

MEXICO, MISSOURI.

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MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

WHAT'S THE CAUSE?

W. L. Kent is Asking the Fruit Growers a Question.

EDITOR MESSAGE: We visited three orchards in same locality recently and observed things for which we can not account. Perhaps some of your fruit growing readers can give us some light.

The first contained 135 acres of 7 and 8 year old apple trees; 90 acre Ben Davis, 20 York Imp. 5 each, 9 Golden Gano Johnathan and Winesap and 12 acres of Ingram. Comparatively no bloom on any except the block of Ingram, which promises about 1/4 of a crop. We also observed one only Ben Davis perhaps 20 years old left from the family orchard in this same orchard simply loaded with bloom.

We next visited a 65 acre orchard of 9 and 11 years old trees with the same and other varieties with a very light bloom, perhaps 5 per cent of a crop. The trees all thrifty looking and in good condition.

We next came to a 40 acre orchard, 15 year old trees, with about the same varieties as the second. These trees seem to have plenty of bloom and promise a profitable crop.

These orchards all join. Why this difference?

The difference in the age alone does not give a satisfactory answer to the question, for all the trees are old enough to fruit, and in fact, they all had a heavy bloom last year and would doubtless have produced a good crop if it had not been for the late freezes.

We all admit the truth of the axiom, there is never an effect without a cause. We know there is a cause for this difference and it is our duty to learn what it is if we can, and we can. After we have learned it perhaps it will prove to be something that is in our power to remove. If so, we have taken a step forward. We have not only learned how to make our trees more profitable but we will find more pleasure in studying them and working with them.

Will some of our growers write the MESSAGE what they believe to be the cause of this difference? A discussion of this question will be interesting and profitable to those of us who are engaged in growing apples. The Editor of the MESSAGE has kindly offered the use of its columns, and I do not see why we should not use them.

W. L. KENT.

Gov. J. W. Folk.

Gov. Joseph W. Folk will speak in Mexico Saturday night, at 8 o'clock, May 9th. The public cordially invited.

A Verdict for \$6,000.

In the case referred to by the MESSAGE in the Circuit Court last week, Raymond Moore vs. the Wabash R. R., the jury awarded the plaintiff a verdict for \$6,000. The sum sued for was \$20,000.

The father, E. J. Moore, in another action against the Wabash for the care of his son while he was hurt and for doctor bills, was awarded \$1,250.

Mrs. Polly Connors was awarded judgment of \$150 for similar expenses.

Judge and Mrs. W. W. Botts of this city entertained Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Brown of Curryville, last week.

KNIGHTS AND LADIES.

Held an Interesting Convention in This City Last Week.

The Knights and Ladies of Security held a big convention in Mexico last week. Delegates here from various parts of the State.

President W. K. Gibbs of Hannibal presided. R. A. Long, secretary, of Freeman, Mo., was also in his place.

Committees on credentials, another on order of business and a third on resolutions were appointed.

The local committees on entertainment and reception was as follows:

A. C. Whitson, Frank McCord, Mrs. Rosa Genrich, Mrs. Annie Morris, Miss Maggie Adams, Mason Creasey, Noble Barnes, J. W. Winscott, Mrs. Nettie Jenkins, Mrs. M. Mayfield, Miss Lydia Hutcherson, Dr. R. W. Gibbs, Roy Key, and M. J. Sanneback.

The local lodge gave a big banquet to the visiting delegates Wednesday night.

Six candidates were initiated.

After the banquet speeches were made by Hon. C. A. Atchison of Butler, Mo.; G. B. Sanford, Excelsior Springs; Frank Griffin, Breckenridge; B. A. Long, Freeman; S. E. Trowbridge, Braymer, and A. C. Whitson, Mexico.

Mrs. Steuart Dead.

Mrs. A. D. Steuart of this city died the 29th ult., at the home of her parents in this city, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Hughes. She was sick only a few days of peritonitis.

Deceased was aged 21 years, 5 months and 28 days. She was married to A. D. Steuart March 15, 1905. The husband survives her and a little daughter, Mary.

Rev. A. W. Kokendoffer, of the Christian church, her pastor, held funeral service at the home of the parents Thursday afternoon when the remains were interred in the city cemetery.

The pall bearers were Jack and Ed. Steuart, Jesse Coil, Percy Treloar, Ed. Chrismer and Lon Smith.

Mrs. Steuart was the grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Walker of Martinsburg, who with Mrs. Wm. Pike and Miss Effie Walker, attended the funeral here.

Getting More'n His Share.

The Farber Forum last week contained this good-natured shot: Judge W. W. Botts will have the preschers after him if he does not get out of the matrimonial business. He seems to be getting more than his share of his trade.

Got an Audrain Girl.

The following is repeated from the Holtville (Cal.) Tribune of last week:

J. D. Lott arrived from Mexico, Mo., last week, where he had been on a short visit to his father and mother. Jeff thought that as his brother Charley had slipped away from parental watchfulness and took unto himself a wife, he, too, would go and do likewise. Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lott are now at home to their many friends at their ranch near Holtville.

Dr. J. Laurence Laughlin, head professor of Political Economy, University of Chicago, will deliver the address before the graduating class of Hardin College Tuesday night, May 26. Subject: "Reminiscences of Some Literary Men." Dr. Laughlin enjoyed a personal acquaintance with Lowell, Loug-fellow, Whittier, Phillips Brooks, and others.

Miss Mary Emmons returned home last week from a month's visit with her brother, Harvey Emmons, at Wash., D. C.

PUSHING THE ELECTRIC.

Fifteen Other Teams Put to Grading Last Monday.

Over 100 teams and a large force of men are pushing the grading work for the new electric railway between Mexico and Perry.

Jerry Wolff, general contractor, is sub-letting the work as rapidly as possible, and it now looks like a sure thing that the grading of the entire line will be completed easily before the summer months are gone.

Mr. Williamson, a sub-contractor of Brookfield, Mo., arrived last Friday with a big outfit of tools and 15 teams and immediately moved out to the neighborhood north of Mexico and began grading Monday.

Any Mexico man will wager with you now that the Mexico, Santa Fe & Perry Electric R. R. most surely will be built, but you could not have gotten a hazard so easily on this score a year ago.

Folk Makes Speeches.

Jefferson City, Mo., April 30.—Arrangements have been made for Governor Folk to deliver two speeches on May 9th, one at Montgomery City in the afternoon and the other at Mexico in the evening. Very large crowds heard him at Aurora and at Galena. His speeches were along about the same lines as his St. Joseph speech with which he opened his senatorial campaign.

Died in Oklahoma.

A. M. Harrison, brother of C. E. Harrison of Mexico, died at his home in Stillwater, Okla., last Wednesday night, April 22, after a short illness.

Deceased moved from this city to Oklahoma about six years ago. He was born in Montgomery county, this State, Feb. 7, 1842. In 1878 he was married to Miss Louella Green. To them eight children were born, seven surviving the parents, Robert, Louella, Ruby, Dora, Jessie, Luke and Paul. Only about five weeks ago a son, Homer Harrison, was killed by the cars in Oklahoma, the body shipped here for burial.

Mr. Harrison was formerly in the brick business in Mexico. He was public spirited and a good citizen.

The body was brought to Mexico Saturday for burial. Funeral was held at the Methodist church by Rev. C. M. Aker.

Sears & Roebuck.

Frank Bush, born and raised near Mexico, lately located at Weed, Cal., sends the MESSAGE—he muses as follows:

I bought me a suit of the Searsbuck brand. They said it was tailored and sewed by hand; They said it was woven of the finest wool. And couldn't be torn by an angry bull; They said it was fine, and would surely last.

Till Gabriel toothed the final blast. It was ten cents cheaper than suits I'd bought from local dealers, who seemed quite hot. And shed a bucket of briny tears.

When I bought my clothes of the Searsbuck brand. I wore that suit when the bay was damp. And it shrank to the size of a postage stamp.

The coat split up and the vest split down. And I scared the horses all over the town. For the buttons popped and the seams they tore. And the stitches gave with a sudden roar. And I gave that suit to a maiden small. Who found it handy to dress her doll.

J. L. Horton, formerly a school teacher of this county and who was a brother-in-law of Jack and Reube Brown of near Worcester, died a few days ago at his home in Dallas, Texas, of cancer of the stomach. Mr. Horton and family formerly lived in Laddonia and at Mexico.

Miss Annie Hopkins returned home last week from Huntsville where she has been teaching.

EX-CONFEDERATES.

Elect Officers and Are to Hold a Meeting at Auxvasse in May

The Ex-Confederate organization of Audrain County held a meeting in Mexico the 29th ult. and re-organized by the election of the following officers:

R. H. Edmonds, Commander. Wm. Eller, Vice-Commander. J. H. Minor, Treasurer. R. S. McKinney, Adjutant. J. M. Bradley, Chaplain. J. B. Hawkins, Surgeon. W. W. Macfarlane, Ass't Sur. B. T. Winn, Commissary. R. C. Paul, Qr. Master.

Robert McDonough, Col. Bearer. Judge S. E. Kendall, A. G. Turner and Dr. J. B. Hawkins were appointed a committee on resolutions. It was voted to hold a meeting of Ex-Confederates in Auxvasse the last Saturday in this month.

The Martinsburg Schools.

The Missouri School Journal of Jefferson City, H. A. Gass's paper, said last week:

The Martinsburg public school, for the past year in charge of Prin. S. L. Mapes, closed a very successful eight months' term with a strong graduating class. This school has for a great many years been noted as one of the many excellent small schools in the State, and it has greater promise for usefulness during the coming year than in the past. The people voted to increase the levy from forty to sixty cents and will continue the school regularly for eight months. Mr. Mapes is re-employed, and his salary increased to \$75 per month. The increase in levy is the outgrowth of the splendid work done by Mr. Mapes in popularizing the school. The Martinsburg district has not levied more than forty cents for many years, and this increase shows the decided step for progress that the district has taken. It is a good school, but will be much better next year. Both assistants for this year were retained for the coming year.

Vandalia Democrats.

Vandalia, Mo., May 2.—At a mass township convention here this afternoon two delegates and two alternates were selected to the Democratic State Convention. They are: C. B. Ellis and D. P. Athey. R. W. Moore and T. F. Hesse are the alternates. The delegates selected are for Bryan first, last and all the time.

Delegates Selected.

The Democrats of Salt River township met in convention last Saturday afternoon and elected Col. Green Clay, Thomas Cram and J. J. Wakefield delegates to the State Convention. They are for W. J. Bryan for President.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Pearson are visiting relatives in St. Louis.

Mrs. Annie Squires of this city is entertaining her daughter, Mrs. Frank Williams, of Minneapolis, Minn.

Charles Steinman of St. Louis arrived last week on a visit to his parents in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Steinman.

A. L. Luter, southwest of Mexico, became quite ill last week. Suffered something similar to a stroke of paralysis.

Administratrix's Notice

Notice is hereby given that letters of administration upon the estate of S. Spotswood Johnston, late of Audrain Co., Mo., deceased, have been granted the undersigned by the Probate Court of said Audrain county, bearing date the 29th day of April, 1908. All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance, within one year after date of said letters, or they may be precluded from benefits of said estate; and if such claims are not exhibited within two years from the date of the publication of this notice, they will be forever barred.

Clairville Johnston, Administratrix.

SOME CASH; SOME NEWS

Mrs. Mary A. Bruce is a new reader of this paper.

Robt. McDonough, the carpenter, gladdens us with a renewal favor.

John H. Wayne, the real estate man, hands us a big round dollar for renewal.

J. N. Waugh, one of the good farmers out on route 1, Mexico, is a new name on our subscription list.

Tobe Teague, lately of Audrain county, subscribes for the MESSAGE to be sent to him at Doniphan, Neb.

Mrs. Mary Slaughter, down Worcester way, one of this editor's friends of auld lang syne, has our thanks for a renewal favor.

Miss Susie French of Jefferson City, who has been visiting her sister here for some time, Mrs. Price Guthrie, is a new reader of this paper.

T. B. Hammett, the blacksmith at Laddonia, gladdens us with a renewal favor. Tom is one of this paper's staunchest friends down that way.

U. S. Goran at Vandalia renews for the MESSAGE and adds: The family thinks the MESSAGE the only paper going, so you see I have to take it.

Marston W. Beamer at Molino renews. Says he can't get along without the MESSAGE. He tells us that Mrs. Beamer and mother set 300 eggs and hatched 275 chicks and have sold 527 dozen eggs since the first of last January, the eggs amounting to \$65.26. That's making the hen pay all right.

Mrs. Sallie Ridgeway, at Arkansas City, Kansas, subscribes for the MESSAGE and says: "As I have been used to reading your paper, feel that I cannot do without it. For the past two years I have been with my son, Frank Ridgeway, at India, Cali. He could not do without the MESSAGE and now I am here and I feel that I must have it, too." If we mistake not Mrs. Ridgeway was formerly a resident of Rush Hill, this county.

Mrs. E. G. Skelley, formerly of this county, now of Pilot Point, Texas, subscribes for the MESSAGE.

F. M. Loveless renews for the MESSAGE. He tells us that the frost last week got his strawberry patch and killed his prospect for grapes. Mr. Loveless thinks we all live too fast. Last year we planted some crops entirely too early and the freeze got it, and this spring we have a similar season, but last year's experience didn't learn us anything.

Peter Schneider of Rush Hill was in to see the MESSAGE the other day, to get his subscription date moved up. Bro. Schneider is getting used to city life all right. Says he first bought a home in the Hill, one line being the corporate limits. He then bought some land just across the line, outside the limits, and the city fathers compelled him to give an alley between his first and last purchase for the blessing of living in town.

L. G. Gentry of Halleville, Mo., writes as follows: Please find enclosed the wherewith to keep the MESSAGE coming this way a while longer. Boone county is all right, but we are interested in Mexico and old Audrain, and the paper is like a letter from home. Farmers are somewhat hindered in their work by the rain and cool weather, but I hear no complaint, for will not the Judge of all the earth do right? Think the fruit is most all killed by the recent freeze, but still we trust in God and take courage.

SURROUNDING AUDRAIN

The Halleville Baptists are to build a new house of worship this summer to cost from \$3,500 to \$4,000.

L. G. Lehman of Mokane, Callaway county, was fined \$500 and sentenced to six months imprisonment last week charged with violation of the local option law.

The Paris Appeal says that ninety-two teams are now at work on the roadbed of the Santa Fe, Perry & Mexico road. A contract for fencing the right of way has been let.

Miss Mary Eller will teach the next term of school in the Wafer Ash district, near Santa Fe. It will be her seventh term in that district. Miss Eller is highly prized as a teacher. She gets good wages, too, \$65 per month.

Quite a number of Perry girls have "steadies" from other towns, so says the Enterprise. Who can blame the girls if the boys let an imported fellow beat their time. Besides the girls cannot always be "sweet sixteen and Leap Year is fast waning.

Frank Phelps, recently appointed on the night police force of Louisiana, took a smoke the other day which smoked him out of office. He is accused of taking four cigars from the till of the Grand hotel without leave or plunking down the cash therefor and he was fined \$5.00 and costs.

Lincoln Nutter killed a mad dog near his home north of Middletown the other day. Chips says the animal was a black hound, and frothing at the mouth. He threw a fit in the road, and Lincoln gave him a dose of lead that "fitted" him for "dot odder world." If it's your hound, you can have him.

A Montgomery City woman had her faith slightly shaken in the medicinal qualities of a remedy prescribed by her favorite doctor, the dose of which was half a tablet, when her young hopeful, aged 3 years, all told, mistaking the medicine for candy ate the remaining eight and a half tablets at one sitting with no further results than a touch of seasickness would have caused.

The women of Louisiana have formed an organization to work for local option and for better homes. The officers of the organization are: Mrs. H. W. Pitzer, president; Mrs. A. L. Paine, secretary; Mrs. T. Guy Hetherlin, treasurer; Mrs. F. W. Buffum and Mrs. C. M. Stark, vice-presidents at large. Mrs. Eugene Stark is also an officer. The husband of the latter is a candidate for State Senator.

Surveyors are engaged in making a plat within 8 miles of Hannibal following the rumor that a New York syndicate is investigating the feasibility of locating a monster water power plant there. It is supposed the advance party who looked over the situation made a favorable report upon their return from the east. The spot selected is ideal for a seventy-five foot dam. The expenditure for such an undertaking would be near a half million dollars and would easily furnish power for Hannibal Louisiana and other nearby towns.

Wellsville Optic-News: C. P. Eastham of this city celebrated his 80th birthday last Sunday with a family reunion. Only two of his children were absent, J. R. Eastham of St. Louis and Mrs. A. C. Bright of Huntsville. Those present were, Mrs. J. R. Sellers of La Grange, Mrs. G. E. Gish and Mrs. L. E. Blatter of St. Louis, M. L. Eastham, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grange, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Watkins and little son Kyle of Laddonia, Willis, Bert and Misses Bettie and Etta of this city. The occasion was a highly enjoyable one.

Mexico Savings Bank
Capital and Surplus, \$100,000.00
40th Year in Business
W. W. Fyfe, Pres.
Sam Locke, Cashier.