

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT

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Only Eight More Days To Do Christmas Shopping---Better Do It Now Before the Stocks Are All Broken

The Fair Matter.

As will be seen in another column in this issue, the fair management have extended the time for the Business Men's Association to get their \$2000 worth of stock sold until January 15th. As they lack only about \$350 worth of subscriptions, it occurs to us that they ought to be able to bring the amount up all right. It would be the height of folly for a community such as we have, and a county such as we have, to pass up this fair matter, and let it go by the board. We have now had a rest for three years, and believe the people will again be ready to attend a rattling good county "County" fair. This can be produced, if all help, and this money is raised. But for the present management to go at it without any provision for paying off the debt, is something that must not be expected of them. Let us by all means aid the committee having the matter in charge and see if this money cannot be raised, and the Barton County Fair Association continue as one of the institutions of the county.

Shot His Hand Off.

As the result of an accidental discharge of a shot gun Henry Laeberts, the 13 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Dueberts, who live south of town, had to have his right hand amputated at the wrist Saturday night. Henry in company with his father, was in the corn field husking corn, and had a shot gun with him and was doing a little hunting on the side. He went to get into the wagon with the gun, which dropped out of his hand and he grabbed for it and got his hand over the muzzle of the gun just as it struck the wheel and was discharged, the entire load going through the right hand. His father had his handkerchief around the hand at once and started for the house, and immediately summoned a doctor, Claffin Clifton.

Miller Bros. Buy Location.

The Miller Bros. have bought the old livery barn located on Main street. The deal was made the latter part of last week and in buying this they have secured one of the best locations in town. The consideration was \$3500. It is the intention of the new owners to tear down a part of the building on the rear of the lots and clean up and do some remodeling on the balance of the building, and will use it next summer for a ware room and for setting up machinery.—(Clarion).

Loses a Valuable Colt.

Marion Sowards lost a three year old colt valued at \$200 one day last week, by being gored by a bull. A few weeks ago he lost his mate, a two year old, thought to have been caused by the same animal. This is considerable of a loss. The stock had all been running in the corral together, and before this the animal had never shown any disposition to attack any of the other stock.

D. of H. Officers.

The Degree of Honor lodge met Friday night and elected the following officers for the ensuing term:

C. of H., Mrs. Martha Moore.
L. of H., Mrs. Lizzie Converse.
C. of C., Mrs. Hettie Orm.
Usher, Mrs. Ellen Smith.
Recorder, Flora A. Smith.
Financier, H. J. Smith.
Receiver, Mrs. Ora Smith.
O. W., Mrs. Hattie Luse.
I. W., E. P. Smith.
Representative to the Grand Lodge, Mrs. Ellen Smith.
Alternate, Flora A. Smith.

Rob Pfister was on the sick list last week.

Mrs. Eldon Lowe, of Coffeyville is in the city renewing acquaintances with her parents, Judge E. C. Cole and wife, and others.

Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Paxson, of Albert, were here last Saturday, going from here to Garden City for a short visit. Mr. Paxson made this office a pleasant call.

The Noise Accounted For.

On Thursday evening of last week the people living south and east of this city were startled at a loud explosion, the exact location of which could not be ascertained. It was rumored that the high school building in this city had been blown up, and many other rumors were rife, but nothing definite. The explanation seems to be here now.

It was a sort of earthquake or explosion of gases beneath the earth's crust and occurred on the farm of Mr. Metz, near Hudson, 22 miles southeast from the Bend. Archie Rusco, formerly of route 6, and a son of Chas. Rusco, of northeast of town, now lives near Hudson and on the farm adjoining Mr. Metz. He was here Sunday and told of the explosion. It was a tremendous report and it scared the people in that vicinity thoroughly. About half past five that evening he says there was a slight rumbling sound, followed a few minutes later by a loud explosion which could be heard for miles around. It was about dark then and no investigation was made until next day, though the telephone lines were kept in use by people speculating as to what had occurred. The next day it was found that the topography of the land in the vicinity of the Metz farm had changed. What had been a sort of depression in a piece of meadow land the day before had apparently been burst open, and in some of the places the soil was turned over.

Aside from the change in the appearance of that particular spot of land there were no other indications of a change of any sort except the water in Rattlesnake creek was a foot higher, and that it had a slight indication of oil on its surface in that vicinity.

Injured in a Fall.

George Holmes, a foreman for the Westinghouse, Church, Kerr Construction Co., which is erecting the buildings in the new Missouri Pacific yards at Hoisington, received injuries Tuesday night from which it is hardly thought he can recover. He was on top of the wall of one of the uncompleted buildings, and made a misstep which threw him from the wall and on a scaffold. He was removed to the hospital and is in a dangerous condition.

Holmes was a young man who had been in Hoisington for one or two months, and was popular with those who knew him. Most of the men working in the higher positions of the company came from the east, but it is not known where Holmes' home is.

The Socialist Vote.

Below we give a table of the Socialist vote cast in each precinct in this county at the late election. The vote the previous they have made a gain of about 50 per cent, which in off year election is a very large gain.

Albion, 0.
Beaver, 0.
Buffalo, 8.
Clarence, 0.
Cleveland, 0.
Comanche, 1.
Cheyenne, 0.
Eureka, 0.
Fairview, 3.
Grant, 1.
Great Bend, 1.
Homestead, 11.
Independence, 4.
Logan, 1.
Lakin, 4.
Liberty, 4.
Washburn, 0.
Pawnee Rock, 8.
South Bend, 8.
Union, 0.
Olmitz, 4.
Great Bend—First ward, 11.
Second ward, 7.
Third ward, 18.
Fourth ward, 28.
Hoisington—First ward, 9.
Second ward, 7.
Third ward, 7.
Fourth ward, 6.
Total vote for the county, 151.

Carl Eaton was in Stafford on business this week.

Killings.

There has been a considerable amount of blood shed in Kansas the past week. Near Olathe an aged lady and three men of her household were found murdered. One or two arrests have been made, but no definite evidence as yet has been secured.

In Hamilton county two prosperous and prominent farmers set tled a grudge of some years standing, by one of them plugging the other with a gun.

In Hutchinson Sunday evening, Tom Foyler, a deputy sheriff, was shot and almost instantly killed by a man whom he had arrested and was taking to jail. No arrests have been made in this case.

"Good Old Ellinwood."

Up in Ellinwood they have recently organized an automobile club, with Banker Ed Smith as president. The club is to be a live affair and it is going in for good roads and for lots of other things that will benefit the town. One of the things done there was to pass an ordinance which raises the speed limit for motor cars in the business district from eight to ten miles per hour, and in the residence district from ten to fifteen miles. This is more like it, and the motorists who had been missing that town for the past year, because of rumors that Ellinwood was unfriendly to them, are going to put it back on the list and boost for it as being one of the stopping places along the New Santa Fe Trail.

Ellinwood is a good town. It is one of the best. The New Santa Fe Trail could go through it with a little deviation as the proposed route runs along its north limits. But the motorists, hearing they were looked upon with disfavor, have been missing it. But the motorists there proved to the city council that they all were working for the good of the town and the change in the ordinance will invite the drivers of cars to come by that way when making a trip through the county.

So Ellinwood is back on the river division of the New Santa Fe Trail once more.—Hutch. News.

Lost a Finger.

Frank McGinty, of Seward township, was in the city Saturday afternoon with a badly damaged hand, in fact with his left minus the little finger. Early last week he ascended part way up a wind mill tower to do some work on it, when the support he was on gave way and he started to fall to the ground, a distance of several feet. He reached out with his left hand to catch something, and happened to get onto one of the board braces, but did not catch it firm enough, continuing to fall, and getting the little finger in a crack had it completely stripped of the flesh, causing amputation of the bone to be necessary.

Kansas Big Year.

The value of farm products and live stock for 1910 is the greatest in the history of Kansas, notwithstanding the shortage in returns on wheat and corn due to lower prices. F. D. Coburn, secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, issued his report last Saturday of the state's agricultural, horticultural, and live stock products in 1910 and their worth. These figures are the first from the Board of Agriculture on the year's yields and values.

Sam Shattuck was over from the north side Monday, bringing one Tony Rusi, to the county jail to get his Xmas dinner.

Mrs. J. R. Johnson visited her daughter, Mrs. Robert Grizel, at Claffin last week.

Henry Moore attended the big chicken show at Garden City this week, with some of his fancy chickens.

Mrs. C. E. Holmes and Junior left last week for Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for a visit with friends.

Charles Archer and Nic Schartz were visitors from Ellinwood on Friday of last week.

Larned After Things.

We are mighty glad to see our esteemed neighbor on the west, Larned, get up a dust. They are always doing something up their to attract attention. The past week they started after two different propositions, one of which, however, we have had for some time.

The first one is an armory, to house their K. N. G. company. A committee has been appointed to secure that, and we will bet a new hat they will get it. In this connection it might be well for us to see what can be done towards getting a K. N. G. company here.

The second proposition is a Carnegie library building. This is being fostered by the Portia club of that city, and we know they never undertake anything they can't finish. Here is hoping they get both buildings. We always did like Larned and her people, and the older we get the more we like both.

Denbo.

Chester Denbo, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Denbo, of South Bend township, died at the family home on Friday of last week, from diabetes. He was 14 years, 9 months and 15 days of age. He was born on the home place where the family reside, and in addition to his parents, is survived by several brothers and sisters. He was a minny little fellow who stood his suffering cheerfully. The funeral services were conducted at the family home Sunday afternoon by Rev. Alford, interment in the Great Bend cemetery. The bereaved family have the sympathy of their many friends.

Bowyer.

The seven months old child of Mr. and Mrs. George Bowyer, of Clarence township, died Tuesday morning after a short illness with pneumonia. The funeral services were held Wednesday morning at the church. The family came to this county about a year ago from Illinois, having purchased the Boshell farm. Mrs. Bowyer is a sister of Mrs. Frank Spaniol, of west of town.

Progress Club.

The Progress Club met Monday December 12th, with Mrs. Emley. The following program was given:

Reading on English, Mrs. Taylor.
Mrs. Hemmas; De Quincey, Mrs. Connett.
Readings from De Quincey, Mrs. Johns.
Songs, English Ballads, Charles Townsley.
The hostess served refreshments at the close of the meeting.

The club adjourned to meet on January 9th with Mrs. L. Zutzvern.

Mrs. Mary Luttrell is here for a visit with her daughter, Mrs. R. A. Charles.

Miss Elsie Lorimer and Miss Margaret Doonan, who are members of the Philathea club of the First Methodist church, entertained the Philathea class and the Baraca class last evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard on Tenth St. It was a very unique party, in that every one came dressed as tacky as possible and was known as a tacky party. There were many very weird costumes and some comical ones but Mr. R. T. Dressler took the prize as being the tackiest one present. During the evening music, games, etc., were the diversion, and at a late hour delicious refreshments were served by the hostesses with the assistance of Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Lorimer.—Hutchinson News.

John A. McDonald, of Kansas, a post-office inspector, has been promoted in station and salary for meritorious services rendered with other inspectors in the recently instituted campaign being waged against the get-rich-quick concerns which are fraudulently using the mails.—Washington News Item.
This is our McDonald.

Announcement.

I am pleased to announce to the public that I have purchased the millinery establishment of Madame Gould. This place, as you know, has been noted as being the swell millinery parlor of central Kansas, and it is my intention to keep the shop up to its usual high standard.

The stock contains at present a complete assortment of the finest seasonable goods, and we will add to it as fast as is consistent with the conditions of trade.

We will endeavor at all times to have "just what you want," and will offer for your consideration nothing but choice, up-to-date merchandise. I will be much pleased to meet all of the customers of the shop and any one who is interested in choice millinery. Respectfully,

Mrs. H. H. Nicholson.

Doesn't Need Help.

H. J. Roetzel, commissioner of public improvements and streets, believes he could run the city without the assistance of a mayor and other commissioners.

Mayor Davidson and Commissioners Means, Stewart and Cone are in Chicago on a junketing trip, and the reins of the government of the city are entirely in the hands of Commissioner Roetzel.

A citizen of Wichita walked into the office of the Commissioner yesterday and said:

"Well, how are you getting along, Mr. Roetzel, since the other commissioners are gone?"

"Fine, fine," replied the stay-at-home commissioner; "I believe, if it was necessary, I could run the city without the other fellows. Everything is getting on all right."

Among those who called on Mr. Roetzel yesterday was an old friend, Dr. F. M. Campbell, of Claffin, in Barton county.

"I have known M. Roetzel for about 30 years," said Dr. Campbell, "and I will say that I never knew a straighter man than he is. He is a scrapper for things that are right, and the beauty of it is, he nearly always comes out on top."

Regarding the hidden room, Mr. Roetzel said: "I stand just where I always did on this proposition. The evidence will show there was a room in the basement of the city building. If it was just a hole, why was the room torn out so quickly? Why did they not leave it there with all of its paraphernalia and hideousness, so that the city commissioners as well as the public might view it?" —Wichita Eagle.

I wish to state to my many customers and to the public that I have disposed of my millinery stock and fixtures to Mrs. H. H. Nicholson, of Denver, whose announcement appears elsewhere in this paper, and who is an experienced milliner. I take this opportunity to thank my patrons for their liberal patronage, and I hope your relations with the shop in the future will be as pleasant as I believe they have been with me. Respectfully,
Madame Gould.

Mrs. W. A. Dunn and Miss Arline have returned from a visit in Oklahoma.

H. H. Earhart, of Unionville, Mo., is in the city, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Watt O'Connell.

Will Schwier was down from Larned this week.

Subscribers, we are needing money mighty bad. Won't those of you who know you are in arrears please help us by paying up on your delinquency.

If the Democrat suits you, tell your friends. If it does not suit, tell us.

Bane McDonald arrived home from Ford county last Thursday with his bride. His friends and neighbors gave them a surprise that evening by coming in with well filled baskets and had a supper. All present report a fine time. They left wishing Mr. and Mrs. McDonald many days of happy wedded life.—Hudson Patriot.

Can Fire School Marms.

Members of a school board have a right to meet, pass on the competency of a school teacher, employed by it, discharge her and pay her only for her services up to the time she was dismissed. The Supreme Court renders a decision to that effect in a case from Reno county, decided Saturday.

Laura Duncan was hired by the school board of Dist. No. 8, in Reno county to teach the school for a seven month's term, at a salary of \$45 a month. She taught the school from Sept. 9, 1907, to Nov. 25, 1907, when she was served with a notice by all the members of the school board to close the school. The notice gave incompetency and neglect as the reasons for the action taken by the board.

Miss Duncan paid no attention to the notice, and finally the school house was locked up. She was paid full wages for her services up to the time of her dismissal. At the expiration of the seven months term she brought a suit against the board for the full amount of wages for that period.

In the district court of Reno county Miss Duncan won her case. The school board appealed to the Supreme Court. The testimony offered showed that she had no discipline, and that the attendance in the school dwindled from twenty-five to two pupils while she was in charge. The board held that the pupils could learn nothing when there was so little discipline in the school room. The Supreme court upheld them.

Passengers Must Buy Tickets of The Agents.

The Supreme court holds that in a case where a passenger without a ticket boards a train for a station at which the train is not scheduled to stop, it is not negligence on the part of the railroad company if he is ejected from the train. The case comes from Reno county.

In the district court of Reno county W. C. Burgess recovered damages for personal injury received by being struck by a Santa Fe train. The Santa Fe appealed and that body reversed the decision, holding that Burgess was nothing more or less than a trespasser on railroad property.

Burgess boarded a train at Ellinwood for Raymond. He had no ticket and the train was not scheduled to stop at Raymond. He offered to pay cash fare, but the conductor refused it, and he stopped the train and put Burgess off. Burgess sat down on the end of a tie and went to sleep. Another train struck him, injuring him severely.

Joe Haberman and two little daughters were down from near Olmitz Saturday. They made this office a pleasant call.

Mrs. S. J. Shaw has returned from a lengthy stay in Ohio.

The High School students will give a banquet this Friday evening, complimentary to the champion foot ball team.

At adjourned session of the district court was held Saturday, with Judge Clayton in the chair. Melvina Loomis was granted a divorce from Wm. Loomis.

Liberty township will vote on the question of issuing bonds for a bridge at Dundee, on the 20th. As this proposition carried once before, we presume it will carry again this time.

S. P. Smith, of Pawnee Rock township, was in the city Saturday on business, and made this office an appreciated call.

Gus and Frank Schremer and Will Hipp, prominent farmers of Cheyenne township, were in town Saturday on business. Frank called here to insure the continued visits of the Democrat to his home the coming year.

A young son of Joe Kremels, living near Otis, was operated on at the St. Rose hospital in this city last week, for the removal of a grain of corn which he had attempted to swallow, but which had lodged in his throat. At last reports, he was progressing very well.