

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

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PRISONER AND CONVICT.

The Difference Which Money Makes Between How Each is Treated.



REFERING to a recent action in the courts at Washington, D. C., the New York World editorially endorses the claims and statements of hundreds of thousands of American freedmen who supported the candidacy of W. J. Bryan for president last fall, when we said that this country was practically controlled by the money power, and that all public institutions were so rapidly coming under that power that it would not be long until the man not a millionaire would have no voice in the government of the republic unless there was a change.

We took exceptions to the ruling of the supreme court on the income tax law, which ruling saved millions of dollars to the wealthy at the expense of the poor, and the great New York World called us "anarchists."

We asked that the country's financial system be regulated so as to give labor a fair showing, and the World called us "fools and lunatics."

We demanded that the money which the mechanics and the farmers products were measured be made the same as the money which measured their debts, and the World snarled "repudiators, imbeciles," etc.

We pointed out the same conditions which are illustrated in the World's editorial herewith appended, and were called "calamity howlers and agitators of the most dangerous kind." But the big round world still moves, and the big New York World is coming to its mark. Concerning the prison incident at Washington the World says:

In his petition to the supreme court of the District of Columbia, Lawrence Ball asks that he, whom the law presumes to be an innocent man, shall have in the Washington jail the same rights and privileges that are given to "one Elverson R. Chapman, a convict serving sentence, and not, like your petitioner, merely accused of crime and awaiting trial."

He first describes his own treatment. He asserts and supports with affidavits that "he has been denied the privilege of seeing a visitor within the proper hours his brother," and that he has been "refused the right to receive plain, wholesome food brought at the proper time and in usual circumstances by his brother." He then details the mode in which "Convict Chapman" is "doing time" for insulting "the most august deliberative body in the world."

Convict Chapman has visitors at all hours, uses the telephone, receives and answers letters and telegrams, which are not examined by the warden. He is luxuriously quartered in two cells, "one for a bed room and the other for an office or reception room. He has been allowed to have said cells carpeted with Oriental rugs and furnished with a brass bedstead and with a chifonier, with a plate glass mirror, washstand, private towels and other bathing appurtenances, which are not furnished to your petitioner, although he has friends who are willing and anxious to provide the same.

Further, Convict Chapman has "a clothes-tree, his cell is also furnished with a portable bath-tub and other prisoners are ordered to convey him water for bathing purposes." In his "office" are "a writing table, pens, ink, paper, a student's lamp, an easy chair," etc.

Ball next addresses himself to Convict Chapman's bill of fare—"fresh meat and vegetables daily brought to him and especially prepared by a cook," "knick-knacks" from the Arlington, "delicate soups, frogs' legs, ducks, quail, guinea fowls, ices, sherbets, Roman punch, confections," etc. And he adds with pathos:

Your petitioner has been denied the privilege of receiving one round steak with a few fried potatoes. Said Chapman is waited upon by a servant from the Arlington, is allowed the use of a knife and fork and a napkin, while your petitioner is forced to sit on the side of his bed, or standing, to eat from a tin box with his fingers corn bread, corned beef and cabbage, herring and potatoes and the coarsest fare,

though your petitioner is offered by his relatives better though plain food." Then comes the climax. "There has been detailed by the jail officials a prisoner whose first name is John as valet de chambre for said Chapman to attend to his personal and private wants and to keep the cell clean."

A convict with a suit of luxuriously furnished cells, dined and wined, waited upon by a corps of servants headed by a valet detailed from among his fellow prisoners! On the other hand, a poor man presumed to be innocent yet refused the simplest and commonest attentions from his humble relatives!

It is so outrageous that, as the man said in describing the scalping of his wife and children, "it is too ridiculous." One can hardly keep from laughing as he reads Ball's petition. One cannot possibly restrain a feeling of wrath against these shameful public servants who are helping Chapman to make a travesty of our sacred justice and equality.

Ball's petition has the support of every man who hates and fears injustice as the one dangerous enemy of his country.

Stricken Editor.

A recent issue of the Texas Trombone contains a touching tribute by a Texas journalist, to the memory of Mrs. Smith, the talented wife of the editor. He says feelingly: Thus my wife died. No more will those loving hands pull off my boots and part my back hair as only a true wife can. Nor will those willing feet replenish the coal hod or water pail. No more will she arise amid the tempestuous storms of winter and his away to the fire without disturbing the slumbers of the man who dotes on her so artlessly. Her memory is embalmed in my heart of hearts. I wanted to embalm her body, but I found it cheaper to embalm her memory.

"I procured of Eli Midget a neighbor of mine, a pretty gravestone. His wife was a consumptive, and he kept it on hand for several years in anticipation of her death; but last spring she rallied and his hopes were blasted. Never shall I forget the poor man's grief when I asked him to part with it.

"Take it, Spinner," said he, "and may ye never know what it is to have your soul disappointed as mine has been, and he burst into a flood of tears, his spirit utterly broken.

"I had the following epitaph engraved on the tombstone: "To the memory of Tabitha, wife of Hoses Spinner, Esq., gentlemanly editor of the Trombone. Terms \$3.00 a year in advance. A kind mother and exemplary wife. Office over Coleman's grocery, up two flights of stairs. Knock hard. We shall miss thee. Job printing solicited."

"Thus did my lacerated spirit cry out in agony even as Rachael weeping for her children. But one ray of light penetrated the despair of my soul. The undertaker took his pay in job-printing, and the sexton owed me a little account I should not have got any other way. Why should we pine at the mysterious ways of Providence and vicinity?" (Not a conundrum)

Ellinwood Will Not Celebrate.

Ellinwood has decided not to celebrate Independence Day and it looks as though our citizens who wish to celebrate will have to go to Sterling. However, as we will be in the midst of an immense harvest on the 4th, it is perhaps wise that our celebration be postponed and then, later the whole county can unite for a grand harvest home picnic.

Once, long ago, as Payne roared forth some platitudes of tariff, Simpson asked him a question which Payne couldn't answer; a trick, by the way, neither complex nor difficult. Payne was taken aback. Unable to reply to Simpson direct, Payne would be cutting, not to say cunning. Adopting a patronizing air, he said: "The question of the gentleman from Kansas is so foolish that I would, if I desired to be unparliamentary, reply by asking him is his ancestors were monkeys."

"And if you did," retorted Simpson with much calm plig—for Jerry doesn't rattle easily—"and if you did, I would answer you as Dumas the elder did a French fool who put a similar query to him. I would tell you: 'Yes my family began where yours left off.'"—New York Journal.

W. A. Rush was in Heisington last week laying a stone foundation.

POPULIST CONVENTION.

Results in a Dead-Heat and Adjourns to Meet at Call of Judicial Committee.



HE populist judicial convention which was held in Ellinwood last Saturday and resulted in a draw was the most hotly contested convention ever held in the county even though the end was not reached, there being but a slight change in the fifty-ninth ballot from the informal.

The convention met in the opera hall Saturday morning with a full attendance of delegates, Rice county having 18, Barton 17 and Stafford 14.

O. A. Smith of this county was made temporary chairman and J. C. Johnson of Sterling, temporary secretary. This organization was made permanent and after appointing the usual committees the convention adjourned until 2 p. m.

At 2 p. m., the convention was called to order by chairman Smith and nominations were declared in order. The nominations were made by informal ballot and resulted as follows: Folley of Lyons, 18; Hotchkiss of Great Bend, 17; Mosely of St. John, 14. The convention then proceeded to a formal ballot with the same result. During the afternoon 36 ballots were taken the result remaining practically the same.

At 6 o'clock the convention adjourned until 7 when the balloting was continued until the 59th ballot with the result unchanged. It being 12 o'clock when the 59th ballot was completed the convention adjourned subject to call of the judicial committee.

Resolutions were adopted endorsing the actions of Leedy, McNall and Dozter. Though the convention could not agree on a nominee the best of feeling prevailed during the entire session, each delegate vowing to support the nominee no matter which one was selected. Judging from the conversation of the delegates one can hardly expect a nomination from these delegates unless some of them receive different instructions or one of the candidates withdraws. Rice county is instructed for Folley first, last and all the time, while Barton county appears to entertain the same feeling for Hotchkiss. Stafford county delegates say that they are not only instructed for Mosely but also that Stafford county has never had a candidate and they further express their intention of staying with Tom Mosely until, to use a strong expression, he is the only tombstone in the graveyard.

F. B. Koen opened one of the gates to the big ditch Sunday letting in the water to test the ditch. The water flowed down the ditch beyond the railroad track standing about three feet. The test was entirely satisfactory to Mr. Koen in every respect. Mr. Koen expects to have the water to the Grove stock farm this week, and farmers will then have a practical demonstration of the benefits of irrigation. When this farm is under thorough irrigation every one interested in irrigation should make it a point to visit this farm and learn the proper methods of using the water and also, in the course of time, see the possibilities of our farming when under thorough irrigation.

Hon. Michael Sutton, of Dodge City, who is slated for International Revenue Collector under "the Prosperity administration," passed through this city Saturday night on his way home from Washington. Inasmuch as the Hon. Michael will weigh about 290 pounds and is only about five and a half feet tall his appearances indicate that he is just the man for the office.

A Grundy county farmer read an advertisement for a "flea killer." He answered with a dollar bill and received a wooden mallet and a block of wood, numbered one and two respectively. The directions read: "Place the flea on No. 2 and hit with No. 1. If that does not kill him hit again."

We learn from reliable sources that the Ellinwood P. O. will not be moved by the new administration though we understand the Ellinwood Leader will take the place of the Advocate in the rear of the P. O.

Mrs. C. E. Sowle and daughter Nettie visited old friends in our city Friday and Saturday. They were returning home from a trip to various points in Colorado.

The "advance agent of prosperity" is doubtless awaiting the perfection of an air ship in which to visit the country.

As soon as Uncle Cyrus Leland, of Kansas was "fixed" for the Topeka pension agency, the authorities at Washington went ahead with the annexation of Cuba.

Some people of this city seem to think that a return to the old regime of 17 joints without any city license would be better than 4 or 5 with a license, as at present.

Were we forced to define commercial law, we should write it; Law that is bought and sold; tariff laws made by congress is a good example.—Norton Champion.

By a black magic trick of numerical revision, known only to Mark Hanna and a few other stock holders in an incorporated earthly hell, silver is now 74 cents a bushel and silver 47 cents per dollar.—Wichita Eagle.

JOHN WANAMAKER says, "The power of patriotism is wet with the tears of suffering unemployed," and "I cannot sit on a fence with a stiff wind blowing and whistle for prosperity, vanished bird of beautiful plumage, to come back."

As the farmer sweats and toils in the hot wheat fields he cannot help but reflect that there was a time, before the blight of a single gold standard was inoculated into the financial system of this country he got about three times the amount for his labor that he does now. Can you blame him if he curses the blight.

YER: she's here—McKinley's wave of prosperity. She arrived this week over the M. K. & T., says the New Franklin News: "She closed up the car shops at Parsons cut down the force at Sedalia cut the few machinists left in the shops here down to thirty-six hours a week. The next installment of prosperity will probably lay off half the train men and close up all the small stations. The army of hungry idle men will then have ample time to reflect on that ponderous mass of gold-standard literature that was dumped off all along the line last fall.

THE record of the past few months indicates that the Grand Army is dying at the rate of one hundred a day. Every fifteen minutes of the twenty-four hours the final taps sound for some one who has worn the blue. Each year puts under the sod more old soldiers than are enlisted men and officers in the entire United States Army. Time is carrying them off faster in the '90's than bullets did in the '60's. And for every three Union veterans who go to fame's eternal camping grounds two confederates are numbered with the dead.—Junction City Sentinel.

A Mexican silver dollar is worth a fraction over 47 cents, and gold in Mexico is quoted at 109 cents, and yet the silverites claim this state of affairs preferable to the condition in the United States.—Salina Sun.

Silverites don't claim any such thing, but strange to say, rich syndicates of the United States are tumbling over each other in their mad haste to make investments in Mexico! But, as to the argument, we might answer it, by asking if Mr. Johnson wants a diamond standard, because a diamond the size of a gold-dollar would be worth \$400.00? It would certainly be the best because it costs the most.—Salina Herald.

The latest "find" in Kansas is paying gold, silver and zinc ore, in Ellis and Trego counties, north-west of here. "The Smoky River Zinc Mining Co." has been incorporated, and the gentlemen interested claim that there is no question but that the locality named will shortly prove as valuable gold fields as the African gold fields. It may be that ere long the Kansas farmer can go out in the pasture lot and dig up enough gold to pay off that dogged mortgage which the eastern gold-bug holds over him. Viva Ansa!

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

W. D. Gould is sporting a new bicycle.

Miss Gertie Ashton is at home again. Mrs. General Chapman is in Kansas City visiting relatives.

N. Brumbaugh has been busy for the past ten days making header-barges.

Mrs. W. D. Gould spent Sunday in Ellinwood, the guest of Mrs. M. C. Shafer.

Alfalfa stacks suffered considerable from the straight south wind of last Thursday.

Bert Beckwith is up from the Strip to share in the labors of caring for the big wheat harvest.

Many of the politicians of this city attended the judicial convention at Ellinwood, Saturday.

Miss Francis E. Poole, who has been confined to her room for the past week, is again able to be out.

At least twenty new headers were taken out of this city Saturday, and there are more to follow.

Charlie Markey, clerk in Griffith's grocery, was laid up Thursday of last week with a slight illness.

Hammer & Son, of Ellinwood, have purchased a threshing outfit and will begin threshing in about three weeks.

C. Booker, Boss Wells, T. Johnson and Jim Porter (mouth and all) came up from Cleo, Ok., last week to work through harvest.

If the hot weather continues we understand several of our citizens are to organize an expedition and start at once for the north pole.

Jno. Nelson returned from Oklahoma Friday. Jno. reports harvest over in Oklahoma and wagon loads of harvest hands headed this way.

Saturday was a very busy day for the merchants of this city; every business house, even to those dealing in summer drinks, being crowded.

S. B. Gano returned from Utah last week, where he purchased about 400 head of cattle which he shipped to his ranch near Langley, Kans.

Jake Gustin, of Galatia, visited the county seat last Saturday. Jake says the wheat around Galatia is even better than nearer the Bend.

A card from Will Bonner informs us that he is now located at 404 West 6th St. Newton, Kansas, and desires the DEMOCRAT sent to that address.

H. M. & Earl Barrick, two of Liteb field's photographers, went to Lyons last Friday and will canvass Rice county in the interest of the Souvenir Art Co.

While painting the roof of Amos Johnson's barn J. Griffith, a brother-in-law of Thos. Stradley, fell to the ground, a distance of about thirty feet, breaking both legs.

J. Hahn, of Ellinwood, was in town last Saturday, paying taxes and hunting harvest hands. Jake says he will harvest 110 acres of wheat making at least 23 bushels to the acre.

Among those from Heizer and Albert who were hunting harvest hands Saturday were Phil LeRoy, Clay Lucas, Jacob and Andy Geil, J. R. Harris, and Henry Essmiller.

I. S. Woodward, traveling agent for the Advance Thresher Co., has on exhibition at the Great Bend Implement Co. an 1897 Advance outfit, which is attracting much favorable comment.

It is reported by parties from the north-west, that the storm of last Thursday evening did considerable damage in the vicinity of Russell, many houses and barns being demolished.

Popocrat prosperity is national adversity.—Register.

Considering the above to be a true saying the people of the United States must be enjoying "Popocrat Prosperity" at the present time even though it may be under a Republican National administration.

The last two days preceding the editors departure for Iowa were pleasant ones for him as his mind was filled with visions of cool weather and finest shady nooks on the banks of the Skunk river where perspiration is an unknown quantity. However we (the members of the editorial staff) noted by the press dispatch that the thermometer stood at 104 at Fairfield last Friday. As this is one of the towns the editor is going to visit his visions will be realized. Nit.

O. Seward, the Salt Marsh cattle king, was transacting business in the county seat Friday.

About the only things that have been "going up" of late have been sugar trust stocks and the mercury in the thermometers.

Seward & Barnett are now running three chairs in the barber shop. Mr. Wolf late of Salina commenced work there this week.

Mrs. Geo. Sells and Mrs. Fred Trickey, of Larned, were visiting with Mrs. C. L. Zutavern in Great Bend last Friday and Saturday.

Jack Johnson and Jim Porter, colored, came up from the Strip country Friday, to sweat with the rest of the boys in the wheat harvest.

After the first of July it is said the branch trains between Great Bend and Scott City will run during the day time instead of at night, as now.

The men who advertise in the DEMOCRAT wear no long faces. Call on them and verify this statement to your own personal satisfaction.

Last Friday was a hot day for a picnic, but the M. E. Sunday School children had a good time on the banks of the Walnut, in spite of the heat.

Wm. Eikmeier and a south side mule had a little difficulty last week, and as a result Wm. is carrying one arm in a sling and uttering general imprecations against all long eared gentry.

The awning in front of the old Minnis store building, north of the square, was blown down last Thursday; a number of trees in the park and about town were broken off or uprooted.

D. R. Ward and wife, who left here about a year ago for Oklahoma, came in from Oakland, near Topeka, last Friday. They have been making their home near Oakland, as close neighbors to Mr. C. E. Sowle's, since last fall.

When a healthy young tramp asks for feed these days, tell him to take a trip into the country—in most any direction—and he will find farmers who will give him feed—with a job pitching wheat and driving a header-box on the side.

S. P. Aber and wife came up from the Strip last Wednesday, where they have been for the past few months. Mr. Aber says the Oklahoma people are right in the swim, so far as crops are concerned; everything in the crop line is doing splendidly.

Charlie Howard, the new deputy revenue collector for this district, was in the city last Thursday and Friday. Mr. Howard is a very affable gentleman, speaking German, French and English with fluency, and is otherwise well adapted to his work.

If you want to know why the DEMOCRAT is so much better this week than usual, it is because the editor is out of town and the paper is in the hands of "the boys," and the "better half." We feel safe in trusting the issue to Charlie Zutavern, Tom Shaughnessy, Leon Miller and Johnnie McMullen. While we make a visit to the old home in Iowa.—Ed.

A number of farmers are talking about cutting some of their wheat with binders this year, especially that which is excessively weedy, as they fear the weeds will cause the wheat to burn in the stack if headed with the weeds. They can also commence earlier with the binder than with the header, as wheat does not have to be so ripe.

For an hour last Thursday evening a straight, south-west wind swept over this part of the state in a way that portended evil to things loose or movable. So far, however, we have heard of no extensive damages done in the vicinity of Great Bend, outside of a few windmills being wrecked. At Bison, Rush county, the skimming station of Graziar Creamery Co. was blown down, at Schaeffer a small grain elevator collapsed, and at Rush Center a number of small houses were blown down. Some wheat in this county was badly lodged.

An officer of the State Reformatory offers this bit of testimony that every parent ought to ponder long and carefully. "If I find that a boy has been running the streets until 9 o'clock at night or later, I know that his parents are to blame for his being there, for no parent who cares for the best interests of the boy will allow him to be out, not knowing where he is, until 9 o'clock at night. In almost every instance where the boy has parents, the parents are responsible for the boy's badness. This I believe is true. My experience here has proven it."