

# Ripley County Democrat.

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## 'ROUNABOUT THE STATE.

**Cleaned from Exchanges—Made by the Shears, the Pencil and the Paste Pot—Some Original, Some Credited, and Some Stolen, but Nearly All Interesting Reading.**

A Weston girl who believes in "preparedness" is now making all her next summer dresses.

Two Springfield banks have adopted the finger print plan of indentifying customers checks.

Odessa defeated a proposition to issue bonds for the installation of a water works plant at a special election held this week by only one vote.

Hopkins is now planning to vote twenty thousand dollars for a new school building, the election to be held at the same time as the regular school election.

Last week a Kansas City girl 16 years of age, received \$500 damages because a Metropolitan street car conductor kissed her. That's car money for several trips.

The board of education of Moberly has ordered a special election to vote on a bond proposition of \$108,000 with which to repair the old school building and build a new one.

A seer told a Kirksville farmer that there was a pot of gold amounting to \$8,000 buried on his farm and he would find it for \$300. The farmer paid the \$300. Truly, all fools are not dead.

John Marshall who lives down in Pemisoot county caught a four-pound buffalo fish while he was wading through some backwater. Rather early for fish stories, but this is a true one.

"Toward the end of the ride," she was reading aloud, "they came to a ford—" "Oh, skip that," he exclaimed, impatiently. "I am getting tired of those automobile jokes."—Buffalo Courier.

Being full up on wheat, the Charleston Milling company has gathered its purchase of corn in one big pile on the ground. It is 200 feet long, and between 40 and 50 feet high, containing 200,000 bushels.

According to the state board of agriculture, Nodaway county led the state for a ten year average from 1905 to 1915. The average was 32.7 bushels per acre. Saline and Atchison came next in order.

By a majority of two votes the Billings, Christian county, road district, voted Saturday to issue \$40,000 for rock road bonds. With the money will be constructed a link in the Springfield to Joplin highway.

Linn county has a "marrying judge" who has united in wedlock 237 couples. The judge prides himself that of that number for whom he has performed the marriage ceremony very few appeared later in divorce courts.

The Maryville city council at its last meeting called for Friday, March 3, the election at which the commission government city manager plan will be submitted. A petition with 350 names was presented by representatives of the Commercial club.

The only fault that can be found with the railroad from Mountain Home, Ark., to Springfield, Mo., is that it doesn't go anywhere. A \$100,000 bonus subscribed along the right of way will be forfeited if ten miles of the road is not built by April 1, 1916.

The Democratic state committee will meet in St. Louis Feb. 25 to decide upon the time and place for holding the next Democratic state convention. The call for this meeting was issued by Chairman D. C. McClung.

"It is to laugh," says the Norborne Democrat, in relating that an "Oriental palm reader" stayed two weeks at Carrolton and harvested from the credulous between \$750 and \$1000. The Democrat says the O. p. r. will starve to death if he comes to Norborne.

Some good looking young lady made the remark at the dance last Friday evening that Jesse Kahn was having more fun than anyone else in the crowd, and we guess that she was right for Jesse was going on "high" all the time.—Bigelow item in the Mound City News-Jeffersonian.

When will people realize that gasoline is dangerous to fool with? At Boonville, Ben Hurt thought a gasoline tank was frozen and built a fire under it. Then to show his father it was frozen he turned on the faucet. He was covered with blazing oil that followed, dying next day.

The sheriff of St. Charles county states that he has not made an arrest in three months, and the jail would be empty except for the federal prisoners confined there and three men who are under sentence of death. He says for two years the salary of the office has amounted to less than \$500 a year.

"We notice that another preacher has been guilty of kissing a woman member of his congregation and has resigned his pastorate, says the editor of the Louisiana Press-Journal, who adds, "The preachers ought to leave this kind of recreation to us editors. We don't have so much to lose if we get caught."

One hundred deaf mutes sang "Nearer My God, to Thee," with their fingers at the funeral of Miss Ivey J. Myers at St. Louis. Miss Meyers died Friday at Sulphur, Okla., where she was an instructor in the school for the deaf and dumb. The services were conducted at a local school for deaf mutes at which Miss Meyers had been educated.

Summing up the recent revival meeting held there the Holden Progress finds that Holden "trimmed" Warrensburg in the matter of paying the preacher, the free will offering having been \$47 more than that raised at the county seat. The Progress figures that "single admissions" cost a trifle more than four cents and that converts cost about \$5 apiece.

A man by the name of Tom Tatum arrived in our city Wednesday and during his stay endeavored to get the DeLisle Supply Co., to accept checks on the Sturdivant Bank at Cape Girardeau. The firm got in phone communication with the bank and found that Tatum had no money in the bank, but the cashier said the bank wanted the man. Tatum was held here by Marshal McClellan until Sheriff Summers of Cape county, arrived and took his man to the Cape.—Portageville, Southeast Missouriian.

## Winter Farm Work.

M. A. R. Kelley, University of Missouri, College of Agriculture.

Haul manure. Test seed corn. Prepare for all spring work. Lots of necessary things can be done now which will save time later on.

Have you cured plenty of pork and beef for the summer? If not, do it now.

This is a very good time to look over and repair machinery, harness and fences.

A good supply of bolts, screws, and nuts will save a great many hours of hard labor later on in the season.

Every day now means a little advance in the price of seed. If any seed is needed, now is the time to purchase it.

Watch your wood pile! Replenish it if necessary so that it will be large enough to last until this time next year.

Hired labor can profitably be put to work cutting brush and removing rocks from the fields. Both should be used in making dams to help prevent soil washing.

The store keepers have all taken invoices of their stock. Take a hint from this and do the same, find the leaks, stop them as soon as possible, and increase your farm profits.

Good tools pay! With good tools and a little repair shop on the farm you can do all the repairing that you will have to do and keep your implements in good shape at all times.

A small hand forge is often very handy on the farm. In many cases it will pay for itself the first year. Once the method of using it is learned, the trips to the blacksmith will be less frequent during the very busy summer season.

Harrows, disks, and cultivators should all be looked over carefully. Dull harrows are very inefficient tools to use. The blades of the disk should be sharpened and the bearings should not be neglected. Renew them when necessary. Dull shovels on cultivators cannot be expected to do efficient work.

Those who wish fuller information with regard to the methods used in doing these things, or planning farm work of other kinds, should address the College of Agriculture, University of Missouri, Columbia. Bulletins, circulars, or personal letters go every week to thousands who have asked for information on Missouri farm and home problems.

Charles C. Crickette, postmaster at Queen City, was arrested Saturday by Inspectors Thompson and Tyler, accused of being short in his accounts to the amount of \$2,650.77. He was taken to Macon for a preliminary and was bound over in the sum of \$3,000. In default of bond he was lodged in jail. Crickette was a former Methodist minister and is accused of pecculations running back several years.

Dreams hardly ever come true. A few weeks ago an Ozark county man dreamed he found a gold mine while prospecting on the hills of his farm. The dreamer had little faith in visions and tried to forget the incident but without avail. At last, just to prove there was nothing in the dream, he took pick and shovel and started to work about a hundred yards from his home. His doubts were confirmed for all he found was a rich lead of zinc which promises to make him one of the richest men in the county.

## Plan Yard Planting Now.

H. F. Major, Missouri College of Agriculture.

Late winter and early spring furnishes the best opportunities for planning to make improvements in farm house surroundings and to plant shrubs. Probably bridalwreath, or Spirea Van Houttei, has proved satisfactory to more people than any other well be included in the order which it is about time to send to the nurseries, if a neighbor cannot supply what you want. The common name "bridalwreath" is supplied to several varieties of spires, so in ordering it is best to specify the variety. Bridalwreath is inexpensive, has abundant bloom and fine foliage. It improves with age, is graceful in form, free from insect pests, easy to transplant, and conspicuous without being too much so.

As a plant to stand alone, it is unexcelled. Bending under its pile of snowlike flowers for weeks in the spring, it needs no other shrub in the same clump to give a long-flowering period. Banked against the foundation of the house, it supports and rounds out the architecture and conceals what is usually an ugly foundation or bare corner. For a hedge, it has no superior. Planted in a straight row, three feet apart in the row, it needs no pruning and comparatively little attention. Thus it supplies a fence like border, ornamental, permanent, dense, and economical, which gives an air of privacy and refinement to any yard. It is a plant made for every man. The millionaire can find no better and the tenant can afford it as well as a package of flower seeds. More spires (of the variety, Van Houttei) are sold than any other shrub on the market and every man should want the best there is. It has been used with good results on the grounds of the University of Missouri. Why not put a few in your yard early in March? Now is the time to consult a nursery catalog and order some shrubs. Your yard is of as much importance as your parlor—ten times as many people see it.

## Seed Tested Free.

Pure live seed that will grow well and not introduce any weed should be carefully secured. When in the market look carefully at the seed and reject any that contains the seeds of noxious weeds. As it is impossible to tell whether seed will grow by looking at it and difficult or impossible for anyone to be absolutely sure that there are no objectional seed present, the Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbia, Missouri is glad to test seed free of charge for those who secured samples in advance of buying or who have seed on hand which may be so low in germinating power that it should be sowed at a higher rate.

W. W. Karr and Tom Wimp killed four wolves on the dump of No. 8 ditch this week. Two were black and two were grey wolves and three were female and one male. The latter was a splendid specimen, measuring six feet four inches from tip to tip. Karr, who killed the male animal with a pistol shot, says he stood three feet tall. The animals were driven to the jump by the water and subsisted on rabbits and other small game, there being thousands of these small animals on the ditch dump. This is the largest number of wolves seen at one time.—East Prairie Eagle.

## Silly Criminal Laws.

Perhaps no phenomenon of modern life is more marked than the prevalent mania for penal regulation of the petty details of conduct. There seems to be no human action that somebody does not want to prohibit. With the intemperate exponents of temperance we have become familiar; the cohorts of Cotton Mather have reincarnated in Sunday observance leagues. But around these central figures of sumptuary legislation circles a host of minor meddlers. Prohibitions under penalty of fine and imprisonment of the use in hotels of bed sheets less than statutory length, and of the use of cracked china in like institutions are but samples of the absurdities that have already found their way on the statute books. And the craze grows apace. Among the bills reported as introduced in various assemblies are those prohibiting the exhibition by any merchant of a clock which is too fast or too slow, and of the use of face lotions by any woman under 40 years of age. A recent bill makes it a penitentiary offense for a man to put his feet on his desk while dictating to a woman stenographer. And it is rather more than a joke. Thoughtful people complain of the growing disrespect of law. Who could avoid disrespect for such laws, and how few can or will discriminate between wise laws and foolish when both are of equal authority? And the mischief does not stop there. With the multiplication of trivial crimes involving no moral turpitude arrests inevitably increase. It is said by an investigator of repute that of the 125,000 people arrested in Chicago in 1914, over half were charged with committing crimes which were unknown in 1894. Now every unnecessary arrest is an unmixed evil. Every time that a reputable man or boy is arrested, haled through the streets and thrust into a police station cell, his self-respect suffers an injury that makes him a worse citizen. Will the refined woman who is treated as a common criminal, as in one state she may be, because her hat pin projects more than half an inch beyond the crown of her hat, ever recover from the shame of it? It is about time the robust common sense of the American people put a summary stop to this "verboten" nonsense.—Law Notes.

The postoffice department at Washington has issued an order warning postmasters against shipments of liquor by parcel post. The order is stringent and says such shipments cannot be accepted, regardless of the manner in which they are packed, and if postmasters and those in charge of mailing departments are not satisfied that packages accepted do not contain liquor such packages may be opened.

A four-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wibbenmeyer, Jr., who live in Perry county, a short distance from Appleton, bit its tongue off in an accident Saturday and died to death as a result. The child was sitting on a table with the mother near when it toppled off and fell to the floor. In alighting the child's lower jaw struck against a bench and its teeth came together with such force that the tongue was severed. The boy suffered untold agony until unconsciousness relieved it from its sufferings. A doctor was able to do little and death followed soon. The funeral services were held Monday and interment was at St. Joseph cemetery.

## GOLD TRAVELED 16 YEARS

Sack of Precious Dust Trilled Consignee Thousands of Miles to Twenty Addresses.

Watertown, N. Y.—After traveling for thousands of miles during 16 years, a sack of gold dust mailed in 1899 was delivered to Christopher Lalone of Potsdam.

The gold had been trailing Lalone for years, but, wherever it was sent, Lalone was always just ahead of it. The gold dust started at Dawson City, Alaska, being sent by Frank Wires, Mr. Lalone's son-in-law. It was part of the first treasure taken from a mine which young Wires discovered while prospecting, and which later netted him a fortune.

The first address attached to the sack was Schenectady, where Lalone was living. Before it arrived, however, Lalone had left that city, and after a few months the gold was sent back to Dawson City. Wires, the sender, was far from civilization, and his whereabouts was unknown. Unclaimed, the sack lay in the Dawson post office until it was learned by a friend of Wires that Lalone was in Terre Haute, Ind. There the package was sent, but again too late. Since then it has traveled to Seattle, to southern California and back to Alaska, until finally Lalone was located in Potsdam. Three tags, bearing 20 addresses, were attached to the sack.

## MRS. CAMERON KAY



Mrs. Cameron Kay recently became the bride of Cameron Kay, brother of Mrs. Thomas F. Gore, wife of the senator from Oklahoma. Before her marriage she was Miss Laura Iverson of Brooklyn.

Somebody is always doing the impossible. For instance at Platte City a man got more than his money's worth on a punch board. The prizes were six \$2.50 gold pieces and a \$20 gold piece. The manner in which the chap got ahead of the game was to enter a store at night, pry the coins from the board and then go away quietly.

The Brunswicker says that fisherman living along the Missouri river have been capturing some mammoth members of the finny tribe since the recent cold weather. Paul Gurst, southeast of town, came in Monday with a half dozen monster cats, averaging from 60 to 80 pounds and a couple of barrels of "little ones" weighing from 10 to 30 pounds. Many others have had similar luck on the Missouri the past few days.

Drs. Greene, Cook and Evans were in Kansas City, to meet with the educational board of the Baptist church which has in charge the plans for raising a fund of which William Jewell College will receive a half million dollars. The board thinks the sum can be raised within the next five years. Hardin and Stevens colleges will receive \$250,000 each, LaGrange \$200,000, Bolivar \$150,000, Mayfield \$100,000 and Lexington Ladies \$125,000.—Liberty Advance.