

# SCOTT COUNTY KICKER.

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## THE DATE FIXED.

Again a date has been fixed for the beginning of the trials of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, the officials of the Western Federation of Miners in jail in Idaho charged with the murder of ex-Gov. Steunenberg. The trial has been set to begin May 9.

This is a most remarkable case—one that the capitalist newspapers refuse to discuss. Through a conspiracy between the officials of the states of Idaho and Colorado the victims were deprived of all rights guaranteed by the constitution, kidnaped in the dead of night, loaded onto a special train and taken into a foreign state. And this Russian procedure was upheld by the highest court in the land!

Although Attorney Richardson, for the defendants, offered 600 affidavits alleging that defendants could not get a fair trial in Canyon county because of prejudice, and produced numerous newspapers to show the methods used to create the prejudice, a change of venue was denied.

During the argument Attorney Hawley, for the mine owners, pretended to grow indignant at the suggestion that defendants could not get a fair trial, and shouted: "This is a common murder case!" To which Attorney Richardson replied:

"If this is a common murder case, why have the best lawyers in Idaho been employed to prosecute it, while the regular prosecuting attorney sits silent? If this is a common murder case, why has \$104,000 of the people's money been appropriated by the state legislature to pay these lawyers? If this is a common murder case, why has Cardwell, a mere village, become the cynosure of the nation's eyes, filled with reporters, detectives and lawyers? If this is a common murder case, why has yonder jail become a hallowed spot to the working class of the nation and this court room an inspiration to the novelist and historian?"

"If this is a common murder case, why were the defendants kidnaped by a regiment of soldiers in the dead of night and spirited across an imaginary line that divides two great states? This is not a common murder case and no one knows it better than Mr. Hawley. This room, crowded with the citizens of Canyon county, knows, and the wide world knows, that this is not a common murder case."

While all this was happening in Idaho, something more disgraceful happened at Washington. While my respect for the president has long ago sprung a leak, yet he is a much smaller man than it was possible for me to imagine him. He and Harriman have been engaged in a row, and in an effort to humiliate Harriman the president gave utterance to the following:

"Harriman and Rockefeller are backing Hearst, and I want to put Hearst, Debs, Haywood and Moyer and Harriman in the same class as anarchists and undesirable citizens. The fight is against me and my policies."

Now think a bit. Why does he regard three unfortunate working men in an Idaho prison as "anarchists and undesirable citizens"? If this is a "common murder case" why does the president of this great nation take special notice of it?

In this country it is the rule of law that the accused is presumed innocent until his guilt is proven. Why have the governors of Idaho and Colorado and, indirectly, the president of the United States, declared these men guilty in advance of a trial—in fact, denying them trial?

Shake up that old, rusty thinking box of yours and see if it will give you the answer.

## THE GAME LAW.

Last month—two years after the passage of the law, and after another legislature had practically wiped that law off the statutes—the Missouri supreme court decided that a citizen need not have license to hunt in his own county!

Great are our laws, our lawyers, our law-makers and our courts! But "ignorance of law is no defense." And what is the state going to do about the thousands of dollars illegally taken from her citizens in hunter's license?

When the special booze tax was declared unconstitutional a few years ago, all the saloon-keepers who paid the tax got the money back from the state. Will the state be as considerate of farmers as it was of saloon-keepers?

I guess not. The farmers do not run politics and elect "representatives" and court judges as the saloon-keepers do.

The Missouri law-makers met in extra session Tuesday. We shall see what we shall see.

## ROOSEVELT VS. HARRIMAN.

During the past week the country has been amused—perhaps I should say disgusted—over the Roosevelt-Harriman row. It seems that Mr. Harriman, the railroad king, has asked the president to do something that the president refused to do. And that, of course, is unpardonable.

When big business men invest heavily in a candidate they not only expect, but demand, results. It is a matter of business with them, and the money is put up as an investment. No wonder, then, that the great Harriman "squealed" on Terrible Teddy.

Mr. Harriman says that during the campaign of 1904 the president sent for him to come to Washington; that he went, and that at the request of the president he raised TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS for the Republican campaign fund.

The president says Harriman lies. He doesn't come out so blunt, but puts it in dignified language that means the same thing. He says, "Harriman's statement is a deliberate and wilful untruth—by right it should be characterized by even a shorter and more ugly word."

The Kicker is inclined to the opinion that Mr. Harriman is telling the truth. At any rate he claims to have letters to prove it. It will be remembered that the president entered an equally emphatic plea of "not guilty" when it leaked out that Geo. W. Perkins had taken \$150,000 of the policy holders money out of an insurance company and dumped it into the Republican slush fund.

Since the president's denial the courts have forced Mr. Perkins to put the stolen money back.

Mr. Harriman is the seventeenth prominent person that the president has found it necessary to accuse of lying within the past two years, and in each case—so far as I now recall—the president was anxious to drop the matter before the proof was all in.

## COUNTRY "SAVED" AGAIN.

The spring elections have been held and the country is "saved" again. In all the important elections either the Democrats or Republicans won—and so far as the masses are concerned, it matters not a penny which.

In Chicago the Republicans won. Two years ago the Democrats elected Duane overwhelmingly on a municipal ownership platform. But Chicago is no nearer municipal ownership today than it was when the Democrats "put it in their platform." The result was that the people felt sore at being deceived and, last week, defeated Duane and elected Fred Busse, Republican.

The people are "up in the air." They know that there is something wrong, but can't locate it. So they just vote against the label that is in power and try the other—to find that the only difference is in the label.

Two years ago last fall the Republicans carried St. Louis for everything except governor. Last week the people blundered about and turned out a different result—so far as the label is concerned.

In Chicago "big business" was behind the Republican ticket—and it won. In St. Louis "big business" was behind the Democratic ticket—and it won.

In Chicago the Republicans promised to "municipalize" the street railways to the extent that the service should be greatly improved, and that 50% of the "net earnings" should be paid into the city treasury. We know how street and other railways "improve the service" and the "net earnings" you can put in your eye after the thieves get through "dividing" up.

In St. Louis the Democrats stole a big chunk of the Socialist platform and declared that the municipality must own the street railways "ultimately," declared for public gas, free baths and the whole cheese. Lee Meriwether's "anarchist" platform of six years ago wasn't a patch! And all the municipal ownership St. Louis gets from the bunch of saloon-keepers and others that were elected you can put in your vest pocket.

And the people never tire of being fooled.

There is one thing that the Russian revolutionists are not worrying about—not even a little bit. They are not bothering about how the foreign capitalists who "financed" the Czar's government will get the coin back in "sound money." They are not engaged in "maintaining the honor of the country" in that way. The capitalists are foreclosed on the "vested rights"—if there are any left after the revolutionists get through.

## BACKING DOWN.

In his last installment of The Industrial Republic Upton Sinclair used the following language to those who contended that the trusts must be destroyed:

"Go ahead, then, and have your try. Have it out with them! War to the hilt with them!—and see which is the stronger, two corporations which are resolved not to cut each other's throats, or you with your law that they shall cut each other's throats! Two railroad systems that know that they cannot continue to exist separately, or you who are resolved that they shall not exist together!"

President Roosevelt is nothing if not a fighter, a man of action who delights in a hard-fought fray, the noise of the fray and the shouting. When he advised the youth of the country not to flinch or flinch, but "hit the line hard," when he poured forth the vials of his scorn upon the "mollycoddle," how the public applauded! How small we Socialists felt when our opponents pityingly advised us to wait and watch what Roosevelt was going to do to the trusts! Against this superb faith our arguments were hurled in vain—and we knew it.

We have waited and watched and now—what has happened? Since that session with Harriman our doughty champion seems to have lost all stomach for the fight. The railroads may combine, because combination can't be stopped. They shall be exempt from the annoying Sherman anti-trust law, because it can't touch them. No use fighting when you know that it is not only useless, but that every move you make but contributes to hasten your defeat.

Up goes the sponge in the Roosevelt corner! His principal second, described in the press as "an official of the highest standing, thoroughly competent to speak on the subject and whose views are valuable" makes this announcement:

"Railroad transportation should be regarded as a monopoly, treated as a monopoly, controlled as a monopoly. It has been said frequently that there is less actual competition either in railroads or industries than there would have been if the anti-trust law had not been passed."

So far from accomplishing its purpose it has powerfully contributed to an opposite result. My belief is that all these things that trouble us are evidences of struggle that has already commenced to get away from the competitive to the cooperative theory.

But if a real fight is hopeless, perhaps a fake one can be pulled off, and Theodore is ready for the semblance of a battle if a genuine one is out of the question. He must satisfy his fighting instincts somehow. And so we find his spokesman announcing that—

"The simplest way out of the difficulty would be to exempt the railroads from the operations of the anti-trust law. I would not give the railroads the unlimited and uncontrolled right to combine, but I would give them the right under proper conditions."

How's that for generosity! If an anti-trust law would hold them then pass another law that will—permit them to do as they please. That idea of the controlling power of state law over economic forces certainly dies hard.

Of the 126,004 voters that registered in St. Louis, only 80,000 voted. Is it possible that 46,000 refused to swallow "the lesser of two evils"? Much disorder was reported. The Chronicle says: "Circuit Attorney Sager is authority for the statement that a band of 'Indians' from Chicago and elsewhere performed hereunder, ballot-box stuffing in the Fourth ward." Who pays the expense of bringing in illegal voters? Is it the plain citizen who wants clean government, or the "prominent citizen" who deals in graft?

President Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, says the workmen do not like to be called wage slaves. I presume Mr. Mitchell would prefer to have them called as the politicians call them, the "intelligent working men." Some day these "intelligent working men" may get sense enough to understand such men as Mitchell and Gompers.

The State of Arkansas has instituted suits amounting to forty million dollars against insurance companies for violations of the anti-trust law. If Arkansas has the usual luck she will do well to get forty cents.

Idleness as a Cause of Gossip. "Do women gossip more than men?" asks an exchange. They do, because they have more time and not because they have the stronger inclination for it. An idle man can beat a woman gossiping seven days out of every week.—Springfield Republican.

## PERSECUTION DOESN'T WIN.

Persecution and suppression is the last resort of the ruling class—but it invariably fails. In Russia, where the masses had nothing that even resembled freedom, and where it meant a life sentence or death to speak disrespectfully of the ruling class, the people struggled until now the ruling class is terror stricken and is offering the masses all the freedom they want—if they will only permit the ruling class to continue to rule.

In Russia the revolutionists had to work in secret. To be discovered meant a life sentence in the coal mines at Siberia or death. The printing of revolutionary newspapers and pamphlets had to be done in cellars or garrets, and discovery meant not only the punishment of those engaged, but the destruction of the printing plant. And yet they won.

In the United States it is not so bad. It is true that "agitators" are often imprisoned, but our printing material is not destroyed. The mail privilege, however, is often denied, and that is quite effective. An order from Washington can shut out any newspaper that has not the money to hire "influential" lawyers.

But there are some revolutionary newspapers in the United States that refuse to die—although the Postoffice Department has been hot on their trail. One of these is the Appeal to Reason, published at Girard, Kansas. It has had at least a half-dozen rounds with the Postmaster-General, and every time "took the belt."

A year ago the Appeal had a circulation of about 300,000. Many of these were sent out in bundles. To illustrate: suppose that I ordered a bundle of 50 to be distributed among neighbors. I sent in the price and got the bundle. There is no law prohibiting a man subscribing for 50 copies of any paper for one week. You can do this with any paper—except a Socialist paper—and the postmaster-general will find no fault. Bundles of the Globe-Democrat or Republic are sent to all the news agencies of the country.

But the postmaster at Girard was notified that he must not admit the Appeal bundles. This cut the circulation to 177,000—a slump of 123,000. This threatened the very life of the paper. At the time of its subscription it needed 300,000 to put it on a paying basis.

In the following issue the paper appealed to its "army" of friends to boost the circulation to 300,000 within a year. It rigged up a thermometer in the first column of the front page to record the increase. Each week the "mercury" went higher and higher, and last week the top blew out! The 300,000 mark was passed.

When it is considered that none of the great St. Louis papers have a circulation of 100,000, the enormity of this feat may be imagined. The Appeal will now rig up a new thermometer of 400,000 capacity and hopes to blow the head out of that before the close of the year.

Wishart's Magazine, a few years ago, was driven out of the United States into Canada by the Postoffice department, its reaching for a million circulation during the year.

All of which indicates that the people are eager to read something more substantial than the "Thaw case" or like filth.

## TO SUBSCRIBERS.

During the past two months I have been very busy and therefore neglected sending out notices of expiration until last week. To these notices many have responded, but there are yet quite a number who have not responded.

Believing that many of you would have occasion to come to Benton next week to attend circuit court, I have continued the paper, trusting that you would I then renew. After court the mail list will be gone over, and if you do not renew it will be taken to mean that you want the paper no longer. Should you have no business at court you can send paper dollar by mail at my risk.

The Kicker is now by far the largest paper published in the county. It contains more good reading than any paper in Southeast Missouri. It takes money to keep it going, and this money must come from subscribers. I must pay my help weekly and my paper and type bills monthly, and this requires cash. Hence I must get the cash from you. You may be perfectly "goo"—but that won't pay my bills.

The Moyer-Haywood trial will likely come up next month and you will want to hear about it.

Hand the Kicker to a friend.

## COUNTY FARMERS MEETING.

The county union of the farmers met at Blodgett Friday evening and opened with an address by Organizer Kershaw—J. D. Green, county president, presiding. After appointing a committee on credentials the meeting adjourned to Saturday morning.

Saturday morning the committee on credentials reported 100 delegates representing 23 unions present. The subject first taken up was the erection of elevators in the county and speakers were limited to five minutes. Nothing definite was decided on, but it is quite possible that a good start has been made.

The next matter taken up was installation of scales at different shipping points. It was decided that these scales could be put in and the local unions benefited should bear the cost. Blodgett was first to act and has put in scales. The unions interested are Cross Plains, Hickory Grove, Blodgett, Pleasant Valley, Mounds, Huey, Clay Pool, Lennon's, Mount Zion, Ward's and Owensby.

Rudolph Schultz, of Oran, was chosen county lecturer. The meeting adjourned Saturday evening. Aside from the regular delegates there were 75 visiting members in attendance.

County Secretary Vinyard was in Benton Tuesday and reported that the membership had passed the 800 mark in the county. That's going some.

The next county meeting will be at Oran May 7 and 8.

## Saved by Hope.

We are saved by hope. \$878 had been advanced on paper on that no paper power. The paper is that an hour more in that hour—hope. Hope never dies, and never goes in. It never goes with dry feet, it always goes with the performance of duty. Hope is the most rational thing in the universe.—George MacDonald.

## THE SOUTHEAST.

Malden Meir, A. H. Root, a prosperous farmer, who has lately moved to this county, and bought land in the Baker neighborhood, has a copy of a paper dated, Maryland, August 20th, 1873. In that issue George Washington had an advertisement promising that he had obtained patents for 20,000 acres of land on the Ohio and the great Kaskaskia, 10,000 of which was situated on the banks of the first named river. Dated at Mount Vernon in Virginia, July 18th, 1773, signed, George Washington, Richard Bennett, Hall, also had an advertisement to sell 100,000 acres of land in the State of Virginia, dated Prince George County, 1773. A negro slave had made his escape and Mr. Hall offered five pounds reward for the negro and ten pounds if returned to him. The negro slave was described in full in order that it would assist in his capture. The highly prized paper has been in the family of Mr. Root all this time and it is in good condition.

At Morehouse the saloons experienced their first fight for existence last week with the result that is now quite common—they lost. The dry mayor was elected by nearly two thirds by the narrow margin of eight votes. And as is also quite common since they understand it, the working men who spend their hard-earned money in the saloons voted against them. Commenting on the situation the Morehouse Hustler says: "We believe it is a favorite argument of the saloon people to say their business pays money to keep up the streets, etc. Morehouse has had saloons about as long as it has had streets, and there is not so much money to be kept there so they are an improvement over the roads of the country. If the saloons produce such a row, they must also be the cause of expenses that consume it."

Southeast Missouri. The Farmers' Land and Colonization Company controls 75,000 acres of land in Southeast Missouri and has started to work on a new colony to be located at Dudley about 15 miles east of Poplar Bluff. Mr. Kenney, the promoter of the Society, expects to have 40 and 60 families in the new colony during the year. There will also be a Catholic church organized for the new citizens.

Mrs. Crosscoe, age 70 drowned herself in a cistern at her home near Bloomfield. She had been sick with fever and the family was well worn out waiting on her. While her aged husband was on watch he fell asleep and was awakened by a splash in the cistern. Going out he found her struggling in the water but could render no assistance. It is presumed that she was delirious.

Through some mysterious source the report has been spread that Joseph's Home, of Kansas City is a fake. A lady representative of this institution has been soliciting funds in this end of the state and Editor McGuire, of the Jackson Cashbook, took the trouble to investigate—with the result that he learned that

the Home was a worthy institution. It seems that rival "charitable institutions" are responsible for the false report.

Piedmont Banner. Dr. S. A. Bates has just inaugurated an interesting experiment with pecans. He obtained a lot of pecan cuttings and grafted them on to hickory trees, the hickory being a first cousin of the pecan tree. So far, the experiment bids fair to prove a success, though time alone will tell whether it is possible to produce pecans from a tree whose natural field is hickory nuts.

Jackson Cashbook. Gray Fork should veto the game and fish bill passed at the recent session of the legislature. It is a very poor measure, weak and all out of joint. The Wagsley law is the best game and fish law the state ever had, and now that the supreme court has cleared up the license feature of it the law should be allowed to stand.

Charleston Enterprise. As a result of the visit to the Mississippi river commission at Cairo a couple of weeks ago by local levee authorities, it is announced that \$115,000

have been appropriated by the commission toward the completion of the levee system in this county. It is estimated that this sum will not only complete the system as originally contemplated, but will also raise all the levees, constructed many years ago, so that it will be several feet higher than the highest water ever experienced here.

Dr. Patten defeated the president of the brewery for mayor of Cape Girardeau. That's going some! For Cape, the "weave" may yet strike Keosauqua and New Hamburg in Scott county. And Sikeston—where so many of our "best people" are located.

The cotton gin belonging to the Planters Gin Co. of Kennett, burned April 2. The loss was about \$9,000 with \$6,000 insurance. The company will rebuild upon a much larger scale.

State Bank Examiner Nicholls has taken charge of the Bank of Greenville, Wayne county. The bank has less than \$400 on hand.

The "Street Fair" promoter is again in evidence with the opening of spring.

## Visit the Southeast Mo. Breeding Co.'s Barn Located 1/4 Mile South of Sikeston.

Formerly known as the Ebert Breeding Farm, where you will find at Stud the following named Stallions and Jacks:

POINDEXTER SQUIRREL—No. 1 of the American Saddle Horse Association, Louisville, Ky. When we tell you that this is one of the three highest bred Saddle Stallions living, you are not "wild-punching," but telling you the facts as they appear on record. Besides being an ideal saddle and harness horse he is a High School Stallion—having the ability to do for you 14 or 15 little stunts under the saddle, including the road gait. But his "long ear" is as a leader. He was sired the saddle stallion King Blood Squirrel No. 58. His dam was Miss Fawn No. 292 by Mark Diamond No. 40. Fee, \$25.00.

CHEPLAND—No. 1895 Vol. 7 of the American Saddle Horse Register Association. This young man was sired by Highland Denmark No. 730 by Black Squirrel No. 58. Dam, Cynthia, Listen! The world's champion saddle horse up to and including 1895 was Gypsy Queen, a half sister to Chepland. Gypsy Queen is now owned by the renowned Thos. W. Lawson, of Boston, Mass. Fee, \$20.00.

OUR HARNESS HORSES are not race horses and will cost you about half the fee of a race horse. But we know they will sire you a colt that will trot and do it right. We have no pointers. Fee, \$8 to \$15.

OUR JACKS—Brent's Warrior and Black Satan are the best in Missouri today, and you will say so when you see them. They sire males as well as a wagon-bred, and high in proportion. Fee, \$12.50.

NO BAD EYES, no speckles, no bled heads, no bad head-sets in our barn. You will not need any eye-drops, hoppers, goggles or any of those patent medicines. Remember, we give a special rate on breeding stock of horses bred, but particulars and selling address.

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Rose-Comb White Leghorns. EXCLUSIVELY Bred for Utility and Beauty. We want in this business to STAY because WE PAY. Birds full of Health and Vigor. All on Free Range. We want Your Orders and will treat Please You. Birds \$1 to \$3 each. \$1 per setting. \$7 per 100.



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