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From All Reports the Wheat Is Now Getting One of Its Annual Killings, But It Has the Nine Lives of a Cat.

GAS PLANT A POSSIBILITY.

Messrs. Dohdejan and Aikin of Manhattan met with the business men Monday night to lay before them facts in connection with the erection and operation of a gas plant which they propose to establish here if they can secure a franchise. All they ask is permission to use the streets and alleys of the city for the purpose of laying mains to furnish manufactured gas for lighting, heating and cooking purposes at an agreed price per foot for the gas consumed.

The gentlemen concerned are not asking anyone to buy stock in the plant nor do they ask the city or commercial club for a site. Their proposition is that they will build a plant here and compete with anyone for the business of commercial lighting in stores and business houses and for the heating and cooking in residences. They state frankly that electricity for its convenience, is likely to maintain a supremacy as a house light but that their lights will be adopted in the stores.

The only thing the visitors asked was that they should be allowed to come here and compete for business. "If we can't furnish you with a product cheaper than you get it now you won't buy," they said, "and it's up to us to make good. We have no favors to ask of any sort."

The company own and operate a plant in Manhattan which is meeting with flattering success and have been asked to erect plants in Abilene, Junction City and Concordia. The matter was inquired into deeply by those present at the meeting and the general feeling was that "it's a good thing and should be encouraged." Another meeting will be held within a few days at which time definite steps will probably be taken to assure the erection of the plant within a few months.

ELLINWOOD TAKES FIRST.

The Ellinwood high school baseball team took the first game of the season from the Great Bend high school team on the home grounds here last Friday afternoon, the visitors having an easy time to win with a score of 15 to 2, easily out-classing the home boys who lacked team work and committed some grievous errors when errors meant runs. It seemed to be an all round off day for the home team, for some of the most consistent players on the team made numerous bad plays and the heavy sticklers failed to connect with the ball at the opportune time and to add to this all the luck of the game seemed to break for the visitors, but at that the Ellinwood boys deserved to win for they played good, consistent ball throughout, showing up in extra fine shape for their first game of the season. A return game will be played in the near future, and the Great Benders say that the result will be different next time.

THE WEATHER MAN WAS GOOD TO THE KIDS.

Saturday was a perfect day for the field meet of the Barton county schools. Nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of the occasion. Early in the day people from the country districts and the surrounding towns started coming in by buggies and auto. The morning trains from east and west brought a load from each direction. About 200 came from Ellinwood alone, by train, beside probably that many more who came by auto. A large number from Hoisington helped to make the day a successful one. One of the spectacular events of the day was the parade of the Washington school of the city which occurred at eleven o'clock and was participated in by about 150 happy young Americans from the grades. They carried "asty decorations and with their teachers made a procession nearly two blocks long. The streets were thronged with a jolly, happy crowd of kids and their elders, all anticipating a day of genuine amusements. The youngsters were "on their toes" so to speak, with the thoughts of competing in the various events of the day where they were to win laurels for their respective schools and place themselves in the hero class with their comrades, teachers and parents, for each child, with the optimism which is his heritage, expects to win and doesn't change his views until he is beaten, and then (bless his heart) he takes defeat, if such be his lot, cheerfully and proceeds to strive harder for honors in the next event.



GRADE SCHOOL OF THE CITY—ENROUTE TO THE FAIR GROUNDS

The parents were much in evidence and enjoyed the day as much as did their offspring. There is nothing which makes a parent's pulses quicken or brings the old time sparkle of youth to his eye more quickly than to see "his boy" or "his little girl" winning in any clean competition with other children and this possibly is more true in athletics than any other form of competition. Good natured rivalry prevailed in all events of the day, unmarred by any misunderstandings of any nature. In this respect we grown-ups may well learn a lesson from the school children. One thing lacking in the enjoyment of the day occurs to us to have been the lack of interest displayed by the business houses and the people generally of Great Bend. No assistance had been asked beyond the giving of some small donations for the various events. The busy merchant or professional man often overlooks a bet simply because he's busy, not because he is self-centered or unwilling to boost the pleasures of others. No music was on the grounds. We suggest that another year the merchants of the town, if they have the matter brought to their attention, will be glad to employ a band to furnish music the whole day. It won't cost any firm much and will do much to enliven the events of the day and furnish entertainment for the crowd between events, and above all, will be appreciated by the people from the country and the surrounding towns to whom we owe that much if not more. The principal athletic events took place after two o'clock at the fair grounds and were won as follows, with possibly a few exceptions of a minor nature:

The west side girls won the Dodge ball event took second in Black and White, Ellinwood girls taking first, and won the flag race for girls. The West side boys won the potato race for boys under 12. West side boys took first and second in the shot-put for boys. In the chinning contest 71 won the test for rural schools with 21. The east side boys won for city school with 53 for a team of three contestants.

Track Events.

100 yard dash, H. S. Rucker, Great Bend, 1st, time 10 2-4. Scheuffler, Great Bend, 2nd, Helfert and Durand, Hoisington, 3rd and 4th.

100 yard dash city and rural. Williams, west side, 1st, time 11 1-5. Webb and Hawkins, west side, 2nd and 3rd, Koonz, 4th.

50 yard dash, boys under 10. Dee Button, No. 17, 1st, time 8 1-5, Zimmerman and Faber of No. 40, 2nd and 3rd

NO GAS FOR HIM.

A message received here by relatives the first of the week from Frank Pile, of Hutchinson, informing them of the narrow escape of Frank and family last Saturday night from a leaking gas pipe in their house. They had just had their house piped for gas last week and the connections were no doubt faulty somewhere, for when Frank woke up some time early Sunday morning the house was so full of gas that his wife and children were unconscious and it was all he could do to get the door open and got them into the air where they were revived. Frank says about the first thing he did Monday morning was to order the gas fixtures taken out, his one experience convincing him that maybe the old way is the best way after all.

City, Brisco 1st, Wesley, Warner and McKinney, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. All west side.

220 yard dash, High School, Rucker, 1st, time 28 1-2. Seeber and McCormick 2nd and 3rd, all Great Bend, Durand, Hoisington, 4th.

One half mile, grades (city), Breeden, west side, and Myers, east side, tie. Warner, west side, 3rd. (Rural) Koonz, 1st, district 16.

40 yard dash for girls under 12. Button, 17, 1st, Gaunt, 71, 2nd, Ewing 40, 3rd, and Agnes Remmert, 41, 4th.

Fourth mile for boys under 12. Hawkins and Merten, west side, 1st and 2nd. Ruble and Allison, 3rd and 4th, east side.

75 yard dash for superintendents. Powers of Ellinwood an easy winner and Senter of Great Bend, 2nd, and Rankin, of Hoisington, 3rd.

50 yard dash for boys under 12. (Rural.) Dee Button, 17, 1st, Faber and Zimmer of 40, 2nd and 3rd. (City) Allison, east side, 1st, Hawkins, west side, 2nd, and Merten, west side, 3rd.

One half mile, High School, Scheuffler, Rucker and McCormick, Great Bend, 1st, 2nd and 4th, Durand, of Hoisington, 3rd.

440 yard dash, high school, Russell and Hart, Great Bend, 1st and 2nd, Durand, Hoisington, 3rd.

50 yard dash for girls. (Rural.) Alberta Gaunt 1st. (City) Christner, Hemker, Powell, west side, 1st, 2nd and 4th. Pratt, east side, 3rd.

880 yard relay race, Hawkins team, west side, 1st, Breeden team, west side, 2nd, Scheuffler team, east side, 3rd.

Pole vault. Ruddick, Ellinwood, 1st, Seeber, Great Bend, 2nd, Turner, Hoisington, 3rd Helfert, Hoisington, 4th. Ruddick was strictly in a class by himself in this event. He won at a height of 8 feet and then as a matter of exhibition which was greatly appreciated by the crowd, proceeded to set the mark at nine feet and six inches. His work was quite a revelation to some of the contestants who previously had considered that they were masters of the art.

Shot put. Bloom, of Pawnee Rock, won this event with Rucker, Great Bend, 2nd, Tindall, Hoisington, 3rd, and White, Great Bend, 4th.

In the broad jump for boys of 12 and over, grades, Williams, west side, took first for 17.2, Wells and Hawkins, west side, 2nd and 3rd, Kimpier, Ellinwood, 4th.

Broad jump for high schools. Rucker, Great Bend, 1st, with jump of 19 feet. Russell, Great Bend, 2nd, 18.1, Helfert, Hoisington, 3rd.

High jump. High school, Rucker, Great Bend, 1st, Ruddick, Ellinwood, 2nd, Durand, Hoisington, 3rd, Cooney, Hoisington, 4th.

Baseball throwing for girls. Joyce Clark, 1st, city, Pauline Gaunt, 71 2nd Dewey Goodwin, city, 3rd, and Lydia Ochs, Hoisington, 4th.

Points were won for the various schools as follows:

High Schools.
Great Bend, 44.
Hoisington, 6.
Ellinwood, 8.
Pawnee Rock, 5.

City Grades.
Washington, Great Bend, 81.
Roosevelt, Great Bend, 35.
Hoisington, 4.
Ellinwood 8.
Central, Great Bend, 5.

Rural Schools.
District 71, 39.
District 17, 18.
District 40, 17.
District 14, 1.

Each first counted five points, each second three, each third one.

WILL ISSUE BONDS TO LAY OUT FLOW PIPE.

The city council in special session last Thursday night decided upon a bond issue amounting to fifteen thousand dollars and divided into thirty bonds of five hundred dollars each, to run twenty-five years at five per cent, for the purpose of laying a pipe as an outflow from the septic tank. Engineer H. A. Rowland, of McPherson, who had been employed to make a survey and to draw blue-prints and specifications was present and threatened the matter out fully for the council. Mr. Rowland estimates that a 21-inch pipe is sufficient for present needs and will be with a population of 10,000, provided that seepage and unusual volume of water caused by spring rains is never greater than is estimated from the past seasons. The matter of the size of the pipe was at the suggestion of Commissioner-elect C. L. Moses left as an unsettled factor, with the understanding that bids may be submitted for the laying of a 21-inch tile and also for a 24-inch, and that if, in the judgment of the council, the cost of installing a 24-inch is not proportionately too much greater than that of a 21-inch, the larger tile shall be used. Bids will be received till April 28 and soon after that time action may be expected. The citizens of the city generally concur with the council in the belief that this is about the only practical solution of the great problem, "What shall become of the sewage."

SAMS-HANEL.

Mr. Theodore Sams and Miss Lenah Hanel, two of the popular and well known young people of the city, played a surprise on their friends and relatives last Saturday afternoon when at three o'clock they were united in marriage at the M. E. parsonage in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Frazier being the only guests in attendance. It was the belief of some of their friends that the young couple were going to Lyons to be married and they had arranged that if such should be the case the send-off they would give them would be a memorable one, but the couple, knowing of the friends' plans, decided to fool them a little.

Mr. Sams is a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sams of this city and is one of the industrious and ambitious young men of the city. For a number of years he has been an employee of the local telephone company and is a young man respected alike by his employers and all who know him. His bride is a daughter of Mrs. Chas. Hanel of this city and is one of the most popular young ladies of the town. Mr. and Mrs. Sams will make their home in this city, and with their many friends the Democrat joins in congratulations and best wishes for an extremely happy and prosperous married life.

A. & A. SOLD.

A deal which has been pending for some time was completed last Thursday when Claude Barricklow purchased from the A. & A. drug firm of Hutchinson their store in this city which he has been connected with for the past five or six years, the business being turned over to Mr. Barricklow immediately.

The A. & A. store is one of the best equipped and has one of the largest stocks of any drug store in the state and Mr. Barricklow is to be congratulated on securing the same. He is a druggist of many years experience, a registered pharmacist and a business man who will look after the wants of his patrons in a manner which will entitle him to a large share of their support. The business will be conducted under the firm name of the Barricklow Drug Co.

ANOTHER RUNAWAY.

Will Koopman, of east of town, while using four mules on a disc on Tuesday of this week became mixed up in a runaway in which he suffered a broken leg in addition to several severe bruises. While at work in the field the mules became frightened and ran away, getting beyond Will's control, and in order to save himself from more serious injury jumped from the disc, falling in such a way as to break a leg, but it is extremely fortunate that in a mixup of this kind he was not more seriously injured. The teams were not injured.

Bert Trester was a visitor from the Heizer neighborhood Wednesday.

NEWCOMBE.

Calvin Quincy Newcombe, one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of Barton county, passed to his reward Friday, April 11 after an illness extending over a period of several years and which for the last two years has never seemed to be serious. Though long past the allotted span of life, being at the time of his death in his ninetieth year, and for some time in a greatly enfeebled condition physically, he was bright and sound mentally and had a clear and vivid recollection of events which transpired in his early life. He has always been recognized as a man of great individuality and strong character, and possessed innumerable traits which greatly endeared him to a host of those who were fortunate enough to know him intimately.

He was born in 1823 in Batavia, N. Y. As a young man he became a civil engineer and for years followed that line of work constructing locks along the Erie Canal and doing engineering work for the railroad which were becoming institutions of public interest. When the civil war broke out he joined Co. K., of the 5th N. Y. engineers and served with distinction. In 1876 he moved to this country from Flint, Michigan. Then past the prime of life, 56 years of age, he bought two sections of land in Independent township and sent east for the first full blood Shorthorn cattle and full blood Berkshire and Suffolk swine to be brought to the county. His desire to better conditions in farm life had much to do with the establishing of the better grades of cattle in an early day in this section. A man of superior education, of mature judgment and ripe experience it was natural that he should play an important part in the political life of the county. His advice on matters of public interest was freely sought and as freely expressed. He was elected county surveyor, the only office he would consent to have, that being in line with his life work, and he served three terms in that office. He moved to this city when elected and had since made it his home. In 1889 he established a nursery here to keep him busy in his declining years and operated the same until very recently. He was a member of the Congregational church of Pap Thomas Post G. A. R., and of the Knights Templar, in all of which he had been an active and highly respected worker. An interesting fact in relation to his Masonic affiliations is that at the time of his death he probably had been a Knight Templar for more years than any other man in the state, having been admitted in 1856.

His funeral service was conducted from the Congregational church Sunday, April 13, and was in charge of the Knights Templar, assisted by Rev. Greenwood, with Chas. Warden, Ira D. Brougner, Jos. Walter, R. H. Moses, J. F. Tilton and Ed Tyler, of the G. A. R. as honorary pall bearers. Thus passeth from the stage of life one whose mission was well fulfilled, whose life had extended over a period of four score and ten years, filled with kind acts, noble deeds and replete with manifestations of the three Graces, Faith, Hope and Charity. Of such a one it may truthfully be said, "He had not lived in vain." He is survived by three children, S. A. Newcombe, Mrs. Millicent Treat and P. B. Newcombe, all of whom live here and are well known.

MESDAMES WHITE ENTERTAIN.

One of the notably pleasant social events of recent occurrence in the social circle was the function at the homes of Mesdames Sam and Will White, on Adams street, Wednesday afternoon of this week. About sixty ladies who were present spent the afternoon with fancy work, games, etc., at the home of Mrs. Sam White, until the lunch hour, when they were invited to the home of Mrs. Will White next door to partake of a very elaborate four-course luncheon prepared for the event. To say that all did ample justice to the luncheon and enjoyed every moment of the afternoon is a mild way of expressing the delights of the occasion.

B. C. Unruh of Pawnee Rock, who is president of the electric light company at that place, transacted business at the county seat yesterday.

Miss Mabel McMullen returned to Newton Wednesday evening after a visit here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. McMullen.

DREAMING



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