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THEIR QUEER IDEAS.

To a Socialist it is amusing to see the various sort of fits the capitalists around here—especially the drows and mugwumps—had over Darrow's Blodgett speech. All were sure that Darrow had injured the cause of Socialism—but Darrow. He had no business here. Had Joe Russell, or Bill Miller, or any of the big gun capitalist politicians come, that would have been all right; but Darrow—that's different.

I made this statement to a leading Democrat the other evening and also mentioned that Judge Fort would speak at Blodgett Friday evening. "Yes but you'll not hear him bring in Democracy," was the substance of the reply.

And there is where the laugh comes in. There is nothing the capitalists will raise a greater howl over than the liquor question—and you couldn't get either of the old parties to touch it with a forty foot pole at a general election where their rent, interest and profits are at stake. They tell us that it is not a political question—but a "moral issue."

It is true that anything related to morals has no business in capitalist politics, yet it seems strange that what is claimed by many of them to produce all the misery, poverty and insanity cannot be elevated to the dignity of a political issue.

But it can't.

The most ardent and hot-headed of the drows would shy at the "democratic" in a political platform. An endorsement would lose to "the party" the preachers and reformers; a denunciation would lose them the liquor vote. Hence both parties play a safe game by calling it a "moral issue" and placing on the ticket men representing both elements—with rum in the lead.

But just where the distinction between a moral and a political issue comes in, I don't know. It is so powerfully fine that only a shrewd politician can discover it. Politics ought to have to do with morals, and morals ought to have to do with politics. The prohibitionists have had a taker in the political field ever since Heek was a pup—and yet we are told that there is no politics in it.

Well, there WAS politics in Darrow's speech, and thus he broke the rules of the game. Hence the howl. And he had scarcely finished when the "farm factory" was started, and the things he is accused of saying are many. He "denied the divinity of Christ," "called the bible a myth," "said according to the yarn factory," "the reports about Benton are especially absurd."

"Why don't you use your head?" said I to one who seemed to want to believe the reports. "The people around Blodgett are religiously inclined, are they not?" "Yes." "And they are two to one dry?" "Yes, I guess so." "Then do you believe that these people would have stood spell-bound for two hours to listen to Darrow and rush to the platform to shake hands with him after he had finished if he had made the kind of speech it is reported around here that he made?"

But he hadn't thought of that.

**BUSTED THE RECORD**  
Well, by gum! The Kicker crowd has busted the record. Last August I thought we were doing wonders for a summer month when 87 subscribers were enrolled. During the month just closed we got 106. And all the "influential" people opposing the Kicker at that! Gee, but they must feel like a copper with a hole in it. Here is the August army of recruits—

Blodgett—Pete Whit, T. H. Robison, Noah Hampton, John Walton, H. F. Stanley, John James, Chas. Turner, J. R. Wood, J. E. Frazier, Brooks, Brashear, D. S. Marchison, W. L. Lemley, Ed Nunnelle, W. L. McCann, Mrs. Eliza Howell, J. J. Gage, J. R. Livingston, Newt Faulkerson, W. W. Reams, T. M. Boardman, John Brown, L. L. Hodge, Elmer Taylor, H. G. Alt.

Morley—J. S. Thompson, L. K. McClanahan, E. A. Carter, Alvin Carter, E. F. Cook, J. T. Thompson, T. A. Cooper, J. W. Bennett, Alex Bailey, Clarence Abernathy, A. P. Carter.

Illmo—Joe Miller, J. B. Burnett, Lee Barnes, E. L. Grammer, Bleda—John Pobst.

Kelso—Louis Dumev, John Compas.

Payne, Fritz Sanders, L. J. Drury, Jos. Burger, Roy Sibley, Ambrose Bles.

Benton—Hiram King, Val Person, Doc Cannon, G. W. Minter, Wm. Spalding, James Foster, J. W. Baty, R. G. Williams, Geo. Williams, Jessie Vandergift, I. N. Anderson, Julia Wade, Diehlstadt—H. C. Stone.

Vanduser—Leonard Fields, T. Chaney, Chaffee—Levi Bechel, J. V. Bandy, Sikeston—J. H. Matthews, Mr. Plunkett, Frank Martin, Charleston—Wm. Strabier, L. Pobst.

Cape Girardeau—State Normal, W. A. Clubb.

Bell City—Elmer Matthis, Levi Finney.

Epple Roberts, Granite City, Ill.; A. C. Hervey, Piggott, Ark.; J. C. O'Connor, Selma, Ala.; B. L. Sullinger, Lola, Ky.; Clarence Darrow, Chicago; J. H. Hampton, Senath; W. W. Spain, Randolph; Chas. St. Clin, Perkins; E. Fowler, Portageville.

It is needless to add that Alex Thompson keeps the Blodgett list at high-water mark, but Alex is beginning to complain and says he has his territory worked to a frazzle. J. A. Thompson of Morley also gave a good account of himself, while Solomon Diebold has been rounding up the natives around New Hamburg. Many other friends sent in from one to five, and J. W. Jacob has sent in a "wireless" that he is after the boys around Edna and Illmo.

**TO THE CHRISTIAN VOTERS OF SCOTT COUNTY.**

God's word says—"No drunkard shall enter the kingdom of heaven." It also says—"As ye did it unto the least of these my brethren ye do it unto me." Again it says—"He that is not for me is against me."

To every Christian Christ calls to "follow me." While he was on earth he spent his time doing good and condemning evil. Now as conscientious christian men, whatever may be our political faith, there rests upon each one of us a moral obligation to prove true to our pledges to God and vows to our church. As followers of Christ there is but one question for us to answer—"Is the saloon business right, and in keeping with God's word? If it is right, then we owe it to our God and our church to vote for it, and we are moral cowards if we do not. If on the other hand we know it to be a wrong and a curse to the land, we owe it to our God and our church to vote against it and we are moral cowards if we do not.

It behooves the christian people to stand together, no matter what is your political faith. The whiskey men are forgetting politics and combining their forces. Some of the leading men in the Democratic, Republican and Socialist parties are doing all they can to carry the county for the saloon. The brewers even sent to Chicago and have one of their hired lawyers come to Blodgett to try to bewilder the people. Now, if the forces of Satan are combined, how much more should we be united.

Christian fathers you are trying by precept and example, to train your boys to be brave, pure and true. Can you be true to these teachings yourself and support the saloon either by voting to maintain it, or by giving it a half vote by refusing to vote? Don't try to shift your responsibility by saying there are other wrongs that need correcting. There are. But a true Christian is against every wrong. And another thing—it does not lessen your responsibility and big if other people, even tho they are professed Christians, are not doing their duty. You are answerable to your God for yourself. Can you afford to prove false to your profession made to God because someone else proved false or cowardly? Surely not. In the name of your God; in the name of your church and in the name of your boys that you want to be good and reach heaven, as a minister of the Gospel I call up on you to go to the polls and vote to put out the thing that is doing so much to destroy the working of Him who came to "save the lost."

**E. E. BURTON.**

**FROM ROOTWAD.**

The Messrs Mary and Rinda Long of Big Bay, Ark. who have been visiting here, were called home owing to the illness of their mother.

Coleman Gray and John Harney and Charley Simpson were at Canolou last week, and J. O. Trent was at Morehouse Monday.

Mrs. Charley Pinnell, Mrs. Walker Fowler and Miss Golda Fowler visited the family of Wm. Lindley Sunday.

A bounding baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Matthews.

Wm. Lindley is wearing a smile that wont come off. It's a girl.

Frank Peters and family visited friends at Morehouse Sunday.

F. M. Trent was at Chaffee Thursday of last week.

Harry and Della Trent have been sick.

**ATTENTION SOCIALISTS.**

Owing to the local option election there will be no meeting at Morley Saturday, Sept. 4. All Socialists are requested to meet at Morley on the last Saturday in September at 10 o'clock a. m., as important business will be up.

J. W. Adams, County Chairman.

See to it that the Kicker is in every workers home.

AROUND BENTON.

Mayor Rose, the Democratic mayor of Milwaukee, is in the county speaking for the wets. Judge Fort, the Democratic judge from Stoddard county, speaks at Blodgett Friday for the drows. That is all right. But for Clarence Darrow, a Socialist, to come into the county and express his views—oh, horrors!

The Democrats stand on the liquor question just where they stand on all important questions—nowhere. Their speakers and leaders can take either side without fear of violating a platform pledge or a principle.

Lawrence Seyer and Wm. Blattel, of Kelso township, were here Wednesday. Mr. Blattel has advertised a sale of his personal property for September 14 and will move to St. Louis, where he will learn the barber's trade.

John W. Essner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Essner, left for Dallas, Texas, Saturday, where he will resume his work after a siege of illness caused by the formation of a bone tumor in the head.

Judge J. L. Fort, of Dexter, will speak at Blodgett for local option, Friday, evening, Sept. 3. The Judge is a good talker.

The dry weather has about caused a general suspension of the breaking for wheat.

**FROM NEW HAMBURG.**

At a dance Saturday a week ago on Peter Kilhaffner's place, about three miles west of here, Jake Zeigler came very near being clubbed to death by the two Koelzer and Ledure boys. As Jake Zeigler started to the barn yard, accompanied by his brother, Chas. and Leo Morie, George Koelzer and his brother, Frank, and Celestine Ledure, were sitting on the porch—each with a club about two or three feet long. One threw his club, missing Zeigler's head about six inches. Morie, turning around said, "Did you boys throw that at me?" They did not answer. On getting to the barn Zeigler's horse and buggy was gone. Morie and the two Zeigler boys started, each in a different direction, to find the horse. Jake noticed his horse on the other side of the fence near a hay stack, and as he was going around to get to the horse the Koelzers and Ledure hit him on the head and he fell with his head to the fence, which it is thought, saved his life, as by trying to hit him on the head many hard blows would have killed him before he reached his side.

The Oran correspondent finds fault with some over there for refusing to submit to the "rule of one." This sort of rule is only for the very few—and yet he tells us that Socialism—which means the rule of all—is dangerous.

It seems that everybody wants to read the Kicker here. A gentleman said, "the reason why I like the Kicker is when he has anything at heart he spits it right out and it smashes it over like other papers do."

Otto Blattel, Frank and Al Messner and Albert Enderle, of Kelso, Eugene Essner and his sister, Christine, of Benton, and Miss Josephine Steimle, of Oran, attended church here Sunday.

Mrs. John Snider and daughter Cora, of Sikeston, were in the Benton picnic last Wednesday and spent the next day with her father, J. C. Goetz, near here.

Adam Essner, of Benton, had job of hauling the doll rack over here Friday which they had borrowed for the Benton picnic.

Miss Mildred Davis, of Sikeston, spent a few days with the family of Joe Hahn at Schererville.

Mrs. Josephine Halter has had lumber hauled for the erection of a new dwelling here.

Martin Mentz and family, of Oran, visited his father-in-law, Frank Bles, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Gerst, of Bleda, visited the family of F. Dirmberger Sunday.

The young folks had a play party at the home of John Klippel Sunday.

Mike Bullinger, of Oran, spent Sunday with the family of Andy Dirmberger.

Leo Hearing has moved to the Clarence Sanders place near Oran.

John Kern attended a chicken stew at John Hannan's pond Sunday.

Jake Koelzer and Leo Diebold passed through here Sunday.

Nick Legrand, of Vincent, Ark., joined his wife here on a visit.

A. J. Schoen is thinking of selling out and going to Texarkana. Our school started Wednesday with a good attendance.

**FROM MACEDONIA.**

Miss Virgie Miller has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Jennie Belk, at Rockview, this week.

Rev. Denton, of Commerce, will preach his farewell sermon here Sunday, September 12.

Dollie Bandy and son, of Illmo, were visitors at F. M. Sanders Sunday.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. Clymer on the 30th a 6-pound girl.

Jack Brury and family moved to the island last week.

Miss Myrtle Reynolds left Tuesday for St. Louis.

C. M. Weaver is at Benton, Ill., this week.

Miss Laura Robertson is staying at Benton.

Sam Clymer, of Commerce, was here Tuesday.

FROM VANDUSEK.

The people of our community were very much surprised last Tuesday when Recorder Stubbie-Todd telephoned down to know if Miss Hattie Potter was eligible to marry without a certificate from her parents. Her and J. R. Stira were quietly married and went to Chaffee where his headquarters are. He is an extra Frisco conductor.

Our school opened Monday morning with Prof. Revelle as principal, Otto Bugg, first assistant, Miss Beulah Finley, second assistant, and Miss M. Argarette Vaughn, primary. 124 enrolled first morning with many more to start.

Mrs. Rudloff, a sister-in-law to Mrs. Eugenia Hamilton, accompanied by her two daughters were here part of last week. Mrs. Hamilton accompanied her to Oran Saturday to visit Mrs. Saffrona Groegan.

Mrs. Robert Harrison came down on the local Tuesday to spend the day with her sister, Mrs. Lile, and to meet some of her relatives who are visiting here from Illinois.

We have a photographer in our village. He has erected his tent near the Chaney store building.

Mrs. Stira was down Saturday after her belongings to move them to her new home at Chaffee.

M. V. Orr, our railroad agent will leave us soon. He will be succeeded by a Mr. Zimmerman.

Mrs. N. G. Pierce's mother, of near Benton, is visiting her, also her cousin, Mrs. Clark.

Mrs. Williams and children of Bird's Point, are visiting her sister, Mrs. J. W. Arbaugh.

The band boys have hired to the show people to make music for them while here.

Mrs. Callie Bugg moved to her old home place Monday. Town life did not suit her.

We have a medicine show in town. They know where to look for suckers.

The bridge or repair crew was here Monday and remodeled our depot platform.

Lyman Lacy is at home after a course in business college at Chillicothe.

Miss Alice Goodin, of Charleston, is here in the interest of local option.

Little Nina Mitchell, of Sikeston, is the guest of Mrs. James Joyce.

Viven Dyer is assisting Mr. Cavanaugh in the barber shop.

Don't forget to vote for your boys and girls Saturday.

Rev. Blackman is attending the tent meeting at Oran.

See to it that the Kicker is in every workers home.

Mrs. J. R. Joyce had business at Morley Tuesday.

The ladies will serve free lunch Saturday.

**FROM MULLIN'S ISLAND.**

Our farmers have commenced to haul peas and owing to the dry weather there is a very poor yield. If the dry weather continues much longer the late or stubble peas will not make anything.

Oso Capps has moved to Vanduser and J. W. Derrington, of Matthews, will move into the house vacated by him.

Pat Thornton and Misses Mae Evans and Eugie Fields attended the party at Mark Dunn's near Oran Saturday night.

R. N. Fields celebrated his 25th birthday by giving a dinner to several of his friends.

Miss Ruby Shelby, of Charleston, is visiting at T. C. Anderson's this week.

W. A. Beggs and family visited Mrs. Beggs' sister, Mrs. John Cook Sunday.

Will Griffith and family, of Cary, visited relatives here Sunday.

Quite a number from here attended the picnic at Blodgett Saturday.

J. T. Fields and family are visiting relatives at Columbus, Ky.

Connie Wilson, of Buggs Ridge, was on the island Sunday.

Will Tharp and family were guests of R. N. Fields Sunday.

Subscribe for the Kicker.

**FROM OAK GROVE.**

John Collins and wife were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Schneider Saturday.

Irvin Shirley, of Mississippi county, is visiting his sister, Mrs. Dick Ogilby.

Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Hopper spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Wagoner.

Martin Pike and sons, of Samos, attended the picnic at Blodgett Saturday.

Harris Colly's baby, which has been quite sick, is slowly recovering.

Mr. and Mrs. Eff Felty visited Hiram King and family Sunday.

The farmers union will have a call meeting Saturday night.

The new school house at Oak Grove will soon be completed.

Carroll Pike, of Kentucky, is visiting his uncle, Martin Pike.

FROM KELSO.

Jacob Koelzer's clever buller burned last week. The buller made ready to thresh in the afternoon, and while eating dinner the fire started. Neighbors who first saw it gave the alarm, but the buller was burned up before the fire could be extinguished.

O. J. Dannemueller and family and Phillip Blattel and his best girl went to Commerce Tuesday to see the show, but they had to wait until Thursday.

Mrs. Rosina Diebold has rented a house at Edna and her brother, Joe Compas, who works there, will board with her.

Mrs. Hugo Stoltz, who has been in poor health and is visiting her mother at Washington, is reported better.

See your neighbor. If he is not a reader of the Kicker, see that he becomes one. Agitate!

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Arnold, of Edna, celebrated their wedding anniversary Sunday.

Mrs. Emma Blattel spent Saturday and Sunday with her mother.

Frank Dohogne and Julius vasterling took a trip to Jackson.

Jacob Welter and wife, of Blodgett, were here Sunday.

Mrs. Christ Heisserer, who has been sick, is up again.

See to it that the Kicker is in every workers home.

A number of our folks attended the Benton picnic.

Louis Hoefler moved to Edna Wednesday.

Bill Glaster started to thresh peas Monday.

Miss Emma Robert was a visitor here.

Our school commenced Wednesday.

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**FROM PERKINS.**

Joseph B. Elfrank and Miss Lotie Viola St. Cin, daughter of Chas. St. Cin, were married at Benton by Squire Cannon Monday. They will make their home on the St. Cin estate.

Thos. Irvin, about 48 years old, died of Typhoid fever in Stoddard county, near here. Saturday morning and was buried at Cross Roads in Cape county, Sunday.

W. J. Harney's mill is running full time and turning out lots of stuff. The Charley Able mill will start later on.

The 3-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. McBride died of malarial fever last week and was buried Saturday.

Ben Elfrank, Levi Reams and Chas. St. Cin, were at Benton Monday and secured hunter licenses.

Chas. St. Cin has a bumper crop of apples, although the wind-storms did much damage.

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Terpin died Wednesday of last week.

Subscribe for the Kicker.

**PUBLIC SALE.**

Tuesday, September 14, 1909, at the Louis Felton place, one and one-half miles east of Kelso, I will sell three good mules, three good milk cows with calves—one a full blood Jersey, and one about half Jersey and half Durham—a Durham heifer, a sow, seven sheep, a hen, mow, hayraker, Hoosier wheat drill, Kingman double-shovel corn plow, wagon, two buggies, two 3-horse plows, two 2-horse plows, corn plow, hay frame, 8-foot section harrow 15 bushels oats, 11 loads clover and timothy hay, 12 acres growing corn, household and kitchen furniture and many other articles.

TERMS—\$5.00 and under, cash; over \$5.00 a credit of 10 months will be given, purchaser giving 6 per cent note with approved security. If promptly paid at maturity no interest will be charged. For cash on sums over \$5.00 a discount of 3 per cent will be given.

Wm. BLATTEL.

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College Courses leading to the A. B. and B. S. degrees.

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It is surely the function of the state to encourage rather than to penalize a high birth rate. A bachelor tax exists in many countries, if that course be thought too extreme, a differentiation between bachelors and men of family in the income tax would at least tend in that direction.—Dublin Freeman's Journal.

See your neighbor. If he is not a reader of the Kicker, see that he becomes one. Agitate!

Found.—A child's white parasol with black stripes. This office. Subscribe for the Kicker.

# A Newspaper

May be of benefit to the people of a community, and it may be

## AN INJURY

Depending entirely upon the point of view. Some newspapers regard a few selfish and useless citizens as

### "THE PEOPLE,"

But the Kicker is not of THAT CLASS. It regards the useful citizens—the workers—as the people and believes that when the producers are

## PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY

All is well and the geese hangs high. If this be your idea, patronize

# The Kicker.

# New Tin Shop!

I do all kinds of Tin and Sheet-Iron Work. Roofing and Gutting a Specialty at Lowest Prices. Repairing Neatly and Promptly done.

## E. F. HUNZE, EDNA, MO.

**THE SOCIALIST PLATFORM.**  
Adopted at Chicago, Ill., in 1908.

As measures calculated to strengthen the working class in its fight for the realization of this ultimate aim and to increase its power of resistance against capitalist oppression, we advocate and pledge ourselves, and our elected officers, to the following program—

1. The immediate government relief for the unemployed workers by building schools, by reforesting cut-over and waste lands, by reclamation of arid tracts, and the building of canals, and by extending all other useful public works. All persons employed on such works shall be employed directly by the government under an eight-hour workday and at the prevailing rate of union wages. The government shall also loan money to the states and municipalities without interest for the purpose of carrying on public works. It shall contribute to the funds of labor organizations for the purpose of assisting their unemployed members, and shall take such other measures within its power as will lessen the widespread misery of the workers caused by the misrule of the capitalist class.
2. The collective ownership of railroads, telegraph, telephone, steamboat lines and all other means of social transportation and communication, and all land.
3. The collective ownership of all industries which are organized on a national scale, and in which competition has virtually ceased to exist.
4. The extension of the public domain to include mines, quarries, oil wells, forests and water power.
5. The scientific reforestation of timber lands, and the reclamation of swamp lands. The land so reforested or reclaimed to be permanently retained as a part of the public domain.
6. The absolute freedom of the press, speech and assembly.
7. The improvement of the industrial condition of the workers. By shortening the workday in keeping with the increased productivity of machinery. By securing to every worker a rest period of not less than a day and a half each week.
8. By securing a more effective inspection of workshops and factories.
9. By forbidding the employment of children under 16 years of age.
10. By forbidding the interstate transportation of the products of child labor, of convict labor, and of all unimproved factories.
11. By abolishing official charity and substituting in its place compulsory insurance against unemployment, illness, accident, invalidism, old age and death.
12. The extension of inheritance taxes, graduated in proportion to the amount of the bequests and to the nearness of kin.
13. A graduated income tax.
14. Unrestricted and equal suffrage for men and women, and we pledge ourselves to engage in an active campaign in that direction.
15. The initiative and referendum proportional representation, and the right of recall.
16. The abolition of the Senate.
17. The abolition of the power usurped by the supreme court of the United States to pass upon the constitutionality of the legislation enacted by Congress. National laws to be repealed or abrogated only by act of Congress or by a referendum of the whole people.
18. That the constitution be made amendable by majority vote.
19. The enactment of further measures of general education and for the conservation of health.
20. The bureau of education to be made a department of the creation of a department of public health.

**BUSINESS LOCALS.**

For Sale.—My farm of 41 acres known as the Louis Felton place, 1 1/2 miles east of Kelso. Apply to Mrs. Lawrence Seyer, Anzell, Mo. 43-4t.

L. E. Wornica and J. H. Branham, of Vanduser, were here Wednesday.

Lost.—A little brown curly dog with tail cut off. Reward. Annie Hawkins, Benton Mo.

Schwab's Clothing for sale by Scherer & Co., New Hamburg. 4-42

Strayed.—A dark bay mare, white spot on left jaw, star in forehead, blind in left eye, about 5 or 6 years old. Left in May, about 3 miles south of Blodgett. Will pay reasonable reward for information. 48. W