

# Ripley County Democrat.

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## 'ROUNDABOUT 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 dog so spotted that there is no room left for fleas is claimed for Odessa.

Interest on Missouri's money in state depositories for the month of July aggregated \$18,811.24.

That election betting is going to be looked into by the next grand jury in Monroe county is the warning.

A mistake has set Paris rejoicing. Instead of a \$20,000 postoffice, as first reported, Paris is to have a \$40,000 building.

The Holden Enterprise prints the name B. L. Gudde as one, who after getting the paper several years, refuses to pay for it. His name is probably all there is Gudde about him.

Pop—a basket of it—was the purchase made by two Carterville men before attending a circus. The pop they got at the last circus was of a poor quality, these epicureans said, so they took their supply with them.

Those who want work and those who want workers, will be aided by the Maryville Commercial club, known as one of the liveliest business organizations in North Missouri, which has added a free employment bureau to its work.

Sidney dean of Dearborn met with quite a misfortune last week in a very singular way. He broke his shoulder blade while turning himself in bed. He took hold of the top rail and gave his body a twist with the above serious result.

Picking strawberries with a fish line and hook was the sport a Burlington Junction fishing party enjoyed. The anglers started out for trout, but returned with 150 cans of canned fruit, which it is thought a thief had dumped into the river.

Night became day for a few seconds, when a brilliant meteor appeared in the sky at Carthage. When it seemed near the earth the star broke into many fragments, still bright, could be seen as they continued their journey toward the earth, says the Carthage Press.

High in a tree where breezes would reach her, forty feet from the ground, a hen built her nest and hatched out ten chickens during the hot days, the Huntsville Herald reports. So far the chicks haven't set feet to ground and the mother carries their food up the ladder.

Mary's little lamb disappeared quickly when three hundred persons met at the reunion of the Callaway County Deer Hunter's Association. Out of fifteen sheep that were barbecued only four were left when the first inning of the horseshoe pitching contest was called.

One of the finest yields of potatoes this section ever had is that grown by Lemar G. Mereness on the J. M. Grubbs place this season. There were eighteen acres in the patch and the yield was over 200 per acre. The crop was sold to E. L. Pigg and Hal Grubbs at Missouri City for 95 cents a bushel, making each acre bring in over \$190, a most profitable crop.—Liberty Advocate.

Hale and hearty at the age of 91, John Anthony Williams of Quitman, visited Burlington Junction one day last week, and told of the time he sat on a jury with U. S. Grant. He is the fourth member of his family to reach the age of 90, says the Post.

Huston Duncan brought in a very ugly specimen of the Copperhead variety of snake the first of the week which he and his companions in a fishing party killed down on the river. The snake measured something over 30 inches.—Dade County Advocate.

Happiness hangs by a thread sometimes. The editor of the Ravenwood Gazette lost a button off his coat the other day, and handed the garment to his wife that she might sew on another button. In his pocket she found two letters she had given him to mail just before last Christmas.

Religious bees have been buzzing around Linneus. Recently it was discovered that the insects had deposited large quantities of honey in the belfry of the Christian church. A foraging party came back with the honey and the evidence that religious bees as well as political bees have stingers.

A pike, a weapon superseded by the bayonet, Weston Herald explains, is the latest addition to Platte county's collection of arms. The pike was dug up by Marion Turner on his farm. A wooden handle it once had is rotted off, but the steel, though rusteaten, still has a sharp point.

Somehow, Leslie McConnell, near Republic, is afraid that G. P. Blades doesn't exactly want him for a son-in-law. He was strolling blissfully with the Blades girl the other afternoon when the old man opened fire on him with a .22 rifle. He fired eight shots, but the young man left the bullets far behind in his departure.

Seventy-seven counties of the state have already organized county centennial committees to arouse interest in the celebration of the centennial of Missouri's statehood, which will be held in 1920 and 1921. Besides a big celebration at one place, it is planned to hold celebrations in each county, city and town in the state.

During the rain Tuesday evening three small monkeys escaped from one of the shows. One of them, a young one, was recaptured, but the two old ones were two happy in their liberty to submit to capture, at least up to yesterday afternoon, one of them finding his way to the southern end of town, the other one the northern outskirts of Jackson.—Jackson Items.

John Garner was robbed Thursday night of checks and cash amounting to \$200. The burglar took the keys from Mr. Garner's pocket, then opened the trunk in which Mr. Gardner kept his money. The person, or persons, seemed to be pretty familiar with Mr. Gardner's personal surroundings, and suspicion points strongly to home talent. However, no trace of the burglar has yet been found.—Charleston Enterprise-Courier.



Mourners became hysterical with fear at a funeral near Springfield the other day, when in the midst of a prayer in a home of a dead woman, lightning struck a large oak tree near the house and a second bolt set fire to the barn. The service was stopped and men attending the funeral formed a bucket brigade to fight the fire. The service was resumed after the barn burned.

Lawyer Chas. Wright at Springfield had to take instead of a cash fee a brindle cow known as "Pumpkins," and he turned her on his farm near Springfield. When the caretaker shied a rock at Pumpkins, she shied back, and kicked up her heels, throwing up some dirt. Noting shiny bits where the cow had disturbed the soil, he took them to town and found them to be pure lead. Wright expects to develop for mineral.

Man is not the only animal with a weakness for motoring. A few weeks ago Tim Headrick of Louisiana arranged with a friend to take his car over to New Harmony and bring back a cow and calf. By tying the animals in a roughly built crate they safely made the return trip to the Headrick place. Now Mr. Headrick reports to the Press-Journal that the cow is spoiled, for every time she sees a car she tries to climb into it.

R. O. Shenkner, the Weston merchant, has been in business since 1873. He has a book in which he kept a record of all sales, and this shows his first sale to be a spool of thread sold to E. W. Riley for 10 cents. Mr. Riley is still a customer of Mr. Shenkner, a fact that speaks volumes for the latter's business courtesy, honest dealings and fair treatment of his patrons. Among many other items was one for a pound of tobacco at \$1.25.

Actual construction work on the new \$15,000 passenger station for the Iron Mountain railroad was begun yesterday by company workmen in setting the molds for the concrete foundations and curbing. The work will now proceed steadily, and it is thought that the new structure will be completed by the first of the year, at least. The contract for the new structure has not been awarded yet, but plans are in the hands of local contractors now for figures.

**Not Blooming.**  
Don't think too much of the good old days; when knighthood was in flower the bath tub wasn't.—Atchison Globe.

### CHILD'S SKELETON IN CAVE

Interesting Discoveries Made on a Farm in Dry Rock Canyon in Utah.

Vernal, Utah.—A cave in which on a solid rock wall there is the imprint of a human hand as if it were made when the rock was plastic has been discovered on the farm of John W. West in Dry Rock canyon, eight miles northwest of this town. On the rock are all sorts of hieroglyphics and the cave contained the skeleton of a child wrapped in bark, Indian fashion.

In removing ash heaps West found corncobs, a few grains of corn and an arrow of cane spiked with grease-wood. He regrets now that he did not preserve the kernels of corn and plant them in hope that corn of an ancient culture might be again produced, but at the time he thought, of course, their presence among the ashes precluded the possibility of life germs being retained. The arrow was kept, but the bark-wrapped skeleton was put into a five-gallon can and buried.

### POKER CHIPS RUNNING SHORT

Card Players May Get Relief Through Discovery of Large Deposit of Barite in Texas.

Llano, Tex.—It has been several years since open gambling was allowed in Texas. Poker playing is becoming an almost lost art. Few people realize that there now exists an unprecedented shortage of poker chips, due to the war across the seas. The knowledge of this threatened crisis has caused a demand for the mineral known as barite. This fact caused a search for barite to be instituted here, with the result that a large deposit of the metal has just been discovered ten miles north of town. The poker chip supply will soon be replenished from this new source of raw material.

### HATCHES A BROOD IN TREE

Hen Belonging to Delaware Man Makes Her Nest Twenty Feet in Air.

Georgetown, Del.—Perched 20 feet in the air, an old hen on the farm of former United States Marshal John Cannon Short, has hatched out ten chicks where the whole family is now making their aerial home.

The nest is in a large tree and is reached by a 40-foot ladder which lies against an adjoining building. The hen climbed the ladder and made her nest in the tree and there she hatched out her family. So far the chicks have not yet set their feet on the ground, and the old hen carries their food up to them. The owner highly prizes the hen and will allow no one to disturb her unique abode.

**Gives Skin to Save Wife.**  
Tulsa, Okla.—To save the life of his wife who was believed to be fatally injured by a gasoline explosion at her home in this city recently, H. L. De Witt submitted to the removal of 100 square inches of cuticle which was at once grafted on the wounds of his wife, who is in a hospital. The grafting was successful and Mrs. De Witt will recover.

**Oldest Indian Over a Century.**  
Pendleton, Ore.—One of the oldest if not the oldest man on the Pacific coast died when Ajoushkatagom, the veteran Cayuse Indian, passed on to the happy hunting grounds. He was reputed to be one hundred and twenty years old, and his memory dated back to events which happened during the War of 1812.

### BULLETS DIDN'T STOP HIM

Lead Fired into Lewis' Body Made No Impression, According to Evidence in Criminal Court.

Baltimore, Md.—Bullets make no impression upon Nathan Lewis of 1204 McElderry street, according to his evidence in the criminal court, where he was a star witness against William Edwards, charged with assault with intent to murder and carrying a deadly weapon.

Lewis and Edwards had an argument. Edwards procured a revolver and shot at Lewis. One bullet struck Lewis in the arm, but he merely plucked it out and threw it away. The second bullet went through Lewis' mouth while he was snarling over the failure of the first shot to do him injury, and it did nothing more than loosen one of his teeth.

He spat the leaden pellet out and was proceeding to use his fists on Edwards when the pair were separated.

Harry B. Wolf pleaded self-defense for his client and Judge Stump gave him the benefit of the doubt and dismissed the case.

### FOUR BROTHERS WED SISTERS

Two Wisconsin Families Are United and It Only Took Six Months to Do It.

Waukegan, Wis.—Four Wisconsin brothers in the last six months married four sisters. The latest of the weddings was a short time ago at Waukegan, when the last of the boys in the Blum family married the last of the sisters in the Rausch family, both the Rausch and Blum families being of Campbellport and Hartford, Wis., respectively. The weddings in their order are:

Paul Blum, of Marshfield, partner in Blum Brothers' box factory, wedded to Marie Rausch.

John Blum, Marshfield, wedded to Anna Rausch.

Peter Blum, Jr., Marshfield, to Catherine Rausch.

Jacob Blum, Hartford, auto demonstrator, to Lily Rausch.

### FROGS FORECAST WEATHER

Amphibia in Hotel Fountain Give Warning of Rain and Never Miss a Guess.

Brunswick, Ga.—Brunswick now has a weather forecasting station, although it has no connection with the government's weather department. The forecasting station is located in the fountain in front of the Ogilthorpe hotel and consists of a number of long-winded and sweet-voiced frogs. It is said they never miss the weather and that when they sing one might as well look out for rain. The frogs give nightly concerts when the weather outlook is right and the concerts are greatly enjoyed by the hotel guests as well as the steady stream of passersby.

### Perches on High Sign.

St. Louis.—Standing on the tip of a big electrical sign on top of the Terminal hotel, 110 feet from the sidewalk and extending out 12 feet from the building line, Robert E. Pruitt of Detroit, Mich., desisted from his perilous "stunt" only after attaches of the hotel had repeatedly threatened to call the police. "I wanted to see the city," said Pruitt. He was taken to the city hospital and placed in the observation ward.

**True Statesmanship.**  
True statesmanship is the art of changing a nation from what it is into what it ought to be.—W. H. Alger.

## HAVE TOO MUCH LEISURE IN AIR

Aviator Says There Isn't Enough to Do While Flying Aloft.

### THRILLING TALES OF AIR

"Sail for Hours Without Putting a Hand on Lever," Says One—Clouds Most Deadly Things They Have to Fear.

London.—The hardest part about flying in war is the thinking that a flying man has to do. Here's the idea in an English flying man's own words: "There isn't enough to keep a man's mind busy in the air since the war has developed the aeroplane. In the old days of the aeroplane there were so many things a flying man had to watch that he didn't have time to worry about what might happen to him. But in these days sitting in your machine is about like sitting on a log and waiting for something to happen.

"We don't have to use our hands as we used to. There is only one lever, and you don't have to watch that very closely. You can fly for hours without having your hand on it. You can write or read or smoke, or unless you touch the lever to change its position you will fly along at the same level indefinitely owing to the self-stabilization of the machine.

**Look Down; Watch Shells.**  
"So, with your attention only mildly occupied, you keep looking down over the edge to see what's happening. You get to watching the wires and wondering what would happen if a bullet cut one of them. You look at the frail irons and consider how frail they really are. Shrapnel is breaking below you and around you, perhaps. That's a daily occurrence. There's no use of trying to dodge it, for by doing so you may only run into it.

"So there you sit imagining all sorts of horrible possibilities. You've been told to go to a certain place and then return. Your route is all laid out for you and your duties are so simple and easy that while you're performing them you have a thousand times too much spare time for thought and worry. As for myself, I'd much rather have the aeroplane a less simple affair, just to have my attention occupied. An imagination is a curse to a flier."

And then there's the problem of the whirling compass.

An airman flies into a cloud; suddenly the finger of his compass begins to whirl around like a clock gone mad. Scientists say it doesn't whirl, but so many English airmen have had the experience that even the scientific men are wondering whether the phenomenon isn't worth studying.

### The Whirling Compass.

Here's a flying man's side of it: "My compass finger has whirled like a top when I have gone into a cloud. It's bad enough, goodness knows, to be lost in a cloud, but to have your compass go back on you at the same time is too much. Our scientific instructors tell us that the compass doesn't change but that we lose our heads when we get into the mist and change our courses without realizing it, so that the compass indicator changes naturally.

"But in some clouds your compass doesn't change. It remains as steady as it was in the sunshine. Why should a flier jiggle his course unknowingly in one cloud and not in another? My opinion is that there are certain kinds of clouds that are charged with electricity. In such clouds your compass goes crazy. In other words, where electricity is not present your compass behaves itself."

How far are the clouds above the earth?

As high above as we wish to climb. But the chief question with a flying man is how low the clouds are. A crack English flier told the correspondent something about low clouds.

"You may be walking along the street on a heavy day and, looking up, may think that the clouds are miles high. As a matter of fact they may be only 200 or 300 feet above you. That's the kind of a day that the airman dreads. I've been lost in a cloud in France and come down out of it only to find myself flying around among the church steeples of a French town, with good chances of killing myself.

"In a cloud you can never tell whether you're over the enemy's lines. You may come right down into his trenches before you know it. Clouds, the low kinds, are the most deadly things we have to fear."