

OLD MEN'S CLUB MEETS.

Higginsville does Honor to Herself and to Them.

THE LARGEST ATTENDANCE OF CLUB

Thirteen Members Enrolled—At Mayview next Time.

The Old Men's Club held its annual meeting in Higginsville, on Saturday, September 26th instant, and a most enjoyable occasion it was too.

The session of the club was held in the Christian church and was opened with appropriate religious exercises, conducted by Rev. Mr. Beatty, of the Presbyterian church, who read the 90th Psalm and offered a fervent and earnest prayer.

The meeting was called to order by the president, and the roll called which showed the absence of very many of the club, though a larger number than usual answered present.

The following committees on memorials were appointed and requested to report at the next meeting, namely, on the life and character of Cyrus Osborn, dead: W. Boon Major, Judge Joseph F. Smith and John S. Blackwell Esq.

At this juncture the club took recess, and with their wives and invited guests repaired to the hall to partake of the feast prepared for them by the good people of Higginsville and vicinity.

as in many other respects, appreciate and most heartily enjoy. Ah! Mr. Editor, it was a feast that makes one's eyes sparkle with delight to look upon, and one's mouth to water, and one's inner man rejoice to partake of, and I could but wish you had accepted our invitation and been present to see and taste for yourself.

After this very pleasant exercise the club proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year, which resulted in electing, John E. Ryland, president and Rufus Young, vice-president.

At the council meeting Monday night a draft of an ordinance relative to curbing was read by the city attorney. It specified and described the manner of laying curbing of white limestone and Ohio sandstone.

The report of the committee appointed to inspect the curbing along the line of the proposed improvements on Main street was heard. Report of the committee instructed to investigate the cost and usefulness of a five-ton street roller was called for.

A remonstrance against the proposed paving of Main street from Broadway to Eleventh street was presented by Messrs. Marks, Bauerle, Kricha and Klee, who spoke against the paving ordinance.

BATTLE AGAINST THE POWER OF WEALTH

The Social Question of to-day Compared with the Great Issues of Ages Past.

FIRST OF PROF. HOWERTH'S SIX LECTURES.

"Once Men fought Religious and Political Dominancy: Now, the Power of Wealth.

Prof. Howertb, of Chicago university, delivered the first of six lectures before the university extension class, of Kansas City, Tuesday evening. He said:

"The social question of to-day, or the social question of any given time, is the question of social welfare pressing most strongly for solution. That question will always be found to be a problem of restricting the opportunities of organized selfishness.

"In the early history of society, when men's ideas were chiefly religious, and the whole power of church and state was wedded by those in authority, it is plain to be seen who might be guilty of selfish excess. As the church was the supreme authority, the social question was naturally the problem of securing popular freedom from ecclesiastical domination.

"After the Reformation the people soon found out that the same opportunities for selfish domination that had been enjoyed by those in control of ecclesiastical institutions were afforded those who were in control of the state. The crozier of the ecclesiastic had merely transformed itself into the scepter of the political ruler.

"Political liberty having been achieved, where is now the great opportunity for selfish denominations? Obviously it lies with that class of persons who have secured control of the great industrial forces of our nation and have entrenched themselves behind the economic institutions upon which the welfare of society so largely depends.

three dominant phases of the social question, namely, the religious, the political and the industrial or economic. Always it has been a question of democracy. To-day, it is, roughly speaking, the problem of securing a more equitable distribution of the abundance of economic goods made possible by your improved methods of production.

"Observe that our modern social question is a question of producing wealth as well as the problem of distributing it. We pride ourselves upon the immense product of our industry, but we overlook the fearful waste of materials and energy and life involved in it. If our industrial forces were intelligently organized and directed so as to eliminate the waste of modern industry, we might easily produce double the amount of wealth we now create.

And this question in spite of the boasted equality which prevails in this country, has assumed the nature of a class question. True, we have no hereditary class privileges in America, and no caste in the Oriental sense, but we have a comparatively small number of people who control the material instruments of production, and whose immediate interests seem to lie in the strict preservation of the modern industrial order; while on the other hand, we have the majority of our people dependent for their livelihood upon their success in gaining access to the means of production, that is to say, dependent upon those who control these means.

"Socialists who claim that 'the whole history of mankind (since the dissolution of primitive tribal society, holding land in common ownership) has been a history of struggles, contests between exploiting and exploited, ruling and oppressed classes,' and our labor organizations which urge the development of a labor class consciousness are more nearly correct in their conception of the present situation than those who, fancying a complete harmony of interests, cry peace, when there is no peace. It is true that human progress has been due to some extent to class conflict, just as it has been partially due to intertribal, international and interclass conflict.

however, then comes the danger arising from the undue conservatism of the dominant class, and its oppression of the lower classes, who are exploited for the benefit of their masters.

"HOW POWER IS PRESERVED. History reveals to us the methods which dominant classes of every age have employed to preserve their power and privilege when their exclusive enjoyment of them are no longer necessary to social development. The most common method in earlier times was that of awakening the fear of the oppressed by means of punishment inflicted for violation of the criminal code, which is always consciously or unconsciously predominantly inspired in the interest of the ruling class.

"The idea of divine right, held from time immemorial, and formulated in England in the reign of James II, the idea that God looked with special favor upon monarchy in comparison with other forms of government, and that accession by primogeniture was especially divine, antedating both the Christian and Moslem dispensation, owed its birth and its tenacious life to the support it rendered to the class in power. The same effort of dominant classes to preserve themselves in their dominant position accounts for the opposition to knowledge which has characterized in the past both political and ecclesiastical rulers.

"The emphasis I have laid upon our economic institutions and the necessity of securing for the people economic freedom and an equitable distribution of the world's goods, must not be taken as an indication of a belief that wealth or the satisfaction of our material needs, is the highest thing that can be aimed at. It is true now as ever that man does not live by bread alone. But, as Amiel said, the animal in us must be satisfied first, and we must banish from among us all suffering which is superfluous and has its origin in social arrangements, before we can return to spiritual goods."

A REPUBLICAN ON TRUSTS.

Hon. W. A. Calderhead, Republican Approves of Them.

HE SAYS HIS PARTY IS INSINCERE.

He Says that Organized Labor is the Great Menace.

The following extract from a long speech of Hon. W. A. Calderhead, republican congressman from the fifth district of Kansas, delivered September 27, at Beloit and widely quoted, is remarkable only in this, that it is sincere. Republicans used to pretend that protection was for the encouragement of infant industries. The infants have grown into giant trusts, and republicans now say that protection is for the working man. They know that wages in Spain and Italy are the lowest in Europe, although these countries have the highest tariff rates in the world, and they know that there is no connection between protection and wages. Here is a speech of a man who says frankly that he and his party believe that it is right to continue the tariff rates so that manufacturers who sell \$60 worth of goods in foreign countries for \$60, may sell the same goods in this country for \$100.

"Why all this fuss about the trusts? Speaker Henderson has resigned because some republicans insist on tariff revision as a panacea for imaginary ills which the trusts are supposed to represent. Why seek to remedy that which has been a blessing? "I deny that the trusts constitute an evil. I contend that they have been a godsend to the country. Why remedy or disturb them? I have no sympathy or patience with this fuss about the trusts. I care not if it does emanate largely within my party. I consider it all political buncombe.

"The trusts never will be remedied and they ought not to be. I see evidence of their beneficial results on every hand. They are the handmaids of progress in every channel of business and every avenue of life. They have reduced the cost of living. They have furnished employment for labor. They have promoted science and encouraged invention.

"Instead of attempting to 'remedy' or 'suppress' or 'control' or 'disturb' that which we know is a blessing we should turn our attention to that which is known to be an evil and take a hand at suppressing organized labor.

"I regard organized labor as the greatest menace this country has to-day. It not only robs men of their liberty, but is a constant menace to the lives and property of the whole people. It is the cause of famine and bloodshed. It frequently causes a famine in the necessities of life.

"It refuses to recognize brains and it holds the brainy, capable member down with the dullard. It is a barrier to progress, a bad and dangerous thing, and should be suppressed."

Painful Accident.

George A. Venable, while coupling coal cars at the McGrew mines Saturday morning, was caught between them and had the thumb on his left hand mashed. He will probably have to have it amputated at the first joint. It was a very painful wound. He was brought home about ten o'clock, suffering severely.

Important Meeting.

The U. D. C.'s will meet at the residence of Mrs. G. W. Hyde, Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. As delegates to the state convention, which will occur at Kansas City on the 14th and 15th of October, will be elected, a full attendance is important.

Special Train.

The Mo. Pacific will have a special train leave Kansas City night of Priest of Pallas parade, October 7th, at 11 o'clock.

James A. Reed.

Mayor Reed, of Kansas City, will speak at the court house today at 1:30 p. m.