

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT

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Look Pleasant—the World Is Sad Enough and Needs Your Smile More Than Your Grouch.

Governor Johnson Dead

The people of the entire country, regardless of party creed, were pained and shocked at the announcement made Tuesday of the death of Governor John A. Johnson of Minnesota, which occurred that morning at the little town of Rochester, whither the governor had gone for an operation, which had been performed scarcely a week ago. Ever since then his life had hung in the balance, until finally, surrounded by his loved ones he passed to the other shore, having made a desperate fight for life.

In the death of Governor Johnson, Minnesota loses an excellent and beloved executive, the nation a citizen whose life's history can be safely placed beside that of the immortal Lincoln, the Democratic party one of the leaders, and one whose wise counsel was looked to for the future course of the party and the home a man above men. The son of poor Swedish immigrants, he worked his way from the home of a washerwoman, for such his mother by force of circumstances was compelled to be, until he reached the highest place in the minds of all of the American people being considered one of its leading and most patriotic men. Three times elected governor on the Democratic ticket when on two occasions of his election the Republican presidential candidate received a tremendous majority, testify to the integrity he possessed, and the confidence the people of Minnesota reposed in him.



GOV. JOHN A. JOHNSON.

His administrations have been a signal success, and will be pointed to with pride in the future history of that state. The nation mourns at the bier of a distinguished citizen, whom it will always hold in remembrance although he never reached the height of the ambitions his numerous friends had for him. It seems too bad that Governor Johnson, only 47 years of age, should be borne to the last resting place, but such is the way of the Maker.

Public Sale

J. A. Hoge of Liberty township will hold a public sale at his place on Thursday, September 30th.

Some Water Melon

Elmer Pursell brought to this office last Saturday a water melon, that was a cracker jack. It weighed 73 pounds, and was raised by him on the Brougher farm in South Bend township. This was not an exceptional melon, but one of a number of very large ones that grew in that locality. However, it was the largest one that we have ever seen, and shows that the south side can raise bumper water melon crops as well as wheat and corn.

Latest reports from Will Klein are that he is conscious and now stands a good show for recovery.

George Nuss, one of the leading business men of Hoisington, was a visitor to our city this week.

Emancipation Day

Our colored citizens held their annual celebration in remembrance of the Emancipation Proclamation on Wednesday at the fair grounds. They met their speakers and outside visitors at the trains, and headed by the colored band in their handsome new uniforms, proceeded to parade through the Main street of the city to the fair grounds. There were a large number of vehicles in the line. A feature was a number of young ladies, all dressed alike, who sang "Marching Through Georgia" and other celebrated songs dear to those who well remember the trying days of the Civil War. At the fair grounds a dinner was served, after which an excellent program, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, declamations and orations was rendered. In the evening, another program was given in the colored masonic hall. The colored folks certainly had a fine day for their celebration, and enjoyed the same very much.

Cook and Peary

It was not becoming in Lieutenant Peary to attack the truthfulness of Dr. Cook's claim, since he himself asked the public to believe his own statement. Dr. Cook's reputation for veracity is the best as is shown not only by the testimony of those who have known and believed in him for many years, but by the readiness with which his statements have been accepted throughout the world. There is glory enough in finding the pole for every man who cares to undertake it and succeeds, and Peary's luster will be in no way dimmed by the fact that Cook also reached it. Peary evidently is piqued that Cook should reach the coveted spot on his first attempt, while he had made several ineffectual attempts to reach it. In other words, Cook beat him to it. Peary, it seems, came to feel that the project was his own and that any others who attempted it were inferiors. Cook showed the best head work. "If Peary reached the Pole," said he, "I am glad of it." But Peary flares up with "Don't believe what Cook says; he never got there." Both men may have reached the Pole. They say they did. Until their statements are proved false, the general public will believe them. Certainly one man's word is as good as the other's.—Drover's Telegram.

While we are all glad to have the streets fixed and walks rebuilt, we will all be more than glad when the work is completed and we can once more walk down Main street without picking our way among the sand piles, et cetera.

About all the fire laddies went to McPherson this week to attend the State Firemen's Tournament. They report having had a fine time. At first they thought of arranging to ask for the next year's meeting to be held in Great Bend, but later decided to wait until another year. When they do get ready to ask for it, we should do all we can to assist them.

We understand that Charles Johnson, a Great Bend boy, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Johnson, now one of the leading business men of Hoisington, was married a few days ago to an estimable young lady of Ellsworth. Details have not been given us, but we join Mr. Johnson's many friends in wishing him all there is good in life and that his bride will share his joys.

Mrs. Frank Thatcher and three children are here from Nelson, Neb., on a visit to the Thatcher home. Mr. Thatcher himself could not accompany the family on this visit to the parental home, and being very busily engaged in looking after his extensive stock interests, the county fair being on this week. Frank is a breeder of the celebrated Guernsey cattle, and is also operating a large dairy. His many friends will be pleased to meet his wife and children and to know that he is prospering with the rest of the world.

The Minstrels

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Eren arrived from Kansas City Wednesday evening and are busy whipping into shape the material offered them for the Elks minstrels which will be placed before the public on Tuesday, September 28th, at the Willmer opera house. Rehearsals are the order and when the big show comes off, the pleasure seeking public of Great Bend will have such a rare treat presented to them that they will be crying for more like the little boy after a stick of candy. This is the truth. Secure your tickets early, as there is some danger of the supply being exhausted. Boost for the Elks. On Wednesday evening the same entertainment will be presented at Hoisington. A special train will run over from here, and doubtless a large crowd will attend.

"John Brown's Body"

The October America Magazine contains a very remarkable and important historical interview with John Brown, Jr., the oldest son of the John Brown of Civil War fame and glory. Miss Eleanor Atkinson is the interviewer and, regarding the physical appearance of his father, she reports John Brown, Jr., as saying: "After 1856, he was usually in tags, unkempt, gaunt, much older in every way than his years. In Kansas he was a hunted man, a price upon his head. He laid out in swamps with a handful of men, and suffered much from fever and ague. His hair and beard grew long and wild, and turned gray. This made him look very strange to us, for he never wore a beard at all until he went to Kansas. He was naturally fair with gray-blue eyes and brown hair. He was only five feet ten, and when in full vigor weighed one hundred and forty pounds, but the 'officials,' who had warrants for his arrest in Kansas, were looking for a fierce, dark man about seven feet high, such was the terror he inspired. He was known throughout Kansas—went into towns when it was necessary to do so, went in and came out unmolested. Armed poses with warrants were afraid to take him. And everyone, who saw him described him differently."

"It was a singular thing that men who knew my father well, in days before the free-soil struggle began, when he was a quiet business man here in Ohio, Massachusetts and New York state, were never able to describe him entirely accurately. People usually thought him taller and heavier than he really was. One or two have spoken of him as 'massive and dark, a powerful man.' It was his aspect that gave this impression. His head was well up, between square shoulders; he had a fearless, challenging look, a firm mouth, a jaw thrust forward. No one could see him and not know him for a resolute man. But old—old. In Kansas he was called 'Old Man Brown.' He was only fifty-nine when he died, but he looked to be seventy."

Seventy-five dollars an acre for Stafford county land will appear to be a big price, but it is worth every cent of it, and more. That is the price paid by Henry Batchman, of Barton county, for the Charles Kuske farm located just north of town. It is a good farm and Mr. Batchman will never regret making the deal. We have not learned what Mr. Kuske intends to go farther west and he intends to go farther west and re-invest.—St. John News.

Miss Erma Hainline, who had been the faithful and efficient compositor in the Journal office the past year, resigned last Saturday evening. She went to Wellsville that evening to visit friends a week, and will go from there to her home in Kansas City for a month's visit with her parents. She will then go to MeComb, Ill., for an extended visit with relatives. Miss Hainline made many friends during her stay in Edgerton, who wish her success and happiness wherever she may cast her lot.—Edgerton Journal.

Our New Feature

Beginning with this issue of the Democrat, we are placing before our readers a new feature, in the way of a supplement of four pages of solid reading matter. It is not made up of a lot of comic pictures, etc., but is made up of live, enlightening, and progressive reading matter for all. We present for the busy housewife and her daughters a page of matter concerning fashions, home beautifying, helpful hints for the hostess, etc. For the farmer we have a page of interesting information gathered by experts in the field of agriculture from everywhere, or those interested in Farmers' Union we have regularly two columns of articles pertaining to the progress of that organization. Then for every one we put in a short story every week, and also we will run continuously a serial story, being careful to select the best that are on the market. The one we present this week in the first issue of the supplement, is entitled, "Whispering Smith," by Frank Spearman, one of the best writers of railroad stories that ever penned a serial. These serial stories will be found to be very interesting all the time, and especially during the winter months.

This feature means adding four pages of solid reading matter, beneficial as well as entertaining, to our paper, without adding one penny of cost to the reader. We ask you to read this supplement, and thus more than ever feel that the Democrat is trying to put out a publication that will be worth the price.

A Severe Storm

The north part of this county was visited by a severe hail, electrical and rain storm on Sunday afternoon. In some sections of the territory covered, as much as 11 inches of water is reported, and a drive over the same territory will convince one that this report is not an exaggeration. We are informed that four county bridges were washed out, two in Logan, and two in Grant township. Several farmers report the killing of stock by lightning. The ground is so wet that for the entire week no work could be done in the fields. Some ground that was prepared for seeding is beaten down so hard that it will have to be worked over. Blood and Deception creeks were more than a mile wide in places. Considerable track was washed out for the Missouri Pacific, both east and west of Hoisington. We crossed Blood Creek on Tuesday in Grant township near the Menzer farm. The bridge there is about twelve feet high, and we could see by the railing on the bridge that the water had swept down the creek and over the platform of the bridge by several feet. The ground looked as though an ocean of water had been emptied on top of every little knoll, so hard was the grass and the other growing vegetation matted down to the ground. Strange as it may seem there was scarcely a sprinkle of rain south of the Missouri Pacific line.

Obituary

Mrs. Benjamin Stover died at the family home at LaCrosse at 4 o'clock Sunday morning with typhoid fever. The funeral was held Monday at 4 p. m. by the Christian minister of that city and was attended by the friends of the deceased and family, interment being made in the local cemetery. Nellie Stover was born near Claffin, and made her home there until she moved with her husband and family to LaCrosse a few years ago, where they lived until the hand of death claimed her and she has passed to her last rest. The deceased was a faithful member of the Christian church, was well known in the vicinity of Claffin, was a loving wife and mother and leaves a husband, one son and two daughters, as well as many friends to mourn her untimely demise.

A Barton county farmer who had not been in the city for over a year, confessed to us on the occasion of a visit this week that he thought he was lost when he reached here, there having been so much work done in the way of improvements the past season.

Brown-Hudson

Miss Lavina Brown and Mr. Frank B. Hudson were united in marriage Wednesday evening, September 8 by Rev. J. Lebart, at the home of the bride's parents in the presence of relatives.

The bride wore a white satin gown and carried a bunch of white carnations. The groom wore the conventional black.

An elegant supper was served, and the evening was spent in feasting and rejoicing. The happy pair were not only recipients of hearty congratulations and well wishes, but of numerous handsome gifts.

The bride is the accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Brown of the Pleasant Hill district and was brought up in this community. The groom is a prosperous business man of Nashville, where they will make their future home.—Ellinwood Leader.

Coming Soon

From October 11th to 16th the Malleable range people will give an exhibition at the Hemker hardware store, and make every effort to show you the many excellent qualities of their range. The Malleable people spare no efforts to put out a range that will be a source of pleasure to the user.

A Visit to Galatia

We were privileged this week to visit one of the prettiest spots in this pretty county of ours, by a trip to Galatia. We stopped a short time in Olmitz, shaking hands with many old friends. We found the people of Galatia and of all of Fairview and Wheatland that we met smiling and happy, regardless of the fact that the dry weather in the spring cut their wheat crop a little short. The merchants of the little city reported themselves as being well pleased with the trade they were enjoying. Many improvements are in progress in that section of the country. They are anxious for the north and south road to be built, so that they will get nearer to market with their crops better facilities for getting their supplies in, and more conveniences all around. Every effort is being made by these people to get this road, when they will be right in "town." We were very much pleased to meet many old friends, and to enjoy the hospitality of the Fairviewites.

Globe Sights

Every cross man is a sick man. In a small town, a man hates automobiles he hasn't been invited to ride in.

It is every man's opinion that a lot of good food is spoiled by working it over into salads.

We sometimes think we devote half our time to hearing people tell how hard they work.

An Atechison woman loves her husband, or pretends to, and the other women are indignant.

If you want to see two persons agree perfectly, get them to talking about someone both hate.

"Some days, every man I want to see is just ahead of me and I can't catch up."—Parson Twine.

We poor people abuse the rich; but we suppose the rich abuse us just as vigorously as we abuse them.

When a man confesses he plays poker occasionally, that is a sign he quit winner the night before.

A newly married man is constantly finding that his wife has many loves, and he is fortunate if among them there isn't the hot water bag.

An Atechison woman was offered a \$200 Victor Victoria by her husband, but she used the money to buy a new bedroom set for the company room.

When a woman's husband acts up, she always says: "I believe the devil got hold of him." The woman always knows better but she always says it.

The Ladies Circle of the W. O. W. gave a ball in the new hall Wednesday evening which was well attended. The proceeds of this and other entertainments are to go towards purchasing a piano, and in other ways fitting up the hall, which has always been one of the handsomest in the city. St. John Tuesday.

Kansas Northwestern Progress

Progress on the preliminary work of the Kansas Northwestern is very satisfactory. On Monday evening a meeting of business men was held at the Commercial club rooms, which was addressed by several of our people, in addition to the statements made by those interested in pushing the work so far, and a fair amount of the bonds were subscribed for. On Tuesday a party of gentlemen drove to Galatia where a rousing meeting was held at the interests of the road, and where the people are keenly alive to the benefits to be derived from a railway operating through their section of the country. Everywhere the promoters go, they are met with the expression, "You bet we want that road." The only thing that is now to be done to insure the building of the Kansas Northwestern is to subscribe liberally and cheerfully for the bonds in order that the work of construction may begin as soon as possible.

It seems to us that further argument as to the benefit of this project is not necessary. Facts and figures heretofore published prove and answer every question that can be asked. This is not a case of blindly buying something, or of swapping without seeing what the other fellow has up his sleeve. You subscribe for the bonds, but you pay nary a cent, or have not a penny of obligation against you until the road is operated. What more could be asked for in a business proposition. You give nothing. You invest your money in a business enterprise, at a fair rate of interest, with a first mortgage for security. This is what you are asked to do. Will you do it? Do not pass this opportunity for the benefit of inestimable value to this county, up.

Died

Mr. B. D. Maloney died last Saturday after a brief illness. Funeral services were held at the Catholic church in this city Tuesday at 9 a. m. but the interment was made in the Catholic cemetery at Ellinwood, Kans. Mr. Maloney was born in Westmoreland county, Pa. on March 17, 1882, where he grew to maturity. From there he went to Vicksburg, Miss., where he prospered exceedingly and became part owner and manager of a large sawmill and lumber business. At this time he married Miss Mary McKinney, of Licking county, Ohio, and from this union four children were born. A son and daughter who died years ago and Mrs. F. G. Strothman and C. D. Maloney of this city. Just previous to the breaking out of the Civil war, Mr. Maloney with his wife and family removed to Edinboro, where he engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1884 he came to Barton county, and for the last twelve years he resided in South Bend township, south of genial, kind hearted man and was esteemed highly by all who knew him. The deceased was a member of the Catholic church, and his life was consistent with the tenets of the faith. May he rest in peace.

Marriage Licenses

Thomas O. Marston, Claffin 25.
Miss Katie Miller, Macksville, 20.
Carl Beetz, Hoisington, 27.
Willa Maple Drake, Hoisington, 24.
Charley Rankin, Albert, 24.
Sophia Nayel, Albert 19
Pearl A. Schmalian, Seward, 23.
Lowllia E. Williamson, Seward, 20.
Leonard A. Adler, Wichita, 27.
Margaret A. Rusco, Great Bend 19.
Dr. S. Bruce Russell, Denver Colorado, 49.
Miss Tilley Hartman, Claffin 29

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. McCracken returned Thursday morning from Colorado, where they had been for some time enjoying life. They visited a number of Colorado's cities and places of interest, and secured a glimpse of President Taft while he was in that state.

F. B. Newcombe made a trip to St. John Tuesday.