

PUBLIC OPINION

ABOUT KANSAS.

Chetopa Advance: Fifty dollars a ton was offered for Galena zinc ore last week. This breaks the world's record.

Pratt Union: Attica business men talk of moving the town a quarter of a mile distant to avoid paying bonds. It would be a cheap way of settlement.

Chanute Blade: We have heard a good deal in the past of embalmed beef. Next week, here in Chanute, we will probably have a goodly supply of embalmed candidates.

Philadelphia Call: One volunteer regiment, the Twentieth Kansas, made a charge in the battle of last Saturday which, according to the press accounts, equaled anything that took place at Santiago, not excepting the famous charge up San Juan hill.

George W. Martin in the Kansas City Gazette: There is some disposition to roar because at the Democratic banquet at Topeka wine was used in the State House. We remember the good old prohibition days when a Republican State office-holder in the State House pulled a bottle of beer from his water cooler.

Leavenworth Times: More room in the soldiers' home is an urgent need. The home at Leavenworth is in the finest and most salubrious of situations. It is said the board of managers makes the proposition to attempt to double its capacity. That will be a wise measure. The board should push it along.

Newton Kansan: The old Kansan who has seen herds of buffalo on the plains of Kansas will hear with regret that this distinctive American animal is now almost extinct. At the beginning of the winter there were only 140 left in the United States. Nearly half of these died during the severe winter, and in a very short time, unless something is done to preserve the species, none will remain.

Lawrence World: Lawrence has already suffered keenly on account of one trust, and now the report comes that another of our important industries is being forced into a trust. Lawrence has been known far and wide as a manufacturing town, and yet one after another of our industries are being swallowed up. The administration must act. The story that is being told in Lawrence is being repeated in every town in the country where there are small plants.

Chetopa Advance: A mortgage of \$2,000,000 was placed on record in Allen County a few days ago on the property of the Lanyon Zinc Coal Company, of Iola, by the Colonial Trust Company, of New York City. The credit of the Lanyons must be gilt-edged in order to secure such a loan as this. As a money transaction this is a record-breaker in Kansas. It required twenty \$50 revenue stamps to make it legal. Iola is certainly in the financial swim.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: The friends of Colonel Funston of the Twentieth Kansas think he should be made a brigadier general for his gallant conduct. The friends of Colonel Funston appear to be right. The dashing Kansan who swam the river at the head of a forlorn hope of twenty men and captured eighty of the enemy certainly is right in line for prompt promotion. Besides this, Colonel Funston was the first man to enter Malolos. There can be no mistake about rewarding him.

Lawrence Jeffersonian-Gazette: To the people who know Fred Funston intimately, the talk about dragging him into Kansas politics as a candidate for governor or Congressman is a large joke. Colonel Funston has neither the inclination nor the training for politics, and such a career would be most distasteful to him. The gallant little soldier of fortune who has fought the elements from the Arctic Ocean to the Equator, and savages from Cuba to the Philippines, has probably never voted at a general election more than half a dozen times in his life.

Kansas City Journal: Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, of Topeka, must be conceded the first place among Kansas writers, by virtue of his novel, "In His Steps," judging by sales and wide circulation. While several of his other books have sold well, this one leads by far, and the total is in the hundreds of thousands. The book is a decided "purpose novel," the object being to recommend the application of Christ's example and teachings to the commercial life of to-day. Conservative critics raise the charge that the book is immoral, meaning that it attacks radically the existing order. The book may be regarded as a challenge to that method of exegesis which complacently adapts the teachings of Christ to whatever is established, and persists in

claiming all modern institutions as Christian. But even the most conservative may admit that a little more of the spirit of Christ will not upset our civilization.

El Dorado Republican: Members of the late legislature hired a lot of fellows to wait on them. Then they hired men to boss the ones who were paid to wait the members. Then they hired men to wait on the fellows who bossed the people who were hired to wait on the members. All this cost the State a lot of money.

Kansas City Star: If the Twentieth continues its brilliant career, which it will do with the proper opportunities—it will become the most famous regiment of the war in the Pacific, as the "Rough Riders" was the most noted regiment in Cuba. There was much that was spectacular in the fame of Roosevelt's regiment, and its achievements were not more splendid than those of other regiments which stormed San Juan hill. The Twentieth Kansas is gaining fame on its merits alone. Then, hurrah for the Twentieth Kansas, the real thing!

IN GENERAL.

Havensville Torchlight: This is the last week of winter. Last week was also the last week.

Kansas City Times: A soft answer turneth away wrath, they say; but use a club when dealing with the weather man.

Hiawatha Kansas Democrat: Down with the trusts is not a good campaign slogan. It should be public ownership of all trusts.

Kansas City Star: In attacking prohibition Bishop Potter, of the diocese of New York—bless his soul—is getting after what does not exist.

Topeka State Journal: According to Speaker Reed's figures, the Filipinos cost the United States about \$2 a head, but the expense of killing them off is likely to be much greater.

Omaha Bee: Wait till Uncle Sam's bill for telegraphic and cable tolls is made out and tabulated and you will have the most potent argument possible for the acquisition of a postal telegraph.

Arkansas City Traveler: A speck of gold weighing one-millionth part of a grain may be easily seen by the naked eye, says an exchange. We know now why a \$1 gold piece looks as large as the full moon.

Concordia Kansan: Some folks—nearly all women folks—when they contemplate a visit from friends, nearly kill themselves in an extra effort to clean up, when it would seem more home-like to the visitor to have a little streak of dirt here and there.

Buffalo Express: The assembly has given Syracuse permission to make an inquiry as to the expediency of the city owning its own sources of light and heat. No enabling act should be needed for the purpose. All such investigations, however, advance the cause of municipal ownership.

Brown County World: Standing on top of a high hill and looking at a gorgeous sunset, a mother asked of her little daughter: "What does this remind you of?" "Oh, I know," cried the girl, clapping her hands, "it looks just like a drunkard's stomach." This fable teaches that science and temperance reform is being taught in the schools.

Abilene Reflector: The Western Union Telegraph Company announces that it will not abide by the law enacted at the late session reducing telegraph tolls in Kansas. Nobody expected it to. The Western Union will make no reduction in rates until judgment day, and then it will make the man who sends in a report of the affair pay for the revenue stamp.

Newton Kansan (Rep.): Our Revolutionary forefathers received no \$3,000,000 in gold at the end of the war for independence. What little money they obtained was in depreciated paper. They were given land warrants, but had to fight Indians to get the land. Yet freedom, in their estimation, was more than a sufficient reward. These are points worth Cuban consideration.

Lincoln Beacon: Robert White, who was a charter member of the Topolobampo Co-operative Colony and personally followed its fortunes for several years, confirms the recent newspaper report that 150 families stuck to the colony after the split between the Owens faction and the Kansas element. He declares now, as he did to us two years ago, that they made no mistake in staying. Mr. White would have done the same had he not had property interests in Kansas that had to have his personal attention or entail him considerable loss. He reiterated the opinion he has always held, that the colony will ultimately be an unqualified success, taking the fortunes of the colonists

themselves for an index. It is interesting to know that the machinery of the colony's local government always worked smoothly and differences of opinion as to local or home affairs had nothing to do directly with the "split up," which came from the efforts of non-residents to force a railroad into and through the colony's grant before there was any need of one—before the development of home industries required one.

Osage City Public Opinion: It has been cabled to this country from England that agents in that country will soon be sent to the United States to investigate the automatic couplings used on many lines in this country. While here, the agents might also investigate the advancement made in this country in many respects since the days when old England tried to make an automatic coupling of the United States and England.

Pontiac (Mich.) Post: The extravagance of Congress is apparently increasing more rapidly than the wealth of the country. Owing to some extent to this extravagance, the interest-bearing public debt has increased in the last six years from \$585,000,000 to \$1,026,000,000. Very few Congressmen ever think of economy in public expenditures. Their idea seems to be that as the government pays the bills, it doesn't make any difference how great the extravagance is which is indulged in.

Emporia Times: Anyone reflecting upon this question of public ownership cannot avoid reaching the conclusion that whatever margin of profits a private corporation makes in building, maintaining and operating a public utility, can be saved to the public by building, owning and operating the utility itself. That is, if a corporation secures a franchise of the right to build and operate a railroad in the streets of a city, then constructs and operates the road at a profit, there is no reason why the city in its own behalf cannot build, equip and operate the road at a profit for the benefit of the town. The profit can be made and put into the treasury for public benefits, or the rates of transportation can be reduced and the savings be made direct to the user.

Topeka Capital: It is untrue that the trusts do not advance prices. The business of the wire trust which recently destroyed the principal industry of Lawrence in this State is said to be about \$70,000,000 a year. The first act of the trust was to advance the price 10 per cent, which placed \$7,000,000 in the pockets of the manipulators. That trusts and low prices commonly go together is a fact of common observation, but the low prices are not due to the trusts; the trusts are due to the low prices and are created and organized as a device for contending against the tendency of the age to lower cost of living. The trust monster demands the consideration of statesmen and business men. It is said that it is merely a phenomenon in the natural course of industrial and commercial evolution. This is claimed by socialists who in their meetings openly rejoice at the progress of the trust epidemic, which seems to be extending to all industries. The socialists say, and say rightly, that after industry generally becomes thoroughly organized into trusts it will be but a short step to a general trust, and it will merely require a vote to turn the management of this general trust, or of all the trusts, over to the general government. Labor agitators of the socialistic persuasion watch the progress of trust formations with equanimity, believing that this is simply natural business evolution.

Eugene V. Debs: More than thirty years ago Prof. E. C. Wines and Prof. Theodore W. Dwight, then commissioners of the Prison Association of New York, made a report to the legislature of the State on prison industry, in which they said: "Upon the whole, it is our settled conviction that the contract system of convict labor, added to the system of political appointments, which necessarily involves a low grade of official qualification and constant changes in the prison staff, renders nugatory to a great extent the whole theory of our penitentiary system. Inspection may correct isolated abuses, philanthropy may relieve isolated cases of distress, and religion may effect isolated moral cures; but genuine, radical, comprehensive, systematic improvement is impossible." The lapse of thirty years has not affected the wisdom or logic of the conclusion. It is as true now as it was then. Considered in his most favorable light, the convict is a scourge to himself, a menace to society and a burden to industry. Whatever system of convict labor may be tried, it will ultimately fail of its purpose at reformation of the criminal or the relief of industry as long as thousands of "free laborers" who have committed no crime are unable to get work and make an honest living. Not long ago I visited a penitentiary in which a convict expressed regret that his sentence was soon to expire. Where was he to go, and what was he to do? And how long before he would be sentenced to a longer term for a greater crime?

Thousands Have Kidney Trouble and Don't Know It.

There is a disease prevailing in this country most dangerous because so deceptive. Many sudden deaths are caused by it—heart disease, pneumonia, heart failure or apoplexy are often the result of kidney disease. If kidney trouble is allowed to advance the kidney poison in the blood is liable to attack the vital organs, or the kidneys themselves break down and waste away cell by cell. Then the richness of the blood—the albumen—leaks out and the sufferer has Bright's Disease, the worst form of kidney trouble. Kidney trouble can be detected although it be slow and deceptive. First, by analysis of the urine; second, by the simple test of setting the urine aside in a glass or bottle for twenty-four hours, when a cloudy or brick-dust settling indicates it.

It was for just such troubles that in His infinite power and goodness the Great Physician caused Swamp-Root to grow for the benefit of suffering mankind, leaving it for Dr. Kilmer, the eminent kidney and bladder specialist, to discover it and make it known to the world. Its wonderful efficacy in promptly curing the most distressing cases is truly marvelous.

By sending your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., you may have a sample bottle of Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy, and a book that tells more about it, both sent absolutely free by mail.

When writing be sure and mention reading this liberal offer in Topeka Advocate and News. The regular fifty-cent and one-dollar sizes are sold by most druggists. Make a note of the name, SWAMP-ROOT, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and remember it is prepared only by Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

THE GIFFORD BROS.' SALE.

The public sale of registered Shorthorn cattle as announced by the Gifford Brothers, of Milford, Kans., took place last Tuesday at Manhattan, Kans. When the well-known auctioneer, Col. S. A. Sawyer, opened the sale at 2 o'clock p. m. about 300 prospective buyers and onlookers were in attendance from Kansas and Nebraska. While the prices realized were not sensational ones, yet enough was had to demonstrate that there is money in well-bred "Reds and Rouns." The Messrs. Gifford were pleased at the result and stated that the sale was more of an educational one rather than a money maker. During the early eighties a section of country embracing several counties along and contiguous to the Blue River valley was noted for its extra good beef cattle and the Giffords are ambitious to have it so once more. The buyers were mainly Kansans, though a few of the offerings went to Nebraska. Sixteen of the older bulls averaged \$101, and 6 younger ones, calves, brought an average of \$53.26. The 11 females averaged \$82.27. The cattle had not been fitted up to the usual sale day condition, yet the prices brought indicates that the farmer buyers are on the way for better beef cattle, as he seems willing to pay \$100 for a good bull rather than \$50 for an ordinary animal. W. P. BRUSH.

NEXT WEEK'S SUNNY SLOPE HEREFORD SALE.

The attention of the breeding public is again called to the sale of 102 Sunny Slope registered Herefords that will take place next week, on Tuesday, at the Kansas City Stock Yards sale barn. The offerings that have been catalogued consist of 48 serviceable bulls, 5 mature cows, 40 2-year-old heifers and 9 yearlings, that represent a range of breeding from which individual animals can be selected good enough to go in any herd or suit the fancy or prospective buyers. The former public sales made by the Sunny Slope management, March and December, 1898, were to that extent successful that the reputation of this farm became famous among the breeders of white-faces in every country where the Hereford is found in both continents. There are two features concerning this sale that may, with propriety, be noted at this time. Mr. Stannard, the successor of the late Mr. Cross, founder and former owner, does not put his sale animals into the highest possible condition, believing that the greatest degree of usefulness is more surely attained when only moderately finished. This then necessarily brings to mind that the buyer is the more strongly assured of future usefulness of the individuals that he may chance to buy on sale day. The sale will open promptly at 10 o'clock a. m. The cattle will be on Monday, the day preceding the sale, ready for the inspection of visitors and intending buyers. The well-known auctioneers, Cols. Wood, Sawyer, Edmunson, Sparks and Burton will officiate. Keep in mind the date, Tuesday, April 18, 1899. W. P. BRUSH.

Write for a sample copy of the Advocate and News.