

# BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

VOLUME XV.

GREAT BEND, KANSAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1899.

NUMBER 46.

## HIS LATEST BELLY-ACHE.

The editor of the Beacon is never happy, unless expressing his unhappiness. He is so morbidly cranky that even the few friends whom he has heretofore had about him are regretting that they bolstered him up and gave him a start in the newspaper business, for they see that he is so horribly jaundiced with mental aberrations that he attacks friends and foes alike.

His latest theme over which to bellyache and bluster, to threaten and misrepresent, is the matter of county printing. He heads a half-column editorial last week, as follows:

The county commissioners made another attempt to let the county printing last week, but the result was the same as before. Matt Dick stood by the DEMOCRAT, Theodore Griffith for the Register, and Jacob Zimmer for the Beacon. According to the fusion agreement this is the year for the Beacon to get the printing, but the democrat part of this board sees fit to sit down on all such agreements and will not vote for the Beacon. It looks very much like a realization of the idea expressed by Mr. Stoke a few years ago when he said "The democrats got the offices, and the pops got the fuse."

We ask the pardon of our readers for giving his whining, uncalled for, impolitic and untruthful comment so much attention, but we felt that the public should know just what is the spirit that really actuates this man who pretends to hold a monopoly of pure motives, honest intentions and fair dealing.

He says "according to the fusion agreement, this is the year for the Beacon to get the printing." What fusion agreement, pray you? And by whom? And why? We had supposed the democratic and populist forces of Barton county were united for the sake of carrying out principles each element were contending for—not that there was a uniting of those forces for the expressed purpose of giving either the DEMOCRAT or Beacon the county printing. If other motives actuated you, you have no right to falsely insinuate that there was such an "agreement." Take the odium of purely mercenary politics to yourself, and do not try to smirch others with its slime.

There was not such an "agreement" so far as the editor of the DEMOCRAT knows anything about; and we firmly believe it has an existence only in your erratic brain.

You say "the democrat part of the board sees fit to sit down on all such agreements." As "such agreements" only exist in the editor of the Beacon, the "democrat member" is most certainly justified in "sitting down on" them, and sitting down hard. Matt Dick is a man who will stand by any pledge he makes, and one who would be last to forget any matter in which his honor was at stake.

In the campaign of last fall he, as a citizen, saw fit to disagree with the policy of the democratic and populist forces in the manner of their uniting on a ticket. He was not in the campaign, was not a delegate in the conventions, and had a right to express his private opinions as he saw fit.

Yet, the Beacon, at various times, at every opportunity, took occasion to make personal attacks upon him in a mean, uncalled for manner, and by so doing drove votes away from the ticket which its editor pretended to be supporting. Is it likely that Commissioner Dick would refuse to "sit down upon" the fellow who treated him that way? Hardly.

The last part of the comment quoted above, where the Beacon refers to what the editor of the DEMOCRAT said "a few years ago," shows the real, stinking, littleness of its editor; the narrow, prejudiced animus of the man. While pretending, year after year, to support a principle; leading his readers to believe that he, like themselves, was honest in his desire to unite all people in one common cause of bi-metallism, he now descends to little personal flings that he knows will arouse the worst inclinations of men, in the hope that he may, dog-in-the-manger like create discord and contention. It looks like he was getting ready to go onto the market to the highest bidder. His entire wail would indicate that he is

in politics for "the stuff"—not for the furtherance of a principle or for the good of mankind.

Referring again to an imaginary "contract" the Beacon says:

The Beacon worked for the fusion ticket with good grace and earnestness, and has never failed to do its part of the contract, and while the printing amounts to only a few hundred dollars, it justly belongs to the Beacon; but if the democrat party can get along just as well without the support of this paper, and can make "any great thing for themselves by hogging this little job they are welcome to it, they can take it and use it to help their paper along in the world.

Poor devil! It is too bad that the "democrat party" with one member of the board favoring the DEMOCRAT, one as persistently favoring the Beacon, and the other favoring a republican paper is "hogging" this little matter of county printing. Why is not the populist party "hogging" it through Commissioner Zimmer (whom by the way the democratic voters of his district supported loyally without ever considering the matter of county printing); and why is not the republican party "hogging" it through Mr. Griffith whom neither the DEMOCRAT or the Beacon supported for the office? Mr. Armstrong knows as well as anyone else that there was never a question of county printing considered when the silver forces of this county, and of the district and state for that matter, united for one common cause, and he is only showing in another way his jealous, vindictive, fault-finding spirit when he seeks to make trouble over the matter.

We do not believe the democrats will worry over his threat to withdraw his valuable support from the party. He may continue to think himself the whole thing; may continue to play into the hands of the natural political opponents of both democrats and populists, and may eventually work some hoodlum out of our friends, the republicans; but we doubt very much if the vast majority of the people he assumes to represent will fall upon his neck in rejoicing and continue to help him stir up trouble and contention. There is a wide difference between men who are honest in support of a principle, and one who only looks to personal gains.

We wonder if President McKinley knows how many "trusts" have been formed by the manufacturers of the land. And how many laborers have been thrown out of employment by these trusts closing up the concerns they have gobbled? And if he is informed of these facts, how long does he intend to encourage the continuation of them?

DR. DAILY, who was chief surgeon on the staff of General Miles demonstrated for the war investigating commission, by actual tests made by government chemists, that the refrigerated beef issued to the troops of General Miles in Porto Rico was treated with boric and salicylic acids;—was, in fact, "embalmed."

NEARLY three weeks of time have been frittered away by the Kansas legislature, and the only thing done in the republican House has been the passage of a bill appropriating \$80,000 to pay the salaries and railroad fares of its members, who, by the way, all ride on passes and "knock down" the per diem.

The people of Kansas now own their own indebtedness. In other words, the debts of this state are owned by the state school fund entirely. We venture the assertion that there is not another state in the Union where the people of the state own the state indebtedness.

THE amount of combined capital that has gone into trusts during 1898 is upwards of \$1,200,000,000. That combination of wealth can contribute, without feeling it, many millions of dollars to win the next presidential election for Wm. McKinley.

If General Eigan was misrepresented he has had a good chance to prove it, without the use of Billingsgate.

When a farmer wants to retire and rest up he moves to town; and when a town man wants to take life easier he goes onto a farm.

## TAX LEGISLATION NEEDED.

The present legislature might profit by the example of the Pop-Extra in one particular, at least, and that one in its strict attention to business. Two or three hundred bills have already been introduced by the members of the two houses now in session. If the people desire or are standing in need of the enactment of a single one of these measures they have failed to indicate it. Aside from the appropriation bills—of course they must appropriate money to pay themselves—there is but one single measure desired, and no bill has been introduced in response to that.

The assessment and taxation laws of this state are burdensome and unequal, and in not being uniform, are unconstitutional. The aggregate amount of money collected by taxation in Kansas is enormous, but the greater injustice comes from the fact that this money for the most part is paid by such a small per cent of the property, or by such a small minority of its citizens. Inequality and want of uniformity in assessments have become glaring outrages. Probably it is useless to protest against the number and pay of public officers, both being double what they should be, but if the present legislature would devote all the brains and energies it boasts for twenty or thirty days to the compiling and passing of a new tax law which would bear on all property in an equitable way, compelling every species of value to bear its just proportion of taxes, and then adjourn and go home, it would be entitled to more praise than if it passed all of the two hundred measures introduced. So far as that is concerned, tax law or no tax law, the people would be better off if all these bills were defeated than if all passed, for the larger number of them contemplate some additional load for the taxpayers some new snap for the fellows who work the people and are commonly known as political officeholders. It is safe to say that under the \$200 exemption clause of the constitution, and by other dodges and subterfuges more than one half of all the taxable values of the state escape taxation. Assessors actually meet and combine to bring about this state of things. The result is that the property which is returned and held for taxation is taxed at an outrageously high rate, the per cent being greater in many instances than the ruling rate of interest at which loaned money is quoted. The citizens whose money is taxed for more than it will bring in the way of interest or for more than it can legitimately earn, is being robbed in the name of law. If all the taxable property in Kansas was listed and was assessed at its rate value, the per cent, or tax rate would be less than half what it is, though the legislature saddled new official blood sucker by the score annually upon the people and increased the fees and salaries of all those already holding places.—Wichita Eagle.

## Our Sentiments Exactly.

Resolutions of condolence and thanks of the family after a death and original obituary poetry are out of date in a newspaper. Custom no longer sanctions or calls for them. It is all right to spread consolatory expressions upon the records of a lodge, a church or a corporation of which the deceased was a member and furnish the family a copy but the publication of the same is not, as it formerly was, deemed proper.—Western Spirit.

Butler county is behind the rest of the world then. It costs the Times \$100 a year to print 'em and the collection on that account amounts to about \$1.49. Usually they are worded much alike and recite that by divine providence so-and-so "has been removed from our midst." Much could be saved by papers furnishing blanks, have them all alike and then "fat" them from one deceased person to another. It would save the printer expense; but the wear and tear on his soul from the utter atrocity of publicly thanking neighbor and friends for doing what they are glad to do and which it would be just as great as it is now with the only nominal variations in phraseology—Eldorado Times.

THE Senate will vote on the treaty of peace with Spain on Monday next. It is uncertain what the result of that vote will be, but the chances are the treaty will be modified to accord independence to the Phillippians before the Senate will ratify.

## LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Alaska Pine Cough Syrup, Sold at Allen's.

Miss Hawkins, of the college, went to Wichita this week.

Remember the sale at Rowell stock farm, next Wednesday.

Try those Fancy, Dill Pickles, at GRIFFITH & SWARTZ.

City council meeting next Monday night. What will be done?

The new Friends church, at Prairie Center, is about completed.

Try the New Coal Yard. WINTERBURG & NEWCOMBE.

"Kid Wilson," the pugilist, was Hoisington's hero, last week.

Wolf hunt next Tuesday again. Everybody ought to attend.

NOTICE—Langham & Son have sold out. Please call and settle.

Childrens coughs yield to Alaska Pine Syrup. Sold at Allen's Drug Store.

Very little plowing done this week—farmers were too busy hugging the stoves.

A squally spell about the middle of this month will end our winter weather.

Great Bend Woodmen are preparing to give a mask ball, on the night of the 22d.

Chas. Zutavern returned from Kansas City and other eastern points, last Friday.

All parties owing us MUST call and settle. At old stand.

LANGHAM & SON.

D. W. McCann, of the north-west, was a caller on the DEMOCRAT the first of the week.

Sale of horses and mules at the Rowell Stock farm next Wednesday, the 8th. inst.

Are you ready to settle? You will find us at the old stand.

LANGHAM & SON.

Mrs. DeLaVerne was over from Hoisington last week, visiting with her daughter, Mrs. Jennison.

We issue another supplement this week, in order that advertisements may not crowd out local news.

Great Bend's citizens generally should ginger up and get ready for a live, prosperous year of business.

Joe Trollett is preparing to improve his Forest Avenue residence with a handsome porch along the south side.

Having sold our stock we must insist that parties owing us call and make settlement. LANGHAM & SON.

John Frank spent most of last week in Kansas City, attending the Imp. Dealers' meeting and seeing the sights generally.

The next "day to celebrate" will be St. Valentines day—the day of Cupids darts, and busted hearts, and Alex Smarts.

The Ellinwood Leader of last week was full of birth, accidents and deaths. Better look up some more wedding notices, Bro. Cooke.

Chris Metzger, a grammar farmer about 32 years old, committed suicide by hanging himself, east of St. John, in Stafford county, last week.

Miss Lou Gardner, a sister of Miss Gardner of the city schools, came down from Ness county this week to take a position in the C. N. C.

The members of the Great Bend Fire Department are in receipt of an invitation to attend a firemans ball to be given at Larned on Feb. 14th.

The proper thing for the Kansas legislature to do is to adjourn forthwith—or as soon as it has passed the bill establishing a branch normal at Great Bend.

The Barton County Teachers' association meets at Clarlin Saturday of this week—Feb. 4th. A good program is arranged for, and every teacher should attend.

Ladies clean your kid gloves with Miller's Glycerine. It is not a liquid, leaves no odor, and can be used while the glove is on the hand. Sold only by Hooper Drug Co.

Gus Schaffer will operate the ice plant next summer. He will put in some machinery and increase the capacity of the plant to meet the demands of the city.

The south-west part of the county will have a wolf drive next Tuesday. Now let other parts of the county get up drives, and let everybody participate in them, and a whole lot of those pests to the farmer may be exterminated or driven out of the county.

## The New York Store.

### THE EMBROIDERY AND WHITE GOODS SALE

to be

### CONTINUED ALL NEXT WEEK.

ON ACCOUNT OF THE COLD WEATHER several of our customers from the country were unable to attend the BIG SALE. We want everyone to take advantage of these prices and in order to give them the opportunity will continue the sale one more week.

### OVER 500 PATTERNS

Of Embroideries, Insertions, and India Linens TO SELECT FROM.

We will also open one case, 3000 yds Standard Calicoes, fast colors, all new patterns 6c quality For One Week 4c a Yard.

The new styles in Ladies Collars and Cuffs are being shown here

At Popular Prices.

A full line of Fancy Ribbons in the new colorings for belts and neck wear with the new

"Shirring Cord"—Just Opened.

A few more Blankets and Jackets to be disposed of this month. We are not going to pack them away. Your choice of any jacket in the house for

One-Half the Original Price.

Any pair of Blankets in the house at

Actual Wholesale Cost.

### A VISIT TO OUR GROCERY DEPARTMENT

Next week will save you money. Try it, and see.

## The Old Reliable NEW YORK STORE.

G. SAMUELS.

The Register of the 28th, of January noticed the "sample arc lights at the south-west and north-west corners of the square—"A week after they had been taken down.

The Frenchman who landed in New York, and after a week's duation complained of four seasons in that week should come to Kansas where we have them all in one day.

The Grimes Bros. Electric Light Co. last week bought the building and grounds of the light station from Louis Zutavern. The Co. has had the place leased for the past few years.

Suppose we elect Deacon Armstrong mayor. There would then be no need for a city council, city attorney or even dogpelter, he could, and unquestionably would be "the whole thing."

Judge Thos. W. Moseley, of St. John, has an interesting lecture on the subject of "Army Life in the Volunteer Service." We would like to hear him deliver the lecture in Great Bend.

E. C. Davis and family, of south of the river, returned last Sunday from a three months visit to relatives in Indiana. They report having had a splendid visit, and all enjoyed reasonably good health.

Dan Bird, of West Clarence, brought some fat steers to market last week, and got enough money out of them to pay up on two copies of the DEMOCRAT to Jan. 15, 1900, and had a little spending money left.

To many farmers. "All cows look alike to me." But to the farmers who patronize the creamery there is a difference. The result is, that the grade of milk cows in Barton county is wonderfully improving.

With the first of the month Elmer Dale went back as assistant in the post office, in place of Jessie Butler. Elmer was a good man in the place before; we predict that the public will not have cause to kick on his service.

Where is the Register "at" on the issues of the coming spring election? Can any one tell. We know where Andy generally is—but where is his paper? We tried to figure an answer to this question from the last issue of the repeater, but must confess that its position is shrouded in mystery.

We still have left a few heating stoves which we are selling at rare bargains. GREAT BEND IMPLEMENT CO.



Dr. Clark, the famous Chicago specialist, member of the medical staff of the Chicago Curative Institute, will visit Great Bend Monday, Feb. 6th; office at the Hotel Greene—one day only. Those who are afflicted with some form of chronic or special disease should not fail to consult him. Consultation free.

How about the old shack that serves Great Bend people for an opera house? Have the people not patronized that play-house sufficiently to warrant the owner thereof in putting it in decent repair? And shall we continue to gather there under a leaky roof, with half the plastering off the ceilings, the seats broken and crowded together in a most uncomfortable manner, and the whole room having a delapidated appearance that would discourage any self-respecting company of performers. Or, shall we withhold our patronage from the place until it is put in repair? Something ought to be done about it by either the owner of the building or the citizens.

It is said that in the near future all postmasters will be compelled to don a uniform of red and white striped trousers, blue coat with stars, and a red cap with the Cuban star on top. Gosh, but think of the lady postmistresses. What will they do?—Hoisington Dispatch.

Holy smoke! Hold your sides while you think of Great Bend's postmaster in red, white and blue striped pants!

There is no doubt but that at least two normal schools should be established auxiliary to the state normal school at Emporia. This plan is approved by President A. R. Taylor and the best educators of the state. The people of Great Bend offer to give their normal school, buildings and all, to the state without charge and it seems to be the best proposition made.—Hutchinson News.

We of central Kansas may have thought that the blizzard which reached here Sunday night was severe, but from outside reports we would infer that we only got the ragged edge of the storm. It was severe enough, however.

When a man with the grip, grabs his grip, to go off upon a trip, soon as he gets to skip, with his grip, he gets the grip upon its hip; and so long as he holds his grip on the grip with which he'll skip, he can generally give the slip to the grip.