

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

Conscience doth make cowards of us all, but it doesn't do it in time.

Is your "sphere" a sphere or is it a hemisphere. A recent public speaker avows that with most of us it is only a segment.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Botkin will spend the springtime on their farm east of this city.

The best way to guard against schemes of grafters is to read the Sturgeon Leader—so says its versatile editor.

Harry Turner has resumed control of the Wellville Record. Moran steps out.

It sometimes happens that men who break laws with impunity when those laws stand in the way of their grasping methods, will pose as friends of law and order when some small crime is committed.

The heirs to the Baron Von Fisher estate in this country are still fishing for their money. The estate is said to be worth \$30,000,000, but so far it doesn't look any bigger than 30 cents.—Press-Journal.

Wm. Anderson, commissioner of labor, is compiling labor statistics for the year of 1906.

The scholars from the United States who have already gained Rhodes scholarships have not acquitted themselves with equal honors with those of other countries—in mental attainments at least. We trust that Missouri will endeavor to "show" the people of England what we can do.

Experience has taught us that passion is a hard master, and that hard words are poor arguments. Eury and jealousy are not the sources of our inspiration. We find no pleasure in trying to injure others. We would perhaps be justified in exposing certain characters at this time but we shall not do so. We are not in the character wrecking business. Let others do what they may; we propose to do right.—Exchange

Judge Davis of Boone has a way of preventing second marriage of divorcees during his term of court. The judge knows how to circumvent fickleness. Judge Davis says: There will be no second marriages during this term of court. A simple declaration that the applicant has no intention of marrying again is not enough. A woman once told me that and she got married that night. Divorce decrees will be entered on the last day of this term—providing the costs have been paid."

At the Union Literary Society of the Mexico High School the question for debate was the same as that which has just claimed the attention of the United States congress—"Resolved, that the Japanese should be excluded from our public schools." Misses Ethel Reed and Elizabeth Murphy presented some able arguments against the Japanese, but Miss Blanche White was such an able defender that she won her cause. Edwin Barth and Geo. Coakley added some telling arguments for the defense. Great minds run in the same channel. The decision in the U. L. S. was the same as that in the national congress on the same date. Score one for the U. L. S. Herbert Plunkett is president and Miss Lelia Winans secretary.

CAPITOL DOINGS.

Bills Still Higgledy-piggledy Piling Up—A Little Boy's Charity—A High Hat Resolution—Hitting the Liquor Biz.

Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 15.—Petitions making different requests are rolling in upon the Senate. Senator Kinney's lid-lifting petition, asking for Sunday opening for saloons in St. Louis, containing \$67,000 names and weighing 66 pounds, was "toted" into the House Tuesday. It was one instance where the little pages had more than they could carry. In my opinion Senator Kinney is going to have more than he can carry, too, if he tries to carry his point.

A bill has been introduced in the House making it a misdemeanor for any person over 14 years of age to use profane language. You would think better of some men, indeed, if they were not profane—so there's a point.

One member in the House is such a dyed-in-the-wool Modern Woodman that every time he rises to address the Speaker he makes the Woodman sign.

Sheriff Price Johnson was over from Mexico this week with a prisoner for the pen and while here looked in upon the Legislature while each house was at duty. Johnson thinks the Senate chamber a dandy meeting place—Johnson is dignified enough in demeanor to fit one of those chairs all right.

A bill engrossed by the Senate proposes to give tax-dodgers considerable trouble and expense. It provides that prosecuting officials shall be allowed 5 per cent of the taxable property not listed for taxation, and adds all the penalties now existing.

The lobbyists for the past week or ten days have kept more out of sight. A lobbyist came down from Kansas City the other day and began on a certain member who had introduced a bill that did not suit him and Mr. Lobbyist got a lick between the eyes that laid him out on the floor.

A spirit of charity, seldom found in a child of his years, manifested itself here when Earl Lumpkin, 8 years old, page to speaker Atkinson, took up a collection to buy an overcoat for Glen Alexander, another page of the House and who is quite badly crippled. The Alexander boy appeared at the Capitol without an overcoat. He was apparently suffering from the severe cold, and the Lumpkin boy was touched. Learning that the Alexander boy had no overcoat and was saving his earnings to pay his way thru school the Lumpkin boy went among the members of the House soliciting contributions. In a short time he raised \$7.50, with which he purchased an overcoat for young Alexander. Earl is a son of William A. Lumpkin, Representative of Pulaski county.

A Senate committee has reported favorably a bill providing for the prohibition of the liquor traffic in Missouri. It is a new danger threatening the business of the lid-lifters, and who has done more than themselves to help bring it on?

Both houses are slow getting to any proposed road legislation. Don't know yet the fate of the "Jim Crow" law. A primary election law is most certain of enactment. The excise bills will be considered next Wednesday; a bitter fight is expected, and their fate is uncertain. The county

school supervision law and the text-book law are yet in the balance. Only about four more weeks till the seventy days are up, but members keep introducing new measures, and the whole number of bills in both houses is piling up higgledy-piggledy toward the 1,200 mark. Some fast killing of many a pet measure must begin soon.

The Western Union Telegraph Company Grants Increase of 10 per cent to operators in all its principal offices.

FOR THE LADIES.

As a little fun now and then is relished by the best of men, perhaps the following, introduced in the House the other day, may to some extent be relished by the ladies, too:

Whereas, around the idea of women are gathered thoughts of kindness, consideration, love and humanity, and

Whereas, women are lending their energies toward reform and petitioning this house to enact legislation reforming mankind to the end of making this world a better place in which to live, and

Whereas, when in churches and other public places gentle women wear upon their heads coverings which obstruct the view of and greatly distress their helpless brothers and sisters, and

Whereas, such head pieces frequently contain the feathers of the egret and other birds which can only be taken when such birds have young and such young are cruelly, brutally and inhumanely left to starve in the nests, and

Whereas, these large head pieces are unjust to the audience, and the badges of cruelty thereon are offensive to all Christian and humane visitors; therefore, be it

Resolved, that this house respectfully request that gentle women remain true to their reputation and remove such head dresses in churches and other public places to the end that their long suffering brothers may receive the word of God unobstructed and not be pained and shocked by being compelled to view the emblems of cruelty.

Deaths.

The Clarksville Piker records the death of Capt. A. T. Vaughn at Billings, Montana. His remains were brought to that city. Mr. Vaughn had been for 56 years a member of A. F. and A. M. lodge. He was a father of Thomas Vaughn of this city.

J. W. Boatman, 60 years age, brother of W. N. Boatman of this city, died at his home in Moberly Friday, Feb. 15, at 5 a. m. Mr. Boatman had been afflicted with paralysis for four years and his condition had not recently been worse than usual. His remains were taken to Cairo, Mo., where he had been a prominent resident and Sunday School worker for many years. He was buried at Fairview cemetery Saturday, funeral service by Rev. Campbell of Moberly. He was buried with Masonic honors. W. N. Boatman attended the funeral. At 3 a. m. Friday, just two hours before the death of Mr. Boatman, the death of his cousin, Mrs. Susan Alderson, of Huntville, occurred. He and she were of near the same age. She had been ill only about a week.

Miss Ophelia Miller has just returned home. She closed a successful term of school, her first term, at Harrisburg Friday.

Miss Blanche Bybee of Ottumwa, Iowa, is guest of her cousin, Miss Nola McCord.

Mrs. Hardin Rixey is ill of pneumonia.

Story of the Times.

"Where's the president of this railroad?" asked the man who called at the general offices. "He's down in Jefferson attendin' th' sessions o' some kind uv investigatin' committee," replied the office boy. "Where's the general manager?" "He's appearin' before th' interstate commerce commission, I reckon." "Well, where is the general superintendent?" "He's at th' meetin' o' th' legislature, fightin' some new law." "Where's the head of the legal department?" "He's in court tryin' a suit." "Then where's the general passenger agent?" "He's explainin' th' commercial travelers why he can't reduce the fare." "Where is the general freight agent?" "He's gone out into the country t' attend a meetin' o' th' grange an' tell th' farmers why he ain't got no freight cars." "Who's runnin' the blame railroad, anyway?" "Th' newspapers."—Pittsburg Press.

Rhodes Scholarship.

Only four Missouri students took the Rhodes Scholarship examination this year. The examination was held a usual at the University of Missouri. The four taking it are: Mr. M. B. Giffen, Khartoum, Missouri, a student in Tarkio College; Mr. R. K. Bridges, Slater, Missouri, a student in Central College; Mr. W. E. Dandy, of Sedalia, Mo., and Mr. Wm. Cross, Columbia, Mo., both students in the State University. The examination papers have been sent to England to be graded.

Intellectual ability is not the only qualification for election to this great honor. Cecil Rhodes in his will provided that the character, athletic skill, and the success of the aspirant as a student leader should be equally considered.

Hedge Timber for Posts.

A friend in speaking of post timber says: I doubt if there is better post timber in existence than the hedge post. If newspapers in the state would take it up and show the people the value of leaving a good straight hedge eye 15 feet; in a few years farmers would have more than enough for their own use. The time is not far off when a six-inch hedge post will sell for 20 or 25c.

"The country was never more prosperous than it is today," remarked the political economist.

"Well," answered the mere layman, "the country's got to be mighty prosperous to be able to pay the prices that are being charged."—Washington Star.

Easter Sunday will come this year on March 31, which is only six days later than the earliest day on which it could possibly fall, which is March 25. February 13 will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent and the beginning of the penitential season. While all indications point to an early Spring, yet the usual early Easter will in all probability have a very appreciable effect on the Spring millinery and dress trade, to say nothing of its effect on Spring fashions.

The Washington Hive of Lady Macabees spent a pleasant evening at their valentine and masquerade social last Wednesday. Refreshments and the following program added to the enjoyment of the evening.

Rec.—Miss Helen Creasey.
Duet—Mr. and Mrs. A. McMas-

ters.
Quartet—Messrs. Garrett, Paul, Gauthron and Towson.

Pantomime—"Old Maids' Tea Party."—By members of Washington Hive.

From a School Girl.

Lowell and Longfellow, whose birthdays come in February, and whose homes in Cambridge were near, were the closest of friends. Lowell's poem, "Vision of Sir Launfal" was composed in the space of forty-eight hours, during which time the author hardly ate or slept. He was not only poet but essayist and editor as well. His interest in politics was rather the championship of a great cause—than that of mere party spirit.

He says: "Not failure, but low aim is crime." "Though the cause of evil prosper, yet 'tis truth alone is strong."

Longfellow's Hiawatha when published in 1855 was severely attacked by critics.

Mr. Field, the publisher, came to him one day and said: "My dear Mr. Longfellow, these atrocious libels must be stopped!" Longfellow glanced over the papers without comment. Handing them back, he quietly asked: "By the way, Field, how is Hiawatha selling?"

"Wonderfully!" replied the excited publisher, "none of your books has ever had such a sale." "Then," said the poet, calmly, "I think we had better let these people go on advertising it." The advance in the pecuniary value of Mr. Longfellow's poems is somewhat remarkable. For "A Psalm of Life" he was promised five dollars and received nothing. For "The Hanging of a Crane," a poem of two hundred lines, he received from Mr. Bonner four thousand dollars.

LENT.

Hail, holy season of Lent! The season of penance, of fasting and prayer, the season of mortification and self-denial, is here. Those who do not own the obligation will at least concur in the motives of those who do.

It is not for us to treat of the forty days as a doctrinal matter or as a religious institution. We deal with it from the secular viewpoint alone. But from the standpoint of one who views the world as a panorama and this fleeting life as a passing show, in which the several characters disport themselves for our divertisement, it seems a good.

Even a worldling, of the earthly, and reeking with the aroma of the flesh pots, is willing to hail with some sort of satisfaction these forty days. It is good, even for the gayest, to exchange for a season the full-dress and opera cloak for the sack-cloth and ashes.

Do you know, that in this country at least, we are moving along at a fairly dizzy pace? It is true. Therefore Lent is to be welcomed, even if it can do no more than temporarily break a cog in our everlasting whirling and whirling social machine. We are too materialistic. Therefore, as aforesaid, welcome Lent, and welcome anything that will temporarily jar us loose from the strenuous life. We need the jar; and if we shall take on some spiritual growth meanwhile we shall be all the better for it.

From the greed which people show for news of the Thaw case it behooves the weather bureau to predict a general freeze. Canada did right to prohibit the abhorrent news to pass thru her mails. The United States would not be doing badly to order a general freeze-out of the same nature.

Mrs. Edna Sharp, music teacher at Hardin, has accepted a position as principal of the music department in the Female Seminary of Millersville, Ky.

Ben Roberts Dies.

Ben Roberts, who was struck on the head by Andrew Pryor, a negro, in Centralia Feb. 13, died at the hospital in Columbia Feb. 14.

The trouble started over some trivial matter and it is said Roberts had an open knife in his hands. The negro seized a large rock and struck Roberts on the head crushing the skull.

Roberts was taken to Columbia but died as he was being carried into the hospital. He was 35 years old and unmarried. Pryor got away and the officers are on the lookout for him. He is well known in Mexico having worked here last summer.

Standard Apple Barrel.

The standard apple barrel in this country has a 17 1/4-inch head, 28 1/2 inch stave and 6.4 inches for over-bulge, outside measurement, and holds an average of about 118 quarts.

A Labor Victory.

House bill No. 100, introduced by W. A. Lumpkin of Pulaski county, was passed Wednesday. The bill provides for an 8-hour day for telegraphers, operators, tower and lever men handling trains in Missouri and is one that interests not only the operators, but the traveling public.

A duplicate copy of the same bill has passed engrossment in the senate.—Jefferson City Tribune.

A Quiet Home Wedding.

Earl P. Paige and Miss Pearl Matthews were married at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Paige, 2 1/2 miles west of Mexico Tuesday, Feb. 5; Rev. R. S. Chinn of Vandalia performed the ceremony. The wedding was a quiet home wedding attended only by intimate friends and relatives of the contracting parties.

They are both of our best young people and have a host of friends in Audrain county.

GUEST.

Lincoln Day at Pittsburg.

The following excerpt is from a speech by Congressman Clark at the Lincoln day banquet at Pittsburg:

Eighteen hundred and nine has been denominated "the year of the great babies. That year nature was in her most prodigal of moods, for therein were born Abraham Lincoln, William F. Gladstone, Charles Robert Darwin, Alfred Tennyson, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Edgar Allen Poe and other worthies who have shed imperishable luster upon the history of the human race.

It is easy to be a Union man in Massachusetts; it is not profitable to be anything else. It was easy to be a Confederate in South Carolina—it was not safe to be anything else. But in Kentucky, Missouri and the other border states it was perilous to be one thing or the other. Indeed, it was dangerous to be neither and sit on the fence.

It is said that figures will not lie, and here they are: To the Union armies Missouri contributed 109,111 soldiers, Kentucky 75,760, Maryland, 46,638, Tennessee 31,092 and West Virginia 32,068—making a grand total of 294,669.

Sunday the Second Baptist church baptized the converts of their recent revival. There were about 45 all told. They were baptized in the pond near the church, "under do clear sky. Christ didn't hab no baptismal fountain" when he was baptized. De Jo'don under do clear sky was gud snuff to 'im."

Mexico Savings Bank

Capital and Surplus, \$100,000.00

W. W. Fry, Pres.
W. J. Bots, V. Pres.
S. M. Locke, Cashier.
Sax. Sharp and Walker Byers, Accountants.