

Missouri's Pure Food Law.

How the Baking Powder Trust Got In its Work on Country "Editors" and Missouri "Statesmen."

Perhaps not many of its citizens know it, yet Missouri has a "pure food" law. For this blessing we are under obligations to the baking powder trust, which—like all other trusts—is a great benevolent institution. The trust spent thousands upon thousands of dollars to bring about a law to protect the ignorant people of Missouri against "inferior" baking powders—and with money one can bring about most any sort of a law in Missouri.

But the methods of the trust are interesting. Such results are not brought about in a day. The first step was to get a monopoly on the cream of tartar output. The next was to prejudice the people against all baking powders that did not contain cream of tartar. And last, to have a law passed to prohibit the sale of all other powders.

Some ten years ago the trust began its work in Missouri to "educate the people." Every newspaper received a proposition to publish columns of "literature" at so much per line. The price offered the Newsboy was three cents per line. This "literature" went on at length to show up the poisonous effects of alum baking powders and the healthfulness of powders made from cream of tartar. Exhaustive expert opinions of "leading" chemists were also given. This "literature" was to appear as the editor's own opinion of the matter and the contract specifically stated that nothing should appear in the paper to indicate that the matter was an advertisement—or paid for. The editor wrote the trust managers that his opinion regarding the poisonous effects of alum and ammonia were not for sale at three cents a line. In a few weeks the stuff made its appearance on the patent or ready-print side of the paper, and we warned the Kellogg company to keep it out—and they did so.

However, this "literature" found its way to the editorial and news columns of quite all the newspapers of the State, and the people—not knowing that the editors were in the employ of the trust—believed what they read and formed a prejudice against alum baking powders. The rest was easy. At the session of the legislature three years ago the trust had a strong lobby present, and the "pure food" law was passed. Now it is against the law to sell anything

but trust made baking powder in this great anti-trust State, and the people are forced to pay three prices. About the time the "pure food" law was under discussion a bill was introduced that was really intended for good. It was a measure providing that canned goods manufacturers should place on the label the year in which the stuff was put up, so that the purchaser might ascertain whether he was buying stuff put up in the nineteenth or twentieth century. This was opposed by the canned goods manufacturers. And although it is not known that any one was ever injured by the use of alum baking powder, while it is a common occurrence to read of whole families being poisoned from the use of ancient canned goods, yet our law-makers concluded to protect us against the harmless powder and subject us to the deadly canned goods.

On any day, in Missouri, you can go to any town and buy coffee that has had all but the last traces of strength extracted from it; coffee that is mixed with our own cornfield peas and beans; coffee that from an entire car-load a good cup of coffee could not be made. This is in violation of the Missouri "pure food" law.

In Missouri you can buy sugar adulterated with sand; flour adulterated with corn meal; coffee adulterated with beans; sausage made from dog meat and horse flesh; canned goods put up before the revolution; oyster oysters with three oysters to the can and the remainder slop water; cans labelled "fresh salmon" filled with "mud-jacks;" "apple cider" made from acids and rotten wood; "sorghum molasses," "pure candy," "pure jellies," etc., made from the offalls of the glucose factory. Yes, these things and many more are for sale in every Missouri town and the people have no protection against injurious adulteration nor substitution. But when it comes to baking powders, then it's different. This law—that "pure food" law—prohibits the sale of all powders except the trust made article. And people "pay the freight" and continue to vote for men who howl down the trusts and combinations just before elections and serve them afterward.

Alum baking powders are not injurious. The trust did it.

FARMERS ORGANIZING!

Our Neighbors in the Sand Beginning to Discuss Politics.

The farmers in the neighborhood of Cross Plains have organized a club and hold meetings at which ideas are exchanged on political and other matters. It is said that a like movement is on foot in the Southeast part of the county.

These meetings and the organization of new clubs should be encouraged all over the county. The farmer must do something to assert his right to live in a free country or else get off the earth.

A parent or central organization ought to be organized at Cross Plains composed of good and true men—men who would not, under any circumstances, be "influenced." This parent or central body should send men into adjoining districts and adjoining townships until the county is covered. Let the work spread into other counties, and in a short while it will spread like wild-fire and envelop the State.

The traveling and incidental expenses of the organizers could be met by charging a membership fee of five or ten cents. Great care should be taken that no men are selected as organizers who would be at all likely to accept expense money from "Brown."

Farmers are overwhelmingly in the majority, and they deserve going out at the seat of their pants if they continue to let "Bill Jones" do their thinking and voting for them.

Railroad Commissioners Coming.

Prosecuting Attorney Kelley has been notified that on the 29th inst. the railroad commissioners will visit Morley to consider the advisability of ordering a "union depot" there. The present arrangement is very inconvenient, and because railroad corporations are at "loggerheads" is no reason why the public should be thus inconvenienced. But "the people be d—n" is the motto of our public service corporations.

THE SOUTHEAST.

Doings and Happenings in Neighboring Counties.

Jackson Cash-Book: "The Dunklin Democrat suggests to the other anti-Vandiver papers that they stop discussing the congressional primary matter. It says agitating the question only serves to advertise Mr. Vandiver. The Democrat is quite right. The spiteful and unjust attack those papers are making on Mr. Vandiver and the congressional committee for its action in calling a primary is helpful to Mr. Vandiver's interests. The intelligent voters, when they read those papers, ask themselves this question: "What are all these fellows fussing about? Does not the primary take the matter out of the hands of the politicians and place the selecting of a candidate directly in the hands of all the people? Are the politicians afraid to trust the people?"

Bro. Waters, of the Southeast Missouriian is all right. He tells about the richness of Little River soil and proceeds thusly: "James Campbell planted two acres in corn, without preparing the ground, simply by using a hoe to cover the seed. The crop was not cultivated at all. From the two acres he gathered over 100 bushels of good corn, the replant not maturing on account of the early frost. He also raised a large quantity of pumpkins and peas on the same ground."

Prof. N. B. Henry, of Fredericktown, is said to be a candidate for State Superintendent of Public Schools. Prof. Henry is a good man—and such men have little show to get a job at the State capital under existing conditions. Only men who can get a recommendation from "Brown" are acceptable.

The Cape Girardeau Press wanted considerable space in noticing what it termed the "blacksmithshop papers" at Sikeston. Evidently Bro. Treasurer needed something to fill up on.

Abam Dirnburger and Adam Souler went to the Cape Wednesday. Ida Gerst, who has been sick since October, is up again.

Material for the erection of a cook room and dining hall for the picnic is being put on the grounds.

Justin Dumay and Louis Hahn attended the funeral of Dave Meins, at Kelso, Monday.

STATE COMMITTEE MEET

Champ Clark's Idea of a State Primary Knocked in the Head.

Two years have passed since Dave Ball, of Pike county, conceived the idea that any man had the right to run for governor of Missouri. But it didn't take Dave long to drop that idea like a hot potato.

Cape Girardeau Democrat: "The contract has been let for the building of the S. M. & A. from this city to St. Louis. The contractors are to put up a good ballast roadbed, with seventy-five pound steel rails, and when completed we will have as good a road as there is in this part of the State. The contract was let for \$20,000 a mile."

The Moorehouse Post wants to know why and how it is that citizens of Sikeston can shoot at each other without there being anything said about it. Well, the "reputable newspapers" down there are presumed to publish the "news," and a shooting match in Sikeston may not be considered by them as "news."

During the severe cold spell of last month inhuman parents abandoned seven children, ranging in age from 4 to 14 years, in an old shanty in New Madrid county. They were found by hunters, almost frozen, and reported to New Madrid authorities. The parents are in jail and the children have been provided for.

The Cape Girardeau county circuit court, last week, sent five men to the penitentiary, viz: James Warren, larceny, two years; Walter Young, larceny, two years; Wm. Harris, larceny, two years; George Hopper, crime against nature, four years; Sug. Bruce, larceny, two years.

The Charleston Courier is a new paper just launched at Charleston, with Lorenz Deline as manager and John F. Martin as local editor. It is published by the Courier Publishing Co. and supports Joe Russell for congress. The first issue is newsworthy and well gotten up.

Smallpox seems to be pretty well scattered throughout the Southeast. Perhaps it is more prevalent in St. Francois county than elsewhere. Boone Terre alone lays claim to between fifty and sixty cases.

AROUND-ABOUT.

R. L. Harrison has recovered from his "sick spell" and is again at his post. Attorney R. A. Kingsbury and Ben Barnes are assisting the collector in getting out the delinquent notices.

C. D. Damon, proprietor of the Benton flour mill, left for his home at Ekron, Ky., the first of the week, and left his son, Charles, in charge of the mill here. Charley thinks he can make a success of the mill here.

Some of our local politicians have received a photographic group of the members of the Jefferson Club, St. Louis. Judge Leedy tried in vain to recognize "Brown."

Mr. Kingsbury thinks somebody was trying to steal him Wednesday night. He says some one was prowling around where they had no business.

Henry Harris, formerly of the Newby farm, has accepted a position on the Charleston Enterprise. Henry is a good printer.

Miss Eva Dunne, of Franklin county, is visiting Mrs. J. S. Freeling and other friends here, and will remain for some time.

Wm. Canham, of Commerce and Jesse Wright, of Richwoods, were visitors at Benton Saturday.

George Mier, of Bleda was in Benton Tuesday attending to matters pertaining to his father's estate.

Hardin Adams, son of the irrefragable Ben, was in Benton Wednesday, on a collecting tour for his dad.

Prof. High, the Commerce palatur, has been doing some work about Benton during the past week.

When you go to your postoffice don't forget to ask if there is any mail for "Brown."

Uncle Jesse Miller is reported quite sick at his home South of Benton.

Dr. Henderson and Sam. Finley were in Oran Monday.

At New Hamburg.

Wanted: At once and will pay the highest market price for Corn and same. Cash on delivery Wood. At Benton City Mills.

Will pay 80c for No. 2 Wheat. C. D. DAMON, Proprietor.

Nothing going on this week. Our village has a forsaken appearance. When the weather permits it our farmers work, and the burg is dull.

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At Kelso.

It may not be generally known that within two miles of Kelso lives a woman who has passed the century mark. She is the wife of Martin Tackwell and is 101 years old. Mr. Tackwell, her husband, is 74 years of age and is quite sprightly for his age. Mrs. Tackwell cannot get about much and is confined to the house most of the time. Her husband does the washing and cooking. The county contributes a small amount for their support at each term, but Mr. Tackwell thinks they should give more. He says "the court seems to think that the old woman is living too long, and because I am pretty spry they don't allow us much." The great county of Scott should see to it that these old people do not suffer.

Oran News Notes.

At the Catholic Church the annual election of the trustees resulted in the election of August Gosche, president, to serve three years; Ed. L. Miller, treasurer, to serve two years, and Wm. Meiz, secretary, to serve one year. The election of the St. Joseph Society resulted in James Farmer being elected president; Henry Kemper treasurer, and J. L. Stehr, secretary. The St. Anna's Society selected Mrs. Simon Heisner as president and Mrs. Anna Halter as treasurer. The St. Aloysius and St. Mary's societies will hold their annual elections next Sunday.

George W. Welby, of Whitewater, and Mrs. Mary M. Thomas, of this township, were united in marriage at the parsonage by Rev. Helmhaeber, Tuesday. Felix Legrand and Miss Rosa Morley played the part of witnesses. The newly married couple immediately took the train for their future home—Whitewater.

The temperance lecture by Mr. Hay of the Methodist church Sunday evening, was certainly fine. Oh, if only everyone knew the dangers of intemperance and the number of lives shortened by cigarettes!

Thos. F. Hinkle intends winding up his business here and making his future home in New Mexico in search of health. We shall regret to lose Mr. and Mrs. Hinkle.

Father Helmhaeber is looking for a nice married team to hitch to his new buggy. The KICKER man's team is just the fit, but that is not for sale.

A "week's" prayer meeting is being held this week as a prelude to a protracted meeting to begin on Monday evening next at the M. E. church. The Degree of Honor, A. O. U. W., gave an entertainment and supper Thursday evening with quite satisfactory results.

The farmers of our vicinity fear a poor wheat crop. Wheat appears not at all promising in this locality. Need warm rains.

The large belfry at the Catholic church will be completed this week. Andrew Essner, of Benton, is superintending the work.

George Stehr will soon have his new house completed. What will happen then can easily be guessed.

Some of our people are in Bollinger county where, it is said, good large mules can be bought cheap.

Miss Ira Myers, who had been visiting Miss May Myers, has returned to her home at Sikeston.

Mrs. T. E. Tomlinson and Mrs. Wm. Taylor visited Oran friends and relatives since our last.

The T. B. R. has been invited to play the drama, "Captured," at Vanduser on the 24th inst.

Mrs. North and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Adams, of Morley, attended the lecture here Sunday evening.

E. E. Bryans is building a large barn on his property in the north part of town.

Mrs. Catherine Mier, of Bleda, is very sick, as is also Mrs. Tony Strack near here.

Mrs. W. H. Strubeloff is visiting friends and relatives at Sikeston.

Rev. Husman, of Charleston, visited Rev. Helmhaeber Tuesday.

Tony Burger, who was severely injured last week, is out again.

George Bed is building himself a new residence in town.

Joe Galsner is looking for a residence in town.

Blodgett.

Mr. H. A. McCulloh of Charleston, was in Blodgett Sunday and Monday.

Master Carl Bess has been right sick for the past week.

John Engram went to Oran Tuesday. He has declined the idea of moving there.

Mr. W. C. Edmunds of Hopkinsville, Ky., visited here Sunday.

Lon Foreman left for Cape Girardeau Monday, where he has a position on the I. C. railroad.

Small pox is reported a short distance from town.

Those who love to dance, should come to the ball Friday night.

Mrs. Mary E. Davis, died last Monday of pneumonia.

Ernest Kossling has a position as book keeper for B. F. Marshall Mercantile company.

Jack Cheving, salesman for Sherer, Stubs, & Co., is on the sick list.

How Can We Boast.

In these days when, in free America, men are burned at the stake; when whole families, even helpless children, are herded in sweat shops, working at starvation wages to increase the profits of competitive dealers; when the successful man lives in a palace on the boulevard and his unsuccessful brother lies down to die besides his starving family in an attic; when congress again and again defers a national education bill and votes millions and millions of dollars to hunt down the brown men on the other side of the world; when the few dance while the many weep and untold thousands subsist upon alms when they should have the chance to be fed and housed upon the fruits of their own honest toil; when the wholesome foods of a teeming soil are sold in adulterated packages and men turn to drink because their nourishment is scant and insufficient in sustaining power; when the industrial slave cringes under a more cruel lash than the whip of the overseer, and tender young women from Christian homes are forced to eke out a precarious livelihood, or accept the alternative of a life of degradation and shame; when the rich are growing richer in all our great cities and the poor are growing poorer; when in the damp, dark mines the men who labor in perpetual gloom must accept starvation wages, while the master puts up the price of coal to the shivering consumer, who buys by the bucketful to keep his wife and children from freezing; when we who have sown the wind are reaping the whirlwind, which is still blowing and howling around us; how can one boast of peace, prosperity, and the sway of the golden rule? Nay rather let us bow down in sackcloth and ashes, lest the decree come to us: "Weighed in the balances and found wanting." Once I believed that every cause of improvidence and crime from the inborn criminality of the impoverished class. Nearly two scores years of increasing charity work, during which time I have personally inspected every variety of slum life, going often into haunts and places against the admonition of the police, but always to find the heart of man and women beating warm and true under the most forbidding exterior—I repeat that nearly two scores years of actual experience in practical charity has forced upon me the conclusion that industrial slavery, the opposite of the golden rule, is responsible for the misery and degradation all around us.

Commerce.

C. F. DeWint was called to St. Louis last week on account of the serious illness of his step-daughter, Mrs. Jennie Delman. He returned with her Saturday, and on Tuesday evening Mrs. Delman died at the residence of E. A. Johnson at the age of 47 years. She was buried at the city cemetery Thursday forenoon, services being conducted by Rev. Rogers. Mrs. Delman was a native of this place, the daughter of D. C. Billings and sister to Mrs. C. F. DeWint, Mrs. E. A. Johnson and Mrs. W. A. Ward.

Bill Daugherty wants to know how about Champ Clark? He says the time has gone by when office-holders should be allowed in conventions. Wonder what he thinks of a Democratic State committee composed chiefly of office-holders? Is it any wonder Champ's primary scheme got it where the chicken got its ax?

The holiday visitors have all returned home, the boys have returned to their accustomed ten-cent per pound bonbons, and society is jogging along in its usual way.

Ben Brown, of Thebes, Ill., accidentally shot himself the other day. Doctors probed for the ball but could not find it. Wound is considered dangerous.

Mr. and Mrs. Genoway have been here this week and have about succeeded in organizing a Ben Hur lodge—the which is decidedly a "herd" lodge.

Geo. W. Bowman, city marshal and merchant at Hayti, Mo., and his wife are visiting Mrs. Woodward. Mrs. Bowman has an attack of facial erysipelas.

Albert Sullinger, of Twynpenny, says that the prospects for wheat in the bottom lands are only fair to middling.

The river is clear of ice and rising. Boats have passed both ways, yet none have stopped in to say howdy.

There are two wheat fields on Big Island of thousand acres each, and Church Sanders says it looks fine.

The Misses Jessie Anderson and Emma Matthews are visiting Sikeston friends this week.

The Misses Bird Moore and Maud Edgar are visiting friends at Cape Girardeau.

Recorder Harris was over to our village Monday looking as fat and as fat as ever.

Parson Rodgers held a protracted meeting on Big Island last week.

Marriage License Granted.

Following marriage license were issued by Recorder Harris:

Henry C. M. Inax.....Thebes, Ill
Mary M. Quinlan.....

Geo. W. Welby.....Whitewater
Mrs. M. M. Thomas.....Oran

Wm. A. Wood.....Sikeston
Mrs. Daisy Lee Roberts.....

Postal Censorship.

The Postoffice Department has taken upon itself the business of State censor. It virtually proposes to say what is proper for the people to read and what is not proper. It has entered upon a vigorous campaign to stamp out Socialism and Populism. The Challenge, a paper published in Los Angeles, (Cal.) and New York, has been excluded from the mails as second-class mail matter, and the department justifies its action on the ground that it was the personal organ of the editor, used solely for the purpose of disseminating his opinions.

They will soon dispose of Mr. Bryan's Commoner upon the same ground if this decision is allowed to stand. What is the Register but the vehicle for the opinions of its editor? Suppose he should make up one number entirely with his opinions? Under the ruling of the Postoffice Department, would not that issue of the paper be excluded from the privilege of second-class mail matter? The exclusion of the Appeal to Reason of Girard, Kansas, from the mails as second-class matter, is an attempt to suppress that paper solely on account of its teachings. It is bitterly anti-Republican and the authorities have concluded to nip its growing influence in the bud, if possible.

The whole business is the beginning of an attempt to prevent the spread of opinions distasteful to our Money Lords, who control the present administration. It is a covert attempt upon the part of the government to say what opinions shall be taught and what shall not be taught. If an editor conducts his paper in accordance with the "deas" of the Postoffice Department, it will be allowed to circulate through the mails without obstruction, but if he conducts it according to his own ideas, his paper is to be destroyed if the Postoffice Department can accomplish it. Men who love liberty will have to unite to defend free speech in the twentieth century, as they did in the seventeenth and eighteenth. Freedom of opinion is the foundation stone of a free government. We must remember that when men tear down a brick at a time, Postal censorship is a single brick, albeit a large one—Ironton Register.

Ben Teukoff, of Oran, was in town Thursday.