

As to Auditing.

This from Judge Gay's auditors' report on Iron County: "We find that this (War Debt) Fund has been properly accounted for."

Some four years ago the Republican push in this county, hoping for political advantage, began howling for an audit of the county's books. They kept up the howl, with calumnious insinuations, until the county court made and published a proposition that the howlers and villifiers deposit \$1,000 and the audit would be ordered; that if no criminal negligence or dishonesty upon the part of the officials was developed, the cost of such audit would be defrayed out of said deposit, but if criminal wrong-doing on the part of said officials, or any of them, was shown, the cost of the audit would be paid by the county.

Then came the Rev. Dr. Swift to the howlers' aid, and soon the air was trembling with all sorts of rumor as to the "rotten" condition of the county affairs. From covert innuendo he proceeded to alleged "facts and figures," climaxing with the agonizing cry, in box-car letters, "Where is the War Debt Fund?" Well, the boys at the courthouse didn't want him to be losing any sleep over the matter, and he was politely invited to come and see the books where in its disposition was set out, item by item. But he refused to see, though Rev. W. W. Strother, who accompanied him to the county clerk's office, said a ten-year-old school boy ought to be able to comprehend the whole matter. To see didn't suit his purpose—there was no partisan advantage in his seeing.

Then the Rev. Dr. introduced his "expert" auditors who made a cursory—and cussatory—examination with the desired result. March 19, he published their report made to him, for which report and its publication he and the Audit Co. are now under suit for libel. Upon that report messengers were secretly sent to the different townships of the county with petitions asking the court to order an audit. The carriers of these petitions asked for signatures on the ground that the aforesaid auditors had found things "in a h-h of a mess," as one of the solicitors put it. In many instances signers were told that shortages of from \$6,000 to \$12,000 had been unearthed in the Treasurer's office. In this dishonest way many a name was secured which could not have been obtained in any other manner.

The Democratic members of the county court, when these petitions were presented, refused to order an examination on the spur of the moment, but took it under advisement until the next term—about one month distant. Then the REGISTER and all the county officials agreed that the charges and insinuations had gone so far that an honest audit of the books had become necessary in order to silence the lying accusers, put them to merited shame, and to vindicate the men they were slandering. When the court met in May they ordered an audit, and selected Messrs. J. P. Foard, a Republican, of Butler county, and Wm. R. Edgar, Jr., of Iron county, to do the work. The result of their labors was submitted to the court and the public some two months ago. It was an honest report, AND SWORN TO—a corroborative addendum seemingly beneath the dignity of Judge Gay's and Rev. Swift's "bonded experts."

In the meantime, Judge Gay had begun suit mandamus County Clerk Reyburn and Treasurer Jones to permit him and his auditors to examine their books. This action was brought before the St. Louis Court of Appeals, and the mandamus was granted against both officials, notwithstanding refused the plaintiff permission to examine his books; and in this contention he was sustained by four other witnesses against the testimony of Judge Gay and one McGinnis, his attorney.

Well, the "expert, bonded auditors"—the Rev. Fuller lays great weight upon the two qualifying adjectives, notwithstanding they could attach to subservient hirelings as well as honest men—the auditors came, examined, probed and "figgered" in and out, and their report is before the public. It does not assert and could not

assert the dishonest misappropriation of one dollar. Yet it is not an absolute report—but Treasurer Jones will take care of that. I have heard it said that the second audit cost Judge Gay one thousand dollars. The Bond Company being under suit and more greatly interested, it seems to me, ought to have borne the greater portion of the burden. You will bear in mind that the mandamus proceedings were not begun until after the suit for libel and damages had been instituted.

In conclusion, while felicitating the honest people of Iron county upon the vindication of their officials, I cannot forget the miserable meanness that have led to it. Our county has borne the burden of slander that has been heralded all over the state; the city dailies have been made to team with big head-lined columns whose tenor has called in question our integrity; people—honest people—far from our boundaries have been impressed with the idea that we were, if not thieves, at least very lax in our notions of communal righteousness. Sneer and scornful laugh have not been lacking. Our honest officials have been harassed and abused almost beyond endurance and those dependent upon or affiliated with them made to taste the bitterness inflicted by personal malice and partisan hate.

It is shameful beyond expression!

Walter Hedges.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. J. Walter Hedges, of Charlesstreet, who died on the 20th inst., was laid to rest in the New Cemetery, Tring, the services being very sympathetically conducted by the Rev. C. Pearce. Mr. Walter Hedges, who was the eldest son of the late Mr. John Hedges, married when quite a young man, and shortly after left this country for America, where he made his home for 20 years. On returning to England about 25 years ago, he resumed his connection with his father's old firm, and he was employed there up to the time of his death. Mr. Walter Hedges was a prominent and popular member of the Local Fire Brigade, and his colleagues, at their own request, carried him to his grave. Up to a month or two ago Mr. Hedges was apparently in vigorous health, and remarkable for his activity and erect carriage. Since Whiteside, when he had a breakdown, he has been gradually getting worse. In his illness he had the devoted and unremitting attention of his daughter, who had been his companion and housekeeper for years. He passed away, at the age of 65 years, on the 20th inst., four months after the death of his brother, Mr. Robert Hedges. There was a large gathering of townspeople at the cemetery to testify to the esteem in which he was held. The chief mourners were Miss Hedges (daughter), Mrs. Fincher (sister), Miss L. Hedges (niece), Messrs. Frank, Arthur W., Jack and Herbert N. Hedges, nephews, and Mr. Alfred W. Symond, brother-in-law. Others who followed were Messrs. Thos. H. Hedges, Alfred W. Hedges, C. Budd, and other employes of John Hedges and Son, and Captain Gilbert Grace and members of the Fire Brigade.

A Rieke & Son sell Furniture on time payments.

Resolutions of Respect.

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Supreme Ruler of the Universe to call from labor to rest, our dearly beloved Neighbor, Arthur W. Schmidt, on Tuesday, August 8th, 1911, therefore, be it Resolved, That in the death of Neighbor Schmidt his family has lost a devoted son, husband and brother, the Woodman Camp a useful and faithful member and the community an honored and upright citizen. Resolved, That they will ever bear in grateful remembrance the zeal and fidelity with which Neighbor Schmidt performed his Woodman duties and will try and imitate his devotion to the grand principles of our fraternity. Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt sympathies to the wife and family of our beloved Neighbor, and commend them to that God who ever watches and cares for us all. Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Camp, a copy be published in the IRON COUNTY REGISTER and the Arcadia Valley Enterprise, and also a copy be sent to the families of our deceased Neighbor.

RAY L. STAMF, J. W. HOWARD, W. J. FITZ, Committee.

County Court Proceedings.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7. School fund mortgage of J H Sutton ordered canceled. School fund loan of \$300 to B P Bowles. John Drury's resignation as constable of Iron township accepted. F M Adams, local registrar's warrant, \$13.75. John Albert, Collins for poor, \$15. J A Reyburn, quarterly allowance, \$150. T D Jones, salary for quarter, \$150. C P Damron, salary for quarter, \$100. E L McCormick, fumigating in smallpox cases, \$5.10. T J Henderson, same, \$3. Henry Vigneaux, Ghermanville, granted pool table license for one year. C T Brooks, road money, \$4.83. J T Blanton, work done in District 6, \$30.70. Dr R W Gay, examination of Mary Stufco, \$5.

Dr G W Farrar, same, \$5. Dr I A Marshall, treatment of Mary Stufco, \$5; county physician, (jail) \$12; farm, \$27. Flem Kidd, road money, \$20.64. School fund mortgage of Jas T Carter canceled. Inquest fee bill Emie Jones, \$23.45.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8.

School fund mortgage of J M Lucas ordered canceled. Fee bill, State vs Jas Oliver, \$292.80. T D Jones, disbursing school money, \$136.92. J A Reyburn, postage, \$3.50. T D Jones, same, \$2. B P Burnham, same, \$4.25. Arcadia Valley Enterprise, printing, \$2.25. Mo School for Deaf, support of May Berry, \$20. State Hospital No 4, support of insane, \$79.80. Standard Printing Co, printing, \$15.34. G W Marshall, constable special election, \$4. John I Marshall, summoning grand jury witnesses, \$90; summoning grand jury, \$14.20; waiting on circuit court, \$18; serving notices on judges of election and delivering poll books, \$45; money for poor, \$1; work at courthouse, \$8. B P Burnham, county superintendent's salary, \$175. J I Marshall, board of prisoners, \$48. Geo D Barnard, statements, \$55.04. Buxton & Skinner, same, \$55.78. F M Anderson, care of paupers, \$151; care of insane paupers, \$245.40; burial of paupers, \$8. Ironton Telephone Co, telephones for court house, jail and farm, \$12. Court examines school bonds. School fund mortgage of Elizabeth Cloud ordered foreclosed. A G Russell, road money, \$100. P P Rosentreter, freight and express, \$6.30. E A Reeves, road money, \$30. W A Townsend, road money, \$70.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9.

State auditor authorized to draw check for \$5406.00, state school money due Iron county. Ordered by court that Jos C Forshee, collector of the revenue, proceed to collect all back taxes by suit if not paid at once. L E Toler, salary, \$75; office rent, \$10; postage, \$1.50. A Rieke & Son, mattress for jail, \$5.25. M W Daugherty, text book commission, \$5. J I Marshall, repairs, etc, 75 cents. J Hasty, bringing sick person to town, \$2. Dr G W Farrar, treating pauper, \$5; services county board of health, \$10. T D Jones, expense of state election, \$145.20.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10.

Wm Sherrill, support of Mrs Jones, poor, \$12. Eli D Ake, printing, \$233. David Paris, road money, \$2.50. Miss Lizzie Russell, member of text book commission, \$5. State auditor authorized to draw warrant in favor of county treasurer for \$320—the school money apportioned to Iron county under state aid law. J M Whitworth, supplies for jail, \$9.20. Hill & Hale, supplies for jail, \$1.50. T D Jones, canceled county warrants, \$325.75. Stenographer's fees, \$98.06. Remember A. Rieke & Son sell furniture on time payments.

For Sale—A lumber wagon, sorrel mare and saddles. Mrs. H. Ferdinand, Ironton, Mo.

Gem City Business College QUINCY, ILL. Annual attendance 1400. 25 teachers. Students from majority of states. Open plus its own \$100,000 specially designed and equipped building. Good Positions await our graduates. Short-hand, Typewriting, Commercial, Actual Business Practice, Penmanship and Mathematics. Write for our beautiful illustrated catalogue giving full information. R. L. MUSSELMAN, Pres., Lock Box 164 Quincy, Illinois.

TRUSTEE'S SALE.

Whereas, C. L. Rhodes and Ida M. Rhodes, his wife, by their certain deed of trust, dated the 13th day of April, 1909, and recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds for Iron County, Missouri, in Book 49, at page 128, of the Land Records, did convey to the undersigned trustee the following described real estate, situate, lying and being in the County of Iron, in the State of Missouri, to wit: Commencing at the northeast corner of the northeast fractional quarter of section 26, township 35, range 2 east, thence running south 88 degrees west, 35.23 chains to a rock in the Berryman lane from which an elm tree bears west 29 links, thence south along line between Berryman and Shelton 37.41 chains to a rock from which a black oak tree, 16 inches in diameter, bears north 40 degrees, west 3 links, and a black oak tree, 15 inches in diameter, bears south 10 degrees, west 8 links, thence east 35 chains to a rock in the center of the Wyatt lane, thence north along the Wyatt lane 38.78 chains to the point of beginning, containing 133.73 acres, more or less. Which said conveyance was made in trust to secure the payment of the certain promissory note in said deed of trust described; And, whereas, default has been made in the payment of said promissory note, and said note having become due and remaining unpaid; Now, therefore, at the request of the legal holder of said note, and by virtue of the authority in me vested by said deed of trust, I, the undersigned trustee, will, on Monday, the 18th day of September, A. D. 1911, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, at the court house door in the City of Ironton, Iron County, Missouri, proceed to sell the above described real estate at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash for the purpose of satisfying said indebtedness and the cost of executing this trust. WILLIAM H. WHITWORTH, Trustee. Dated Ironton, Mo., August 12th, 1911.



Big Bargains!

During the REMAINDER OF AUGUST we will continue to make

Tremendous Reductions...

On All Summer Goods!

ALL LOW-CUT SHOES:

Oxfords, Strap Pumps,

Etc., for Ladies, Men and Children, going at 20 PER CENT. DISCOUNT. Don't overlook the Wonderful Values we are offering in

SAMPLE SHOES!

OUR GROCERY TRADE IS BOOMING!

We are prepared to handle your Orders for either large or small amounts, and to render Prompt Service.

LOPEZ STORE CO.

The Big Bargain Store.

IRONTON, MO.

