

SCOTT COUNTY KICKER.

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Federal Grand Jury Indicts Three More.

Looks Like the Jefferson Club Might Soon Have a Quorum in the Penitentiary.—Efforts to Organize "Branch" Clubs in Scott County Last Year.

The flood situation during the past week has given the hoodlums a little relief. Public attention was attracted to the flood.

Many years ago a man was arrested and brought into court for stealing hogs in the Sandywoods. The evidence against him was so clear that there seemed to be no way out. As a last resort he undertook to prove that hog stealing was customary in the Sandywoods, and his lawyer argued that whatever was the established custom of a community ought to be recognized as the law of that community.

Our leading "statesmen" are in the same fix as that Sandywoods hog thief. Their only defense of hoodlums is that it is the established custom, and that it helped the "party."

Last Friday the Federal grand jury lauded three more of our most highly respectable citizens—men who bear the prefix of "Hon."

Last week the Kicker told you about John Burbaglia, the Italian "party" leader of St. Louis, making a confession and imploring some high Democratic officials in furnishing him with naturalization blanks signed and sealed by the officials of the St. Louis Court of Appeals.

The high Democratic officials referred to by him were the Honorable John Dolan, chairman of the Democratic city committee of St. Louis; the Honorable Thomas E. Barrett, marshal of the St. Louis Court of Appeals, and the Honorable Frank Barrett, a policeman, all indicted by the Federal grand jury for aiding in the conspiracy.

All these are members of the Jefferson Club in high standing. The bigger and smoother the rascal, the higher he ranks in the Jefferson Club.

It is an organization that may well be likened to the pirates of old. Its object is plunder.

And the men at the head of it have been plundering Missouri for the past quarter of a century.

It is a second Tammany as conducted by Tweed. It governs—and governs for profit.

Last year this organization made herculean efforts to have branches established throughout the state. George Orchard, the Democratic state committeeman from this district, and member of the club, tried

to work up a branch club at Poplar Bluff.

It is presumed that it was Senator Marshall, also a member of this corrupt organization, who tried to work up a club at Sikeston. His organ—the Sikeston Democrat—published a call with the names of W. H. Barnes, W. L. Carroll and one other that has slipped my memory, signed as the "committee."

But the "call" didn't seem to call. The Kicker had so thoroughly exposed this organization that farmers refused to "bite"—and it was farmers they were after. "Business" men they have a plenty.

Perhaps you remember the big trip of the Jefferson Club gang to Monticello, to worship at the shrine and imbibing new the principles of Thos. Jefferson.

Well, all the country yaps got an "invitation" to go along.

Any good Democrat who had never scratched a ticket was eligible to membership.

All he had to do was to put up five dollars as "initiation fees" to pay for booze and grub, and then the price of an excursion ticket. Thereafter all was "free."

It was a big thing, and several suckers in Scott county took it in.

But it's about time the gang was taking another trip. Judging from recent developments their "Jeffersonian principles" seem to have become soiled, or warped, or out of gear in some way.

Perhaps it will be necessary for them to again take a trip to the tomb of Jefferson behind a couple of our loads of liquor in order to convince the rural Democracy that they are the real stuff.

But the rural Democracy is having the barn doors removed from in front of its eyes. The rural Democracy begins to see a few things. And the first thing you know the rural Democracy will refuse to follow the lead of the Jefferson Club and its country agents.

I was about to forget it. An effort was made here in Benton to organize a branch Jefferson Club. Excuse me for having failed to mention it, but the town is so dead that I often forget that I live in town—or that the town is on the map.

My lapse of memory regarding Benton has a foundation. When

the men who control the destiny of a town—the "respectable" citizens—prefer a saloon to a newspaper that tells the truth, then what ought to become of that town?

Last year about this time a sentiment that is not usual in Benton began to crop out. Mothers whose boys would stay out all night gambling, or, perhaps doing worse, complained. Wives complained regarding the conduct of their husbands.

Benton has many good people but, like the good people of St. Louis and other towns where politicians rule, they are powerless—even with the law on their side.

Some months ago Rev. Rogers said from his pulpit that he would not want to raise children in Benton. This offended all the "respectable" citizens, and the Rev. Rogers is a "marked man." They refuse to go to hear him.

It was generally conceded that the evil that existed was traceable to the saloon. When the saloon made an effort to renew its license there was opposition.

And the saloon also had its supporters and friends. These supporters and friends are MEN HIGHEST IN AUTHORITY.

It was argued that to lose the saloon meant to lose the county seat!

What do you think of that sort of logic, you men of average intelligence?

What do you think of a county seat that holds title by the mere warranty of maintaining a saloon?

But that is neither here nor there. The saloon business is recognized by law as a legitimate business, and whatever may be the individual opinion of the citizen, it is as legitimate and as "legal" to conduct a saloon as it is to conduct a saw mill.

To argue otherwise would be to cast reflections upon the man who is honored with the highest position within the gift of the people of Benton. Mayor Cannon conducted a very orderly saloon, but the place was closed because the "baucher" of the joint voted the Republican ticket. Only stick-to-the-party saloons are wanted here.

However, the point is this: What do you think of a town in which the "leading citizens" resort to sharp practice and even VIOLATE THE

LAW to maintain a saloon, while at the same time endeavoring to drive out a newspaper that has gained a state reputation within eighteen months?

This is just what has been attempted in Benton. But the effort was only partially successful. By winking at the will of the majority and the law they succeeded in "saving" the saloon.

Then they felt that the court house was safe.

But their efforts to drive out the Kicker has not been so successful. The Kicker is still here—all wool and a yard wide. It is the liveliest thing in Benton—except when an "appropriation" is in sight. Then "do going" gets lively.

Under ordinary circumstances Benton is very quiet. When a wagon passes through town everybody gets out and "rubbers." The noise annoys us, and yet there is a certain amount of curiosity in trying to find out who got lost. We all take a peep.

In their efforts to kill a newspaper they have killed a town. But few people come here, except when forced to come on legal business.

Seeing what they have done they are now trying to force a "boom." Hence the bank, to be supplied with county money; the artesian well; to be paid for out of county money; the additions, or wings, to the county house, to be paid for out of county money; and the proposed "building and loan company," through which it is hoped to catch suckers.

Vote 'er straight.

Vote 'er straight.

The Flood!

The flood situation is awful. Boats can land at but few places and river traffic has been practically abandoned.

Locally the water is doing much damage to crops on the islands and in the bottoms. The several islands near Commerce are almost completely submerged. On Big Island about 1,000 acres of wheat and corn is under water.

Just below Commerce the water is out over the public road, and from there south the land is more or less overflowed.

Tywaparty bottom farmers are great sufferers.

Water is flowing across the north part of the county in torrents.

It is the most disastrous flood since 1844.

It is believed that the worst is over and that the water will now recede. See detailed account on second and third pages.

FROM KELSEO.

Kelso is well situated to withstand a flood, but the country north of us is under water. The toll road—known as the Rock Levee—is under water, and travel between here and Cape Girardeau has ceased.

Sunday evening the Cape Girardeau ball team that was put out of business by Oran "stranded" here. Fearing to cross the levee after night they remained until Monday morning, when they were accompanied to the water by several of our citizens.

Monday Mike Welter came over the levee in a buggy and Louis Hoefler with his "emergency wagon." They found water up to the level of their vehicles and considerable current and drift wood.

Leo Welter and Adam Dirnberger went to Gordonville Sunday after two loads of binder twine for A. Bandenistel and S. Hoan & Co. On Monday evening they rounded up at the Cape and telephoned home for money to tide them over the flood. Mr. Bandenistel instructed them to proceed homeward and he would have someone to meet them to lead the way over the levee. Being unable to find anyone willing to undertake the job, Mr. Bandenistel had to go himself.

Constable Drury and Postmaster Dammann took two prisoners to Benton jail Friday, charged with fighting near Manning. They are strangers.

Jesse Rush was out hunting Monday. Having failed to meet up with a successful hunter willing to sell his game, Mr. Rush did not bring in much.

The 2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ludinus Robert was kicked in the head by a colt Monday and was quite painfully wounded.

Fritz Ziekery and family have moved to the Cape. They are good people, and our loss is Cape Girardeau's gain.

August Sander, of the Manning settlement, was here Monday and reports his neighborhood still out of water.

Mrs. John Heiserer, who was reported very sick last week, is improving.

Uncle Jim Anell, who passed his ninetieth milestone last Friday, is quite ill.

The doctors report everything "distressingly healthy."

Bill Deire to sell my house and lot in Kelseo. K. MARTIN.

FROM ROCKVIEW.

Misses Lizzie Follen, Jane Kinder, Annie Harden, Mamie Limes, and Messrs. Joe Bell, Nick Menz, Ford and Claude Hanes, Bill Follen, Harry Smith, Silas Eastwood and Jas. Hill went from here to a dance at Joe Dologue's at Biela Saturday night.

Mike Witt was in town the other day and the smile on his face was so noticeable that some of the boys asked him what was the matter. "Oh," said Mike, "I've got another big 7 1/2 lb. girl at my house."

Bill Sanders and family moved from the saw mill to one of T. G. Bell's houses.

Jim Handover has moved into one of Frank Ledeur's houses.

River water is expected at Rockview any time now.

Two little children of Mr. and Mrs. Dax Anthony are very sick.

Nick Menz made a business trip to Kelso this week.

The quarry and crusher started in full blast Monday.

Charley Minton moved here from Grayboro this week.

FROM GRAYSBORO.

Will Edwards is a lucky man. He found a nice dress near his round house last week. But there his luck stopped. It can't wear it—'cause he ain't built that way. See? And so he wants to find the owner. Call at the round house and Will will explain.

If the water rises to 30 feet it may destroy as much property as the Terminal Association seeks to grab. But the flood will last only a few days, while the Terminal Association wants a fifty-year concession.

Geo. W. Miller has been all around with a petition to incorporate our township. Everybody signed it, and we hope the county court judges will favorably consider the matter.

Mrs. Dora Welch has left her husband. This makes three families separated in three weeks, and if there's any town of our size can beat this we'd like to hear of it.

The American Union will march with the M. W. A. on July 4 from the hall to the picnic grounds. Everybody should come.

George Hawkins feels somewhat better now. He says that never again will he try to stop an engine by holding the fly-wheel.

The work on the bridge will soon have to stop as the river is so high

FROM ORAN.

Oran is still ahead. Our base ball team played the Cape Sunday and defeated them by a score of 11 to 6. When the Cape boys laid down their bats the first time they had five runs, so nearly all present thought the game an easy victory for the visitors. But our pitcher, C. L. Bowman, tossed McGrew's style—shuts 'em out after the first inning. They will play at Cape Sunday.

There will be an ice cream supper at the city hall Monday night, June 15. Oran and neighboring bands will furnish music. Bring your lady and enjoy a dollar's worth of fun for every dime you spend.

Miss Theresa McLean returned on Thursday from Fredericktown, where she had been attending Marvin Collegiate Institute. She was the recipient of two gold medals—the essay and the scholarship.

Andrew Flint, a well known drudge boat man, spent several days here, and he was so favorably impressed with Oran that he bought four lots.

One of the race horses fell while being driven by Mr. Rash. The latter was considerably bruised and the horse lost an eye.

Quite a large number of visitors from other towns attended the golden wedding celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Metz, Sr.

The river is now three feet deep on the rock levee and still rising. It is thought that it will send backwater close to this place.

Little Miriam and Havergal Genoway, of Fredericktown, are visiting their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. McLean.

An ice cream supper will be given at the Bryans school Saturday evening, June 20. Everybody invited.

J. S. Pollard, of the firm of Pollard & Goff, drainage contractors, was here a couple of days last week.

Sunday, June 14, will be Children's Day at the Baptist church. All are cordially invited to attend.

Henry Kemper, merchant, assigned for the benefit of creditors. Assets, \$3,000. Liabilities, more.

Miss Alice Jones, of Commerce, visited relatives here Saturday evening and Sunday.

A number of children made their first communion at the Catholic church Sunday.

Peter Dirnberger is here from Piedmont and will spend a few days with his family.

Miss Verne Harrison, who has been visiting Mrs. Robt. Query, returned home Tuesday.

Mrs. R. J. Williams and Mrs. Clemson visited friends at Commerce first of the week.

Mrs. Chas. S. Kenney, of the Cape, is visiting relatives and friends here this week.

Henry Kemper and family went to St. Louis Monday to attend a wedding.

Mrs. Andy Metz, Jr., is quite sick with an attack of congestion.

Misses Fink and Clemson visited friends at Blodgett Sunday.

Mrs. Al Follenwider is convalescent after a severe illness.

Peter Ackley and wife attended church here Sunday.

FOR SALE—Fine blue stock pens. Inquire of C. C. Haldard, Blodgett.

FROM NEW HAMBURG.

The rush for twine here has been great, but our merchants have been equal to the emergency. And on Monday night Mr. Adam Dirnberger floated in with a fresh wagon load. Adam says it's no joke to cross an ocean in a wagon without a compass.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Glasterer are happy over the arrival of a little daughter.

Miss Katie Schulte came down from Fredericktown to see old friends.

Ewalt Hamm and family moved here from East Prairie.

Uncle Phillip Westrich has been very sick.

Miss Mollie Scherer spent Sunday in Oran.

Peter Scherer has returned from Arizona.

FROM DIEHLSTADT.

A. J. Abshier is raising all kinds of garden seeds this year to handle in connection with watermelon seeds. His gardens are certainly fine and give promise of a large yield. Mr. Abshier has been in the watermelon and cantaloupe seed business for twenty-four years.

By the way, we'd like to know what became of that medal given by the Newsboys year ago to this one. They are still legally entitled to it, but nobody seems to know where it is or who has it.

There was no ball game played here Sunday owing to Charles Lee having failed to keep their appointment. But don't forget our nine is ready to play any nine in the county, given proper notice.

An ice cream supper will be given by the Baptist church at this place.

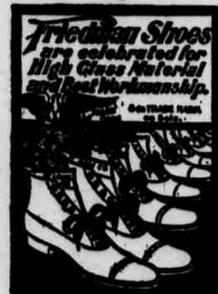
Boy wanted in Kicker office.

Our June Talk to the Trade.

We are stocked with the Latest Styles and Best Assortment of

DRY GOODS, SHOES,

Clothing, Hats, Men's and Women's Furnishing Goods, Etc.



It has been our good fortune to be able to select our goods from the best and most reliable manufacturers and wholesalers in this country, who have given us every advantage in close prices and salable goods. We are therefore prepared to give you the benefit of

Lowest Prices for Best Goods.



No use doing your trading away from home. Come to us and get just what you need at city prices.

Every man, woman and child is invited to come to our store, whether to buy or not.

We want to get acquainted with you.

Spend your money at home! And keep it in circulation where it will do you and your family the most good. Money sent away for goods that you can get at home for the same price, and often lower, does not help to build up your community. We do not ask your trade for charity's sake. We give you full value for every dollar you spend with us, and protect your interests in every transaction. We aim never to be out of staple goods, and to be first in bringing on new and desirable styles.

RUSH & DRURY, KELSO, MO.