Durant Weekly News

Official Paper of Bryan County

Published Every Friday at 114 N. Third Avenue, Durant, Oklahoma.

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at the Post Office at Durant, Oklahoma, under Act of Congress of March 3rd, 1879.

E. M. EVANS, Editor and Publisher

We hope that the present legislature is not going to "invenomize" the state to death. Several resolutions have been presented to the senate and house, by various members, for a detailed investigation of many of the state institutions and departments. These investigations, as a rule, result from some legislator's desire to push himself into the limelight strong enough to give him political prestige, and the most of them cost the state about ten thousand dollars for every dollar's worth of good they accomplish. Let's play more business and less politics.

Following the proposal of Governor Williams in his message to the legislature to abolish the county courts comes the counter proposition from the anti-administration propagandists to abolish instead, the district courts, leaving the county courts as they are, but with an increased jurisdiction. Governor Williams is probably more familiar with the good and bad features of the Oklahoma legal machinery than any other one man and as we laymen for the most part, are only half way informed on such subjects, the News is much in favor of taking the Governor's recommendation in this regard at face value.

The United States Government is paying the Bryan county farm agent a salary to be of help and usefulness to the farmers of this county. He is a public servant, here at the people's expense, to aid them in any way that he may be able. The recommendations of this agent as to the rotation of crops, seed selection, soil preparation and every other feature of the farming industry, is that knowledge gained by the United Stats Government by actual tests after countless experiments and is bound to be the best way to proceed. There are none of us too old or too wise to learn a lot of new tricks, and there is not a farmer in this community, however successful, but what can profit by advising with the county farm agent.

The News is glad that the Senate struck out that amendment to the eight-hour day for women bill which brought farm women into the meaning of the law. The bill is intended as a measure of protection against over hours for those women who of necessity follow industrial pursuits, as employees, for a livlihood. Farm women, are usually, their own judge as to the hours they work in the cotton patch, for they and their husbands and their children attend to the crops they work for themselves, to earn a livlihood, and what measure of success is theirs is due to the diligence, perseverance and judgment which they use. Consequently, we believe that the hours of work for farm women should rightly be determined by each woman's best judgment and necessity.

President Wilson is right in vetoing the immigration bill because of the literacy test. The measure would shut out some of the most deserving citizens that we have. Book learning is not a test for true character or his ability to earn a living for himself and family. Some of our undesirables are quite learned and now and then a college graduate finds it difficult to keep out of the poor house. Immigrants should be admitted to our gates when they have healthy bodies and minds and when they can satisfy the proper authorities that they are not seeking a refuge from a crime committed in other lands and that they are fit raw material from which to shape good American citizens. It is not believed that congress will pass the bill over the president's veto when he has already pointed out its objectionable feature so forcibly.—McAlester News-Capital.

The women of Europe are making cigarettes by the ton to send to the brave boys at the front. When it comes to "fighting, bleeding, and dieing for your country," the man who uses tobacco in this reprehensible form, seems to be able to get a job—in fact, his services are very much in demand. And, the carping critic who would not give him work at a dollar a day in his dinky store, because of the "noxious" nauseating, and filthy habit, stays at home secure in the belief that all he holds dear and sacred is safe at the hands of the brave lads who take the brunt of the fray, sacrificing their lives heroically and nonchantly while the bluish smoke from the tabooed cigarette curls in a swirl from their smoke-grimed lips and waffs lazilessly away in the clouds of battle in contemptuous mockery, in conceitus superiority, at a mawkish sentiment. And when some of the brave fellows return in the hoped for days of peace and attempt to "roll a pill" in the opprobrious presence of a "bit-bit job" and a pompous "two-bit boss," they will no doubt be confronted by the sign, "No Cigarette Smokers Wanted."

They are good enough to save the country but the country does not want them after its salvation has been accomplished.

THE CHOCTAW'S NEED.

Coming right down to brass tacks there are several reasons other than the hard condition of the Choctaws that the per capita payment should soon be made. Those who understand the situation of the Choctaw people are well aware of the gross inadequacy of the claim of the Mississippian kin of this people. That point has surely been settled in this country in the minds of all the people. The mere fact that the Choctaw nation has a wealth as a community of over 22 million dollars does not justify the milk and water argument that out of their bounty they should give to their less fortunate brother. He had his chance, not once, but over a period extending for a life time.

The business men of the territory need that the Choctaw should get his money. The Choctaws owe much and most of it is past due. The liquidation of these debts and the increased buying power of him is vital to the merchants, and the laborers too, hereabouts. The two hundred dollar payment is less than one-sixth of the Choctaw community's wealth; he is entitled to the payment. The creditor and the merchant are entitled to their dues out of it. Then the business man should not sit back and raise objections, he should do something. He should write to his manufacturers ,his wholesale house, or all the people he does business with or owes or does his buying from. He should urge his correspondent in this letter to take up the matter at once with his congressman and senator from his district. Concentrated effort along this line will bring the much desired end. The opposition to the proposed method of distributing this money must be overcome. The truth told and the conditions brought home to the member of congress from other states will do this.—Ex.

TAKE A LOOK AT CANADA

From the Milwaukee Journal (Rep).

Some of the Tories who have been scolding President Wilson for not keeping the American dinner pail full should be greatly enlightened by reading a little industrial history now being made in Canada. It would reveal for instance, that the Grand Trunk railway, proposes to reduce the wages of 14 thousand employees. It might be added that the earnings of the Canadian Pacific have fallen off many millions since the outbreak of the war. Canadian cities have hosts o funemployed in spite of the industries that have been stimulated by the demand for war materials.

This is Canada, the state where the corporations are so fairly treated, where the railroads and trust companies are not treading on the heels of the beneficient rulers of big business. With all these wholesome Canadian laws, carefully designed to promote and encourage expansion of trade, Canada still has a depression.

Why not blame Mr. Wilson for the depression in Canada as well as that in the United States? Since the Democratic executive must bear the brunt of crop failures and panics before and after his administration, why not unload the depression of Canada upon his shoulders as well? Why such deference to a high office and an overworked president?

THE GOVERNMENT'S ADVICE.

The United States Department of Agriculture, the state boards, and the experts at lever the country are urging the farmers all over the country to cultivate every available acre this year. The war in Europe assures the sale of almost everything that can be raised. Every article that is exported to feed the soldiers and the citizens and the stock of Europe means just that much less for home consumption, therefore, even with a big crop of everything, the price will be high. If it is not a good crop year the farmer will lat least raise enough to provide for his family and will not have to pay the high prices that will prevail. Utilize every available acre for grains, grasses, and vegetables. In many sections the farmers are urged to double the acreage of potatoes. It should not be necessary under the proper conditions to export potatoes to any agricultural country. Put the hens and the turkeys to work. Give them a square deal. Raise pigs, cattle and horses in as large numbers as the accommodations of the farm will justify and any loss that the farmer planter or rancher may have sustained last year will be more than made good this year. The war in Europe may last for months and years, but while it continues there will be an active demand for everything that we can produce. Should the war end this week, the nations involved will need all of our surplus products for at least a year. Take this advice, for once, and do not permit good, tillable land to lie idle during 1915.

WHO RUNS THE PAPER.

In a neighboring county the clergyman took the editor to task because he accepted certain advertising contracts. The good man forgot that for years the editor had given freely of his space to help the church, had printed columns of notices of services meetings, suppers, entertainments, and lectures, all free. In donating this space the editor has given more than the equivalent in cash. He has given publicity and that has done more to support the church and the minister's salary than any three members of the church had done. An editor has but two sources of income, his subscription list and his space. Yet, in this case, when he sold his space he lost a subscriber. Of course, no one has to subscribe for a paper unless he wishes to do so, but no subscriber should want to dictate to the editor as to what he should publish. Many editors will not accept certain lines of advertising. Other editors cannot afford, perhaps ,to be so independent. Business conditions often govern those matters. A rich and prosperous Philadelphia weekly of national circulation for years declined advertisements of cigarette manufacturers. Business has fallen off lately for many of the big magazines. Now that paper is accepting cigarette advertising. Perhaps the editor needs the money, and who shall blame him if he sells his space to the American Tobacco Company. Collier's too, we hear, is letting the bars down a little. All right. Let them down a little further, as long as fakirs and grafters and swindlers are kept out . No one can run a paper to please everyone, be that paper big or little. It is the editor's paper and it is his living. He is the one that should judge what should appear in its columns.

A new variety of crookedness is charged against the administration in view of the soaring prices of the wheat crop. Domestic prices of this grain have always been regulated by the prices in the world's market. If the European demand has been sluggish then the prices have been slow; and now the the European consumer is willing to pay famine prices for wheat, holders of the commodity will naturally ask corresponding prices in the home market.

Because it does not hold down the upward tendency and because it is doing nothing to prevent exports of wheat, the administration is alleged to be "sitting supinely by." The committee ought to point out the authority by which the administration could lay an embargo on wheat exports and fix a minimum price for domestic sales.

RAISE COWS AS WELL AS COTTON

Down in one of the Southern counties in Oklahoma the other day a county agent employed in the farm demonstration work was talking to a little crowd of farmers on the advantages of community clubs to specialize in Spanish peanuts, feterita, and kafir to be fed to the stock on the farm. At the conclusion of the talk, an old farmer of the argumentative type claimed the floor and proceeded to declare that he could take a mule, a Georgia stock, and a plug of tobacco and raise a crop of cotton without any help from the government.

The old farmer did not make an impression on his fellow farmers for he was harping on a frayed string, but his claim is worthy of attention. Too many of the farmers throughout the south farm it just that way—a mule, a Georgia stock, and a plug of tobacco. Some of them do manage to raise a crop of cotton by this method. The history of the past few months is eloquent testimony to the fact that it is easier to raise cotton than it is to sell it. Cotton is a good crop but it takes more than a cotton crop and a plug of tobacco to carry a family through a hard winter. Spanish peanuts, kafir, feterita, etc., fed to the hogs and other livestock sometimes are needed to pay the bills at the grocery store.

It is part of the business of the county demonstration agents to show the farmers the advantages of keeping a few dairy cows, a few chickens and a few hogs and some beef cattle and a few brood mares and perhaps some sheep—and raising the stuff on the farm to be fed to the animals. The fact that fifty-two counties in Oklahoma have now organized for assisting the farmers cooperative demonstration work, carried on by the United States Department of Agriculture is ample proof that the no widen of agriculture has arrived.

To candidates for governor at the last election have been prominent in the public prints lately. Fred Hult, the socialist candidate for governor, pleaded guilty in the Federal court at Fort Smith in connection with the mine riot elven years ago. He was given a jail sentence and a fine.

John Fields, the republican candidate, also received a voluntary sentence at several years hard labor; he is one of the purchasers of the Oklahoma City Times and will a little later personally assume its editorial direction. This makes the Times easily the most important republican paper in the state and also makes it certain that John Fields will not be forgotten by the voters during the next four years.—Harlow's Weekly.

Hunters Wanted.

London.—This is the latest British recruiting poster. It has attracted enormous crowds.

TO BERLIN.

The country is arranging a trip to Germany in the spring, for a few sportsmen. All hotel expenses and railroad fares paid.

Good hunting and shooting.

Ages 18 to 38. Rifles and ammunition supplied free.

Cheap trips up the Rhine.

Apply at once as there is only a limited number, (1,000,000) men required.

Cattle from Only Two States.

By order of the State Board of Agriculture Oklahoma became practically isolated last week from the rest of the United States insofar as the cattle industry is concerned. Keen apprehension of the danger following the latest outbreak of the dread disease of the foot and mouth lead the board on the recommendation of President Frank Gault, to establish a rigid quarantine against every state in the union save Texas and New Mexico.

Similar orders followed each other in rapid succession during the fall and early winter of 1914, but none was so sweeping as this final one. In the order all railroads and transportation companies are instructed to "bring no sheep, cattle or other ruminants, or swine, originating or being in any state save Texas and New Mexico across the border of Oklahoma."

Medical Association Meet.

The Bryan county Medical association, comprising practically every practicing physician in the county held its meeting at the local Elks club rooms on Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock, at which time business matters of the association were given attention and when a special program was given.

Registered at the Lee-Huckins Hotel in Oklahoma City.

Wm. F. Furlong.
Mrs. A. Furlong.

KEIRSEY ITEMS

Died, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, two and a half miles south of Kiersey, last week. The parents have our sympathy. They can look to the Lord who does all things well.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Tyler of near Durant spent Sunday with D. A. Grounds and wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Perrin spent Sunday afternoon with W. P. Gurly.

Cliff Keirsey spent Sunday with Con Keirsey.

Mrs. Bonds is reported sick. We hope she will soon be up again.

Dr. Armstrong of Mead was in Keirsey Sunday.

F. G. Houk has built a smoke in Kei shrdlu etaoin etaoin shrdlu house. We need lots of cash houses in Keirsey.

Miss Audra Perrin visited Miss Zephyr Grounds last Sunday.

Rev. B. T. Robinson filled his appointment at Fulsom Grove last Sunday.

J. G. and J. W. Grounds were up last week visiting their mother, Mrs. Grounds.

Gone to New Orleans.

Sam Hynds, Ed Rines, Mel Morrow and Henry Hynds, have gone to New Orleans where they will spend a week or so taking in the festivities of the annual Mardi Gras celebration. They went by way of Dallas where they spent a day.

WHO'S WHO HERE

By one on the Outside Looking In.

R. L. WILLIAMS.

Foremost citizen of Oklahoma, Governor, Statesman Politician, Resident of Durant—A Human Success.

Few men know Governor Williams intimately, therefore, he is a most difficult subject to write about. To the masses of the people he is modest, almost retiring, evasive, and the smartest sort of a fox could learn much from him. But, to one who has studied him superficially he present many points worthy of discussion.

In his recent pyrotechnic campaign for nomination and election to the office of Governor of Oklahoma, he occupied from the beginning a position that may be likened to that of the great German Emperor. Both of

these strong men were let severally alone until they wanted to do something, then all the war dogs of the world set on both of them—and at about the same time.

The Kaiser wanted expansion of his commerce of the seas. The jealous powers of Europe opposed him but none of them dared undertake the job alone. Therefore, by fair means and foul they set the world against his forces, and after nearly seven months of the greatest of all wars, they have not been able to even so much as explode a fire cracker on the soil of the Fatherland.

When Robert L. Williams wanted to be governor of Oklahoma it seemed as if the whole world jumped on him . The shot at him with every weapon known to politics. The politicians were after him with Zeppelins, torpedo boats, cruisers, battle ships, wire entanglements and submarines. The cut down the forests in order to get enough stumps from which to denounce him. Three separate times during the run for the nomination they had more than defeated him.

But Williams never retreated a step.

He never sought the shelter of a trench. When a Zeppelin would darken the air above him he would crane his neck and bombard it with logic and the thing sailed away harmlessly. A coterie of the creek-bottom pirates of his own party attempted to mine the road over which he was traveling to the governor's office. Williams took the right fork of the road just before reaching the mine, and detoured. When he got safely around he touched the mine off while the pirates were waiting and watching there, and that was the last of the pirates.

Governor Williams' fight for the election was equally as full of troubles as was his fight for the nomination. He had a big man and a big party to defeat and he knew it. While he had been playing statesmanship in his fight for the nomination he made a run on the bank of politics in his final efforts, and in this game he has no superior in Oklahoma. He was fought in his party by some men who thought they knew him; by others who did not know him—nor never can.

Mr. Williams simply won two of made west of the Mississippi river. And he earned them—both of them.

R. L. Williams is governor of Oklahoma and he will be governor until the last minute of the last hour of the last day. The writer believes that he will make a great executive, and hat the myriad of political wounds given to the state in the past will speedily heal under his administration.

Mr. Killiams is not now and never has been and never will be personally popular and as a general rule popular men are only fit for the tango things of life. The governor is entirely too busy to be popular; he is busy when he is not working. Some people can't understand such a man and therefore they can't like him . It is true that at times Williams becomes an ice berg. Occasionally I myself have believed him to be merely a section of the great glacial system that once swept over this country, merely lodging here because he thought it was a good place to keep from melting.

Recently, I was just starting out hunting when I saw the governor coming up the street from the train, carrying a grip too small to hold a heavy pair of winter sox. As he walked toward me I was giving thanks that the Titanic had not run into him instead of that other ice berg, thinking if she had, nobody would have been saved. At that time the governor saw me came out into the street where I was sitting in a car and told me that he had just met in New York one of my ancient enemies and that the enemy had inquired of me. And the governor told me this in such a warm, winning, friendly, human, way that I soon wished the Titanic had struck him, because there would have been no one hurt.

For the good of the world Williams was born 175 years too soon. Had he helped to frame the ground work of this nation, I firmly believe it today would be a greater nation. Some of his friends and some of his enemies have said that he wrote the Oklahoma Constitution. I have never believed it. Williams is too smart to have done that. I am willing to believe that he gave life to some of the better things in it, but there were many sardines who helped to fill the can.

My great fear is that some evening at a governor's reception or something, he is going to shock the state, nation and foreign countries by appearing in the midst of the picture without coat, collar and tie, his hair resembling a young cane break. He knows better but he is thinking of something else. All I can urge against him is that he is not married . If any poor man ever needed a wife 'tis Robert.

It is safe to say that no man ever had greater appreciation for woman kind than the governor and if he ever gets a wife she will have a husband worth living for.

The finest trait about the governor is the fact that he never made a move in his life, never did a thing, unless he firmly believed he was right.

Williams possesses many true elements of statemanship, and narrowly escaped being a genius. Small men cannot understand the nature of a genius or a statesman ,and all of Williams' enemies will be found in the class of the little men, envious men, jealous men, grafting men.

The governor has something of the rugged nature in him, a little of old Henry Clay, and some of Andy Jackson, much of David Crockett and plenty of Danial Boone. He would get along better if there were really more big men in the state. Truth is, he is almost lonesome.

But he has his human side and it is intensely human. Set a trap for him and he is sure to stay at home that day or take the other road. Appeal to him without a just cause and he become colder than liquid air, and liquid air is three hundred times colder than the biggest and chilliest ice berg.

He is familiar with charity. One time he looked for the meaning of the word in the dictionary; then he placed his own construction upon it. Oklahoma never contained a more charitable man than is the present governor . His heart is ever in the right place at the right time. But, if one goes to hunting for his heart without deserving he will find that he has left it at home on the wash stand.

Were the German Emperor and the Governor of Oklahoma to meet in a friendl way in a Rathskeller every drop of beer would be spilled in the discussion.

Oklahoma's governor is a good deal like the Kaiser, much like Roosevelt and about eight-tents like Robert L. Williams.

M.O. & G, to Go South from Denison

It is reported from Muskogee Oklahoma that the Missouri, Oklahoma &Gulf railroad company has completed arrangements for the operations of trains from Denison to Fort worth by way of the Cotton Belt, and are to use the Cotton eBlt Terminals in Fort Worth. The M. O. & G. is to expend several thousand dollars on betterments in Denison in the near future and the connection to the south will mean that many additional train crews will have head quarters in Denison, it is believed.