

The Holt County Sentinel.

52D YEAR.

OREGON, MISSOURI, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1916.—12 PAGES.

NUMBER 26.

CIRCUIT COURT GRINDING.

The October Term of Our Circuit Court in Session.—A Light Docket.

Recommendations of the special committee of the Missouri State Bar Association in the interest of simplifying and expediting litigation will have great weight with the laymen. Among the troubles that made Hamlet contemplate suicide was "the law's delays." There will probably be some such delays as long as there are lawyers. It is a part of their business, when they happen to be retained on the side whose interests lie in delay. We shall probably never reach the happy time when lawyers will fail to take advantage of all existing rules in behalf of their clients. The only hope is that the rules may be modified according to abstract principles, free from the prejudice of the particular litigation. That the rules have worked badly is evidenced by the fact that the supreme court of our state is three years behind its docket, and there are 600 cases on the docket of the St. Louis Court of Appeals. The proposal for retaining the Supreme Court commissioners and for appointing these commissioners for the St. Louis Court of Appeals aims only at relief of congestion. It does not strike at the cause.

Various suggestions for simplifying appeals, shortening the record, reducing the necessity for elaborate opinions in every case, eliminating the ridiculous technicalities in criminal procedure and denying appeals from the judgment of the circuit court in petit cases, where only money is involved, seem to be in the right direction. Missouri has too many expensive calf cases growing out of sheer stubbornness of litigants. It should be possible to frame rules for limiting such appeals without doing violence to substantial justice. Whatever distrust of courts there may be in this country generally arises from the intricacy of the technical rules that appear to the laymind to have been fashioned to defend rather than promote justice. The Missouri State Bar Association is to be congratulated on its earnest efforts at reform. It is a wise policy, for if the lawyers do not take the initiative, the laymen may take the matter in hand in such a way as to work irreparable injuries to the orderly processes of the courts.

The court and his aide-de-camp, Mr. Leedy, the stenographer, were on hand Monday morning, and found all the officers of the court ready, and as a consequence, the court began grinding its grist promptly and without delay.

There were six excused from serving as jurors, but their places were promptly filled by Sheriff Gelvin, and the clerk qualified the following as petit jurors:

Bigelow—H. M. Spillman.
Benton—A. R. McNulty, Frank Fuhrman, L. A. Judy, Chris Stroble.
Clay—L. M. Thompson, Chas. Lipp, Jacob Hornecker.
Forbes—Wm. Fancher, Chas. Sahlin.
Forest—J. E. Raiser, J. M. Shumate, M. R. Cummings.
Hickory—Geo. W. Mohler.
Lewis—Chas. Cowan, W. F. Bragg, Geo. Lehner, Will Patterson, John Ramsey.
Liberty—Thos. Hines.
Lincoln—Jas. Mavity.
Nodaway—Ernest Oppenlander.
Union—Chris Lawrence, Roger McCoy.

Sheriff Gelvin has had a new set of comfortable revolving chairs placed in the jury box; they are in oak, and are a nice addition to the court fixtures.

The following cases have been disposed of:

The parole case of Roscoe Blazer was discharged.
State vs. Lee Pilkington, parole. Continued.

State vs. Lee Pilkington, parole. Continued.

Forfeiture of recognizance was continued in the case of State vs. Chas. Wickiser, C. M. Wickiser, R. M. Price and R. A. Eckard.

State vs. David Fancher, seduction. Continued.

State vs. George Rundle, gambling. Fined \$25.

State vs. Elijah Randall, gambling. Fined \$25.

State vs. Sadie Mullins, disturbing the peace. Dismissed by the state.

State vs. Fred Graves, operating motor vehicle while intoxicated. Dismissed at defendant's cost.

State vs. Alonzo Beagle, disturbing the peace. Dismissed by the state.

State vs. Wm. McKee, assault and battery. Continued.

State vs. Charles Pennington, obstructing public highway. Continued.

State vs. Bones Roberts, assault and battery. Continued on application and cost of defendant.



News Snapshots Of the Week

After forcing Greece to give up her navy, including the two former American battleships Mississippi and Idaho, as well as the telegraph and railroads, the allied troops which invaded Athens were met by infuriated mobs of citizens. The Ericsson and other United States destroyers were placed on patrol along our coast to hunt for possible U boat base. Liquid fire was used in Germany's advances into Rumania; Russians commenced activity along their entire 400 mile front. Arson and bullets marked the strike of oil workers in Bayonne, N. J. "Land battleships" built by an Illinois concern to rival the British "tank" may be sold to United States army. Chancing the new U boat dangers, William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., arrived on the Lafayette. Thomas M. Osborne, "Golden Rule" warden of Sing Sing prison, resigned. Japan's new premier, Field Marshal Terauchi, says he is not waving a sword. Jerome D. Travers, famous golfer, marries.

years each on five counts, and he began to serve his term, and was paroled.

State vs. Fred Graves, carrying concealed weapons. Plead guilty and was given two years in the penitentiary, and was paroled by the court.

State vs. H. H. Carlton, disturbing the peace. Plead guilty and was fined \$5.00.

State vs. Ernest Reynolds, disturbing the peace. Dismissed.

State vs. Tom Pleasant, malicious wounding of animals. Continued.

State vs. S. H. Randall, assault with intent to kill. Continued.

State vs. Joseph Dodge, assault with intent to kill. Continued.

State vs. George Lundy, grand larceny. Continued to November 9.

State vs. J. H. White, rape. The defendant was charged with attempted rape on Miss Jessie Potter, of Forest City, on October 3. He plead guilty and was given two years in the pen.

State vs. Luther Fouse, assault. Plead guilty, six months in jail, and paroled.

State vs. Sam Alexander, grand larceny. Continued to November 9.

The first jury case called was on Tuesday, and was on the docket as that of Edward E. Richards vs. Richard B. Bridgeman. Both are attorneys here. Their properties adjoin, and are located in the southwestern part of the city, and both properties formerly belonged to Jas. B. Payne.

Mr. Bridgeman bought his place first, and built a fence, which Mr. Richards claims is several feet west of Mr. Bridgeman's line and over on to the Richards property. Mr. B. claimed that he and Mr. Payne agreed that where he built the fence should be the line. The jury gave a verdict for Mr. Richards.

Opened For Business. The Hotel Woodland has again thrown open its doors for the accommodation of guests and the weary traveler, who desires to find rest.

Messrs. B. C. Strong and A. H. Jones, who have had cafe and hotel experience, have rented the building and taken possession. These gentlemen are comparatively young men, prepossessing in their appearance and seem congenial and agreeable in their manner. They are both married men, and the two couples seem to take hold of the work that naturally comes to them with a will and pleasantness that favorably impresses us. All of the parties are experienced cooks, and seem to know how to serve a meal.

We trust that all our citizens will encourage these young people by giving them their patronage, which is due the hotel, which was built by the public spirited citizens of Oregon, and we should all lend an encouraging hand to the extent that it may prove profitable to Messrs. Strong and Jones and a booster for our city.

Our business men and citizens should take a special interest in our hotel and boost for it every day in the week and every week in the year. If a commercial man hasn't time to take a meal in the town, tell him in plain English that the United States mail can handle and transmit your orders and the goods will come if you have a financial standing. There is no reason on earth why the Hotel Woodland should not be made an enjoyable stopping place for the sojourner in our city.

The Coming Chautauqua. The guaranty list for a 1917 Chautauqua has now been signed by 56 of our representative citizens, and the contract closed with the Travers-Wick Chautauqua System, of Des Moines, Iowa, for the talent. The program of talent and all details as to the 1917 program has been agreed upon, for a seven days' session, and the talent is of an unusual high class, and sufficiently varied to please all classes and tastes.

A meeting of the guarantors will be called soon for the purpose of organization, selection of officers, grounds and other matters pertaining to the Chautauqua. When this meeting is called, we hope every man who has signed the guaranty list will be present and have a say in the affair.

Married Sixty Years. Our old time friend, John G. Keaster had a wedding anniversary, Monday of last week. It was rare one, too, for it was a three-score one, and an incident in life that is not common. Uncle John and his wife spent the day quietly at their home in Mound City, and it was reminiscent all day long. In that quiet home, they talked over scenes of other days, of the many friends who had crossed over to the other shore, and in that quiet solitude again pledged their faith and love, the one for the other.

John G. Keaster was born in Marion county, Pennsylvania, November 11, 1833, and if spared will reach his 83d marker on his life road here. When a child, he went with his parents to Wayne county, Ohio, thence to Stephenson county, Illinois, and from there to Osage, Mitchell county, Iowa, where he was united in marriage to Sarah Jane Brown, October 16, 1856.

The couple returned to Illinois, where Mr. Keaster cast his first vote, and like Uncle George Gaskill, of Union township, that vote was for John C. Fremont, the first presidential candidate of the Republican party, and

after voting returned to Iowa. In 1857, Mr. and Mrs. Keaster came to Holt county, from Iowa, and located in Oregon. He was a plasterer and mason by trade, and on coming here, he struck his first job on the I. O. O. F. and Masonic building, then being constructed by James Foster. Oregon's first resident attorney. He also took part in the construction of the brick store building in Forest City, used as a drug store, by the late Daniel Zook. In 1859, he took part in the building of the old hotel at Iowa Point, which was destroyed two weeks after its completion.

He followed his trade for four years in Oregon, when he went on the old Dan Burrier farm, and then went to work for Uncle Jimmie Duncan on the old Dossan Mill, on the Nodaway, and he well remembers the drought of 1860, and forded shoe-back the old stream many times during that summer. Following this, he farmed in Hickory township, and became the owner of the farms, now known as the Kuhn and Charley Crider places. He, in time, disposed of these and went to Mound City, where he and his wife have been living a most quiet, retired life.

Mr. Keaster, when the Civil War was on, did not enter for active service, but joined the militia regiment, organized at Oregon by Major Kelley and C. W. Howman.

Mr. and Mrs. Keaster are the parents of seven children, all of whom are living—not a single death having occurred in the family. The children are: Mrs. Elizabeth Cooper, of South Dakota; Thomas Ulysses and Edward, of Holt county; Mrs. Amanda Wampler, of Tarkio; Mrs. Flora Barnes, of South Dakota; Mrs. Nellie Narans, of Louisiana.

May your days yet be many!

Across The River. Mrs. Fannie Wilson, one of the dear old pioneer wives and mothers of Southern Holt, died at her home in Forbes township, on Tuesday, October 17, 1916, after a long illness. She was a devoted christian woman, a patient, self-sacrificing mother, a kindly neighbor and loyal friend.

Prior to her marriage she was Mary Fannie Clements, and was born in Richmond, Missouri, April 26, 1841, and was at the time of her death 75 years, 5 months and 21 days of age.

January 23, 1862, she became the wife of James L. Wilson, at Richmond, Missouri, and the couple came immediately to this county, locating on a farm, some three miles south of Forbes, where they resided until 1883, when they located in Forbes. While a resident of Forbes, Mr. Wilson died. In 1907, Mrs. Wilson and her single daughter, Miss Lydia, moved to Oregon, purchasing a home, where they resided until 1914, when they returned to Forbes, and here she passed away into the great unknown world.

She was the mother of seven children, three of whom survive, these are: Mrs. George Devoras, of Dragona, Colorado; E. W., of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Miss Lydia, at home.

She had been a member of the Christian church since 1857, and did her part in furthering the cause of her Master.

Funeral services were held from the family home in Forbes, on Friday, 20th instant, and were conducted by Elder B. H. Dawson, of the Oregon Christian church, the interment being in the Forbes cemetery, beside her husband.

The Bankers Meet. Group 3 of the State Bankers' Association was in session in St. Joseph, last week. The group includes the counties of Platte, Buchanan, Worth, Andrew, Nodaway, Atchison, Holt, Gentry, DeKalb, Clinton, Harrison and Mercer. One hundred and eighty members of the Association. Among those in this county who attended the meeting were: J. A. Williams, Forbes; J. E. Weller, Maitland; G. W. Poynter, Bigelow; Edward Heaton, Craig; A. W. VanCamp, Fortescue.

—John Simpson and wife are in Kansas City, where John is studying dentistry.

—Born, to Hugh Wilson and wife, Sunday, October 15, 1916, a girl. Dr. J. F. Chandler in attendance.

Wedding Anniversary. When the Alkires, the Mintons, the Boyds and the Hinkles came to the Missouri bottom section, in Western Holt, there were not so many acres in corn, wheat, alfalfa, and in orchards as now. On the contrary, it was but a wilderness of cottonwoods, elms, walnuts, etc. Today there is no better or more productive section in all the state than this section. They came and blazed the way, and to these sturdy pioneers a debt of lasting gratitude is due.

Elijah Alkire was one of these pioneers, but has long since passed to his reward. Two sons survive, and are still residents of our county—W. J., still of the bottom, and H. T., an attorney of Oregon. These pioneers settled in the Idlewild, now the Fortescue section.

W. J. Alkire came to Holt county from St. Charles county, this state, in 1854, where he was born August 25, 1851, and located on what is now known as the Phil Davis place, with his pa and ma, near the Idlewild school house. In his young days, he grew quite familiar with the whistles and bells of every steamboat that plied the Missouri in those days, as they rounded to at the old East White Cloud landing to take on wood, or pork, from the old Osiras Bailey Killing houses, and they did not get any 88 or 110 for their hogs in those times—\$1.50 or \$2.00 was the top then.

Martha Boyd was the daughter of J. C. Boyd, one of the earliest settlers of the bottom, who located on lands now owned by John C. Hinkle, and here Martha grew up to young womanhood, and in due time took a fancy to this young man, W. J. Alkire, and at the age of 22 years, W. J. led Martha to the altar, and the wedding occurred October 15, 1873, and for these 43 years they have been "solid partners," sharing with each other the good and the bad, the successes and failures incident to so long a married and pioneer life.

The incident of their 43d wedding day was the occasion of a visit from their children, on Sunday, the 15th instant, and these together with their children had a good time with Father and Mother Alkire, and each on parting wished and hoped that they all might be spared to be with their parents on their golden wedding day, on October 15, 1923.

Mother Alkire, who has been quite an invalid for a number of years, was enabled to be at the bountifully supplied table, by means of her wheeled chair, and greatly enjoyed the joyous coming of those so dear to her heart. This couple have occupied the same home since 1879, which they occupied six years after their marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Alkire have raised a mighty fine bunch of children, and these are: J. E., merchant, of Forest City; Mrs. C. O. VanCamp, Exodist district; Ira L., of Walnut Grove district; Mrs. Roy Hinkle, of Bigelow; W. H., of Oregon, county collector. All the children are married, and have given to their parents an even dozen grandchildren.

May it ever be well with you all!

Acetylene Gas Kills. Matt Thomas, of Mound City, Killed by Acetylene Gas Explosion At Home.

Matt Thomas met death at his home in Mound City, on Saturday evening of last week, October 21, 1916, by the explosion of the acetylene gas plant.

Mr. Thomas, while taking his ease at his home, observed that the light was not what it should be, and in company with his son, started to the light plant, which is separate from the home. A lantern was lighted, and the son carried this. On entering the light plant it was but a moment when the explosion took place. A cylinder in the plant was blown out, striking Mr. Thomas under the chin and over the breast, forcing him back breaking his neck, and breaking almost every rib in his body. His son was slightly burned on the hands.

The deceased was the son of the late Geo. W. Thomas and wife, who came to Holt county in 1858 from Kentucky, locating in Hickory township. The father died November 7, 1907, at the age of 86 years, and the mother died October 19, 1907, at the age of 80.

The deceased, Matthew Bruce Thomas, was born on a farm four miles northwest of Oregon, on September 22, 1860, and died October 21, 1916, aged 56 years and 29 days. In 1882 he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Blair, by whom there were five children, two dying in infancy, the three surviving children are: Mrs. Grace Miller, Mrs. Pearl Porter and son, Blair, all of Mound City. Mrs. Thomas died March 1, 1902. On September 11, 1907, Mr. Thomas married Sarah Josephine Moore, who with an adopted son, Brooks, survive. He is also survived by four brothers and a sister, Mrs. Mary Boyd, of the state of Oregon; George H. and Hazard, of this county; Chas. W., of Woodland, California; and Robert, of St. Joseph, when a young man of 17, he united with the Christian church, and was active in both church and Sunday school work.

Matt Thomas was a live, progressive citizen, and an enthusiastic good roads man, and at the time of his death was a member of the county seat highway commission.

Funeral services were held from the family home, on Monday of this week, the interment being in the Benton cemetery, beside his first wife and parents. The funeral discourse was delivered by Elder R. H. Dawson, of the Oregon Christian church.

Those Robberies. The late robbery of the postoffice at Craig, which occurred some time during the night of Sunday, October 15, would incline one to the belief that the "cracksmen" has an especial fondness for that office. The late robbery is the fifth to have occurred since the office was opened for business, in 1868, on the completion of the building of the railroad through the town, and was given the name of Craig, in honor of General James Craig, who was conspicuous in the building of that road, and at the time was president of the Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad, and represented this district in Congress in 1857-61.

The first robbery of the Craig office took place, November 8, 1875, while H. S. Hogue was the postmaster. Only a small amount of loot was secured, which consisted of a small amount of stamps and \$6.00 in money.

While L. L. Teare was postmaster, the cracksmen visited the postoffice, without any formal invitation, on the night of March 16, 1894, and secured \$300. Homer Rees was found to be the thief, and in October, 1895, he was given two years in the penitentiary for the crime.

On January 7, 1906, while Phil Thompson was the postmaster, the office was robbed of \$246.

On January 16, 1908, while Mr. Thompson was in charge of the office, a man representing himself as a postoffice inspector, giving the name of Orland, confided the postmaster out of the postoffice funds, amounting to \$660. A party named A. J. Moore was arrested for the offense, but proving a complete alibi, he was acquitted.

On Sunday, October 15, W. H. Hambaugh, postmaster, the office safe was blown, and the loot amounted to \$503 in stamps, \$6.00 in pennies, and a small amount of cash from the Sunday's postal sales.

Buzz Saw Did It. Lonnie, the 26-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Waggoner, living in the Kimsey district, is laying by for a short vacation, to be put in repair, in the hope that within a few weeks, he may be able for duty when called upon.

On Friday of last week, October 20, he was running a buzz saw, and had shut the power off, but the saw continued at a lively gait on its momentum. On the saw frame was a stick of wood. Lonnie, instead of trying to remove the stick with his hands, kicked at it with his foot, and struck the saw instead, inflicting terrible gashes on the calf of his leg.

He was taken to the office of Dr. McClanahan at Forest City, but owing to the doctor having a patient in a serious condition to be taken to a St. Joseph hospital, he turned the injured man over to Dr. Wood, a visitor, who dressed the limb, and he was taken back home, and reports say he is doing as well as could be expected.

Judges of Election. The county court, at its session last week, made the following selection of parties to act as judges at the coming election, to be held Tuesday, November 7, 1916:

Bigelow—R. A. Brown, J. W. White, T. T. Wilson, (Rep.); John Slater, Jake Hinkle, John Coughlin, (Dem.).

Benton, North—G. W. Meyer, Wm. M. McRobert, Ralph Cottier, (Rep.); J. P. Davis, Dennis Lower, Geo. Holton, (Dem.).

Benton, South—F. E. Burnett, Frank B. Skeels, Lon McNulty, (Rep); Thos. Ballard, R. L. Cason, Wm. Erwin, (Dem.).

Clay—W. W. Gilbert, J. W. Wehrli, E. E. Bartram, (Rep.); C. T. Graves, Wm. Southwell, L. M. Thompson, (Dem.).

Forest—Major Clark, Albert Kollmer, W. E. Dobbins, (Rep.); H. B. Terhune, Ed Evans, Daniel Hoover, (Dem.).

Forbes—A. L. Pullen, G. W. Cotten, F. L. Stout, (Rep.); A. G. Young, J. E. Taylor, D. B. Fansher, Jr., (Dem.).

Hickory—O. P. Botkin, Vince G. Crider, Wes Hodgins, (Rep.); Ralph M. Meyer, Robert Boswell, Claude Lemmon, (Dem.).

Liberty—E. P. Eddy, Walter Fuhrman, A. H. Goodpasture, (Rep.); Joseph Garrett, M. C. Browning, J. P. Hines, (Dem.).

Lincoln—Henry Dege, Frank Gaffney, Andrew Peters, (Rep.); Emmett Haer, C. G. Bostwick, Henry Nabor, (Dem.).

Lewis, East—F. E. Markland, R. B. Walters, A. H. Bailey, (Rep.); Dave Barbour, W. F. Bragg, Geo. R. Murray, (Dem.).

Lewis, West—Daniel Burrier, Geo. Lohmer, B. F. Morgan, (Rep.); Chas. Cowan, R. G. Raley, E. O. Phillips, (Dem.).

Minton—Geo. H. Ramsey, Ira Alkire, Thos. Bunker, (Rep.); A. W. VanCamp, I. M. Minton, H. R. Stuart, (Dem.).

Nodaway—Chris Hurst, Geo. M. Pollock, Jas. E. Buntz, (Rep.); Hugh Brohan, Geo. S. Stephenson, L. M. Derr, (Dem.).

Union, North—Geo. Gaskill, Jr., Wm. Troxell, C. B. Lawrence, (Rep.); Wm. Nauman, W. S. Thompson, Van Taylor, (Dem.).

Union, South—C. Iieker, Ed Doebeling, H. Ohlensehien, (Rep.); D. D. Perkins, Arch Sharp, Roger McCoy, (Dem.).

County Court. Our county court was in session a few days last week, and transacted some business, in addition to drawing the judges of the election.

The state auditor was authorized to draw his warrant in favor of the county Treasurer, Seaborn Carson, for amount of good road stamp act fund, due the county, as provided by the statutes. This fund is apportioned in like manner as the state school fund is now apportioned.

He was also authorized to draw his warrant for funds due the county from the foreign insurance tax fund, as apportioned to Holt county.

He was also instructed to draw his warrant for funds due Consolidated District, No. 1, for 1916, also for Consolidated District, No. 2, both being known as the state aid fund.

State Veterinarian D. F. Luckey filed his statement to the effect that John H. Crist has two grade cattle and one pure bred Short-Horn affected with tuberculosis, and now in quarantine. The court named James Kenish, Godfrey Marti and John Cottier as commissioners to appraise damages, and to make their report to the court.

John Glass, R. W. Fawks and others filed petition asking for the submission to the voters, at the coming election, praying for the separation of the county surveyor and county highway engineer offices. The court granted the prayer of the petitioners, and ordered the proposition to be placed on the official ballot.

—The Gossett sale at Forbes, held Monday, October 23, 1916, was well attended, and good prices were realized, everything selling well and rapidly, nothing lagging. The total of the sale amounted to about \$9,000, mostly cash, very few notes being given.