

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

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IS STRYCHNINE THE REMEDY?



AN not the people of the present enlightened age devise some plan, some system of society, that will prevent such occurrences as depicted in the following article from the Norton Champion? Fathers, mothers, look about your homes and see if there are not practices which are slowly but surely leading to what may possibly blight not only your future lives but those of generations after you.

To-day is Sunday, a lovely, pulseless air, calm in the stupor of intoxicated life.

Who would desire to be dead, covered six feet out of such an atmosphere, to be food for worms on such a day?

Yet there seem to be such—people who prefer to be diet for worms rather than food for scandal, not because the slimp angling of the one is more dainty or less thrilling than the other; not because the gnawing and corruptive feasting of the maggot is more exquisite than the elaborate and sumptuous reveling of the scandalmonger, a ghoul incarnate, a body snatcher, a hyena infesting musty and sepulchral society.

Last week Lillie Hall, of Smith Center, committed suicide. She was aged eighteen. A few grains of strychnine weighed in her mind more than the granite based structures of Earth upon which life is the one teeming revelation, and death the speculative occult, the vague, the uncertain.

Say that two thousand years of the philosophy of Nazareth charted two courses for this unfortunate girl, the one hell with its trifling suffocation of brimstone, the other society with its refined and virtuous finger of scorn pointing at the unexpurgated and out-cast Magdalene—choose.

What in hell is alluring to impel a human to forsake the taunts of society of earth for the shrieks and anguish of demons as a melody or bliss?

What is the castigation inflicted by society that its dread should drive a human to suicide?

Who are these now casting stones? Analyze that pointing finger. Is it a treatise on morals pure as the record of broad visioned truth? Is it chaste, sinless and sincere?

Is not that scornful finger the annex of the hand of each of the 250,000 on Dr. Parkhurst's list in New York City? Apostles of harlotries! adepts of lecher-eries!

The Smith County Journal in commenting on the suicide of Lillie Hall, divulged too much in revealing that her parents are ignorant, illiterates. Were it not so, their talents transmitted would have devised a cloak to cover her shame.

We say shame because she was about to become a mother.

Who is the father? The Pioneer says, "some brute in human form;" the Journal says, "some pet of society who will continue to be smiled upon, feted and courted."

Thanks to society in its supreme equity for saving the unlicensed father from harm. But the shameless mother!

Do you know who is the father of Maurice, the chivalrous son of Sarah Bernhardt? We are informed that the "Divine Sarah" never betrayed this secret to Maurice himself. Sara did not take strychnine. She is the unparalleled queen of tragedy, the adored of adorners, the genius to whom kings kneel, whose fingers monarchs lip and become thereby exalted, whose silks make church aisles cleaner for their sweep.

The Romans taught us the art of suicide. To them it was death before dishonor—not death after dishonor. Lucrece was an unavoidable exception; but she was ravished, not dishonored. Strychnine is not the cure for error.

Ingersoll has the true philosophy. Should his daughter go astray he would say to her: I am your father, more, your friend. Come to me in your disgrace. Heaven may cast you out; I will not. Society may crucify you; I will forgive.

Suppose there were upon the Kansas statute a law making unlicensed motherhood a capital crime, the malefactor to be executed by the administering of strychnine: Would there be any considerable number found in defense of

justice? Who would not demand its repeal?

Is society greater than the State? Shall society unchided be permitted to drive women to suicide?

Unfortunately such as Lillie Hall are not indicted by virtue; virtue is silent, while the arraignment is pronounced by a noisy aggregation whose bosoms, were they uncovered, would reveal circus-poster A's in scarlet.

More justice, more charity, less strychnine.

Letter From Oklahoma.

Ola, Ok., Oct. 24, 1897.

EDITOR DEMOCRAT,

DEAR SIR—Excuse my delay, for I have been extremely busy. Wheat seeding is progressing slow on account of dry weather. The farmers as a rule let the good plowing season go by, as they were so busy threshing and marketing wheat. There is yet a good deal of plowing to be done for wheat if rain comes in time. This section of country is in good shape. The wheat crop averaged close around 30 bushels per acre. Corn will make from 30 to 50 bushels per acre. Grass is fine this season, and lots of hay put up and being shipped out at good prices. To take it all around this has been a great year for Oklahoma. The H. & S. R. R. Co. are now grading a route from Medford to Blackwell and on to join with the Santa Fe. The company expects to complete this route as early as possible, which will give us a convenient outlet. The road misses my place one and a half miles, and there will be a new town two and a half miles east of us. We expect to soon see a good town here, and it will be surrounded by a fine country and a good distance from other towns.

Yes we are "flying high" down here, but I haven't seen any persons quite big enough fools to "chaw money," as I saw by the DEMOCRAT you have there.

Yours in C. H. & P.

S. G. CRAIN.

To Get New Uniforms.

At the meeting of the fire company of this city last Friday night it was decided to put plans under way to raise a fund for the purpose of buying new and appropriate uniforms for the sixteen members of the company. It was decided to ask for voluntary contributions from the general public; to arrange entertainments, dances, etc., to raise such a fund. A committee composed of Messrs. Stoke, Wilcox, Glissman, Morrison and Wildhide was appointed to act in the matter of putting plans under way, and to also ascertain the cost of good, substantial uniforms.

The proposition of the DEMOCRAT, Beacon, and Tribune, to contribute 25 per cent of all money received from new subscribers to their papers up to Jan. 1, 1898, was thankfully accepted.

On Saturday a subscription paper was circulated among our business and professional men, and very liberally signed, indicating that the citizens are glad to aid the boys in their efforts to make a more presentable appearance in public, and that they appreciate the usefulness of the Fire Company. It is estimated that it will require upwards of \$200 to procure 16 good uniforms, such as those furnished the firemen in the larger cities. These uniforms are to be the company property, and not that of individual members.

A \$10,000 Suit Commenced.

From the Kansas City Star of last Wednesday we get the following item of peculiar interest to Great Bend people:

Kingman, Kas., Oct. 27.—Monday night Miss Minnie Horine, aged 20, of Great Bend, accompanied by an elder sister, Mrs. Woodruff, registered at the Witt house here and sent for William Turner of the Brunswick, formerly connected with a Great Bend hotel, and on his non-appearance, had the Marshal bring him in, when Miss Horine demanded that he keep an alleged promise to marry her. He refused and remained obstinate during another interview Tuesday morning, so she had a lawyer begin a \$10,000 suit. The announcement of Turner's engagement to a local belle had been expected.

I have opened a new stock of groceries in my store next the First National Bank. Prices low. Produce wanted. Will give cash, groceries or dry goods for it. Goods delivered in the city.

A. R. MOSS, Star Grocery.

Lisk's patent, anti-rusting tinware. Every article warranted absolutely rust-proof. Try it, and you will have no other. For sale only by

THE GREAT BEND IMPLEMENT CO.

KANSAS PROSPERITY.

In Barton County, Kansas, last fall, a tenant rented a farm, agreeing to pay the owner one-third of the crop as rent. He also took an option on the 160 acres at \$10 per acre. He raised 3,618 bushels of wheat on 154 acres, and with the proceeds of his two-thirds has paid \$1,600 for the land and has enough left to live on until another crop. In Ellis county there is \$1,000 in wheat for each family in the county and in Sumner county there is \$800. In thirty-five other counties in the state the per capita is almost as large. In 1896, Kansas raised 30,000,000 bushels of wheat, which brought at the farms about \$14,000,000; this year the crop is 50,000,000 bushels, and at the farms will bring about \$35,000,000. Nor is wheat the only crop. In Kansas, and Nebraska and Oklahoma, this year's corn crop is estimated at 600,000,000 bushels, worth to the farmers about 20 cents a bushel, against 12 cents last year for a smaller crop. In 1896, 5,461,246 head of stock, worth \$104,000,000, passed through the Kansas City stock yards; this year 6,000,000 head will be hauled there, worth \$150,000,000.

The trains-Missouri region has had its share of misfortune, but if the people within it have been able to make a bare living heretofore, now they should ride in carriages—Des Moines Iowa Leader.

The Faithful Fireman.

The faithful fireman merits the applause of every good citizen. He is a public guardian. He is always on duty. He stands in readiness at any hour day and night to protect the citizen's property and person. The alarm of danger is to him a call to duty—a duty that demands of him the risk of body and limb. No man puts more at stake than he. No work is so dangerous, none is beset with so many pitfalls. "He takes his life in his hands." Few of us know the hundreds of fervent prayers for the safety of loved ones vouchsafed to him who is the guardian of all as each alarm of fire goes in—supplications from loving wives and devoted little children to protect from harm the fathers, brothers, and husbands who hurry from the engine houses to battle with the flames when the fire alarm is sounded. No one knows when will come the crash, the collapse at almost any fire means death, mourning, bereaved and grieved hearts. Stand by the firemen. Honor and uphold them. They are the gallant and ever vigilant guardians of our homes and our lives.—Savannah, Ga., Press.

The Hicks 1898 Almanac and Paper.

We are informed that the 1898 Almanac of Prof. Irl R. Hicks is now ready, and judging from its past history, it will not be many weeks finding its way into homes and offices all over America. It is much larger and finer than any previous issue. It contains 126 pages, is splendidly printed and illustrated on fine book paper, having the finest portrait ever given of Prof. Hicks. It can no longer be denied that the publications of Prof. Hicks have become a necessity to the family and commercial life of this country. His journal, "WORD AND WORKS," aside from its storm, weather and astronomical features, has taken rank with the best literary, scientific and family magazines of the age. Do not believe hearsay and reports. See the Hicks Almanac and paper for yourself. You will then know why they are so popular. They are educators of the million, and unrivaled safeguards to property and human life. It is matter of simple record that Prof. Hicks has foretold for many years all great storms, floods, drouths and tornadoes, even the recent terrible drouth over all the country. The Almanac alone is 25 cents a copy. The paper is \$1.00 a year with the Almanac as a premium. Send to

WORD AND WORKS PUB. CO., 2201 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

We offer you the DEMOCRAT, Word and Works and the 1898 Almanac for \$1.75 a year. Order now while this offer is good. PUB. DEMOCRAT.

Beginning Monday, November 15th, there will be a series of gospel preaching in the Presbyterian church. Rev. C. A. Berger, pastor of the 1st Presbyterian church at Osage City, and formerly missionary to Siam, will assist the local pastor in these meetings. They solicit the prayers and hearty cooperation of all christian workers, for an out-pouring of the Holy Spirit.

At the next meeting of the city council the matter of a franchise for the telephone company will be taken up and considered. We believe the council should give close attention to the provisions of an ordinance of that kind. For one thing, they should compel the telephone poles to be placed in the alleys, and not on the streets. Another thing, the city should not be tied up to any one company or person, but should have an opportunity of encouraging any competition that would result in better or cheaper service to the citizens. But the provisions and restrictions should not be so stringent as to keep out a telephone system entirely. Talk the matter over with the councilmen before the next meeting.

"E. H. Shirk was in the city the first of the week."

"Geo. Kincaid now has charge of the Morrison House. Frank B. Patterson is his clerk."

These two items appeared in the DEMOCRAT of Thursday and were reproduced in the Tribune of Friday, notwithstanding they were both erroneous. We discovered the error Thursday morning. (The DEMOCRAT goes to press Wednesday evening), but the Tribune man—knowing the DEMOCRAT is seldom in error—gobbled the items just as they were. The editor of the Tribune has a penchant for making up his local columns from this paper, but is too lazy to discover when he is trapped.

A. G. Barnett, better known as "Bert," slipped out of town quietly last Sunday morning, later bringing back with him a handsome young wife. Mr. Barnett and Miss Metta Seward, sister of Elbert Seward, Mr. Barnett's partner in business, were married at the home of the bride in Alden, Rice county, at 7 p. m., Sunday Oct. 31st, Rev. Gillham, of the M. E. church of that place officiating. The DEMOCRAT welcomes Mrs. Barnett to Great Bend, and wishes the two of them a long life and happiness.

On Saturday Probate Judge Brecken had quite a field day. He issued marriage licenses to A. G. Barnett, 28, of Great Bend, and Metta Seward, 25, of Alden; to A. J. Fridel, 28, and Hannah Garratzen, 22, both of Odine; and to Cyrus W. Deighton, 22, of Rush Center, and Miss A. E. Baulware, 19, of West Point, Kans. On the 29th, Friday, a license was issued to G. W. Hersh, 22, of Claflin, and Mary B. Kries, 21, of Seward, Stafford county.

All you guess about difficulty in selling Stark Trees may be wrong. If you wish to know the truth, drop a postal to Stark Nursery, Louisiana, Missouri, or Rockport, Illinois. Name references. Cash pay to salesmen each week the year round. Outfit free—takes no money to try the work. Also want CLUB MAKERS—get their trees free.

An ordinance creating a licensed "Bill-Poster" will probably be taken under discussion at the next meeting of the city council. We do not believe a majority of the council will favor it. The city is hardly large enough for such metropolitan de-wads. One thing ought to be done, however, and that is a penalty assessed to the fellow who litters up the streets and alleys with papers and other rubbish.

The dramatic company which arrived in Great Bend last week under unfortunate circumstances played here the entire week, to reasonably good audiences. And they gave entertainments above the average, showing that they had been grossly misrepresented by the Hutchinson News.

Mrs. Tyler has a fine line of millinery. Pattern hats, nobby hats, sailor hats—the finest and most complete line she has ever had. She will continue to keep a full line of up-to-date goods, suitable for the season. Call and see these goods.

Don't fail to examine the Cummings New Improved Coffee Pot, Condenser and Dripper, on exhibition at Moss' store. A new process of making coffee that condenses the steam and separates all the grounds from the coffee.

From the immense crowd in town last Saturday to hear Congressman Simpson speak, our republican friends got some sort of a notion that it was a mistake about that silver question being dead.

Mr. Politician-afraid-of-an-answer got his work in on the Hoisington Dispatch last week; and the Dispatch was a day late in order to load up with the dirt.

Ex-Superintendent Frank McKinney is one of the most industrious young farmers in the county.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Now, Mr. Politician, "Will you be good?"

Thanksgiving Day will be the next holiday.

Wheat is looking fine all over the county.

Who has some good country hams for sale?

One touch of winter makes the whole gang shiver.

There was a "hot time" in the old second ward, Tuesday.

Help along the Firemen's Benefit fund. You will not regret it.

FOR SALE—E. E. Dawson residence property. See O. W. Dawson.

Tom Shaughnessy has moved to the McBride property, west Broadway.

Roy Putnam is now holding cases on the Newton Daily Kansan.

FOR SALE—Good small heater for soft coal. Enquire at DEMOCRAT office.

Road wagons, Buggies from \$48 up. Another car load on the way.

GREAT BEND IMPLEMENT CO.

Sid Newcombe says the election is not close enough to warrant a contest on his part.

For Corrillos Hard Coal \$8.00 per ton, delivered for next 30 days at Allison Bro's.

Chas. A. Willms and Obe Seward were up from the south-west part of the county Friday.

Martin Musil, Chris. Bock and Fred Wolfe were Ellinwood Masons attending lodge here Friday night.

The DEMOCRAT will give you good winter reading. Now is the time to get on the list with the crowd.

Arthur Gould, of south of the river, is making a visit to eastern friends, leaving for Missouri last week.

Sam Pratt, who has been in Wichita for the past few years, came up Tuesday to visit his wife and Ed. Tyler's.

E. W. Bockemuhl, Frank Redfield, Chas. Lechesky and Leo Bockemuhl attended Masonic lodge in the city Friday night.

"See our offer to new subscribers. Help the Fire boys along by ordering the DEMOCRAT, Beacon, or Tribune before Jan. 1898.

State Superintendent Stryker came home to vote, and so make a stand-off to Jim Clayton, who lives in Topeka but votes in Great Bend.

Railroad passes to bring voters into the county were not near so numerous here as last fall. The railroads are not interested in county elections.

A new fire hydrant was last week put in at the Great Bend Fuel Co. corner, to replace the one run into and broken off by a traction engine.

The city was full of people Saturday. Some came to hear Jerry; some to trade, and some to get their supply of "enthusiasm" (wet and dry) for election day.

Having removed to the room opposite Hotel Greene, will be glad to see you. Am offering special inducements in groceries. Must reduce my stock on account of room. W. A. DUNN.

Herman Strobel returns this week to Silverton, Colorado. In the spring he will leave for Alaska, to try his fortune there. Herman is a conservative, level headed young man, and will make it win any place.

FOR SALE—At a bargain, Fruit, Vegetable and Feed business, in a live town. Reason, am compelled to go east on other business. Address: N. COSSMAN, LaCrossa, Kansas.

Programme and Choctawra given by the C. E. Society of the Presbyterian church, at the home of Mr. C. L. Moses, Friday evening, November 5th. Amusements—to make you think. Everybody invited.

SOMETHING NEW—Steel roasting pans, for roasting turkeys, meats, etc. No good cook should be without one Sold exclusively by the

GREAT BEND IMPLEMENT CO.

Jan. W. Clarke returned from his visit in the south last Tuesday, getting here in time to put in a good democratic vote. Jim says he had a pleasant visit to the old home, and comes back to business much rested and recuperated.

Sewing Machines.

The White at \$19; also the White and New Home drop-head, the Wheel & Wilson and Standard Rotary Shuttle. We can also supply you with fixtures for any machine.

GREAT BEND IMPLEMENT CO.

L. B. Wilcox, the dray-man, conducted a train of wagons over to Claflin Sunday.

S. L. Seabrook, an attorney of Topeka, was in Great Bend over Sunday Mr. Seabrook is a loan company attorney, and says he now has no more foreclosures in Barton county.

Dave Heizer was in a stage coach wreck in Wyoming last week, and had a shoulder dislocated. The stage, loaded with capitalists and mining experts, and drawn by six horses, was overturned while rounding a curve. A couple of men (there were sixteen in the coach) were injured probably fatally.

Mrs. Matilda Bailey, aged 63 years, died, on Friday, October 29, at 2 a. m., at the home of T. Vancil, in this city, where she has been stopping for the past few weeks, of dropsy. Deceased was an estimable lady, formerly of Garden City. She leaves two sons, one of whom is O. S. Bailey of this city, and three daughters, all grown, to mourn the loss of a loving mother. She was also a half sister of Jim Gill, of the south side. "Funeral services were conducted at the home of Mr. Vancil at 2 p. m. Saturday the 30th, and the remains interred in the Great Bend cemetery.

You Need a New Stove.

We have steel oven cook stoves and ranges—the Peninsular Stoves use less fuel than others. Our line of heating stoves is complete and we can fit you out in any style or size.

GREAT BEND IMPLEMENT CO.

Irrigation Meeting.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Kansas State Irrigation Association will be held this year in Lawrence, Nov. 18-19. All citizens of the state who are interested in the general welfare of Kansas are cordially and earnestly requested to take a part in this meeting. This is the "first time that the annual convention has been held in the eastern part of the state. A good program has been prepared and many prominent speakers both from within and without the state will be present. Papers will be read by different members of the State University Faculty, treating irrigation from many different standpoints. The citizens of Lawrence are making extra preparations and will do all in their power to make the meeting a success in every way.

School Report.

Following is the report for Dist. No. 70, Heizer, for the month of Oct. 1897.

Males enrolled	10
Females " "	6
Total	16
Average attendance	14
No. days taught	19
Cases of tardiness	2
No. of visitors	2
Visits by Co. Supt.	1

The following pupils were neither absent nor tardy during the month:—Roy Everett, Rowena Nixon, Florence and Hallie Hedrick.

Carrie Byers was also present every day.

New window blinds, new seats, a new dictionary and holder, help very much to make school work here more pleasant than ever.

Two of our last years pupils have joined the silent majority, and will worry no more over this world's troubles, Lewis Meyer, aged 18, and Anna Clington, aged 6.

Patrons and friends are cordially invited to visit us.

LEON L. ROBERTS, Teacher.

School Report.

Report for the month ending Oct. 29, 1897. District No. 88, Beaver township:

Boys enrolled	6
Girls enrolled	16
Average attendance	14

Those not absent: Frank Ney, Lena Miller, Alice Haddon, and Beatrice Haddon. Department is excellent, and progress good in every way.

H. LUTSCHG, Teacher.

To the Members of the German Farm Association of Barton County.

The next meeting will be held November 7th, at 2 o'clock, at the old church house of St. Peter & Paul, 5 miles north of Ellinwood.

ORDER OF THE DAY; First, reception of new members, Second, resolution in the seed wheat question from Odessa, Russia. Samples of wheat arrived. Price and calculation of freight will be fixed up then. All members who desire a lot and farmers in good standing are invited to be present.

AUGUST VOIGHT, President. ALBERT JANKS, Secretary.