

Meade County News

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Lodge Directory.

M. W. A.—Meade Camp No. 1738, meets every first third and fifth Monday night of each month. JOHN D. WEHLE, V. C. JOHN ELLIOTT, Clerk. A. O. U. W.—Meets on second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. D. B. STUTSMAN, M. W. F. W. FICK, Recorder. A. F. & A. M.—Webb Lodge No. 275 meets Saturday night on or before the full moon of each month. O. HAMILTON, W. M. E. F. RIEMAN, Secretary.

Churches.

METHODIST—Services each Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting each Wednesday evening. REV. W. W. ENVEART, Pastor. BAPTIST—Services first and second Sundays of each month at usual hours. REV. J. M. ROBINSON, Pastor. CATHOLIC—Services on notice each month. REV. JAMES DONOHUE, Pastor. PRESBYTERIAN—Services on notice each month. REV. A. H. PARKS, Pastor. Christian Endeavor—Meets every Sunday evening at 7:30 at Baptist Church. WINNIE BONHAM, President. Epworth League—Meets every Sunday night at M. E. Church at 7:30 p. m. LULIE FICK, President. OLA FICK, Sec'y.

County Officers.

Representative - Geo. W. Wiley Treasurer - Geo. B. Cones Clerk - Frank Wehrle Probate Judge - David Truax Clerk of Dist. Court - John Elliott Register of Deeds - Winnie Bonham Sheriff - F. C. Judd County Attorney - A. T. Bodle Sr. Supt. Public Instruction - J. A. Porterfield Commissioners - John Innis, John Conrad, H. E. Hayden.

To the Public.

With this issue we begin the publication of the MEADE COUNTY NEWS. It will be published regularly every week and visit all those who feel that it merits their patronage. A copy is sent this week to nearly every person in Meade County and to a number outside the county. This will be continued for several weeks, during which time we shall receive subscriptions. We would like to get every one in the county on our list, as we will endeavor to give you a paper that will maintain your support. The subscription price will be \$1 per year, and you can call at the office on the west side of square where your subscription will be thankfully received, or you can remit by postoffice money order or draft.

The principal aim of the News will be to promote the business interests of the city of Meade, and to further the principal industries of Meade county.

Politically, we will state that it was through the influence and efforts of prominent Democrats and Fusionists that this paper was established, and we were placed at the head, and we feel that it is our duty to support these men. However, we shall not indulge in any personal abuse, or in any manner make the News distasteful to any one on account of political beliefs or party affiliations. But we shall at all times insist on presenting to the people of Meade county the facts in all matters pertaining to their interests and welfare.

It is needless for us to go on and write a column or two about what we are going to do, but we are going to try to please as many people as we can. We do not expect to please everybody, that is something no man can do without making a failure, and we certainly do not want to fail. We again solicit your patronage, and will strive to give you the best paper that our knowledge of the profession will permit.

Ingersoll on the Philippine War.

"I have one sentiment for the soldiers, cheers for the living and tears for the dead. If it were meet to weep over the sacred dust of the brave who died to render our flag stainless, and keep it in the sky, it is now in order to flood the graves of the boys who are falling in the Philippine Islands. For they are not fighting to add to the lustre of Old Glory or to save the Union, but as mere machines at the behest of the administration, which for the time being, is the government of the United States. War with Spain, for which the volunteers took up arms, has long since ended. Congress has not declared war against the Filipinos nor voted money to carry on a foreign war of conquest. Then why this thunder of guns, the flying thunderbolts of hell, and these new-made graves as numberless as the stars? It is a war, not in the name of liberty, but against it. Our arms are not adding glory to the flag, but instead are staining that starry emblem of freedom with the blood and tears of a people fighting for the right of self government. The soldier is not to blame, therefore, when he falls in such a war, his bier should be draped in the deepest mourning and drenched with the tears of his fellow-countrymen."—Col. R. G. Ingersoll.

The Century Question.

Considerable time has been spent in argument as to the time when the twentieth century begins. Some say it began January 1st, 1900, while others argue that it does not commence until January 1st, 1901. The following from a French professor seems to us the proper view:

"Every hundred years toward the end of each century this question of the date of the change of century is discussed. I have before me documents of 1799, 1699, and 1599, which pose the problem and turn it over and over.

Again, a hundred years hence, in the year of grace 1999—which, by the way, will be favored by a very fine eclipse of the sun, total in the neighborhood of Paris on August 11 at 28 minutes past 10 o'clock in the morning—our great-grand-children will put the same question. Again, in the fin-de-siecle newspapers of the period there will still be distinguished minds to repeat the century's confusion.

Yet this eternal question is simple enough. A dozen is composed of twelve unities and No 12 forms part of the dozen.

A hundred is composed of a hundred unities, and No. 100 forms a part of the hundred.

There was no year 0. In the Christian Era the first 12 months are called the first year, or the year one.

When Christ came into the world no one suspected the importance of his coming, nor the place which the religion that he was to found would take in the political history of nations. The year of his birth passed unperceived by the Romans as by the Hebrews. Even the First century of Christianity and the second, third, fourth and fifth, had no place in the calendar.

It was only in the year 532 that the Christian era was proposed by a monk of the Catholic church, born at Scythia, named Dionysius, who, on account of his short stature, was nicknamed Dionysius the little. It was he who constituted the Christian era. That, as has been seen, was in the Sixth century. He supposed that Christ was born on Dec. 25, in the year of Rome, 753, and the year 754 of the foundation of Rome became the first of the Christian era.

This first year was not, therefore, even in the idea of Dionysius, that of the birth of Christ. Its beginning was seven days posterior to his birth. The monk Dionysius made in his historical researches a mistake of four years, which can easily be verified, as the date of the death of Herod is accurately known.

Christ was born in the year of Rome 749, not in 753, and died at the age of 37, not 33, and the whole Christian era is four years too young.

But it would certainly be inconvenient to change it, although this mistake has been known for some centuries.

But, whatever date be adopted for the beginning of the Christian era, there was no year 0.

Therefore, the first year is the year 1. The tenth year is 10 and the hundredth year of the First century is the year 100.

Put in this form, the problem does not leave a shadow of a doubt in the mind of the reader. Nothing in the world could be simpler.

When the French revolution created a new calendar it acted in the same way. It did not think of a year 0. It called its first year the year 1.

It is, therefore, on December 31, 1900, at midnight, precisely, that the century will end.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

NEWSY NOTES AND ITEMS OF INTEREST SENT US BY OUR FRIENDS WHO LIVE IN THE COUNTRY.

SPRING CREEK ITEMS.

"Ring out the false, ring in the true; ring out the old, ring in the new." These were the sentiments of those who participated in the ringing of the numerous bells in this vicinity last Monday night, 12 o'clock, and, we hope, also of those who did not participate in said ringing. We should all turn over the traditional "new leaf" at this, the beginning of a new century.

Mr. C. Keith and wife are justly proud of a new addition to their residence which along with being a great convenience to them very much improves the appearance of the landscape in this locality, as well as reflecting credit on the carpenter, W. J. Woodard, better known in this part of the globe as the "corn fed carpenter."

A certain maid in district No. 42, after getting one of the new almanacs for 1900, was anxious to know if there was going to be any frost next June, or much lightning next December, and in looking to see, accidentally glanced at the month of February and saw that there was, as usual, only 28 days in that month, "Oh, heavens!" she exclaimed, dropping the almanac with a shriek, "I thought it was leap-year!" Then as she sank back in a chair, she groaned, "How much longer? Oh, how much longer?"

Nellie Keith, who is teaching in the Haver district, spent a two week's vacation at home and returned to her school last Sunday. Wm. Adams, who has been employed until recently by Charles Keith, expects to reside in Arkansas City in the near future.

About two weeks since, two of our promising young men returned from a short hunting trip into Colorado. Those participating in the hunt were George and James Hinsdale, and say their hunt was by no means fruitless, as they captured a whole lot of valuable experience. One thing they learned was how much corn it requires to keep a team for the distance they went. Of course, they didn't get any game, but just wait until they go again.

Miss Grace Conlin, teacher in dinner No. 42 spent a very pleasant week's vacation with friends in Meade, and returned to her school last Monday.

The literary people in this section should call a meeting and organize a literary society. Let us have one by all means. It is instructive to old and young alike. A social hop and oyster supper was given at the home of Charles McKinney, last Friday evening. Most people and their best girls were there and a pleasant time is reported.

Well, as this is the writer's first bow to the public, in the columns of a paper which will be as popular as the MEADE NEWS, we will bring these items to a close, not wishing to occupy too much space, we will add that every one in the county should subscribe for the NEWS as there is nothing one enjoys as much as a good home newspaper.

SWEET WILLIAM.

FOWLER NEWS.

In taking up our pen—which, however, is a goose-quill—for the NEWS, we want to commence with the ejaculation, Halliuyea! Long has Meade county needed another paper, or indeed, a paper, and we extend most heartily the right hand of fellowship, which sentiment we think will find a counterpart in 99 per cent of the people of Fowler and vicinity. We shall try, in our humble way, to give all the news, and if anybody's toes are tramped on, put them in your pocket. It's always a bit dog that howls, so if not satisfied call at our office, 3419 Main st., and get a shower bath to cool off on. Long may the NEWS live and prosper. This city has long been slighted by the news agents and we propose to light our pipe, knock the rust off of our pen, scrape the mold from our memory, get the dust out of our eyes, and dish up a weekly batch of news the will please the most fastidious.

Sunday was a great day in Fowler, religiously speaking, two Sunday-schools, one Christian Endeavor and four preaching services, which drew many people to town.

A. Walters sold his feed to Alf Siegel Saturday.

Wm. Bunyan and wife made a flying trip to town Sat. a. m.

Mrs. Bunyan received probably the most valuable gift on the Xmas tree of any one, it being \$20 in currency.

Look out for the measles. They are coming, have reached the Krisle ranch, in consequence of which, Lizzie, Lem and Meredith are quarantined at home.

Prof. Walter and Henry Burford made an extensive bicycle tour in the country Sunday p. m. Several in town would give a chromo to know just where they stopped at.

Dr. Fee was called town last Wed. to attend Grandma Burnett. The old lady in not very well this winter. She is, however, better at this time.

The champion skunk hunter in this town is Linn Frazier. A week ago last Sunday he bagged six in about as many minutes. It has got to be a bad here and the atmosphere is filled with all kinds of odorous perfumes. Well, we will bear it as long as our conscience will permit, and then look out, we may be forced to make a few remarks.

John Sims ran himself almost to death at the ranch Friday in pursuit of a turkey for a roast. He says it was the first time he ever sweat in his life.

Rev. Jones commenced revival meetings at the M. E. church Sunday eve. They will continue indefinitely.

John Green and Fred Nett seemed to be right in the front ranks of the "push" Sun. night. We would advise a certain young man down south to look well to his laurels.

Mr. Walter seems to be getting gay of late. Don't seem to be satisfied with one partner but must have two. Jim, better divide up or there won't be damsels to go around.

It is said that Ed. Miles can drive so slow that it takes him 15 minutes to cross the railroad track and then its on two wheels, probably caused by the weight being all on one side.

John Green went back to Salina Monday to finish his business course. We are glad to see any young man as he, striving to help himself (there are so many that don't) and hope that he may early find a lucrative position.

We must cease this racket for now, but promise something breezy in the future, if our think-works hold out.

CRACKERJACK.

PLAINS ITEMS.

EDITOR NEWS—Feeling proud that Meade county can support two papers and wishing you much success with your paper I will begin by asking you to please save a little space in the northeast or southwest corner of your paper in which we might state as to our whereabouts, what we are doing at present, have done in the past, and will do in the future.

The people of this vicinity are rejoicing over the nice weather we are having and hope it will continue through January at least.

Our school began on the 2nd again after a week vacation. The children seemed glad to think vacation was over and all started in as anxious as though it were the first of school.

Quite a number of our young people attended the masquerade ball and oyster supper given at Arkalon on the 29th. They felt very discouraged over the wreck thinking there would be no train to the place of amusement. But as young people will they gathered together in the afternoon and made arrangements to go, some going in buggies, some on horseback and Mr. Osborne skipped lightly over the road on a hand car. All returned in the morning, each one feeling as though he had his share of the fun and feeling thankful to the Arkalon people for kindness shown them while there.

Pauline Fox returned to her school Monday morning after a two weeks vacation.

Laura Taylor and mother spent Sunday with Mr. Bisbee's folks.

Frank Ellis and his brother Fred and wife came down from Fowler one day last week and

stayed over night with Mrs. Addie. We can guess why Frank comes down this way.

Mrs. Custer, of Arkalon, has been at Mrs. Edwards' for the past two weeks, having some sewing done. She and Mr. Custer are contemplating a trip east in the near future.

On the evening of the 31st of Dec. a very pleasant watch party was given at Mr. Osborne's. The young people gathered early in the evening and amused themselves playing "pussy wants a corner" and various other games until the New Year dawned upon them and then after wishing each other a happy New Year each one went his way feeling as though they had spent a pleasant evening.

Leona Bisbee and Mr. Melia and brother came down from Bucklin and spent a few days with home folks during holidays.

Eva Smith has been sewing for the past two weeks for mae Addie and sisters. mae has somewhat recovered from her recent illness and it is hoped she will soon be as strong as ever.

Mrs. Jim Harbit has been on the sick list but is somewhat better at this writing.

Brother Robinson came over from meade Monday and remained over a day or so with Grandma Parsons and Mr. Yocum.

Well, as the train is coming, we will stop for this time and if you will accept these will come again.

BUFFALO BILL.

EAST SIDE ITEMS.

As it is the custom for papers to give the country scribbler a chance, we would like to be one of the first in the new paper. And wishing it and its editor unbounded success, we will contribute a few items.

What is looking fine in these parts. C. P. Fletcher began work in his field Monday. Suppose he thinks it is spring.

Mrs. W. B. Carr is reported improving. S. M. Bennett returned home last Saturday from a two months' visit in Indiana.

Wm. Ellis, from south of Fowler was in meade last Sat. Grace Bateman and some lady friends of Sand creek attended the association in meade Saturday, also Mary and Ruth Bennett and Mrs. F. S. Bennett.

N. R. Bishop is hauling feed. Feed 'em well, Bishop. The measles are flourishing at Carr's and Krisle's.

John Wymer, the handsome and accommodating clerk at Linn Frazier's store, took quite a ride on his wheel last Sunday. Starting north from Fowler he visited places of note in the Artesian country, then Meade, Lake View Sunday school, and back to Fowler.

J. R. Keith was in Meade, Saturday.

R. A. Brannan has remodeled his blacksmith shop. We suppose he is now ready to do all kinds of blacksmith and machine work.

Linna Petefish spent Sunday at J. M. Brannan's.

B. I. Van Hosen and family went visiting Sunday.

Rev. Jones began protracted meetings in the M. E. church at Fowler last Sunday night.

The Woodmen and families of these parts are wishing for a clear night Thursday.

Hoping these items will not be a waste of space we will close for this time.

EAST SIDE.

An object lesson in the enormous value of street railway franchises is found in the Metropolitan system of New York. The system comprises 227 miles of road operated by horse, electric and cable power. The market value of the securities is \$209,153,380. The whole outfit, including tracks, real estate and equipment, could be duplicated for \$35,000,000, leaving a franchise actual value of \$174,153,380. This franchise value of such properties measures the public interest in them and the revenues derived from such interests ought to go into the public treasury. There are only two ways of insuring to the municipality what belongs to it. One is municipal ownership outright. The other is taxation. Tax the franchises.

The NEWS is sent to almost every voter in the county this week. A large number have already placed their names on our books and we hope others will follow. Look over the NEWS and then conclude that you must subscribe. \$1 a year.

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The following are the sums allowed at the last meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

Table with columns: Claimant, Amt., and various names and amounts.

Subscribe for THE MEADE COUNTY NEWS. \$1 per year.