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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1921.

KIDDING OURSELVES.

It is often claimed that the American people are the most gullible on earth. The late P. T. Barnum worked on this theory and demonstrated the soundness of his theory until the day of his death. The gullibility of the populace is evidenced by the necessity of passing the blue sky laws in this and other states to prevent, as far as possible, their inhabitants from separating themselves from their hard earned dollars to invest in all kinds of wildcat schemes that are exploited by some smooth-tongued promoter. Every day sound financial advisers are urging people to hold onto their liberty bonds rather than to part with them to invest in industrial or other promotion schemes that a glib advertisement or sleek advance man will assure them will pay fabulous rates of interest. And the same line of illustration might be continued almost indefinitely. It is bad enough to fall for the other fellow's stuff, but why kid ourselves?

The FREE TRADER-JOURNAL was "taken to task" because it had the temerity to call attention to the fact a few days ago that the fixed level of the pool to be created by the proposed dam at Starved Rock was higher than many people knew or imagined and to the additional fact that it would be a good idea to get rid of the notion so frequently advanced and held by many that Ottawa was going to be handed the deep waterway without any cost whatever, direct or indirect. We were even accused of "knocking" the project because attention was called to the above. Nothing could be further from the fact. This paper has boosted as far as possible in its feeble way the project for years, and will continue to do so. Not that its attitude would "cut much ice" in any event. The deep waterway will ultimately go through and no newspaper or other talk can stop it. We may not share the popular idea that it is only a matter of a year or two, or, that the \$20,000,000 bond issue will pay for it. But it is not knocking the proposition to call attention to the truth regarding it. With the present attitude of the people, which means the government, toward inland waterways and water power the funds will be found to complete the job after the \$20,000,000 now in sight are used up, and it will be built. But why kid ourselves with the idea that we are going to get something for nothing?

It would be about as reasonable to say one was knocking the eighteenth amendment because attention was called to the fact that the law is being violated in Ottawa and soft drink proprietors are known to be "cheating" almost openly. We might assure the people that we had a bonedry town. That would tickle some, but it would not make it a fact, nor better conditions. We might claim we have the best police force on earth, but that wouldn't round up Ottawa's firebug nor stop the too frequent burglaries or acts of vandalism which are so much in evidence.

Years ago a bunch of kidders persuaded the people of the Illinois Valley that the drainage ditch—the Chicago drainage canal in those days—was going to be of inestimable value to the inhabitants along the river, that all damaged lands would be quickly and gladly paid for, etc. At a meeting in the old opera house the bait was held out that the increase in flow of water in the river would bring Mississippi steamers to our door. The few who prophesied the pollution of the river, the killing of the fish and general insanitary conditions were almost ostracized from decent society because they refused to kid themselves or be kidded by the exploiters of the scheme. And many suits for damages are still pending or have been settled for a mere pittance because the claimants were worn out by delays.

It can do no harm to tell the truth and look at matters as they are or inevitably must be. It is the only way in which conditions can be met with any intelligence and provision made for the future. But the silliest thing on earth is for us to kid ourselves and disregard facts because they are unpleasant. It may be excusable under some circumstances to kid the other fellow, but a man who deliberately kids himself needs a guardian.

NORMAL TIMES MAY BE YEARS AWAY.

Looking for the return of normal conditions in business is much like looking for the proverbial needle in the hay-stack—the needle was there, all right, but where? Normal conditions will return only when the relations of producer and consumer, together with all intermediaries, shall have accepted the terms and conditions that obtained in those other days for which the world seems to be sighing. Undoubtedly the process towards the desired end will be slow, for there are many disturbing influences abroad which tend to check any advance movement which would lead to the wished for end. There is an increasing number of those engaged in factories and mines, although in some trades there has been a falling off in the number; but on the whole, as gathered from the reports received by labor headquarters, there is less idleness now than earlier in the year. Then, too, the reduction in wholesale prices of commodities shows some advantages gained in that direction. But it is not the United States alone that is affected by unsettled conditions of business and the cost of living. Were it this or any other one nation that was thus unsettled there might be expected a more speedy adjustment of affairs. But practically all Christendom is in the chaffron. Some conception may be had of the return of "normalcy" by a look backward to the after-effects of other wars through which this country has passed. O. A. Mather, in a late issue of the Chicago Tribune, calls attention to the fact that following each of the wars this country passed through in the past hundred and ten years, it has taken many years to arrive at a state of tranquility. Following the war of 1812 there was a period of thirty years of irregularly declining prices from the one hundred and fifty per cent. to which they had risen. The civil war caused an advance of about a hundred and thirty-five per cent. in prices, and another period of approximately thirty years of instability in prices followed. In 1896, he claims, they were at the lowest point of the century. The little skirmish with Spain did not call for any special consideration and prices were scarcely affected; but the world's war was quite another proposition. Prices again became inflated in much about the same proportion as on the previous occasions, but after three years have passed since its close they are back to about fifty per cent. above what prevailed in 1913. Judging, then, from what has gone before one may not look for



Today's Markets

Table with columns: Wall Street, GRAIN, CASH GRAIN, LOCAL MARKETS. Includes sub-sections like 'Live Stock' and 'Wheat' with various price listings.

PARADE TO PRECEDE M. W. A. DEGREE WORK

A big street parade, headed by the Morris drum corps, will pass through the downtown thoroughfares on the night of Wednesday night, December 14. The parade will proceed a big bi-county class adoption of the Modern Woodmen of America, which will be held in this city. Members of the organization from all sections of both La Salle and Grundy counties, will be in attendance.

Arrangements are being completed to bring a noted speaker here for the occasion. At the close of the business session a social hour will be held, and refreshments will be served. A very large class of new members will be initiated at this session. At a meeting of Camp No. 3, M. W. A., which was held here last night, officers for the coming year were elected. Those who were chosen to head the organization for 1921-1922 were as follows: Venerable Consul, William Fiesel; Adviser, Frank Maynard; Banker, Fred H. Long; Clerk, W. S. Myers; Escort, B. J. McDermott; Watchman, Ben Jones; Sentry, Jacob Svoboda; Trustee, Frank Morrison.

MANY APPLY FOR 1922 AUTO PLATES

Citizens of La Salle county are getting in their applications for 1922 auto licenses much sooner than the residents of many of the other counties throughout the state. County Clerk Thomas A. Ferguson has been forced to send for his second block of application blanks to accommodate the early birds who wish to obtain their next year's auto licenses. County clerks in many districts report that they have had very few applications for license blanks, although from present indications La Salle county will not be left in the lurch by a late application for licenses.

low levels to be reached for a number of years to come—some say ten, others fifteen. It may be, too, that the ebb-tide in affairs is not the most desirable condition for general business; that normal conditions will have been attained when a greater equality between the extreme elements shall have been arrived at; when laboring men and women will be willing to work at reasonable wages and their employers likewise willing to pay those reasonable wages.

GRANDRIDGE Marseilles News

MISS WINIFRED YOCUM Correspondent  
BASKETBALL GAMES STILL CONTINUE VERY POPULAR  
Saturday night two fine games were played here. One hundred or more spectators watched the contests. The first game was the Grand Ridge High school girls with the Midlets from the Y. W. C. A. of Streator, the score being 16 to 15 in favor of Grand Ridge. The second game was the Grand Ridge boys against the Ransom town team. This also was a victory for Grand Ridge, 31 to 8. The next game scheduled to take place will be Friday evening, when the Ottawa High school team will come here to play Professor McLeod's high school boys.

Present New Numbering Map. The city council met last evening in the city hall. Roll call showed all the commissioners and the mayor present. The council has the new map of the city streets showing the house numbers. This will be left at the postoffice so the people will have an opportunity to learn the number of their houses in reference to lots and blocks. The numbering is done on a scale of twenty-five feet to the lot. The council thinks there will be no trouble in locating the house upon each division of twenty-five feet. The council ordered some chadders placed on the end of the hard road on Bluff street, both east and west. City Attorney Van Horebeck will go to Springfield on Friday at meet Engineer Miller of the department of roads of the state in reference to the construction of the hard road along Bluff street. This will be the connecting link between the two ends of the Ivy Way on the east and west sides of the city. The council ordered the repair of the hand rails on the bridge on Lincoln street. After passing the payroll the council adjourned.

Rev. Huntley Pays Visit. Rev. George Huntley, on his way from Peoria to Chicago, stopped yesterday in Marseilles. It was short notice, but several members of the Universalist Sunday school were notified and quite a number of the older members of the church took their luncheon to the church and had a picnic dinner. Mr. Huntley addressed the children first and gave them a good many new ideas in his necessarily brief talk. Then a short address well worth listening to was given by this Sunday school worker. He is a pleasant, forceful speaker, and it is too bad that there was not time to gather a larger audience to enjoy the pleasure and benefit of his address.

Home Bureau Meets. The Grand Rapids Home Bureau met Wednesday afternoon at the home of Henry Ott, with a very good attendance, considering the condition of the country roads at that time. Twenty members were present, together with a few visitors. The afternoon's program consisted of readings by Mrs. Harry Hagl and Miss Ora Harris and an interesting talk by Mrs. Zelma Monroe. A short business session was also held. At the close of the meeting a luncheon was served by the hostess, Miss Florence Ott, which consisted of sandwiches, pickles, coffee and pie a la mode. The next meeting of the unit will be Dec. 28 at the home of Mrs. Elvin Wakely.

Operation Proves Fatal. Relatives learned on Saturday of the death of Mrs. Joseph Woodward at Springfield Friday, where on Tuesday she had submitted to a serious operation. Mrs. Woodward was a woman of fine character, modest and retiring in disposition, a devoted wife and mother. Many years ago, prior to going to Thayer, Ill., which has been their home for many years, they resided in the village. Her husband has been overseas for a mining company since residing in Thayer. She is survived by her husband, one son and two daughters.

Two Games This Week. The local indoor ball team will play two games this week. Tonight the Streator team will come here to compete for honors. On Thursday evening the Grand Ridge team will go to Ottawa for a game with the American Legion team of that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Lehr Entertain. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lehr, who reside two miles east of the village, entertained the following at dinner on Sunday: Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Lehr and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hodgson and little daughter, and Miss Lacy Hibbs.

Local Notes. Miss Gautig, a trained nurse from Chicago, is a house guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Haas. Mrs. Ernest King and little son returned to their home at Kernan on Sunday after a several days' visit with village relatives. Arthur Glazier returned to Marseilles Sunday evening after spending a week with his brother, H. M. Glazier, and family in the village. Irene Palaschak has been absent from school several days, due to illness.

Mr. and Mrs. William Keller and family spent Sunday at the William Armstrong home. The service Sunday at both the local churches, held in behalf of the relief for the Near East, was attended by good congregations, both morning and evening, and there is no doubt but the district which is composed of Grand Rapids and Farm Ridge will do its bit in this cause, as is has on all other charitable requests. Antonio Schinde and daughter, Mrs. L. C. Rinker, and little son spent Friday afternoon with the former's daughter, Mrs. George Schobert. Mrs. B. M. Antram, one of the village's aged ladies, is on the sick list.

Mrs. H. Wakey, Mrs. T. Osborn and Mrs. V. Baker were callers Friday evening at the Read home on East Liberty street. Mrs. P. Parmelee is reported ill at her home on Burlington avenue, her condition being such as to necessitate the care of a doctor. A. M. Ellsworth spent an afternoon the first of the week with his daughter, Mrs. Walter Kaun, and family in Ottawa. Mrs. George Provance spent an afternoon recently with her sister, Mrs. William Shute Jr., southwest of the village.

Louis Scherer III at U. of I. Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Scherer, West Madison street, received word this morning that their son, Louis, who is attending school at Champaign, has been seriously ill but is now improving. It is expected that he will be able to return home in time for the holidays.

South Side Prayer Meeting. A prayer meeting service will be conducted on Wednesday evening at the Epworth, Methodist, church in South Ottawa. Regular weekly prayer meetings have not been conducted at the Epworth church for several years.

Mission Estate of \$1,500. Orville Phillips, of Mission Township, who died at his home on November 17, left an estate valued at \$1,500 according to a petition for letters of administration, which were filed in the probate court today. Mr. Phillips' widow, Mrs. Mena Phillips, and his two children, Howard and Eleanor, will inherit his estate.

MARY MACARTHUR

Office Phone, Black 176. House Phone, Black 35. Office over Star Theater.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1921.

Achaen Circle Meeting. The Achaen Circle will have an all-day meeting tomorrow at the home of Mrs. Bruce Harrington at the corner of Union and Pearl streets. There will be, as usual, a pot luck dinner, and also as usual the women will have a delightful time visiting and working.

Shows Rapid Improvement. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Thompson's daughter, who has been under the care of a trained nurse, Miss Jessie Trimmer of Morris, for some time, is recovering from her severe illness and will soon be able to be around again.

Trouble With Eye. Burr Coffeen still has considerable trouble with his eye, and is going in a few days to a hospital for treatment necessary before there can be full recovery of sight and health.

Shipping by Truck. A large truck loaded with automobile tires for La Salle passed through this city this morning.

Local Notes. Grace Kiner, teaching at Des Moines, Iowa, spent the week end visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Kiner of the south prairie. Their daughter Irma, who was forced to leave school at Grand Ridge on account of an attack of pneumonia, is recovering, but will not likely be able to resume her school duties for some time.

Jerome Coffeen arrived from Davenport, Iowa, and will visit here for a short time before continuing to Chicago to visit his brother Jesse.

H. A. Davis, wife, two children and son-in-law of Sovereign, Kan., arrived today to visit M. E. Davis of Fairview.

Frank Taylor of the Commonwealth Edison company was a visitor here this morning.

Russell Hunter of Chillicothe, a member of the lumber firm of Hunter, Allen & Co. of this city, is here today to look over the interests of the firm and visit the family of A. G. Allen of Bluff street.

City Commissioner Kohrht went to Ottawa this morning on a business trip.

William Sheedy, representative of the Standard Oil company in this city, took a load of gas to Seneca for Snook's garage this morning.

Jack Johnson has purchased a new Ford coupe and took a trip in it this morning to Morris. Jack is very proud of his new car, and is taking all his friends a ride to show its good points.

James Mitchell was an Ottawa visitor last evening.

O. S. Hogue of Union street has been on the sick list for several days. Mr. and Mrs. R. T. White of Broadway went to La Salle to visit relatives this morning.

Mrs. Phoebe Smith returned today to her home in Chicago.

Mrs. Bannan of Ottawa was here yesterday to look after business interests.

Emmett O'Neil motored to Streator yesterday.

George Holle went to Morris this morning on business.

M. B. Snooks of Snook's garage, Seneca, was a Marseilles visitor last evening.

Parnell Vaughney went to Ottawa last evening to attend a K. of C. meeting.

South Side Coal. \$5.50 per ton in two ton lots or more. \$6.75 per ton for single tons and on the hill. For prompt delivery 'phone Black No. 6. Manufacturers' Coal Co.

A. Yule, Peter J. Conrad, James A. Dubs, John W. Cavanaugh, James H. Hamill, Robert I. Fischer, E. G. Davisson and Amos L. Rutt.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Deming spent Sunday in Ladd visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lancy Nelles.

The regular meeting of the Mendota Women's club was held in the Elks' club room on Monday afternoon.

Mrs. J. W. McKinley of Morris, Ill., one of the directors of the twelfth district and formerly civic chairman, addressed the club on "Parliamentary Law."

Another number in the course of lectures given under the auspices of the Young People's Society of St. John's Lutheran church was given at the church on Sunday evening. The lecture was given by Professor G. Neuman, A. M., of Warburg college, Clinton, Iowa, his subject being "Higher Education in the Service of the Church." A special offering was taken for church benevolences.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed L. Phalen and family have moved to Galesburg, where they will make their future home. Leon Faber spent several days in Chicago, where he attended an electric storage battery convention. Mr. Faber is in charge of the Exide battery station at Fred Hueter's garage.

Mrs. Elmer Feik and Mrs. Carl Erbes entertained the Woman's Missionary Society of the Zion Evangelical church on Thursday evening at the home of the former.

Miss Elizabeth Boettcher entertained the members of her Sunday school class of the Zion Evangelical church on Saturday afternoon at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Boettcher.

Otto J. Ellinger spent Friday and Saturday in Chicago on business for H. D. Conkey & Co.

Shirley Hanson has resigned his position as janitor of Blackstone school and John Sauer has been hired as his successor. Mr. Sauer began his new duties on Thursday.

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The annual memorial day exercises of the Mendota lodge of Elks were held at the Princess theater on Sunday afternoon and a good sized audience was present. Franz Mueller sang two solos, "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" and "The Cure's Garden" and Judge A. J. Clarity of Freeport delivered the memorial address. The following are the names of the deceased members of the Mendota lodge: Fred W. Florschuetz, Morgan

UTICA

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hanson returned home to Chicago Saturday and Mr. and Mrs. George Lewis and children went with them for a week's visit.

Mrs. Nellie Murray was an Ottawa visitor yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Briggs from Waterloo, Ia., are visiting their daughter, Mrs. James Linden.

Mrs. Phelps died Monday morning at 10 o'clock, after a lingering illness at her home on Canal street. She leaves to mourn her loss one son, Raymond, who lived with her, and one son in California, and also a grandson and granddaughter. The funeral arrangements have not been made yet.

Mrs. Ruth Nelson and two children transacted business in Ottawa yesterday.

Miss Helen Donovan is attending Brown's business college in La Salle. Herb Isham from Oglesby was calling on Utica friends yesterday.

Mrs. McCabe and nephew, Jock Dana, were La Salle shoppers yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Woodbury were La Salle visitors yesterday.

Mrs. Ed Lewis was a La Salle shopper yesterday.

Mrs. George Reynolds was an Ottawa visitor yesterday.

D. J. Cahill is home from Kansas.

Mrs. W. E. Crosiar was an Ottawa shopper yesterday.

M. Palmer transacted business in Utica yesterday.

MENDOTA

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