

A SUMMARY OF KANSAS EVENTS.

Kansas Penitentiary Pays.

The annual report of the Kansas penitentiary for the fiscal year ended July 1, 1901, makes a fine showing for the management. The total earnings amounted to \$206,504.31, and the total expenses to \$165,447.63, leaving the earnings \$41,056.69 in excess of the expenses. The earnings exceeded the expenses every month in the year except four.

The twine plant account is not included in the above estimate of earnings and expenses. So far it has been operated independently of the other penitentiary industries. The twine plant has been installed two years. The first year the prison officials undertook to sell twine exclusively to farmers direct for cash, and they were left with a large stock on hand. During the present summer Warden Jewett sold twine to all who wanted it. He brought down trust prices, and not only sold out a big stock, but made a small profit for the state. The financial record of the twine plant shows that the state expended \$40,000 for machinery for the plant. This was by a separate appropriation. In addition \$150,000 as a revolving fund and \$5,000 as a contingent fund was appropriated to keep the plant in operation. The operating of the plant so far as shown by the condition of the revolving fund makes a profit of \$4,563 for the state. This profit is small, but it is said to be much better than the Minnesota twine plant did the first two years.

Burglar Adopts New Scheme.

Some one, supposed to have contemplated burglary, sprayed chloroform into a parlor window at the home of N. P. Lovall, a grocer of Fort Scott, evidently desiring to put Miss Ella Lovall, a young schoolteacher, to sleep. She was playing on the piano at the time, and did not perceive the effect until she finally roused from a short stupor and staggered out of the room. The house was found to be almost filled with the stupefying vapor, and the tracks of a man were found at the parlor window.

Not a Success.

Mrs. Jennie Akers, postmaster at Elmdale, received a letter saying if she did not place \$350 in gold in her lot in the cemetery her little boy would be kidnaped, and that if she revealed the threat to anyone her house would be destroyed. The sheriff was notified of the matter. A purse was filled with shot and placed in the lot and he and his deputies placed themselves on guard. They captured C. M. Rose, a farmer. After he was captured the feeling ran so high it became necessary to spirit him away.

Mostly Young Men.

A visitor to the Kansas penitentiary chapel exercises on Sunday morning who is permitted to look into the faces of nearly 1,000 hardened criminals who are marched into the prison church to sing sacred songs and hear the preached word, is forcibly and sadly impressed at the sight of so many youthful but crime-distorted countenances. An overwhelming proportion of the convicts are men between 18 and 35 years of age.

Lightning Kills Live Stock.

In northwest Kansas farmers have lost much stock by being struck by lightning. The cattle drift up against the wire fence, and when the lightning strikes and follows along the fence it usually kills a number. In a recent thunderstorm John Guenther, living six miles from Oberlin, lost 15 head of cattle by one stroke of lightning. Other farmers in that vicinity have lost from one to five or six head.

Harris Not a Reorganizer.

In an interview at Leavenworth, W. A. Harris, senior senator from Kansas, expressed loyalty to Mr. Bryan and scored the men who are trying to reorganize the democratic party. The senator said taxation should be the leading democratic issue in 1904. He favors a graduated income tax and a revision of the tariff laws, with reciprocity features.

Immune from Prosecution.

Mrs. Lang Murray, of Wichita, whose troubles with her husband created a sensation there recently, has been forging the names of prominent railroad men to checks and collecting the money. For some mysterious reason she was not prosecuted.

Rev. James Heard From.

Rev. T. H. James, the Methodist preacher of Oakley, who promised to endow colleges and hospitals when he received his "fortune" from England two years ago, has taken a common, every-day homestead out in western Kansas.

Preacher Had Saloon Closed.

On the evidence furnished by the Methodist minister of Cuba the principal saloonkeeper of the place was arrested and all his goods seized. One other hid out and had his goods moved to the country.

They Better Watch Out.

A firm of distillers of Covington, Ky., has a scheme for the evasion of the Kansas prohibitory law, which will probably get it into trouble with the state authorities. The firm has an endless chain coupon system, which it is attempting to inaugurate in Kansas. The distributing agent of the firm is sending a book of four coupons to postmasters in the smaller Kansas towns. These postmasters are asked to sell the coupons at 25 cents each and when the persons to whom the coupons are sold return the coupons and a dollar each, the postmaster is presented with a gallon jug of whisky.

Considerate of Miss Morrison.

Warden Jewett has shown marked consideration for Jessie Morrison, now serving a five-year sentence. Every visitor to the state prison is eager to see her, her notoriety making her the especial mark of the curious public. She is permitted to remain in her room and it is very seldom that a visitor to the woman's department catches a glimpse of the slayer of Mrs. Clara Castle. She has not yet been required to attend chapel exercises on Sunday, as her presence would cause the 1,000 convicts to forget discipline in their efforts to scrutinize the famous prisoner from Eldorado.

Try to Keep from Work.

The physician at the Kansas state prison has to answer 40 to 60 "sick calls" from convicts every morning. Investigation always develops that of this number about four-fifths are false pretenders who play sick to keep from doing a day's work. Those seriously sick are taken to the hospital, the mildly-afflicted are permitted to remain in their cells until convalescent while the "shams" are unceremoniously marched to breakfast and then required to donate their usual quota of free labor to the imperial state of Kansas.

He Knows Them All.

It is said of "Tim" Cotter, one of the oldest in point of service of the guards at the Kansas penitentiary, that he knows the face of every man who has "done time" at Lansing in recent years. No matter if the culprit is inside or outside the prison walls; whether dressed in the regular prison garb, in the stained and faded garments of the toiler, or in the habiliments of the "gentleman of leisure," his identity is incontrovertibly established when once Capt. Cotter's unerring eye gets a focus on him.

The Governor and Woman Suffrage.

Gov. Stanley says he believes equal suffrage is a good thing for the state, and declares that if he had his way about it women should be allowed to vote at all elections. He said that women voters did not neglect their domestic duties, and as a rule did not dabble in politics except on election day. They always voted as their consciences dictated, he said, and could not be influenced by promises of office, and no woman was ever known to sell her vote for cash.

A Dozen Are Draft.

In the Kansas penitentiary are at least a dozen convicts who are wholly or partially insane, having become so since their incarceration. A separate building is provided for these cases and the prison physician gives them the most careful attention. In the rear of the "crazy ward" is an enclosure into which the afflicted men are turned every day for exercise.

Good Hospital Service.

At least a dozen serious cases are constantly treated in the Kansas prison hospital. Many of these cases are incurable. The prison physician, Dr. Grigsby, holds a unique position, in that his corps of hospital assistants are all convicts, but they are well trained. The hospital pharmacist is "Willie" Sells, one of the most noted of the state's convicts.

Interest on State Funds.

One of the most important features of the new tax law which the state tax revision commission is now preparing will be a provision for the selection of depositories in which the state funds shall be deposited. Under the present system, the state treasurer permits the funds to be kept in Topeka banks, which pay no interest on the money.

Death Rate Surprisingly Small.

There are nearly 1,100 convicts in the Kansas penitentiary and the death rate is no greater in proportion than in a Kansas town of 1,100 people. The prison physician, Dr. Grigsby, holds the record as a conservator of the health and lives of prisoners, having lost fewer cases than any of his predecessors at the prison.

A Surplus for July.

The receipts of the state grain inspector's office in July were \$4,260 and the expenses \$3,238, leaving a profit of \$1,022 for the state.

STATE NEWS PARAGRAPHERD.

A freight train of 73 cars left Salina over the Union Pacific the other day.

A handsome new M. E. church will be dedicated at Iola August 25 by Bishop Joyce.

The Santa Fe railroad will erect a handsome new depot at Leocompton, the United Brethren college town.

An elevator being constructed at Salina will have a capacity of 70,000 bushels. It will be 75 feet high and up-to-date.

Henry Pilkington, four years old, probably fatally wounded his 16-year-old brother at Parsons. The boys were killing rats with a revolver.

There is a house in Waverly where the death of a woman and her daughter occurred only a day apart last week. A year ago a man and his wife died within 48 hours' time at the same house.

It was thought the July drought would have lessened the attendance at the universities and colleges of the state, but the number of inquiries from prospective students is unprecedented.

A delegation of Riley county lawyers and politicians headed by ex-Senator John E. Hessin called on Gov. Stanley and requested him to appoint Sam Kimble, a gold democrat of Manhattan, judge of the Riley-Clay-Marshall district court to succeed W. S. Glass.

J. A. Ward, an amateur photographer, at Salina, won the first prize for picture of Kansas wheat fields, offered by Secretary Coburn, of the state board of agriculture. The picture was taken on one of the best farms in Saline county, and will be used for advertising purposes.

Judge Fischer, of the Wyandotte county district court, rendered an important decision holding that the Hurrell saloon law of 1901 repeals that clause of the prohibition law which gives the right of injunction against a saloon on the ground that it is a nuisance. The temperance people will appeal to the supreme court.

Olin Castle, who figured so conspicuously in the Morrison-Castle murder case, is soliciting engagements at the street fairs in Wichita, Hutchinson and other places for the Eldorado band. Both Olin Castle and Hayward Morrison, brother of Jessie Morrison, are members of the band, and are very friendly toward each other.

From the time the coal mines at the state prison were opened, a total of 27,246,103 bushels of coal have been taken out by convict labor. Of this immense total, the state institutions have used 14,040,627 bushels. Prior to the time the sale of coal was stopped by legislation, 13,110,720 bushels were disposed of for cash to other parties at the state.

Miss Edith Parsons, of Concordia, has become insane from grief over the death of her ten-year-old boy. Her neighbors, it is said, are largely responsible for her condition, as they have insisted that the child's death was God's punishment for her own sins. This fact preyed upon the woman's mind until she became a lunatic.

The entire proceeds of money that came from the sale of stock Parsons owned in the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railway company, amounting to \$18,386.35, was turned over to the railway company. The latter has agreed to expend the entire amount in the erection of a record building at Parsons, work to commence within 30 days and the building to be completed within six months from August 12.

John Haseltine, four miles south of Cawker City, has the most remarkable well in the country. He dug five wells in a line extending 65 feet and ranging from 7 to 17 feet in depth. The center one is the deepest. He then took out the intervening earth, making one well 6 by 65 feet, with five feet of water in it. The well is walled up and arched over, except in the center, where a pump and windmill is placed.

Secretary of State Clark addressed a letter to Chairman J. Mack Love, of the democratic state committee, asking him to have his committee select a party emblem, as provided for by the new election law. If the state committee fails to select an emblem, each of the 1,200 township committees may make selections for the local election this fall, and if each should select a different emblem there would be no end of confusion and expense. The democratic party is the only party which has not yet chosen an emblem.

A. H. Horton and others have applied for a charter for the Cherokee & Red River Railway company. Its authorized capital stock is \$300,000. Its initial point is to be on the St. Louis & San Francisco railway between Joplin, Mo., and Galena, and it is to run in a southerly direction. Two hundred thousand dollars will not build much of a railroad and probably it is intended to be only a local line. The Kansas, Missouri & Southeastern Railroad company, for which a charter was granted by the state board, is substantially an auxiliary of the Cherokee & Red River project. It is to start at Pittsburg and run to a point on the state line three miles east of Galena. It is to be 27 miles long.



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The Modern Hotel.
"Mr. Dash," said the waiter, "a man just lifted a silver spoon from the table."
"Call the police!" roared the clerk. "The man is a thief."
"But he is one of our regular guests."
"Ah, then he is doubtless a kleptomaniac. You needn't mention it, George."
"And he pays \$5 per day on the American plan."
"He does? Why, the gentleman is a souvenir collector. How dare you cast reflections on his character?"—Chicago News.

Begone, Dull Care!
A Drotwich barber was just finishing lathering a customer and was talking volubly, as usual.
"Yes, sir," he said, "there's no carelessness allowed by our employer. Every time we cut a customer's face we are fined a sixpence, and if we make an ugly gash it costs us a shilling."
Then, picking up and brandishing his razor, he added: "But I don't care a rap to-day. I've just won a sovereign."—London Answers.

Friendship's Tribute.
The man at whose funeral they were assembled hadn't drawn a sober breath during the last 15 years of his life, and had been noted for always being in trouble with his neighbors. "Well," said one of his old acquaintances, turning sadly away after the services were over, "he was a man of mighty regular habits."—Chicago Tribune.

A Good Spender.
Gizem—Who is that young millionaire stopping at the Seaside hotel?
Gazzam—He's no millionaire; he's only a dry goods clerk on a ten days' vacation.—Ohio State Journal.

When a man has a clever wife, ever notice how he lets her run things? He is glad to get rid of the responsibility.—Atholton Globe.

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