

## CONCERNING KANSAS.

BY J. W. MORPHY.

What has become of J. R. Burton? A ton of soft coal costs \$8 at Larned. Mince pie socials are popular at Beloit.

"Hard times" socials are still popular at Wichita.

Rosedale is to become a city of the second class.

Allen county is preparing to refund a lot of bonds.

Brown & Pratt was formerly a farmer boy in Brown county.

Newton wants an appropriation for a government building.

The Court of Appeals was in session at Garden City last week.

Four bushels of corn gets the Westphalia Times for one year.

The State Poultry Association will meet at Topeka January 4.

The bond proposition for new school buildings at Ottawa was voted down.

The Bank of Perry was robbed last Wednesday. But \$1,500 was secured.

Hotel Houston, at Neodesha, which was burned recently, will be rebuilt.

The Sterling Democrat thinks that P. P. Elder would make an ideal Governor.

Pratt and Kingman counties have doubled the last year's average of winter wheat.

About 5,000 head of cattle were shipped into the east side of Smith county recently.

The dates of the State G. A. R. encampment at Wichita are April 20, 21 and 22.

Mr. Bryan donated his share of the receipts of his lecture at Lindsborg to the college.

The Greenwood County Farmer's Institute was a very well attended and instructive one.

The Democrat banquet, which was to have been held at Topeka in January, has been abandoned.

Ex-Representative Sutton, of Russell, has moved to Kansas City, where he displays a lawyer's sign.

Wilson county old soldiers will erect an \$800 soldiers' monument in the public square at Fredonia.

Judge Foster favors the division of Kansas into two judicial districts. It would lighten his work.

MaJ. Calvin Hood has given \$100 to the Mother Bickerdyke W. R. C. home and hospital at Ellsworth.

Taylor Riddle has been elected Secretary of the Inter-State Association of Live Stock Sanitary Boards.

The new text book law provides that after the 1st of next June no exchanges of school books can be made.

In 1896 the Justice of the Peace courts cost Leavenworth county \$2,188, but this year it has increased to \$4,514.

Tom Kirtley has sold the Gove City Leader to L. O. Maxwell. It will be converted into a Republican paper.

The Ness City News should be added to the list of Republican papers which are protesting against boss rule.

An Uncle Tom's Cabin company is touring north central Kansas. The papers roast it at nearly every town.

Emporia business men have appointed a committee to secure a revision of freight rates to and from that city.

Ex-Warden Dick Chase has sold his transfer business at Emporia and has moved back to his Cowley county farm.

Three buffaloes from Texas have been received at Wichita. They have been kept on a Texas ranch for several years.

The Santa Fe has purchased the Arcade building, which has been used for station purposes at Newton for some years.

Judge Hutchison, of Garden City, is in favor of depriving cities which do not enforce the liquor law, of school funds.

The Newton Congressional candidate manufacturing concern's latest product is ex-Representative Glenn, of Greeley county.

The appointment of W. W. Thomas, of Maine, as minister to Sweden removes all possibility of Prof. Swenson being favored.

S. R. Cowick, of the Lyndon Herald, says that the impression that he will form a law partnership with H. B. Fleharty is erroneous.

The Larned Tiller and Toller announces that it will favor Governor Leedy's renomination and that it fully indorses his administration.

Jetmore Republican: Judge Andrews held his second term of court in Hodgeman county last week. The Judge is a man of good judicial judgment and all

his ruling is impartial and fair. His political enemies are well pleased with him.

A. H. Burtis, representative from Finney county, is a candidate for the Republican nomination for Secretary of State.

The Santa Fe and Rock Island have made a one-fare rate from all points in the State for the State Teachers' Association.

The Kansas City Star says that 25 per cent. of this year's southern Kansas wheat crop is still in the hands of the raisers.

The Silver League at Burlington roped Tom Baillinger into a joint debate on the silver question and made it decidedly interesting for him.

The Osborne and Smith county bars and court officers have passed very complimentary resolutions relative to the retirement of Judge Heren.

The State League of Silver Clubs will meet at Topeka January 11. Each club is entitled to one delegate and one additional for each 100 members.

The Hiawatha Democrat publishes pictures of eight fine churches located in that city, together with appropriate references to them and their work.

The Salina creamery has seven skimming stations on its supply list. Six thousand eight hundred and nine pounds of butter were produced last week.

Sheesley, the murderer of ex-Senator McTaggart, has been found guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. He gets five years in the penitentiary.

The Anti-Horse Thief Association at Nickerson gave an oyster supper recently, which was said to have been a very successful and enjoyable affair.

Brown of Pratt is meeting with many criticisms on the part of the Populist press of the Seventh district on account of his attack on Simpson and Harris.

Prof. Georgeson, lately relieved from duty as professor of agriculture at Manhattan, has been offered a place in the national Department of Agriculture.

After giving both sides an impartial hearing, the Farmington debating society in Greenwood county has decided "that man is his own free moral agent."

The county tax levy in Doniphan has been raised from 40 to 90 cents on the \$100 this year. This county boasts that it has not felt the influence of Populism.

John Seaton will make his race for the Republican nomination for Governor on a platform demanding the repeal of the Metropolitan police law and resubmission.

The Cimarron Republican says that the buffalo grass is in splendid condition and that cattle never entered a winter in better shape than they are this year.

An improbable story comes from Effingham. It is that a young lady living there has won a \$300 prize in a missing word contest conducted by an eastern paper.

County Treasurers report that an unusually large number of taxpayers are paying their taxes in full instead of letting half the amount go over until next June.

In the Federal court two men have been sentenced to serve five years in the penitentiary and fined \$100 each for breaking into a postoffice and stealing 124 pennies.

Ernest Thompson, of Hepler, in Crawford county, is one of the youngest Mayors in this country. He is 21 years old and was elected as a Democrat in a Republican city.

The Hutchinson & Southern railroad will be sold under foreclosure to the reorganization committee January 14. The work of pushing the southern extension continues.

C. A. Smart, of Ottawa, who was beaten for district Judge by Judge Riggs, has been given the Indian job which Howell Jones refused and which Jim Troutman wanted.

The Clay Center Times' boom for Coburn for Governor indicated that the right spirit was at work, but an effort to resurrect Calderhead and run him for Congress spoils all.

Kansas City Times: The town of Bluff, in Harper county, has been extended to take in the Frisco water tank, and the name is now Greater Bluff. It is really a great Bluff.

The postoffice at Orr, Doniphan county, has been discontinued. It is but two miles from Doniphan postoffice. Doniphan people voted for Leland's nephew for Commissioner while Orr opposed

him. It is therefore alleged that Leland has secured the discontinuance order to even political scores.

The rise of water in the Arkansas river afforded an opportunity for a thorough test of the Koen ditch. The ditch and laterals filled in good shape and overflowed on surrounding land, soaking it in good shape.

The management of the Wichita High school commencement exercises will limit orations to three minutes time. Why not eliminate them altogether, or have them delivered out on some short grass cattle range?

According to their story of the matter the Wichita Eagle and the Leavenworth Times were each the only papers in Kansas which printed the story of the death of Mother McKinley on Sunday morning, December 12.

Senator George Campbell, of Oswego, is working on a scheme to hold a non-partisan State convention to denounce the McKinley-Gage proposition to retire treasury notes and greenbacks.

In a recent opinion given by Attorney General Boyle, it is held that the Probate Judge and not the county is entitled to the fees in connection with the issuing of druggists' permits.

In his candidacy for postmaster Ed Howe, of the Atchison Globe, is running against boulders in the shape of a compilation of extracts from his paper reflecting on Baker and McKinley.

The Wells-Fargo agent at Cherryvale was robbed last Thursday night. The robbery occurred while he was attending a passing train and he was not absent from the depot more than ten minutes.

The Council Grove Courier and Guard have been consolidated. Messrs. Padgett & DeWald, who have published the Courier, have retired and will probably locate somewhere else in the same line soon.

Judge Riggs, of Lawrence, is not a prohibitionist, but he gave some O. M. B. fellows such a heavy sentence that they imagine that they would have been hung if a prohibitionist had been on the bench.

Oswego is trying to secure the location of a plant which through a newly discovered process utilizes the pith found in corn stalks. The product is of such value that \$3 per ton is paid for the stalks.

While Tom Stevens was employed in the Hiawatha postoffice in 1877 he made a list of the letters received in one week on which the name of the town was misspelled. He found forty-five different ones.

Some years ago an ordinance was adopted by the Mankato city council prohibiting the rendition of "After the Ball" inside of the city limits. Now an "anti Hot Time" ordinance is being considered.

Dick Blue is in Washington trying to get Governor Rowland, of the Leavenworth Soldiers' Home, replaced with some Kansas politician. The Board of managers does not look with favor on Blue's schemes.

Cy Leland's antipathy for ex-Secretary of State Osborn has led him to file charges against and cause the removal of his son, Charles Osborn, who has been employed in the pension office. The charge on which the removal was based was incompetency.

The Mankato Advocate (Pop.) was the only paper in Jewell county which published the President's message the week it was delivered. Jewell county's three Republican papers must be managed by enterprising fellows.

Superintendent Stryker says that school statistics show that Wyandotte county pays the highest teachers' wages, the average being \$49.76. Brown is next with an average of \$48.21. Men are paid 10 to 15 per cent. better wages than women.

Mr. Kitchen, who has not missed anything in the shape of an office in Finney county since its organization, has the inside track for postmaster of Garden City. He is in the habit of referring to Populists as "a set of sore-headed office-seekers."

The Industrialist, which has been published weekly by the faculty of the Agricultural College, will hereafter be issued monthly in magazine form. It will contain 64 to 80 pages, and will be greatly improved in appearance and in the character of the matter used.

Senator Young thinks that the Harris bill was not all bad, that Senator Harris alone did not defeat the maximum rate bill and that he is not controlled by the railroads notwithstanding the fact that he was not a believer in Senator Harris' ideas of railroad legislation.

J. H. Martindale, of Scranton, started to drive to Overbrook during the severe snow storm last Wednesday night. On the way he stopped and went to get

something he thought he had dropped. After the traveling man who was with him had waited a reasonable length of time for him, he went after him but could not get him located. Help was summoned, the search was kept up all night, and in the morning he was found frozen to death.

### Notes and Comment.

Senator Daniel, of Virginia, has been re-elected by a unanimous vote. Oregon Populists will meet in State convention at Portland, March 23.

Elections involving national issues will occur all over the country next year. It is not surprising that the National Board of Trade should oppose postal savings banks.

An investigation leads to the belief that the recent London fire was of incendiary origin.

Chas. G. Dawes, of Illinois, has been appointed Comptroller of the Currency to succeed J. H. Eckles.

The Mormons have purchased a tract of nearly 9,000 acres of land in Mexico for a location for a colony.

Corean laborers employed in the construction of a Japanese railroad get 15 cents a day and board themselves.

The Wyoming constitution provides that no foreign-born citizen can vote unless he is able to read the constitution.

The Georgia Populist State convention will meet at Atlanta March 3. Tom Watson positively declines to be a candidate for Governor.

A syndicate has been organized to buy abandoned New England farms and endeavor to reclaim them by leasing them to persons of good character and ability to intelligently till the soil.

The National Board of Trade, which met last week at Washington, warns the country that the "silver heresy" is not dead. The extension of civil service rules to the consular service was favored.

The National Federation of Labor adopted resolutions opposing the annexation of Hawaii. The declaration asserts that it would practically admit a slave State, which would be detrimental to labor's interests.

The Bimetallic League of Germany has just held a meeting at which it was resolved that active work should be kept up. Regrets were expressed that England should reject the overtures of the Wolcott commission.

The Novsti, a Russian paper of influence, says that the absence of protests against the occupation of Kiaochan by the Germans, from other nations, indicates that the partition of China has begun and will be accomplished quickly.

Washington dispatches say that Mark Hanna has informed Mr. McKinley that he must renounce civil service reform and consent to a repeal of the law or run his campaign in 1900 without Hanna. It is predicted that McKinley will follow Hanna's wishes.

The provision of the South Carolina constitution which restricts the electoral franchise to persons who can read or write any section of the constitution or who pay taxes on not less than \$300 worth of property, goes into effect January 1. It is stated that this will give the State about 102,000 voters, of which but 12,000 will be colored men.

The reasons for opposition to the confirmation of Attorney General McKenna as Justice of the Supreme court are three in number and are as follows: That he is a Catholic, and there is now one on the bench, that he rendered an opinion nullifying section 22 of the Dingley bill, and that he is opposed by his home people on the Pacific slope.

### Chairman Riddle on State Fusion.

Chairman Taylor Riddle is quoted as saying that he did not believe that the Populist convention would or could force any State officer to get off the ticket to make room for a Democrat. He is of the opinion that every State officer stands ready and willing to step down and out if necessary to the welfare of the principles represented by the Populist party.

### What Will the Congressional Harvest Be?

The Topeka Advocate publishes the "plans of the Populist Congressmen from Kansas," and it takes a column. About two lines will be sufficient at the end of the session to give the "results."—Hutchinson News.

Since those "plans" are all in the interest of the common people, and do not especially favor the corporations and moneyed classes, it is very probable that the News is right.—La Crosse Chieftain.