

# THE CHANUTE TIMES

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

CHANUTE, NEOSHO COUNTY, KANSAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1910.

VOL. 38; NO. 13

McCune Drug Store, Wall Paper, House, Barn and Carriage Paints. Phone 828, Street No. 111 W. Main

## FAILURE OF A FREE TRADE EXPERIMENT.

When hides were placed on the free list last spring the shoe manufacturers, who had spent years in working for that kind of free-trade, promised the people a reduction in the price of shoes and of leather. That was the whole basis of the campaign. President Taft was persuaded that the shoe and leather men knew what they were talking about. He believed with them that shoes would be cheaper if hides were on the free list. But where are the shoes that are cheaper and the leather that is cheaper? We have not seen it. As a matter of fact they have gone up.

Is it not right that we should remind them occasionally of the promises they made and have not fulfilled? We now get hides from all over the world without let or hindrance. The flood gates have been opened, but where are the benefits to the consumers?

If free-trade in hides did not make for the reduction that was promised and predicted, will free trade in anything else bring about the reductions that we so much desire, especially in the things that we have to sell?

Does it not suggest the idea that free-trade is not the price reducer that we are looking for?—American Economist.

## REST IS THE BEST REMEDY.

The country is entitled to a rest on the tariff subject. Something has been done in the direction of the demand for lower tariff, more has been done indeed in that direction than has ever been accomplished by any single bill enacted during the life of the present generation. Now let us do business for awhile before we go into the thing again. If the gentlemen who are standing up in front waving their arms and making do-or-die declarations on this subject and other subjects will please sit down and the country will proceed to complete the best record for business in any single year this nation has ever known. Rest is nature's best remedy for all weariness and afflictions, and twenty-four months of tariff discussion is such a weariness and affliction as only a great and patient people could quietly endure.—American Economist.

## SKIDDED TO DESTRUCTION.

An automobile party of six people were driving along one of the bluff boulevards of Kansas City. When on an icy slope their machine skidded over the bank and machine and occupants tumbled eighty feet down the rocky bluff. The machine was smashed. Three of the occupants were killed—Mr. and Mrs. Mahoney and Thos. McGuire, Mrs. John O'Connor and the two Mahoney girls escaped with severe bruises.

Water had seeped out of the bluff and spread over the road and been frozen, till the road was a glare of ice.

## RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

Last Saturday a Canadian Pacific passenger train, bowling along at a high speed, jumped the track on the bank of a river and plunged down many feet. A heavy ice was on the river but the great weight of the engine and train broke through and several cars were submerged. At over 50 people were killed and several more injured.

## GREAT FLOODS IN FRANCE.

From newspaper reports France seems about to be inundated. The Seine and other rivers are spreading over the lowlands of country and towns. Thousands of people are homeless and objects of charity. A few have been drowned, and still rain and snow storms continue.

## MEAT BOYCOTT GROWS.

The boycott against meat has grown and spread prodigiously within the past few days. On Sunday the resolutions of many labor unions added thousands to the ranks of the disaffected. And the wave is still spreading rapidly, while the retail meat dealers are closing up their shops and quitting the business. In a few instances the boycott has caused some reduction in prices, and this has stimulated the leaders in the movement to further agitation. There has been no attempt of any kind to check this movement. The retail dealers were hopeless and the packers are merely adjusting themselves to the new conditions.

But the boycott has not vindicated its practical wisdom. This is in no sense a defense of high prices or a denial that the meat boycott may not be having a good moral influence. But a three-day period of boycott or even a three months' abstinence would not make serious inroads upon the packing business as at present conducted in this country. The course to be taken by the packers will be exactly the same as in any other period of stress and curtailed consumption. They will discharge thousands of men, cut down the packing end of their business to meet the requirements of the selling departments, and wait. They can well afford to do this, especially at this time of year, when the heavy run of packing is over with and the feeding season is almost here.

But what is to be done with the men who are thrown out of employment, the retail dealers who are forced into bankruptcy and the farmers who have fed their stock through the winter only to find the market broken and demoralized? To be sure, it is a case of everyone looking out for himself, but some are bound to suffer—especially packing house employes, who cannot go thirty or even ten days without work. It is not hard to predict that after a few weeks of strictly vegetable diet most of those now in the boycott will find that they are making serious personal sacrifices and that others are benefiting from the lowering of retail prices—if they be lowered. The boycott is only a temporary shift at best and in the zest of its beginning it is likely to exhibit more strength than it will be able to maintain.

The meat question is only one phase of the general food problem in this country. A meat boycott can scarcely influence other products except to increase the demand for meat substitutes and thus increase their cost. As has been pointed out in these columns, the question of high prices for food is a vast and complicated one and requires a much better scheme of solution than a mere temporary boycott which could not in the nature of things do much to remedy the fundamental wrong.—Kansas City Journal.

## TOGETHER STILL.

An old couple at Mexico, Mo., who had lived together for 68 years, recently died.

The man was 93 years old and the woman 89. For 68 years they had marched side by side, met together life's battles and shared together life's victories, strengthened each other in times of disappointment and defeat. And now, within three days they are laid away, side by side, in the quiet grave to awake on the resurrection morn.

The losses in France by the floods continue to grow. Paris alone is now feeding and sheltering 5000 people who have been driven from their homes by the waters and are now destitute. The property loss is immense.

## NO CIVIL PENSIONS.

Congressman Martin Dies of Texas has resigned from the pension committee of the house of representatives because he is opposed to the systematic treasury raids entailed by the reckless passage of special pension bills in the political interests of various members of congress. In his letter to Speaker Cannon Mr. Dies said: "Every man on the payroll of the government, from the president down to the porters around the capitol, is anxious to have his pay increased. Within the past few days the president has announced himself in favor of pensioning government employes. In the meantime congress is spending nearly \$100,000,000 a month and people are groaning under high living expenses. If this thing continues it will soon be worse than the militarism of Europe. There, every laborer must work to support a soldier. In our case every laborer will be compelled to support a pensioner. I am heartily opposed to the system and I am glad to get off the committee."

Making due allowance for the prejudices of his state, it is unfortunate in this hour of necessity that such a man as Congressman Dies should prefer to resign from a committee instead of remaining upon it and doing his obvious duty. While he speaks bravely and his frank acknowledgment of the conditions which make his further service disagreeable is manly and commendable, yet the country needs and just such men to stand up for honesty and economy in government. There is no more dangerous menace to the machinery of our government than the weak yielding of many of our representatives to the constant demands for the extension of the pension system. Every man on the payroll of the government, as Mr. Dies states, is hoping to pull the wires so that he will not be under the ordinary obligation of American citizenship to provide a competency for old age. It is the dream of government employes to get on the pension rolls and live in ease while the other worker pays the bills.

The atmosphere of Washington is saturated with the demands of government employes for graft. Every congressman and senator is besieged from the day he lands in the capital. On all sides he is importuned to vote the people's money for the benefit of the horde of Washington hangers on. With an employe pension system there would be added each year a small army of dependents living off the industry of those of the American people who are neither mendicants nor panhandlers, but, who, through industry, thrift and a sense of individual responsibility, provide for themselves without asking the government to support them. We provide very liberally for our veteran soldiers and sailors, to whom the nation owes a debt of gratitude for which pensions are but poor return. But the civil employes who hold ordinary jobs without patriotic sacrifice should provide for themselves.—Globe-Democrat.

## TO BE LEFT OUT.

The word now is that the Union Pacific will make a cut off in its main line west from O'Fallons in Nebraska to Medicine Bow, Wyo., thereby saving 40 miles in distance and getting a much easier grade over the Black Hills.

This may be good for the road but it is almighty tough on those old and celebrated frontier towns of Laramie and Cheyenne, as they will be left out in the cold and become only a memory.

Mrs. E. Rush is recovering from a severe illness.

## MEAT PRICES AND THE EFFECT OF THE BOYCOTT.

Analysis of the cost of meats to the consumer, tracing the final price back through the retailer, goes to show that the greatest single rise comes after the packer has disposed of the product to the retailer. This is evidently because the organization or scientific process has not extended to the retailers. Stock feeding has in recent years got mainly in the hands of experts, who conduct it scientifically, buying with care, selling on the right market and feeding scientific rations. Their profit is not large, in fact, lately one of the most experienced feeders in Eastern Kansas remarked to us that he had given up some of his main feed lots because of the excessive cost of corn. Then comes the packer. He adds but about 7 cents to the price, from the best figures obtainable. And yet it was proven the other day by the reports of Armour & Co. that their profits are about 30 per cent, which illustrates the value of organization, with its economies at every step of the way.

When it comes to the meat retailer, he adds a larger sum to the final price than the feeder and packer together, and he must do so to live. All the losses fall upon him. But the chief reason why he must add a large figure to the price is because retailing is so distributed, there are so many dealers, that each dealer can have a custom of but a relatively small neighborhood. In short, his total sales are relatively small, and his percentage of profit must be high to make a living. There are, to put it in other words, but half a dozen great packers in the United States, but there are thirty or forty retailers in a small city. Year in and year out the same feeders and the same packers are doing business at the same stand. But there is a constant going and coming of small retailers. It would be instructive to know the average in business at one place of a retailer in meats.

The proposed meat boycott will hardly touch the packers. They will store their product and curtail effective production to correspond with curtailed demand. But the boycott will be deadly to the retailers running the small shops. The effect of a successful boycott cannot be anything else but to drive out of business the weakest factor, and he is the small neighborhood retailer.—Topeka Capital.

## Another Couple.

Ira Donald Meeker and Miss Dorothy Chapman, both of Chanute, were married in Independence last Sunday by the Christian preacher at that place. The couple were accompanied to Independence by Mr. and Mrs. I. G. Ebert, sister and brother-in-law of the bride. They took the early morning train for Independence, were married at the home of the pastor, took a trolley car to Coffeyville, thence the Katy home via Parsons, reaching Chanute at 12:20. They arrived in Chanute in time to partake of an elegant wedding dinner at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Chapman. Mr. Meeker is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Meeker of W. Main street. This is a model young couple each is worthy and competent. We congratulate them both and wish them all kinds of success.

## Cheese Makers Locate.

Two Swiss cheese makers have bought farms out in the Vlias neighborhood and will locate on the farms next fall and take up the manufacture of cheese. They will doubtless be followed by others.

The Swiss are an industrious, careful class of people and a colony of them engaged in the manufacture of cheese in the vicinity of Chanute would be a valuable acquisition.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. George Burdge, a boy.

## PARIS AND THE PARISIANS.

The overwhelming disaster that has overtaken Paris and the northern districts of France calls for world wide sympathy and assistance. Late reports indicate that scores of lives have been lost, hundreds of thousands are homeless and vast property and extensive public improvements have been destroyed. The majestic Seine which flows through the beautiful capital, spanned by dozens of great bridges and carrying on its bosom innumerable small craft, is now a raging and resistless torrent sweeping away bridges, great ware-houses and colossal works of architectural art. All Paris is desolate, and the people are panic-stricken as the reports grow darker and the tales of death and suffering benumb the senses.

In any other city of the world such a disaster would bow all heads in sorrow. But Paris is Paris, distinct and different. In Paris they jest upon the steps of the scaffold. At the moment when the sympathetic reader groans in contemplation of the great human misery as depicted in the news dispatches from Paris, his eyes encounter this line: "Edmund Rostand will contribute the proceeds of the first performance of the 'Chanticleer'."

Thus we find that in spite of the general gloom that shrouds Paris the giddy whirl of boulevard life still goes on. Edmund Rostand the egotist and sybarite will present his frivolous satire in the face of death and destruction, and the proceeds of the first night will go to

the relief fund. No doubt the music halls are still brilliant with light and activity, the cafes are crowded with the cosmopolitan combings and the dead wagons march slowly through the streets to the accompaniment of students choruses. Such is Paris and such are Parisians. Death is a mockery and the theme of many a ribald jest and drunken song.

Paris is drunk and it appears that even this awful visitation of flood has only a slight sobering effect. Rostand still dreams of his play while thousands cry for bread. Frightful ories toast the flood and its victims. And all the world looks on in horror and pity. There is pity for the dead and the poverty stricken, but also pity for those manikins of human beings who will flock to see Rostand's play and give no thought to the accumulation of miseries that are driving thousands to despair. Were Paris one vast sepulcher there would still be here and there some grim jesters mouthing odes to the joke of death. Such is Paris.—Kansas City Journal.

## Gone.

J. R. Swan, the big music man, has disappeared and his whereabouts is unknown.

For some time Mr. Swan has been selling pianos in Chanute. We do not see how such a man could be lost. It is something like losing a mountain. He is said to weigh over 350 pounds. He was quite a conspicuous object when on the street.

Incidentally, he is said to owe sundry debts about town and to be a little behind with his house. There is no rumor of foul play.



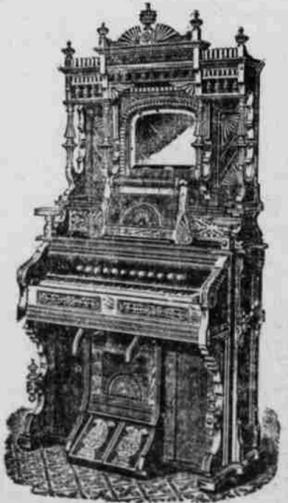
## McQUEEN & JEFFERS' MUSIC STORE

is headquarters for the Caba Company Pianos and Chicago Cottage Organs

These are the standard instruments that are known and in general use in every part of the land where pianos and organs have found a place.

## THE CABLE PIANO

Is unquestionably the best, the most beautiful, the sweetest toned piano on the market for the money. The material of which they are made is the very best that money can buy; the finish is the best and finest that any factory can give to a case; the stringing is of the best imported wire; the scale is even and perfectly balanced and the tone is full and pure and sweet, just as you expect to find in the best that can be built. They carry the strongest guarantee given by any manufacturer. New styles have just come out and we will be pleased to have you see them and get our prices and easy terms.



## THE WELLINGTON PIANO

Here is a medium priced instrument that is full of merit through and through. It is built of select and faultless material throughout. In all our years of experience in the music business we have never found an instrument of anything near its price that approaches the Wellington. The tone is sweet and of great volume and the scale is perfectly even from the lowest to the highest note. The Wellington is one of the biggest sellers on the market, all because of its great popularity and fine points.

## THE CHICAGO COTTAGE ORGAN

All who are at all informed about musical instruments know that the Chicago Cottage organs take their place at the top of the list of high grade instruments. It is in this superior organ that you find all the desirable features and strong points. None other so strong of volume, none other so sweet in tone, and none others are sold at such low figures.

We make easy terms of payments. Old instruments taken in exchange.

McQUEEN & JEFFERS