

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

VOL. 16.

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\$1.00 A YEAR

CURRY FELT SEES A GHOST.

The Nez Perce, Idaho, Merchant Discovers a Real Live Spook Near His Home.

Curry W. Felt, a former Laclede boy, now the leading merchant at Nez Perce, Idaho, is the central figure in a sensational ghost story printed in the Chicago Blade of last Saturday. The story is in the form of a dispatch from Nez Perce, and is as follows:

"At intervals of two months citizens report seeing a ghost during all hours of the night—a woman ghost, dressed in long, black, flowing gowns, with either a white or black scarf tied closely over her head till the face was almost invisible.

When C. W. Felt, a merchant, brought in the report two months ago that a mysterious woman had been hanging around his house during the small hours of the night he was ridiculed. But now sentiment is changed. Dozens of people have seen the apparition, but no one has had courage to ask her business. Children keep close in doors at night. Adults shake their heads and no one investigates. In fact the ghost has the whole town "buffaloed."

Two months ago Mr. Felt told the first ghost story. The mysterious woman was seen silently walking through the residence district near his home. For an hour it stood by the gate in the darkness gazing at the house, but never entering the yard. Then other citizens saw the stranger.

Then it disappeared as suddenly as it came, to reappear two weeks ago. This time instead of confining its nightly vigil to Mr. Felt's house the phantom promenaded all over the city and made head quarters near the house where John Muir hanged himself on Jan. 1, 1905. Muir's body was not found for five months.

As the story traveled imagination helped the mysterious one out and many were the remarkable stories told. Some have imagined they saw it in the yards or peering in windows at night and daily a report is expected that the ghost has invaded some home.

The ghost seems to keep its vigil on the sidewalk, but no one can give a description and the woman has never been seen in daylight.

People believe some man is playing a practical joke or that the ghost is a woman slightly demented. As long as it keeps off private property people are willing to let it roam at will, but several have sworn dire vengeance should the wanderer be found in their yards or homes."

Ladies' Aid Financial Report.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. church wish to thank those both in and out of the church who have by their donations, patronage and kind words assisted them in their work of raising funds for the new church, and give the report of the three years' expenditures so that you may see that your help has not been in vain.

We have paid out for
Paint, paper and shingles, parsonage, \$ 63.70
Aid pledge for church fund..... 78.75
Church carpet..... 57.38
Church lights..... 41.35
Insurance..... 100.00
Window in church..... 50.00
Church hymnals..... 13.50
Aid supplies..... 5.80
Charities..... 4.00
Total expenditures..... 419.46
Amount now in treasury..... 23.35

Mrs. FOREMAN, President.
Mrs. MILLER, Secretary.

The Yellow Fever Germ

Has recently been discovered. It bears a close resemblance to the malaria germ. To free the system from disease germs, the most effective remedy is Dr. King's New Life Pills. Guaranteed to cure all diseases due to malaria poison and constipation. 25c at W. R. Barton's drug store.

From Over the County.

Miss Leota Cash, of Brookfield, won the piano given by the Marceline Mirror in a voting contest.

F. L. Maggart and Gertie Browning were married at the home of the bride's parents in Browning last week.

Linneus now has but one telephone system, the Rural telephone company having bought the Bell's interest at that place.

The P. E. O. chapter of Brookfield will give a minstrel entertainment in the near future under the direction of Mrs. Etta G. Heacock.

The Marceline Journal thinks Linn county ought to have two court houses—a \$75,000 one at Linneus and a \$25,000 one at Brookfield.

On March 30 a special election will be held in Locust Creek township for the purpose of determining whether or not the citizens of that township favor the adoption of the contract system of road working.

Rev. J. C. Cox has resigned the pastorate of the Baptist church at Marceline to accept a call to the Rothville church which is said to be one of the strongest Baptist churches in North Missouri. His resignation takes effect April 1.

Guy W. Bigger has purchased the interest of his partner in the Bigger hardware company at Marceline and is now the sole owner. Mr. Bigger is one of Linn county's best young business men and is building up a large and profitable trade.

George Pierce, of Purdin, got drunk in Browning last week and shoved another fellow through a plate glass front. The Leader-Record is of the opinion that the loss will fall on the widow who owns the building, as one who has no more manhood than to get crazy drunk isn't likely to make good the damage he does.

On a petition of more than one hundred taxpayers the county court at the February meeting last Monday ordered a special election for Tuesday, March 20, for the purpose of voting on the proposition of an increased tax levy of 20 cents on the one hundred dollar valuation to build a \$50,000 court house at Linneus. The judges of election for this township are Geo. Lloyd, J. A. Dodd, Jas. T. Hamilton and A. J. Leech.

Sunday School Convention.

A township Sunday school convention will be held at the M. E. church next Wednesday. Two sessions will be held, the afternoon session beginning at 1:30 and the evening session at 7:30. The main object of the convention is to perfect a township organization to work in connection with the county organization. The following program has been arranged:

- 1:30 Devotional—F. F. Welsh.
- 2:00 Business meeting.
- 3:00 Importance of the Country Sunday School—Rev. Grant Creekmore.
- 3:30 Discussion.
- 4:00 Adjournment.
- 7:30 Song Service.
- 8:00 Address—The Sunday School in Its Relation to the Church—Rev. Wm. Johnson.

Luckiest Man in Arkansas.

"I'm the luckiest man in Arkansas," writes H. L. Stanley, of Bruno, "since the restoration of my wife's health after five years of continuous coughing and bleeding from the lungs; and I owe my good fortune to the world's greatest medicine, Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, which I know from experience will cure consumption if taken in time. My wife improved with the first bottle and twelve bottles completed the cure." Cures the worst coughs and colds or money refunded. At W. R. Barton's drug store. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

HERE AND THERE.

Local Items of the Week Gathered For the Busy Blade Readers.

The Reveille says E. L. Libby, of Lebanon, is spending a few days on his ranch near Linn Creek preparing for spring.

Chas. Malhorn, who bought the McGrew farm, arrived with his family from Iowa last Saturday and moved out to their new home.

Rev. Sissons will occupy the pulpit at the Presbyterian church next Sunday, preaching morning and evening. All are cordially invited.

H. E. Weld arrived from Iowa Wednesday evening and moved out onto the Fife farm north of town which he recently purchased.

Mr. and Mrs. Noah Bittenger, of Baltimore, Md., are visiting relatives here, guests of Mr. Bittenger's sister, Mrs. Jas. Stark, and family east of town.

G. O. Boomer, a good farmer and member of the republican committee, was in town last Saturday and called and renewed his subscription to THE BLADE.

Those wanting hay should see F. R. Power. He is prepared to furnish timothy in car lots or will furnish Kansas prairie hay in any quantity. See him at once.

A tamale social will be given by the Epworth League at the G. A. R. hall, Friday, February 16. Come one, come all. We will insure you a good time. Admission 15 cents.

Those wanting raspberry plants should send in their orders at once as our supply is limited. Call Mahurin phone, Locust line, or address T. M. Hogan, Route 1, Box 24, Laclede.

John C. Brown, who has been traveling salesman for the Monarch Range Company for the past three years, left last Saturday for Milwaukee to attend the hardware convention held there this week.

Carpet rags dyed with Putnam Fadeless Dyes will not fade, the colors are bright and pretty. Putnam Fadeless Dyes cost no more than others, but color more goods brighter and faster colors. Ask your dealer.

Savage & Wilkins this week sold 80 acres of Dick Boomer's 120 acre farm six miles south of Laclede to Fred Griffith, who is here from Idaho visiting his sister, Mrs. S. Baker. The price paid was \$60 per acre.

Master Ross Welsh, accompanied by his papa, F. F. Welsh, called on THE BLADE Thursday. Ross had a desire to see how and where THE BLADE was made and examined the presses and engine with more interest than many grown people.

Country butter has become so scarce and the supply so uncertain that creamery butter is now being used in Laclede. C. B. Welsh shipped in some this week from a Kansas City creamery that is being retailed at 25 cents per pound.

J. R. Harrison has moved here from Hannibal and is occupying the Silvey house in the west part of town. Mr. Harrison is traveling representative for a Hannibal hide and fur house and moves to Laclede to be near the center of his territory.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Harter arrived Monday night from Weatherford, Okla., bringing the remains of their nine months old baby that had died on Saturday. Funeral services were held at the M. E. church Tuesday morning, conducted by Rev. Robison, interment being made in the Laclede cemetery. Mr. Harter has been in Oklahoma several years and the occasion of his return to home folks and friends was indeed sad. In their bereavement Mr. and Mrs. Harter have the sympathy of all our people.

Some Evening Reveries.

THE BLADE believes the world need never shed a tear for its sainted dead. They are safe as the harvest is when the farmer has bound it into sheaves and stored it away, or as the roses are when the gardener has wrapped their roots in straw and housed them from the storm. They are safe as the lark that flies singing from the green earth out of reach of the huntsman's snare and the aim of the cruel sportsman. They are safe as warriors who march beneath worn battle-flags no more, but sit down with conquerors to festivals of song and wine. They are safe as young lambs are when shepherds fold them from the blast and carry them over rough places in tender arms. Weep for the living all you choose; let your tears be unstayed above the dying bed when your darlings lie like wreaths of fading snow beneath the glare of death; but if you believe in God, and hold any faith in heaven, shed not your tears for the blessed and happy dead. Christianity gives the lie to its belief when it garbs itself in sables and mourns without comfort for those who have exchanged the inn for the palace, the wilderness for the land of peace and plenty.

"I think people rather often completely misapprehend what are really the important questions. The question of the tariff, the currency, or even the regulation of railroad rates are all subordinate to the great moral movement which mean the preservation of the individual in his or her relation to the home, because if the homes are all straight the state will take care of itself."

The above are the words of President Roosevelt in an address to a "White House" delegation. It should have been in his annual message to congress. These few words are the "milk in the cocoanut," and if heeded by us all there would be no necessity in the future of a message to congress, eight columns in length in order to call the attention of that body to the many evils existing.

The above words of our president should be printed in letters of gold so plainly that "he who runs made read" and then framed and hung in every home in this broad land. There are no politics in these words. They are facts known to us all.

When the homes are properly regulated the tariff, the railroads and the currency will not need laws to regulate them.

When the press and our public orators unite in giving their best thoughts and attention to the homes, all our great national problems will soon solve themselves.

When the homes are right the entire country will be right. The questions that effect the morals and purity of our homes are the real and vital questions.

Our political speakers appeal only to partisan feelings and your pocket-book. You never hear them using their eloquence in an honest endeavor to better our homes which are foundation stones upon which rest all our laws and institutions, both state and national.

The voters who go out from moral, pure homes, will place moral and pure men in office, who will give us honest and pure railroad and tariff regulations. All we need is more moral and pure homes so as to supply us with a majority of the voters.

Our president takes this view of it, and it is that which has brought him so close to the honest thinking people of all parties. Let us repeat his words: "If the homes are all straight, the state will take care of itself." It is this thought that inspires us to give so much space to this particular department of THE BLADE.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS TO DEBATE.

To Contest for Honors with Marceline at Laclede Opera House March 9.

The next important event this school year will be a debate between the high school boys of Laclede and the high school of Marceline. Laclede made the challenge and it was accepted and the debate will be held at the opera house in Laclede on Friday night, March 9.

There are so many in the Laclede school who are anxious to take part in the debate that a contest for the honor will be held at the assembly room before a committee whose duty it will be to select three to be put against a like number from Marceline. The question to be debated is

Resolved, That the early colonists deserve more credit for settling and holding this country than the revolutionists for freeing it.

Laclede takes the negative and already something like a dozen boys are searching for "pints" to include in their arguments.

A Rural Route Abandoned.

Rural route No. 17 out of Kansas City was abandoned last Monday until the farmers improve the condition of the roads. A route inspector went over the route last Saturday and found many mudholes and several bridges broken down. This is a forcible reminder that it is up to the farmers to keep the roads in passable condition in order to have free delivery. If they refuse or neglect to do this, service may be cut out on a part or all of the route at any time. Linn county now has complete service and how long it remains depends on whether the farmers appreciate it enough to keep the roads in good condition.

Entertainment and Supper.

The Knights and Ladies of Security will give an entertainment and supper at Odd Fellows hall on next Friday night, February 16. Plenty of music and a good time assured those who attend. Admission free. Refreshments of cake, coffee and pie will be served at 10 cents. Everybody invited to come and have a good time.

ADA M. COULSON,
Cor. Secretary.

A Healing Gospel.

The Rev. J. C. Warren, pastor of Sharon Baptist church, Belair, Ga., says of Electric Bitters: "It's a God-send to mankind. It cured me of a lame back, stiff joints and complete physical collapse. I was so weak that it took me half an hour to walk a mile. Two bottles of Electric Bitters have made me so strong that I have just walked three miles in 50 minutes and feel like walking three more. It's made a new man of me." Greatest remedy for weakness and all stomach, liver and kidney complaints. Sold under guarantee at W. R. Barton's drug store. Price 50c.

Notice.

Pay your taxes at once, as the tax books must now be closed up and returned to the county court.

L. E. HAMILTON,
Township Collector.

For Sale.

One 12 gauge shot gun, winchester, pump, take down, 6 shot, good as new. Price right. J. H. Brown.

Get in the game at the roller skating rink tonight.

Wm. Kimble has rented and moved onto Mrs. Foreman's farm and becomes a patron of route 1 from Laclede.

If a man is not sufficiently imaginative to produce evidence in support of a lie, he might just as well speak the truth at once.