county through which to reach the best classes of our citizens. With a continuation of the good words spoken for our paper by its many friends; an energetic effort on our own part to be fair and just to all men and to place the news before our readers in a plain and unbiased manner, we hope to make volume seven of the BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT a publication that can be looked back to in our declining years as one that has in every sense of the word been a NEWS-PAPER OF THE DAY.

"THE PEOPLE are the party, and if the machine has not been run to suit the masses it is their own fault. They by exercising the prerogative of ballot in the caucus, primaries and convention may mold to conform to their desires the actions of their representatives in every office, both county, state and national. This statement will be disputed, but nothing can be brought forth to show that it is wrong. One man is just as honest as another, no matter to what party he may belong. Party does not mold honor, though honor molds party. A man is not more honorable because he is a greenbacker, a democrat, or a republican; his honor is a distinct part of him. A man who by reason of position, the gift of the people, uses it for his personal gain to the detriment of his constituents is worse than the traitor, Benedict Arnold." Thus truthfully speaks an exchange. And the people of Kansas have become awakened to the fact that they have, by neglecting to do their duty at the primaries and the polls, placed too many "Benedict Arnolds" in a position to sell them out. They have about realized that the fault lies with themselves for being led to the altar of political faith and slaughtered for the benefit of the party managers.

BILL ARP'S PHILOSOPHY.

In the Atlanta Constitution of a recent date "Bill Arp" has a good letter on the race question, of which we here give a few extracts:

When a man writes every week to the public and dispenses his random thoughts it is reasonable to suppose that some people will join issues with him. Of course they will, for we can't see alike, and so I have no right to be offended when I receive letters that question my position or deny my conclusions. But I receive a good many letters that make me feel sad and helpless and that discourage my hopes of harmonizing our northern brothers. Some of these letters are anonymous and scandalous and vindictive and go into the fire without a thought. But some are sincerely written with good intent and only show how ignorance and delusion can make a fool of a good-hearted man.

The following letter is a fair sample of some that have been sent us of late, and it will explain why I feel helpless:

WOODBURN, IOWA.—Bill Arp: For several years I have been reading and enjoying your weekly letters, and your moralizing upon the common affairs of life. But when it comes to the negro, or the nigger, as you call him, you seem to be entirely unable to see a man under a dark skin. Do try for the sake of your influence with your people to rise above your inherited prejudices. From the position you seem to be taking, the negro has no right which a white man is bound to respect. Do you want to fight it out on that line? You don't seem to realize the changes that thirty years have made, or you would shudder at the consequences of a conflict on such grounds. Did it never occur to you how ridiculous it was for your people to blame the negro for theft, while you are stealing his vote. I implore you as a friend, do not stand in the way of destiny. Many of our union soldiers would be glad to see good homes provided for your poor soldiers, but your cut throats and your lawless classes would rather destroy your generous impulse. JOHN NEWSOME, Old Army of the Potomac.

I believe that Mr. Newsome is at heart a good man. He is one among the thousands who are just as clever and just as ignorant, and that is what is the matter. Northern politicians and northern newspapers have so long deceived the masses that we cannot deceive them. They still believe that secession was treason, and that the negro is awfully oppressed, and that our society is largely mixed with cut throats and assassins. Mr. Newsome begins to rise above my inherited prejudices. Perhaps he would be surprised to learn that my father was a native of Vermont and was reared in Massachusetts, and that his prejudices are all against the south when he ventured here as a school-teacher, and that he married a southern girl and eventually became an owner of slaves. If there ever lived a better, purer, nobler man than my father in his humble sphere I never knew him. He outlived his prejudices, and was so thoroughly a southerner that his influence and his money brought nearly all his kindred and many of his New England friends to Georgia, and they, too, became slave owners. They did what they could to civilize a barbarous race, and it is our comfort to know that those who were our slaves are not found in the jails or chaingangs of the south.

Prejudice means a "judgment before"—that is, before investigating the matter. I was born and raised with negroes and have known and studied them as a race, individually and collectively, from my youth until now and can have no prejudices. Mr. Newsome has had no such experience; perhaps he never saw a hundred in his life; perhaps he never hired one or worked with one or befriended one. He lives a thousand miles away from them. He never had to send his children to school where there were negroes working in the fields near by where his daughters had to pass along. He knows nothing of the apprehension that parents feel that live in the country and have to send their girls to school or on errands to their neighbors, or who sometimes have to leave wife and daughters unprotected at home. Only two weeks ago a "cut-throat" was lynched near Madison. The sweet and innocent child of only twelve summers was found in a deep ditch where he had outraged her and then cut her throat from ear to ear, and afterwards confessed that "she begged him mighty hard not to kill her but he was afeared she'd tell on him."

How did our hearts beat wildly and glide over the agony of that poor child. Hardly a week passes that our newspapers do not record a similar case somewhere—not so heart-rending, perhaps, but always brutal and fendish, and always perpetrated by the new set that have grown up since the war. These things are ever before us in memory and our vengeance, though smothered is burning in the southern heart. If I was a negro preacher, or teacher, and loved the peace and the welfare of my race I would preach and teach to them continually the enormity of such crimes, but they do not.

Dr. Austin Phelps answers to all this, "Why don't you educate him up

to the level of the republican ballot," and Mr. Newsome echoes the same sentiment when he says, "Let him vote, and do not stand in the way of destiny." Well, we have been educating him with all our might, and he has been voting the republican ticket with all his might, and yet our penitentiary records show that eighty per cent. of the colored convicts who have been sent up within the last ten years can read and write and never were slaves. The solicitude of the north about the negro's vote is amazing. The negro does not care but little about it. He had rather have something to eat and to wear. With the masses everywhere it is a matter of business. Up north, in the manufacturing districts, it means a continuation of employment—with tens of thousands in their cities it means a dollar or two dollars for a vote. With the average negro down south, in the cities and towns, it is a drink or two drinks to the voter, and fifty dollars or a hundred to the negro preacher who controls them. This is politics—a debasing, corrupt thing, and the negro is better off to be out of it. BILL ARP.

About the Appropriation for the Immigration Bureau.

On next Monday the county commissioners meet to do the regular quarterly business. One matter which will be brought before them is a request that they appropriate not less than \$100 nor more than \$300 for the purpose of placing Barton county in the book published by the state immigration bureau, of which book 100,000 copies will be issued and sent to the eastern states to people who have a desire to come to Kansas. This book is no "real estate scheme," no bid for the "pauper immigration" that lands at Castle Garden, but a book that sets forth in truthful language the advantages of Kansas as a home for the industrious and persevering. The obligations already made by some of our citizens, in order that Barton, one of the best counties in the state, should not be omitted in the book, amount to less than \$75.00. To gather the addresses of the men of the right kind; that is men who would be a benefit to our county, and mail them these books, and such other matter as the county might desire to place before the public, would cost at least \$25 more, so that the commissioners will be asked for not less than \$100. If they should see fit to appropriate more the additional amount would be devoted to the procuring of more books, the preparing of more advertising matter for our county, and of course the benefits would be greater in proportion.

It is a surprise to us that men with otherwise good judgment should listen to outlandish stories of chronic grumblers or unprogressive individuals, who, to be contrary if for no other purpose, have circulated the report that an appropriation of "thousands of dollars" is asked of the commissioners; that the "whole thing is a scheme of the real estate men," and that "it is intended to send these books to Castle Garden and induce the worst elements of foreign immigration to come to Kansas." The circulation of such stories is cowardly, unmanly, and therefore unjust to the gentlemen who have given their time and attention to the matter for the general good of the people.

The plain facts in the matter will be placed before the commissioners. What they will do in the way of an appropriation we cannot anticipate; but so far as the men who have given their time and attention to the immigration bureau are concerned, they have sufficient confidence in the judgment of our board of county commissioners to believe the board will do what is just to all the people.

T. H. Brewer is on the move with his little school bag hung over his shoulder, looking after the people who are entitled to pay tax. He is presenting two petitions to the people for signature, one to the county commissioners as a protest against the appropriation of the \$300, to the immigration bureau, and one to the legislature on the river bridge.—Pawnee Rock Leader.

WE ALE of the opinion that Mr. Brewer is hardly doing the fair thing by the immigration bureau, by the people of this county, or by himself in taking such action. In the first place he has not, to our knowledge, attended a single one of the immigration meetings, and his information as to the objects of the bureau and the class of people it is expected to bring to Kansas, as well as the amount of money which the commissioners are asked to appropriate, is evidently erroneous in many particulars. We do not say that he would intentionally do an injustice to a public movement that is for the general good; he evidently thinks that he is doing right; but if he would take the same pains to ascertain the true object of the bureau that he is taking to undo the good work it has commenced he would look at the matter in an entirely different light.

IT HAS been declared by at least one newspaper man in Rice county that it is his intention to steer the Alliance into the republican party. Funny, "ain't it?"—Lyons Democrat.

NEIGHBORHOOD HAPPENINGS.

From the Advertiser. School closed at the Herter school house last Friday.

Strange as it may seem; drummers have the grip more than any other class of individuals.

A bright bouncing little democrat at the house of our genial merchant tailor T. Osterhaus last week.

Martin Muall threshed over 6,000 bushels of fine wheat last week. Still it is said that farming does not pay.

The K. P. ball promises to be the event of the season. No invitations are out, and everybody is cordially invited and welcome. Don't forget, Monday eve, April 7th, 1890.

Did any of our farmer readers ever stop to think a basket of eggs, which can be carried by a ten-year-old boy, will bring more money in the market than a load of corn? It is true; and the sooner our farmers realize that the money is in the chickens and pigs, and not in 14 cent corn, unless realized through this medium, the sooner will they lift the mortgages on their farms.

The party given to the young people by Mrs. Capt. Grant, assisted by Miss Holston was one of the pleasantest, if not the most pleasant, of social events of the season. A merry crowd of young people were present, who all enjoyed themselves immensely. The hosts did all in their power to prepare a pleasant evening for the company and we will remark right here that they succeeded admirably.

The people of this community will be very sorry to learn that Bey. G. W. Howes has been transferred to Lyons, Kans. Mr. Howes has a host of friends here, which he has made through his gentlemanly actions for which he has always distinguished himself, and the members of the M. E. Church lose an excellent pastor. We wish Mr. Howes and family much happiness in their new home.

From the Dispatch. A. S. Houck has returned from Indiana.

Joe Degan is having a kitchen built to his residence.

Joel Dickerson shipped from this place last Saturday evening a very fine bunch of shorthorn cattle.

Now is the time to plant fruit and shade trees. Every owner of a lot in Hot Springs should see to beautify his property.

H. W. Patterson, of Ft. Dodge, Iowa, has been employed as butter and cheese maker at the creamery. He has had sixteen years' experience.

The first quarterly meeting of the M. E. church at this place will be held at the church building on Saturday, April 5th at 2 p. m. Presiding Elder Waite will be present.

W. H. Rice has resigned the position of secretary of the creamery association on account of other business calling him so far away from the factory, making it inconvenient for him to attend to the necessary business. W. W. Carney was elected secretary.

CREAMERY STARTED.

The butter and cheese factory started up Wednesday (the 26th). On account of some deficiency in machinery butter cannot be made for a few days, but a good grade of cheese will be manufactured. The directors have decided to pay 60 cents per hundred for milk until the 1st of May. Butter milk will be sold for 2 cents a gallon. 1137 pounds of milk was taken in the first day, furnished by the following persons: F. Reiche, 132; J. A. McGinnis, 20; C. B. McCarter, 70; L. Yunker, 75; A. J. Terrel, 55; J. W. Ford, 52; J. B. Underwood, 78; W. C. Smith, 71; S. S. Shattuck, 71; C. E. Jones, 70; W. Soderstrom, 84; D. Pfister, 45; C. Corcoran, 228; R. Boxwell, 33.

A great many farmers are making arrangements to furnish milk to the creamery and we doubt not that over 5,000 pounds will be worked up daily in one month from the present time. 60 cents per hundred is equal to 15 cents a pound for butter and the farmer is saved the trouble of churning and marketing his butter.

Pawnee Rock.

From the Leader. La grippe has taken a fresh hold in this section, and is proving fatal to a number.

City Marshal Wycoff put some needed repairs on the street crossings and sidewalk this week.

Mark Heynes and Ben Holland start in for a term at the Great Bend Central Normal college on Monday.

The return of Rev. Wm. Bartle to this congregation fills his many friends with much pleasure.

Henry Jantz, of near Dundee, had some straw stacks burned for him on Monday. They caught fire from a freight engine.

DIED:—On Wednesday, March 28th, at 5:45 a. m., of la grippe and old age, Wm. Brady, ar., aged 86 years, 4 months and 4 days. Funeral took place from

his late residence Thursday afternoon. E. H. Barrett, of south side, met with a painful accident last Saturday while on his road home with his threshing engine. In working around the engine, his hand got caught in the pump, tearing the flesh off and unjointing the first joint of the index finger on his right hand.

From Buckeye. Mrs. S. B. Hale has returned to Colorado Springs.

Hans Jurgensen took in the metropolitan, Saturday.

The lumber for the new Lutheran church has arrived.

Mr. Greenwald is preparing to put up a new residence.

Miss Lydia Thalheim has returned to her home in Nebraska.

The wheat continues to look well, and good prospects, at least, are assured.

The "grippe" has lost its grip (strictly original) and the measles have left, but the alliance is still here with both pedal appendages.

The high wind of Thursday last thoroughly demonstrated the fact that the real estate agents are, by no means the only ones who can blow about the fertile soil of Barton.

Although we have always considered Mr. Ummen a strictly honest man, and an excellent neighbor, we cannot but suspect that he put up his new wind mill for the purpose of watering his stock.

Joseph Cook. By Rev. W. A. Bosworth.

Having learned with pleasure that my classmate, Joseph Cook, of Boston, is to lecture in our town, I shall esteem it a privilege to address a few words through your columns to the people of Great Bend and vicinity respecting the treat that is in store for them. Joseph Cook as everybody knows is a lecturer of world-wide reputation. He has done what no other man in the country is capable of doing. Every year for perhaps fifteen years and for months in succession he has drawn together in Boston an audience of from 2000 to 4,000 people on Monday noon filling one of the largest halls in the city. His last series of lectures recently closed in Dumont Temple was listened to with unabated interest.

As a lecturer he is noted first for his vast and varied information. He reads everything worth remembering. He knows everything that is going on both in the world of thought and of active life and views all things with a philosopher's eye. Hence he is always fresh and up with the times. He has never been caught napping or proved to have made an error in quotation. His second characteristic as a speaker is his price of oratory. He is a large man physically as well as intellectually, with a mighty voice, and while remarkable for skill and vividness in the illustration of his subject, he is especially distinguished for the force of his utterances and the sledge hammer blows with which he pulverizes his adversaries, as well as for his independence and fearlessness. The subject upon which he is advertised to speak "Law and Labor, Property and Poverty," is one which he is competent to handle, as he has given to it much of his best thought. While not an extremist, he has strong sympathies with the toilers of the world. These sympathies were so strongly expressed many years ago that they cost him his first and only pastorate in Lynn, Mass., over a church patronized largely by wealthy manufacturers. I have heard him upon this subject but am confident that his lecture will be instructive and stimulating and will amply repay all who hear it.

Against Ingalls, the Braggart. The meeting of farmers' alliance men, held in Topeka last week, among other good resolutions adopted the following, which, if the farmers stand by it, will retire one of the greatest and most useless windbags that has ever squandered the time of our law makers in order that he might create a sensation. This is the resolution: Seventh—"Notwithstanding the fact that John J. Ingalls has represented Kansas for eighteen years in the United States senate, it is a difficult matter for his constituents to point to a single measure he has ever championed in the interests of the great agricultural and laboring element of Kansas, and that we will not support by our votes or influence any candidate for the legislature who favors his reelection to the United States Senate."

Barton County DEMOCRAT, take notice. I hereby challenge you to a friendly discussion on the subject of prohibition against any other method of controlling the evils resulting from the liquor traffic. Both sides of said discussion to be published in the DEMOCRAT, and to consist of six articles on each side. This will give your readers further opportunity to "punch at my hallucinations." What say you?—Pumpkinvine, in Pawnee Rock Leader.

WE SAY fire away, friend "Pumpkinvine," provided each of the six articles, on both sides, are confined within the limit of 600 words, or about 1/2 of a column of this paper. I lost readers of the DEMOCRAT have 1/2 enough of prohibition, and space is its columns

ROBBING THE FARMERS.

In the Chicago Herald of March 6, appears the following:

Charles A. Pillsbury, general manager of the consolidated milling plants at Minneapolis, now controlled by an English syndicate, is greatly pleased at the stand taken by the Chicago board of trade in proposing to shut off quotations after March 21 in order to close up the bucket shops. "It is a very good thing for legitimate farming and milling interests in this section," said Mr. Pillsbury to the Herald correspondent tonight. "These bucket shops are largely instrumental in causing the very low prices at which grain of all kinds is now, and has for years, been selling, and if the evil is not checked grain will absolutely be worth nothing in a few years. Another step which would cure the whole trouble would be to stop any short selling of grain except from parties who absolutely own or control the product and would be able to deliver the same if called upon. This will be done within a few years, even if the constitution of the United States has to be amended in order to do it. It is a mystery to me that the farmers' alliance and their representatives are paying attention to minor evils and overlooking the vampire that is eating the very life out of them. Instead of being antagonistic, the milling interest and farming interest should work together. These low prices are as disastrous to the milling as the farming interests, and I am willing to stake my reputation that the majority of the mills of the northwest have lost money during the last three or four years. I never knew the milling interests to be prosperous on low prices of wheat. The legitimate situation has been such during the last three or four years that wheat should have been worth \$1 per bushel at every railroad in Minnesota. This tremendous short selling of hundreds of millions of bushels, which the party selling does not own or even expect to own, added to the large amount of actual sales, has knocked the bottom out of the market. These "wind" sales have at present just as much effect on the market as genuine transactions, for the reason that these big bears have been so successful in their selling that their very prestige draws a big amount of followers. This evil has grown to be so tremendous that it will tend to depopulate the farming communities unless it is stopped. "The idea that the millers have not been paying the farmers enough for their wheat is entirely wrong. I will put up a large forfeit that I can prove to any fair minded committee that, with the exception of a few mills who have a very great reputation for their flour, and whose product will sell at increased prices on account of this established reputation, most of the mills have paid more for wheat during the last few years than they can afford to pay. The fact is, the production throughout the world has not increased any, taking it as a whole, during the last five or ten years. If this short selling is not checked in some way in five years from now wheat will sell as low as 25 cents per bushel at the different railroad stations in Minnesota. The Chicago board of trade is now working in the right direction. But after they have closed up the bucket-shop let them close the gambling on their own board and confine their business to legitimate transactions. The whole western agricultural country would see such a boom as it has not seen for a great many years. The legitimate conditions are all right for it, but the illegitimate conditions could not be worse."—Wichita Eagle.

Camp Fire Program.

Following is the program for the camp fire to be held in this city April 7th, under the auspices of Pap Thomas Post, G. A. R. Officer of the day, Capt. C. M. Smith. Music by the drum corps. All comrades are requested to meet at post hall at 9:00 a. m., to prepare for the reception of visitors. Dinner will be served by Pap Thomas Circle, Ladies of the G. A. R., at 11:30 a. m. Afternoon camp fire to meet at 2 o'clock, to be presided over by Hon. Tim McCarty.

PROGRAM.

- 1—Opening Prayer, Chaplain Joe Keenan.
2—Song, by "Big Four."
3—Short talk, by Capt. Booth.
4—Song, by girls.
5—Remarks by Mother Bickerdyke.
6—Poem, by Mrs. M. G. Baldwin.
7—Short talks, by Col. Jas. Hollowell and others.
8—Conclusion—Song by the whole house, "Marching Through Georgia."
Afternoon entertainment, free to all.
9—Night meeting.
To be presided over by Capt. Henry Booth.
1—Song, by "Big Four."
2—Oration, "Battle of Shiloh," by Col. Hollowell.
3—Song, by girls.
4—Poem, by Willie Mitchell.
5—Address, by Mother Bickerdyke.
6—Song, "Red White and Blue," by the entire audience.
7—Short talks by Gov. Humphrey, and others.
8—Gen'l. Grant's orders to Pap Thomas, by Geo. Lottridge.
9—Poem, by Mrs. M. G. Baldwin.
10—Squad drill, by Capt. Smith and his "Awkward Squad."

Tickets for the evening entertainment, 10 and 15 cents, reserved seats 25 cents, on sale at Shaw's drug store.

An English Arden from the Sea.

In 1877 William Parker, a Liverpool sailor, aged twenty-six, accompanied by his young wife and two children, took a passage on the packet ship William and Mary, bound for Montreal. A storm came after the vessel left the Magee, Parker, who was on the spar-deck leaning over the rail, lost his balance and tumbled into the sea. Parker was swept stern and given up for lost. The widow continued her voyage, finally coming to anchor in the vicinity of Montreal, and soon finding an admirer, married again. The second marriage was dissolved the other day by the sudden appearance of Parker, who, it seems, had been picked up by a Portuguese merchantman bound for South America, and arriving in that country resolved to seek his fortune before joining his family.

A Venerable Mother Family.

A newspaper man of Farmington, Me., visited a remarkable family the other day. Calling at the home of Jonathan South Ellis he found Mr. Ellis, who is ninety-six years old, seated by the stove and reading a newspaper without glasses. His wife's sister, Miss Lydia Ballard, ninety-seven years old, was seated in a rocking-chair near by, and knitting vigorously. Another sister-in-law, Miss Hannah Ballard, eighty-four years old, was cleaning up the dinner-table and washing the dishes. Mrs. Ellis died three years ago at the age of eighty-eight. The old folks prefer to live by themselves and do all their own work, and Father Ellis pretends to be almost as busy as "the girls."