BAXTER SPRINGS NEWS.

M. H. GARDNER, Editor and Publisher.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6.

The Kansas City Gazette says that according to the musk rat we are to have a mild winter.

The estimated acreage of winter wheat sown in Kansas this fall is about 2,800,000 acres.

The Somerville Journal calls attention to the fact that the McKinley bill hasn't raised the average woman's age.

The second biennial report of the soldiers' orphans' home at Atchison shows that there were 125 inmates June 30, 1890, aged from two to fifteen years.

A woman out in Wichita who prophesied that the end of the world would come this month, says the McKinley bill knocked her calculation into smithereens.

There will be one banker in the coming legislature of Kansas. He will probably be the only member of the house who will wear real jeans pantaloons and cowhide boots.

There may be no real connection between the simultaneous appearance of a cold wave and the reassembling of congress, but the unprejudiced mind will be apt to look upon the fact with suspicion.

It cost two Emporia men $12 apiece to kill a farmer's quail the other day after he had told them not to do it. The man who don't respect what a farmer in Kansas tells him this year ought to pay for it.

It seems that the next Kansas legislature is to be made up as follows: Alliance 87, republican 27 and democratic 7. If there were any prizes for terminal figures the three parties would be a stand off.

A republican declares that it will cost Senator Ingalls $200,000 to be reelected. There are several aspirants for the place who will have to give up the chase if they are compelled to pay half that for the place.

It is said that when asked for fish facts a man in western Kansas replied to the commissioner of fish statistics that "We have no fish, for the reason that none have yet been found that can live on prairie grass without water."

There has as yet been but one man mentioned for United States senator against whom Mr. Willits is not able to urge serious and insurmountable objections. The one exception is a gentleman who lives in Jefferson county.

Kansas City Times: Lots of farmers in eastern Kansas made more out of their apple crop this year than the salary of a congressman amounts to. And they had nothing to do but just stand under the shade of the trees all summer and watch the apples grow.

The Kingman salt plant takes out about twenty-five cars of salt a day, and has been doing that for several months. And yet the hole the workmen have made in the salt bed is hardly big enough to give the workmen room to use their picks and drills to advantage.

Some one broke into a western Kansas newspaper office the other evening and scattered the type all over the floor. This is bad enough, but it seems to be some improvement over the old western Kansas plain of breaking into the office and scattering the editor over the floor.

An Atchison woman thinks the world is coming to an end on Christmas day this year, and has so announced. There is a suspicion that the young men of Atchison are "standing in" with the new prophetess in order to get out of buying Christmas presents for their best girls.

It is asserted in western Kansas that wheat sown on unbroken prairie sod produces well. Now if the farmers can invent some way to induce the wheat to crawl under the sod without assistance, they can produce very fair crops and at the same time have at least ten months of each year in which to straighten out the political tangles.

Kansas City Globe: The United States has paid off $999,000,000 of its debt since 1880, or more than one half. The nation now owes $823,000,000, or less than the sum paid off in ten years. The different states of the union now owe $182,000,000. Since 1880 they have paid off $72,000,000, or more than one-third of what they owed ten years ago.

The president's position that the McKinley tariff should be tried and its effects carefully studied before changes are attempted is a suggestion full of common sense and will, no doubt, meet with the approval of the majority of the people. Constant tinkering with the tariff is fruitful of depression and uncertainty in business and should not be encouraged.

Girard Press: The Louisiana lottery is one of the things of the past, thanks to the republican party. The managers have concluded to divide the $7,000,000 surplus and quit business. This is only a small portion of the vast sums stolen from poor people. The anti-lottery bill was one of the many republican measures passed by the present congress which ought to have caused the people to vote to keep the party in power.

About Municipal Bonds.

Kansas City, Kansas, Gazette.

The Fort Scott Monitor, edited by W. M. Rice, member-elect of the legislature, suggests the only "way out" that has as yet been found to work. All laws authorizing the creation of any indebtedness except for building school houses should be wiped out. This would strengthen the various classes of Kansas municipal securities so that an act refunding all into four per cent loans could easily follow. The total county, city, township and school district indebtedness of Kansas, incurred for railroads, bridges, school houses and water works, approximates $37,119,977.33, and at 6 per cent it costs annually $2,227,198.33. All this principal becomes due within the next twenty years, which, it is argued, will make too heavy a drain on the people. With a limit placed on the power to create indebtedness the bonds out could be very easily and favorably refunded into thirty and fifty year bonds. There are two classes of indebtedness that should be stopped, railroad bonds by counties and towns, and water works bonds by any city under twenty or twenty-five thousand population. In the hard times of 1874 when a number of counties were repudiating and scaling down their indebtedness, an attempt was made to repeal the law authorizing the issuance of bonds in aid of railroads, but the western counties and others not possessing railroads said the scheme was a hog game on the part of those counties already enjoying ample railroad facilities, and it was beaten. But we think today a sufficient number of counties are weary enough to stop railroad subscriptions by municipalities. We think it would relieve railroads and people alike if this business were stopped. Thus roads would be built for business purposes alone. But the most ridiculous is a system of water works to a town of 5,000 or 10,000 population. One town does not profit by the experience of another. The railroad bond law has probably served its purpose—that is all have got weary of it; but the water works idiocy has a great field before it, and it should be hedged in and completely guarded.

A Chance For a Test.

Kansas City Globe.

The report of the postmaster general brings out some very interesting facts regarding postal telegraphy which will go far to remove an impression that has grown in some quarters that the government should not have charge of the telegraph lines because of the immense patronage it would give the party in power. Mr. Wanamaker has evidently felt the public pulse closer than anyone else and he reaches the conclusion that the majority of the people are strongly for a government telegraph. He says: * * * "It is not intended to buy or build telegraph lines, but to contract with existing companies, or such as hereafter may be established; and such contracts would provide not only telegraph lines, but instruments and clerks to operate them, except in small offices, where the postmaster or one of his clerks would also be paid by the telegraph company to act as operator. * * * The contracting telegraph company would furnish the lines, instruments and operators and transmit the messages at rates fixed by the government, all of which would go to the company except 2 cents per message, which would be retained by the post office department to cover its expenses in collecting and distributing."

From a business point of view there can be no question but that cheaper telegraph tolls, such as a system recommended by the postmaster general would bring about, would greatly facilitate business, especially between the large commercial centers where most of the business of the country is transacted. It might be a good plan to try the scheme between Washington and New York or Baltimore. A test of this kind, say for a year, would demonstrate both to the people and to the owners of telegraph lines if it is practical.

Sharp Practice.

Muncie, Ind., Times.

About as sharp a political trick as has been practiced for some time was that played on Major McKinley in the recent canvass. The wealthy importers in New York, assisted by English capital, as the boys on the street say "had it in" for McKinley, the author of the bill which was not in the interest of importers and English manufacturers. A telegram was sent to the chief of detectives in St. Louis to go to New York, and there he was entrusted with the secret of a "scheme." He was provided with 200 peddlers with packs filled with needles combs, pins, brushes and other articles (imported) and he alone was told what was wanted. He was to employ the men to canvass for the sale of these articles. They were to be taken from New York to McKinley's district under pay of $3 per day and all expenses, for selling these goods at the prices given to them. The men were gotten together, divided up in squads of 25 to 30 and sent to the different county seats in McKinley's district and were to start out selling their goods through the country ten days before the election. They were to canvass every house and as far as possible go when the men were most likely to be away from home. They were to show the goods to the ladies and ask just double the price they were formerly sold at. Of course they did not care whether they sold anything or not, and the women would become indignant at the exorbitant prices asked, when they would be told that they were twice as high now as they were six months ago and would double the price again when the McKinley law went into effect the first of June. When the men of the house came home in the evening the incident was related and every man of them was urged to vote against McKinley. The scheme worked well, and the day before the election 200 peddlers, with free transportation, left the district for their homes in New York.

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We desire to say to our citizens, that for years we have been selling Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Dr. King's New Life Pills, Bucklen's Arnica Salve and Electric Bitters, and have never handled remedies that sell as well, or that have given such universal satisfaction. We do not hesitate to guarantee them every time, and we stand ready to refund the purchase price, if satisfactory results do not follow their use. These remedies have won their great popularity purely on their merits. For sale at all Drug Stores. 1

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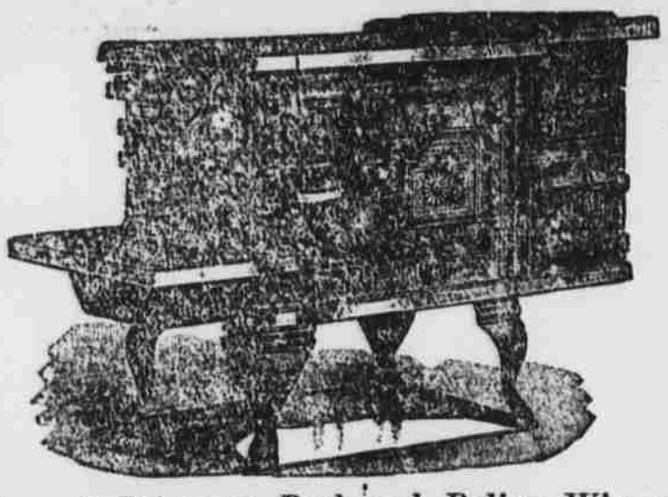

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NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Baxter Springs Investment Company, for the purpose of electing a board of directors and for the transaction of any other business that may legally come before it, will be held at the office of the company in the Baxter Bank, Baxter Springs, Kansas, on Tuesday, the 6th day of January, 1891.

H. R. CROWELL, President.
B. S. WARNER, Secretary

Notice of Stockholders Meeting.

There will be a meeting of the stockholders of The Galena, Guthrie and Western Railway Company at the office of the company in the city of Baxter Springs, Kansas, January 3d, 1891, at 7:30 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of amending the by-laws of the company.

ALEXANDER WARNER, President.
Attest: O. J. NICHOLS, Secretary.

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