

SCOTT COUNTY KICKER

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WILL THAT TIME COME?

"Mississippi, Scott, New Madrid and Dunklin counties will never reach their zenith of progress and prosperity until the extensive land holders give way to the lesser owners who will each sit in his own shade and be a fixture in the community and a factor in the affairs of the respective counties."—Dunklin County Mail.

Will that time come when the extensive land holders give way to the lesser owners who will each sit in his own shade? With each year the landlord becomes more powerful, while the men who till the soil become more helpless. And this will continue to be so as long as the men who own the land and the Bible directs allow the landlords and their "attorneys" to run the political affairs of the country. Cast an eye over the Scott county delegates selected last week to represent the tenant farmers of this county!

And it has been so for these many years. Men are thus put in high official positions to serve the "respectable" men who hop along in their overalls and jumpers are not to be considered as capable of knowing what is best for them. The "respectable" gentlemen attend to that.

The landlord-like any other monopolist—will not let go until the people get sense enough to call a halt. This they can do at any time. It is our infamous land laws that make land monopolies possible, and these land laws cannot be changed so long as landlords are permitted to run the politics of the country. We have the English land laws—the same laws that have made slaves of the Irish people. And the American people are being enslaved with a rapidity that is astonishing.

Trace any land title back to its origin and you will find that it is no better than would be your title to my pocketbook if you held me up and robbed me of it.

We have no quarrel with the individual landlord. He is simply taking advantage of the laws and the conditions as he finds them. It is the infamous system that should be remedied. And this will not be so long as the beneficiaries of the system are permitted to dictate the laws and select the men whose duty it is to enforce them.

But the Year of Jubilee may get around here and bye.

HAS AROUSED INDIGNATION.

"Is it not about time for Mr. Geo. Gould, president of the Missouri Pacific railway, to give the people of Missouri some assurance that his great company will hereafter be divorced from politics? Mr. Gould and his board ought, however, to see that the time has come when his employees should cease their efforts to control primaries, conventions and elections. A failure to pursue this policy may arouse a storm of indignation."—Republican.

Well, yes. The refusal of Mr. Gould and his hiring newspapers and "attorneys" to be "divorced from politics" has already aroused a storm of indignation in Missouri, and the effort of the St. Louis Republic to throw dust in the eyes of the people will not save the gang this fall.

They've got to move. There is Bill Phelps, the lobby chief of the Missouri Pacific railway, selected as a delegate-at-large to the Democratic national convention in 1900.

There is Mart, Clardy, general "attorney" for the Missouri Pacific system, under whose protecting wing J. M. Seibert flung himself when the constable had the big Democratic chairman in tow to take him to Independence to make him swear what he did with the money he collected from the brewers and other sources, and tell what he knew about the "confidential affairs of the Democratic party."

Clardy called up "Brown" over the long distance telephone. "Brown" saw Clardy and gave him \$7,500 to quit the suit, and the constable was notified to turn Seibert loose.

And it is just now beginning to dawn upon the Republic that unless Mr. Gould gives the people of Missouri some assurance that his great company will HEREAFTER be divorced from politics, there MAY be aroused a storm of public indignation.

Mark the word "hereafter!"

Governor Davis, of Arkansas, was ousted from the Baptist church because of drunkenness, gambling and immoral conduct. If these charges are true should he not be ousted as governor? Is a man fit to be the governor of a great state when he is not fit to hold membership in a church?

Every campaign orator who attempts a denunciation of the state administration this fall will likely be asked to answer this question: "Who is Brown?"

THEY'LL BE FOR IT.

The Democratic ringsters will declare for public ownership in their platform at St. Joseph. See if they don't. They are aware of the strong sentiment in favor of the movement throughout the state, and they never fail to put anything in their platform that is likely to catch a vote.

Lee Meriwether, of St. Louis, has been advocating public ownership for years, and because he did this the politicians and corporation organs have denounced him as an anarchist and a socialist. But the Meriwether movement has spread out over the state to such an extent that both the Democratic and Republican parties are likely to embrace it in their platforms—just to catch votes, not to stand on. Last week, after denouncing Meriwether as an ally of the Republican party, the Buchanan county (St. Joseph) convention passed the following resolution:

"We unhesitatingly declare ourselves in favor of municipal ownership of public utilities, and call attention to the fact that every effort in that direction has been made by Democratic officials acting in harmony with the platforms and principles of the Democratic party."

Well, if that isn't "gall." They'll call attention to the fact that every effort in that direction has been made by Democratic officials.

What effort? They fail to point out a single instance where "Democratic officials" made any effort in that direction. We are from Missouri and will have to be shown.

If the Democrats exerted every effort in that direction, then why haven't we got public ownership now? The whole machinery of government in Missouri is in charge of so-called Democrats.

Smoots crime is practically unknown in Newfoundland. But these murders have been committed in 30 years and the murderers were hanged. The colonial penitentiary has but thirty prisoners, and but six of these have sentences exceeding six months. One magistrate has been in the service for thirty years and has sent but one man to jail. St. Johns is the capital and has a population of 30,000. As a rule the offenders are not natives, but foreign sailors who become intoxicated and try to take the town of St. Johns. Evidently they are not blessed with our "advanced civilization" in Newfoundland.

As an exchange, in advocating the organization of a society for the prevention of embezzlement, says: "Just think of digging the eyes out of potatoes, pulling the ears off corn, cutting the heads of cabbage, pulling the heads out of rye, threshing wheat, cutting the heart of trees, spilling the blood of beasts, tearing the skin of a peach, breaking the neck of a squash, scalding the heads of lettuce, spewing a lemon, quartering an apple, and similar outrages. And in almost every instance these crimes are committed by women, too!"

What it would take up too much space to name the various Democratic exchanges who continue a defense of conditions in Missouri, yet we ask that each consider this as a direct and pertinent question: Do you believe Sam Cook and ex-Gov. Stephens told the truth, under oath, at Independence, Mo.? If so, then by what line of reasoning do you defend the State House Ring?

The Beer war is over. The result is practically a victory for the Boers. England is to pay them \$15,000,000, release and return all prisoners at British expense and give Boers self-government "as soon as practicable." More than a billion dollars have been spent. Thousands upon thousands of lives have been sacrificed—and for what? To satisfy British greed!

SOME of the administration organs tell us that Jim Seibert will not be a candidate for reelection as chairman of the Democratic state committee. What of that? Can't he collect from the brewers and other sources and distribute in the "close counties" just the same as he did two years ago? Not being chairman does not mean that he will not direct the campaign.

EMMET NEWTON of Springfield, an administration rooster, was here last week in the interest of Judge Sherwood for re-nomination to the supreme bench of Missouri. The strongest evidence that Judge Sherwood is perfectly satisfactory to the corporations is the fact that he has held onto his job for thirty years.

Word comes to the Kicker that Judge Fox was in St. Louis last week looking after his "fences," and was being escorted about by Jim Seibert. That's mighty bad company you're keeping, Judge.

It is now reported that Bill Phelps has gone over into the Republican camp. Phelps has enough of the rat in him to desert a ship when he discovers that it is sinking.

READ the report of the St. Louis grand jury, published elsewhere, and then put on your thinkin'-cap.

THIS IS MY ANNUAL HARVEST SALE!

Granulated Sugar, 18 pounds for \$1.00. Arbuckle's Coffee, 9 Packages for \$1.00. Good Roasted Coffee, formerly 15 Cts. Per Pound, now 11c. Good 20c. Coffee at 15c. Prunes, 5c. per pound. Rice, 5c. per pound. Star Tobacco, 40c. per Pound. Six Spools of Coats' Thread for 25c. Etc., etc., etc.

Now I Want to Tell You about my Large Line of Hardware and Farm Machinery!

I believe I have the Largest and best assorted stock of Hardware in Scott County. It is up to date. Cook Stoves from \$7.50 up. Nails, \$2.75 to \$3.00 per keg. Iron Bedsteads, Coil and Wire Bedsprings, Fence Wire, Smooth Wire, Cutlery, Guns, Pistols, Ammunition, Screen Doors and Windows, Screen Wire, Pumps, Pump Pipe, White Lead, Mixed Paint, Oil, Varnish, etc. Get a Wire Cot and keep cool. Anti-Rust Tinware—Guaranteed for three years.

Deering Binder Twine is Guaranteed to run further than any other twine Marketed.

Canvas Tax, Rivets, Bolts and Repairs for all Binders. Hay Tools, Rope for Hay-Carriers, Cultivators, Mowers, Plows, Harrows, Lawn Mowers, Mowing Blades, Wheat Cradles, and so on. Open early and late during the Harvest Season.

Come and see for Yourself. A. BAUDENDISTEL, KELSO, MO.

WON'T BREAK A TRACE.

"We received a very able speech by Editor White, of the Mexico Ledger, in which he wants to stir up a warm enthusiasm for the World's Fair. We like the fair, in fact our bosom swells with pride for the city of St. Louis, but we don't expect to do any grand work. When the fair comes off here are yet alive we will go to see it and will have to pay for some. Too many soft jobs hanging around for the lucky ones for us to break a trace."—St. Genevieve News.

You are exactly right. It is expected of all country newspapers—and they generally do it—to print about seven million columns of rot about the big show in order to get people stirred up to a pitch where they will let go of their cash. And for all this the editor is supposed to get gratified if the management sends him a 50-cent admission ticket.

If the promoters who worked the public's foot on the people to the extent of getting "appropriations" from the people's treasury, amounting to some eleven million dollars, want advertising let them pay for it. If they can afford to pay the patriotic (?) World's Fair commissioners fifteen dollars per day each for doing nothing, they can also afford to pay a country newspaper something for its space.

If country newspapers refuse to print their slush for nothing they will get pay. Not a line of it will appear in the Kicker at less than regular rates.

Already rents are doubled in St. Louis and real estate has gone out of sight. The longer the promoters can stare off the fair the longer will the "graft" last.

The effect will be to drain all the money from the surrounding country into St. Louis, and we will not recover from the "stringency" for years after the show.

It will be far better for the rural population of Missouri if the fair is never held.

NOT EXACTLY CORRECT.

"There are indications that the big corporation interests of Missouri, especially the railroads, are going to concentrate their efforts to make the next legislature safely republican."—Dunklin Democrat.

Not exactly. The corporation interests, and especially the railroads, will continue to do in Missouri just as they have been doing. These corporations know no politics and will exert themselves in electing the men who will best serve them. Some of these men call themselves Democrats and some call themselves Republicans. They are just plain bootlickers, and the only hope for the people is to elect enough honest representatives who favor government ownership of railroads to hold the balance of power in the legislature.

Indications are that the Public Ownership party is going to cut quite a figure in the fall campaign. Owing to the scarcity of funds they have but two organizers out, and these report excellent success. For some reason "Brown" does not contribute to their campaign fund.

"NO MAN can get money without earning it, unless some other man earns money without getting it," says Lee Meriwether. And the men who get money without earning it call him an anarchist, a disturber and a demagogue.

It is reported that Judge Fort's REAL friends are very much disappointed over his withdrawal. When they remember how the newspapers reported the "solid for Judge Fort," they wonder what happened.

The Republic has a great deal to say about the Phelps-Kerens deal. Evidently the Republic, like ex-Gov. Stone, fears that Phelps will "sell out the Democratic party."

Every community with a metropolitan newspaper has an "eye witness" to the explosion of Mount Pelee who tells all about it.

Who struck Billy Patterson? Who is "Brown"? Who pulled Judge Fort off? These are questions that may never be solved.

THE GRAND JURY'S REPORT.

The St. Louis grand jury has again spoken—and in no uncertain language. Since January it has been at work, and last Saturday made its final report to Judge Douglas. Read every word of it and learn what the people's "trusted servants" do. It is the most scathing arraignment of public officials ever read in court. Space forbids our giving it in full, but the following are important extracts from the grand jury's report:

MUNICIPAL CORRUPTION.
We have examined many witnesses on the subject of municipal corruption. The flagrant bribery in the Municipal Assembly that has flourished without hindrance so long has been made conspicuous by the report of our predecessors and in court proceedings. It would seem impossible to paint the picture in darker colors, and yet the facts brought out before us have deepened the tones and present an even more infamous blackness.

In the course of our inquiry we have heard from the lips of witnesses the astounding story of corruption. The villainous venality among the sworn officers and public servants of our city should awaken every good citizen to the urgent necessity of stamping it out by giving more attention to public affairs.

Our purpose in this report shall be to state the facts candidly, in order that the public conscience may be thoroughly aroused to the awful plight into which the city has been plunged, with the hope that united and heroic effort may bring about a speedy and change in these conditions. It would not seem possible that men of low, base, sordid, callous natures, criminal instincts, prurient desires and corrupt motives could be elected to honorable and responsible offices affecting the interests and largely the destinies of a great municipality, yet such have neglected our city in the capacity of legislators.

AS TO BRIBERY.

Rumors have been current for years as to bribery in the Municipal Assembly in connection with the passage of ordinances. Grand juries have investigated in times gone by, without results, until many had come to believe the reports untrue. The inquiries of a late grand jury, however, brought to light one of the most gigantic bribery schemes ever carried out.

A street railway company in an effort to secure franchises from the Municipal Assembly had been compelled to put up \$75,000 for the House of Delegates, which money was deposited in a safe deposit box of a trust company, one key being held by the agent of the railway and the other key by a member of the House of Delegates representing the combine in that body, which amount was to be paid to the members of that combine upon the passage of the ordinance. There was also placed in a safe deposit box in another trust company the sum of \$60,000, to go to the city council upon the passage of the proposed measure, there being likewise two keys to this box, one held by the representative of the railroad and the other by the agent of the combine in the city council.

By prompt and energetic action this corruption fund of \$135,000 was seized before the lines and is now held subject to the orders of the court as evidence. A number of indictments grew out of this attempted purchase of a franchise. Two of the defendants have become fugitives from justice, forfeiting large bonds, and are now exiled in a foreign land. Two others have been brought to trial, each case resulting in a conviction, one being given three years in the penitentiary and the other two years. Another of the defendants is still at large in an alien country, where, from present indications, he will abide for a while.

In the trials the bribe money was produced in court, leaving no doubt as to the shocking and startling official delinquency that has been going on.

SCANDAL WITHOUT PARALLEL.

It has been developed further that on another occasion a franchise was procured from the municipal assembly by bribery so scandalous as to be without a parallel. One hundred and forty-five thousand dollars was placed in escrow in a financial institution of this city to be paid to the members of the municipal assembly on the granting of the franchise. The ordinance giving this failed, and a second ordinance was passed under promise of \$250,000 to the members of the assembly, which was afterward distributed among the combine members.

Members of the municipal assembly have come before our body and brazenly admitted that they sought seats in the assembly for the money

Save Your Dollars!

The time has arrived when you do not have to send away to get a Bicycle or Drop-Leaf Sewing Machine for \$12.50 and upward.

We've got 'em in Stock!

AND THAT IS NOT ALL. WE CARRY A GOOD LINE OF

FURNITURE!

Such as Dressers, Sideboards, Folding Beds, Tables, Chairs and Organs. Coffins, Caskets and Mortician's Supplies. Carpets, Rugs, Matting and Hammocks. Hardware, Cutlery, Stoves, Guns, Pistols, Chinaware, Lisk's Anti-Rust Tinware, Glassware and Window Glass. **HARNESS and SADDLERY.** Pumps and Pump Pipe. Gold and Plated Jewelry, Watches and Clocks. Buggies, Binders, Mowers and Hayrakes. Repairs for the Milwaukee Binder and Mower. Also for the Buckeye Mower and the Oliver, Bissel and Vulcan Plows.

B. F. EARLES, - MORLEY.

County Court Proceedings.

County court met in adjourned term on Monday. Present: Judges Reeder, Butts and Welch. Clerk McPheters, Sheriff Henderson, County Attorney Kelly. The following business was transacted:

J. W. Baker et al incorporated as the Scott County Agricultural and Mechanical Society.

In the matter of drainage ditch through Peck's Cypress to intersect ditch No. 1, W. M. Campbell et al petitioners: Robt. L. Harrison, R. A. Kingsbury and S. B. Gannan appointed commissioners and J. E. Warner, civil engineer.

Dramshop license granted to C. H. Hillenmann, Graysboro.

Ordered that the tax levy be as follows on the \$100 valuation: State, 25 cents; county, 40 cents; road, 20 cents. Poll tax, \$2, to be paid in money.

Clas, Stevens ordered taken to the insane asylum.

Allowance—J. A. Armstrong, cutting out and grading road east of Vanduser, \$120; W. R. Stokes, grading road, \$15.72; E. E. Brown, working and grading road, \$157.65; B. W. Worrell, working road, \$67.45; John McKeon, Robt. Davis and J. E. Sparks, commissioners district 17, \$71; H. A. Sisk, pauper, \$15; J. A. and T. E. Chewing, building bridge over Johnstone's Land Co.'s private ditch at Lavalley's Ford, \$135; I. N. Anderson, making abutments, \$6; T. A. Wellman, building bridge near Skiston, \$140; T. A. Wellman, building bridge across drainage ditch 3, near Skiston, \$130; Walter Goddard, care of children, \$12.50; Albert Knechle, bridge lumber, \$47.26; B. L. Stubblefield, fees, \$1.60; Ed. Henderson, sheriff, \$22.55; B. F. Allen, county treasurer, costs in criminal cases, \$65.00; Judges Reeder, Welch and Butts, two days feeding court, \$10 each.

Court adjourned Tuesday noon.

Notice To Teachers.
The Scott County Institute will convene at Skiston, Mo., on June 10, 1902. Examination for certificates will be held at Skiston June 27 and 28. Inasmuch as the official course of study outlines eight subjects to be discussed pedagogically, teachers attending will need the following books: "Art of Study," "Nature Study and the Child," "Organic Education," "American Literature," "All of the above named books can be purchased of H. A. Guse, Jefferson

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Peter Schnur, Baker, - Oran.

Fresh Bread,
Pies and Cakes!
Always on Hand.
Your Patronage Solicited.
PETER SCHNUR.

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Finishing Lumber!

DOORS, SASH, BLINDS,
Split or Sawed Shingles?
If so, you had better see

Mike Welter,

Kelso, Missouri.

If You Need

INSURANCE!

Fire!
Tornado!
Life!
Accident!
Health!

Call on or write
PHIL A. HAFNER,
Benton, Mo.