

# THE OWOSSO TIMES.

VOL. XXI, NO. 25

OWOSSO, MICHIGAN, SEPT. 15, 1899.

WHOLE NO. 1065

## Closing Out Sale

**BICYCLES and Gasoline Stoves.**

We have a few left which we will close out at Less Than Cost. It will pay you to buy now even though you don't need it until next year.

We also have the finest line of Soft Coal Stoves in the city: "Garlands," the world's best, "Favorites," "Foster's Slack Burner," "Florence Hot Blast" and "Cheerful Home."

**IRA G. CURRY,**  
113 East Main Street.

**WE** Have been so busy growing that we have not had time to change our ad. We now have 290 telephones in Owosso, free service with 18 in Corunna, besides seven prominent farmers south of the city.

**The Owosso Telephone Co.**

## At the New Store

You can get a suit made to order with all the good qualities, without the fancy price. Remember we have 4,000 fine samples for you to pick from and are sure to please you.

We carry an excellent line of Gents' Furnishings,

All the latest styles in Shirts, Hats, Caps, Neckwear, Suspenders, etc. Our line of Fall and Winter Underwear cannot be excelled. Good, heavy, Gray Merino Underwear for 50c a suit; Heavy fleecy lined Underwear, \$1.00 a suit; Heavy ribbed, 75c to \$1.00 a suit; All Wool, \$1.50 to \$2.50 a suit. We want you to inspect our line.

## Wilkinson & Stone,

221 N. Washington St.

OWOSSO, MICH.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

AT

As this is the time of the year when the question of School Supplies becomes an important one, we wish to remind you that we keep a constant assortment of all necessary School Supplies from those needed by the smallest primary pupil to the ones used by the high school student. We have slates, sponges and slate pencils, tablets for a penny and also the large sizes, lead pencils, some of them as cheap as two for a cent, and better ones at higher prices. We have composition books, pencil boxes, rulers, pens, ink and erasers. A fine assortment in all lines and prices right.

## VAN DUSEN'S.

118 N. Washington St.

## ROOFING

WE ARE MANUFACTURERS AND CAN SAVE YOU MONEY. Our ROOFING is better and cheaper than SHINGLES, IRON or TIN. Buy a ROOFING with a REPUTATION. Ours has stood the tests for years. Patronize a Michigan firm. Write us for descriptive circular and samples.

**H. M. REYNOLDS & SON.**  
ESTABLISHED 1889.

DETROIT, MICH. GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.  
Office: 82 Campus St. Factory: 1st Av. & M. C. Ry.

For Sale by H. M. POST, Owosso, Mich.

### Who Knows!

Who knows  
The birth of a grass blade—the life of a rose?  
And who, in this life that is drifting away,  
The meaning—the mystery of them shall say?  
All that we know in this region below,  
Is that May makes the roses and winter the snow.

Who knows  
The thought of the river that evermore flows  
To the sea that is tossing its waves on the shore,  
And heeds not the rocks or the wrecks in its roar?

All that we know in this region below,  
Is that May makes the roses and winter the snow.

Who knows  
The tide where life's tending—the goal where  
It goes?  
In the night is there light? Will a morning  
dawn bright  
When sighs shall be silenced and souls shall be  
white?

All that we know in this region below,  
Is that May makes the roses and winter the snow.

Yet we trust  
That sometimes a flower will blossom from  
dust;

That the songs that we sing and the prayers  
that we pray  
Will not die in the darkness that knows not  
the day.

Yet all we that know in this region below,  
Is that May makes the roses and winter the snow.

Such is life  
With its joy and its sorrow—its strength and  
its strife,

The bloom and the gloom, and the dark and  
the bright,  
And God give good morning, and God give  
good night!

But all that we know in this region below,  
Is that May makes the roses and winter the snow.

—Atlanta Constitution.

### INDUSTRIAL EVOLUTION.

Interesting Paper Read by Mr. Harry Turrer Newcomb on Trusts at the Y. M. C. A. Rooms, Monday Evening.

Mr. H. T. Newcomb, who has been visiting his grandfather, Judge Josiah Turner, and Mrs. Newcomb's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Comstock, in this city for the past two weeks, read a very interesting paper on the subject of "Trusts, a Study in Industrial Evolution," before an audience of men in the Y. M. C. A. lecture room, Monday night. Mr. Newcomb is a chief of section in the division of statistics of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C. The work in statistics seems to have fitted him for the conducting of investigations and the preparation of instructive magazine articles, or at least he has made his statistical training stand him in good service in such undertakings in which he is frequently engaged.

The paper read Monday night was one which showed thoughtful preparation and a comprehensive grasp of the subject. He believes that there are in reality many important services being done for society by trusts which could be performed in no other way. He also believes that as yet not enough is known of the operations, causes, and effects of these combinations to make any anti-trust legislation profitable, believing in fact that the most of such legislation would be more likely to have an evil effect at present. But the reader may judge for himself from the following synopsis of the paper:

The classical political economy of England under a regime of free competition, and as first formulated, was largely a protest against legislative interference in the conduct of industry. As early legislation of this kind was addressed directly to the individual, there has come to be a not unnatural confusion of thought by which free competition is made to seem almost synonymous with political liberty. Thus American and English devotion to liberty have been made the basis of a prejudice favorable to competition in trade which is rarely subjected to critical examination. The aphorism that "Competition is the life of trade" is accepted by the general public as an economic axiom, and is made the major premise of a syllogism of which the vital importance of perpetually unrestricted competition is an inevitable conclusion. To public opinion thus summarized, the industrial progress of the nineteenth century has consisted very largely of a succession of exceedingly disquieting phenomena, which are suggested by the terms factory system, trade's union of corporation, consolidation, combination, railway pool, and the more recent term of indefinite significance, "trust." Though the system of household industry in vogue during the eighteenth century seemed to offer an almost perfect field for free competition, it was never entirely freed from the control of custom, and it cannot be said that the realm of competition has ever been co-extensive with the domain of industry. It furnished the groundwork for the classical system of political economy, but even while the latter was being formulated, Hargreaves and Arkwright were at work upon the inventions which, with that of Dr. Edward Cartwright, a few years later, have revolutionized the busi-

ness.

—Continued on page two.

### THE ROBBINS TABLE COMPANY.

Now Adding New Machinery and Doing the Biggest Year's Work in Its History.

For the last two years the Robbins Table Company has been continuously increasing the size of its plant by small changes and at the same time adding to the convenience and cheapness with which its work could be done. Dry kilns have been increased in size, the main shop has been extended a number of feet, and last year a fine large brick boiler house was built, furnishing ample room for the convenient and economical working of the duplicate sets of boilers with which the plant is provided. At about the same time that the new boiler house was being built a large extension was also being built to the south shop and elegant commodious offices were built in the front of the latter building.

Just now two large machines, a thirty inch planer and a ten inch stick-er, are being put in place in the shop. As it was, the work on the machines replaced by the two new ones has been the work that has been continuously behind the rest, and it is estimated that the change will almost double the capacity of the plant. The value of the new machinery will approach one thousand dollars. In addition to these changes now being made, changes are in contemplation in the dry kiln where by an improved process and a slight increase in the size, the capacity of the kilns will be largely increased.

Up to the present time the company's business for this year has been the best of any year since the beginning of its operations. Usually a stop of two or three weeks has been made every summer when trade was dull, and the time was occupied in repairing and rearranging machinery. This summer the company had been unable to catch up with its orders and the longest stop it has made was one of three days about the fourth of July. The company is still behind on its orders and has had to decline several orders for car load lots. The entire plant was never before in such good shape and the present force of nearly sixty men has never been exceeded. The pay roll amounts to a little over four hundred dollars per week.

The line of goods manufactured is well known to nearly every Owossoite and probably to nearly every one in Shiawassee county as it should be. Although nothing but dining room tables are made yet the Robbins patent extension tables are so far ahead of all other styles for convenience that the company has its difficulties rather in keeping up with orders than in disposing of its finished product. And in point of finish and elegance of design the company puts out lines which would be an ornament to any market. In price they are made in grades to suit the pocketbooks of all.

The goods are marketed by commercial travellers, none of whom travels exclusively for this firm, however, but all represent other companies which make specialties of other lines of furniture. Nearly all of these representatives do a good business for their Owosso company. A feature of the business done this year is the good collections, if anything better than before, the firm has lost very little by poor collections at any time.

The firm is one which has grown up with the city and whose interests are identical with those of the city. It has been one which has year by year furnished a large number of families with their means of livelihood and has been one with whom its employees have had no fault to find. Though comparatively recently it has become an incorporated company, the management is still, as before, almost exclusively in the hands of Mr. Joseph H. Robbins, Jr., and his sister, Miss Charlene Robbins, who give their entire attention to the work, and the work is of a kind that is a credit to Owosso.

### Death of Helen L. Manning.

Word was received during the week of the death, Sunday night, of Miss Helen Manning at Roxbury, Massachusetts, where she has been for months making her home.

Miss Manning, who will be remembered by nearly all except the youngest residents of the city and the late arrivals, was a very bright, intellectual woman, a clear and independent thinker and a good writer. She was an excellent stenographer, and after her health failed and she was compelled to leave Owosso she spent several years as stenographer at the Battle Creek Sanitarium, taking treatment at the same time. Since then she has spent most of her time in the vicinity of Boston, where she died, supporting herself by clerical work, and writing much for the religious press and for other papers as well. Many readers of THE TIMES will be able to recall sketches from her pen which have appeared in these pages. Miss Manning, tho of a cheerful and

energetic disposition, had been an invalid for over twenty years with rheumatism. Recently, however, she had been unusually well until about two weeks before her death when she was taken with an attack of rheumatic fever which did not leave her until it had caused her death.

Miss Manning was fifty years of age. She was a sister of Mrs. John U. Miller, of Owosso.

In accordance with the wish of Miss Manning her body will be cremated and later the ashes will be brought to Owosso by her niece, Miss Cora Manning, who was with her at the time of her death, and placed in the family lot in Oakhill cemetery.

### FOR A NEW FACTORY.

A Proposition from a Firm Which Can be Depended on to Stay in the City and do a Big Business.

The Owosso Carriage Company has just completed the first year of its corporate existence and feels that it has reached a point where it is too much cramped in its present quarters, has outgrown its baby clothes, so to speak, and already wants a bigger suit. In other words the company wishes a new factory building in addition to the one now in use and desires more than twice the floor space in the new one than there is in the old.

The proposal of the company is that this building be erected by the city on a site to be mutually agreed upon, the city to hold a lien upon the building for five years and to be protected during that period by the insurance on the same, one-fifth of the total value being taken from the insurance payable to the city for each year the factory shall be run by the company according to agreement. The floor space asked for is at least 120,000 feet.

On its part the company agrees to thoroughly equip the building, making it a first class plant for the manufacture of carriages and to employ a force of not less than one hundred fifty hands. This part of the agreement is to be made binding for a period of five years. The company further agrees to increase the capital stock and size of the plant as fast as the business warrants. The plant now occupied would continue to be operated but the work there would be exclusively on cutters for which the building is better adapted than for the carriage business. The floor space of this plant is a little less than 58,000 feet.

In estimating the relation between the size of a plant and the total number of vehicles turned out per year fifteen feet of floor space is generally allowed for each vehicle and the fact that the division of the total floor space by the number of vehicles turned out last year in the factory gives less than twelve feet of floor space shows what disadvantages the company labored against.

Applying the above rule to the business the company proposes to do—an output of 8,000 vehicles is the objective point in its plans—it will be seen that 120,000 feet of floor space is necessary for the most economical carrying on of the work. The plan of the building has already been partially decided on and a perspective drawing has been made by E. W. Woodward. The building is in the form of a hollow rectangle 275x150 feet and is to be three stories in height besides a basement.

Whether the price asked—the cost of the building—is too high is the question to be decided by the people and the Owosso Welfare Association will take a hand in investigating the matter, in fact the association has already appointed James Osburn and Edward Carr a committee to confer with the company. It certainly should be kept in mind that the proposition is who would carry out their agreement, and Owosso already knows enough of the character of the business done by this company and the character of the help employed to be able to judge how much she can afford to pay to have a plant that will employ one hundred fifty more such men who will bring families to the city with them in many cases. That it would be a great and needed benefit to the city no one can doubt.

The usual feature of risk in offering a bonus to a strange firm quite unknown to home people is eliminated in this case. The matter of cost, it would seem, alone remains to be considered.

### Michigan State Fair.

The fiftieth annual fair of the Michigan State Agricultural Society is to be held at Grand Rapids, September 25—29th.

The annual fairs of the society have been uniformly good exhibitions of the material interests of the state and we understand that the officers are putting forth efforts to make this the banner fair. A fine premium list has been issued and a number of special attractions are promised which can be seen free every day of the fair.

If taken at once \$30 will buy a Jersey heifer calf. Can be registered. Inquire at this office.

### Assignment of Pastors.

The appointments of M. E. pastors for the coming year were announced at the Detroit conference on Monday evening. As had been predicted, Rev. John Sweet, pastor for three years of the First church in this city, was appointed presiding elder for the Saginaw district—a position which he is splendidly qualified to fill. Mr. Sweet's successor as pastor of the First church is Rev. J. P. Varner, who has been in Wyoming for several years, previous to which he had been in this state. Mr. Varner is said to be an unusually strong man both in pulpit and pastoral work. The church is fortunate in securing him.

Rev. W. W. Benson was returned to Asbury church. Rev. C. E. Hill, pastor at Asbury and Riverside churches for several years, goes to Goodison, Oakland county.

Rev. J. M. Kerridge, pastor of the First church in this city for three years, and for the last three years at Calumet goes to Escanaba. Rev. E. B. Bancroft, another former pastor of the First church was re-appointed presiding elder for the Flint district, while Rev. W. M. Ward formerly of Corunna, was made presiding elder of the Bay City district. The appointments of interest to Shiawassee people are as follows:

### SAGINAW DISTRICT.

Owosso, First church—J. P. Varner,  
" Asbury—W. W. Benson,  
" Riverside—G. C. Squires.

Bennington—F. Reeves,  
Chesaning—W. G. Nixon,  
Henderson—W. T. Wallace,  
Laingsburg—D. O. Hallis,  
Oakley—Alfonzo Crane.

### FLINT DISTRICT.

Byron—J. S. Joslin,  
Bancroft—A. S. Tedman,  
Corunna—H. C. Northrup,  
Durand—Adolph Roedel,  
Judd's Corners—L. B. DuPuis,  
Lennon—G. B. Goldsmith,  
Morrice—Samuel Graves,  
New Lothrop—Joshua Bacon,  
Perry—S. G. Taylor,  
Vernon—C. E. Benson.

### Death of William Wells, of Morrice.

William B. Wells, an eighty-one years old resident of Morrice, died at his home Sunday. The funeral services were held at the family residence, Wednesday.

Mr. Wells was born in New York where he lived until thirty-four years of age when he came to Michigan, having married some five years before and having two daughters when he came here. After settling on a farm in Antrim, Shiawassee county, four more daughters and two sons were born to him. Previous to his coming to Michigan he had sailed the lakes and had commanded several vessels, but he abandoned the work for farm life. In 1873 he moved to the farm which was his home for twenty-six years, until the time of his death. Mrs. Wells died about seven years ago. He is survived however by six of his children.

Mr. Wells was an earnest temperance worker and a man who always had a thought for the welfare of others. He was in every way a good citizen and will be missed by the community in which he lived.

### CIDER MILL

At Owosso will grind apples Wednesday and Thursday of each week, beginning Sept. 6th. Come and get your cider made.  
A. T. THOMAS.

## 16 Buggies

TO CLOSE OUT IMMEDIATELY. CALL ON  
**A. T. PHILLIPS,**  
218 West Exchange street,  
OWOSSO, MICHIGAN.

### THE RIGHT KIND.

Some styles of Glasses look well on some people while other styles look better on other people. There is a good deal of science in selecting and adjusting frames. I often hear my customers say that they cannot bear to wear glasses because they look so horrid. Every pair they have ever tried on was unbecoming to them. I believe that I can select glasses that will be becoming to every one. I have made considerable study of the different styles and their effects upon different faces. Some look best with Oval Springs, some with Straight Springs, some with Bar Springs. Some look better with Rimless glasses while others look better with the rims. Spectacles are becoming to some faces while eye-glasses suit other faces. In furnishing you glasses I give you the benefit of my experience in selecting different styles. I will promise to make your glasses look stylish and becoming.

**F. B. HOLMAN,**  
SCIENTIFIC OPTICIAN,  
OWOSSO, MICH.