

Topeka State Journal

By FRANK P. MACLENNAN.

(Entered July 1, 1875, as second-class matter at the postoffice at Topeka, Kan., under the act of congress.)

VOLUME XXXV.....No. 75

Official State Paper. Official Paper City of Topeka.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION Daily edition, delivered by carrier, 10 cents a week to any part of Topeka or suburbs, or at the same price in any Kansas town where the paper has a carrier system.

TELEPHONES. Private branch exchange, call 3530 and ask the State Journal operator for person or department desired.

FULL LEASED WIRE REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

The State Journal is a member of the Associated Press and receives the full day telegraph report of that great news organization for the exclusive afternoon publication in Topeka.

Dayton is the mother of airships, but her people were unable to fly from the flood.

A Chicago doctor says that brunettes make the best workers. Meaning Indians or Mexicans?

What seems to be needed is a Carnegie fund to enable American ambassadors to foreign countries to live on their salaries.

Those vice commissions have accomplished at least one thing. They have shown that some immorality exists outside New York.

Being an advocate of world-wide peace, why doesn't Mr. Carnegie try to do something for England and the militant suffragists?

The Society of Friends wants to take the Quaker out of the oats. So far, it has not been proposed to remove the Scotch from the whiskey.

A president of Honduras has died a natural death. But he could have avoided that disgrace by the simple expedient of moving into Mexico.

No hope for a safe and sane Fourth in Washington. Congress intends to remain in session all summer, tinkering with the currency and the tariff.

Another serious problem, which may yet keep Woodrow Wilson awake nights, is, whether or not this nation shall recognize the reign of Emmeline Pankhurst in England.

The barber who was given a thrashing by an actor in Los Angeles is probably one of the kind that cuts you one day and asks you whether you shave yourself the next.

Before the summer is over congress, in order to have its tariff debates read, may be compelled to pass a law requiring the newspapers to print them between the scores on the sporting page.

At last the utilities commission has succeeded in proving what everybody believed all the time, and that is that there is plenty of gas and that the company can make money on it at 25 cents a thousand.

At least one grand old American institution appears to have hit the toboggan slide. The men who are seeking the offices can't get them; and the offices that are seeking the men sometimes can't get them, either.

The fourth Biennial convention of the Young Women's Christian associations of the United States of America will be held in Richmond, Virginia, April 9-15. The convention is a gathering for the purpose of enacting legislation which will make more effective the work of associations all over the country, and of influencing the policies of association work in foreign countries where American secretaries are placed by the foreign department.

The attention of those persons who still uphold private ownership of public utilities, is called to the following extract from a report of an American consul at Manchester, Eng., on the operation of the city owned railway: "The average distance traveled for 2 cents on a workman's ticket in Manchester is over 2 1/2 miles. Since the system was taken over from private ownership the average fare per passenger has been reduced from 4 cents to 2.38 cents, and \$3,466,550 has been paid out of receipts in relief of the city rates. The drivers' wages have been increased by 43 per cent and those of the guards by 63 per cent."

In the lower house of the North Dakota legislature has been introduced a measure which would apply the short ballot to the state government. By the provisions of this, the governor's term of office would be extended from two to four years, and he would have the appointment of a secretary of state, auditor, treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, commissioner of insurance, three commissioners of railroads, and attorney general and one commissioner of agriculture and labor. To effect these changes a constitutional amendment would be required. Similar amendments have been proposed in the legislatures of California, Colorado, Ohio, Washington, New York, Idaho, Michigan, Iowa and New Mexico.

A CHECK ON PORK BARRELS.

The "Public Buildings" and "Rivers and Harbors" bills, which have just become law, call for a total federal expenditure over ninety million dollars. The former carries appropriation of \$47,473,850, and the latter demands \$47,868,894 from the treasury of the United States. Some of the appropriations are undoubtedly necessary, but others are demanded merely by the constituents of individual congressmen. The latter naturally wish to meet the demands upon them, for the representative who is successful in milking the federal cow into his own district's pail knows that it increases his chances of re-election. His fervent efforts for a large amount of the public money are perfectly natural.

But the average citizen wishes to know whether the money is expended in the wisest possible way from the standpoint of the general government. He is inclined to wonder whether federal buildings costing \$100,000 and over are really needed in such places as Globe, Arizona; Chadron, Nebraska; Kallispell, Montana; Jasper, Alabama; Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Eliria, Ohio, for which they are provided; and whether costly improvements to waterways, such, for example, as those on Woodbury Creek, New Jersey, \$38,000; Black Warrior, Warrior and Tombigbee rivers, Alabama, \$1,338,500; Big Sunflower river, Mississippi, \$120,000, and Port Aransas, Texas, \$600,000, should really be made at national expense.

Under our system of government, where appropriation bills originate in the house, it seems almost impossible to put things on the right basis without the introduction of some new principle which would check extravagance automatically. Says Anton Phelps Stokes, Jr., secretary of Yale university: "Along this line Mr. Stokes suggests that ten per cent of the total cost of such improvements be raised locally before the government is called upon to contribute.

Such an arrangement if it could be brought about doubtless would put an effective check on many of these extravagances.

THE FARMERS' CONFERENCE.

High cost of farm produce to the consumers and low returns to the farmers have led to the conclusion on the part of students of farm economy that there is a leak somewhere that should be stopped. There has been called a great national conference of farmers to meet at Chicago, April 8-10. It is expected to prove important not only to the farmers themselves, but to the people at large. Farm finance has been for long far too unsatisfactory; and methods of transportation of farm produce, and marketing conditions in general, entirely unsuitable for the greatest good of both producers and consumers of the food supply of the nation. On the opening day the subject for discussion will be "Distribution," on the second day "Marketing," and on the third day "Finance."

This conference has been called by the farm press of the country and will mark another mile post in the farmers' forward movement, according to Farm and Home. At no time has there been so much interest taken in the cost of living, at no time have the people been so ready to adopt measures which are designed to work out the relief of the situation.

No one is accusing farmers of getting too much, as it is a well known fact that the proportion of the final price paid by the consumer that the farmer gets is very small indeed. What the farmer needs is better financial facilities, which will allow him to produce with greater economic advantage. What the common good demands is a better system of distribution, less expensive transportation, less waste in marketing. The farmers believe that organized effort is needed to bring about any improvement in conditions, and feel that the financial questions should be settled first and then that the question of distribution and marketing will be easier of solution.

MURDOCK OF KANSAS.

The Washington correspondent of the St. Paul Dispatch sent out the following estimate of the representative in congress from the Eighth district of Kansas: "Victor Murdock was originally a newspaper man, but he has been in congress about ten years. He struck the water with the fiery idea that he was going to turn things inside out, study their smallest details and particularities, turn them back again and send them up with the burning threads of mischief from the bottom. 'I shall reform the world,' he said to himself, and he meant it. He confided this to one snowy afternoon. 'Any man who makes a sweeter sort of noise after a good dinner. Some folks are so financially weak they are unable to stand a loan. Many a smart girl has caught a husband by posing as a man hater. Make your words palatable when you can. You may be forced to eat them some day. If a young man can't tell when he is in love, the girl should break the news to him. There is nothing to keep a thin woman from cultivating a broad outlook. Isn't it terrible the way a girl manages to look like her own mother's sister by the time she has been married four years!'"

WHY WE DUG THE CANAL.

Why has America succeeded in building the Panama canal, where France failed? Was it because we had more money? No. Was it because we had better tools? No. It was because the French did so fast that they could not make any progress. The French, with an average force of 10,000 employees, lost from death during their construction period 22,000 men. We, with an average force of 33,000 men during about the same length of time, have lost from death 4,000. The French, with an average of 1,000 white employees, lost during their construction period from yellow fever 3,000 men. We, with an average of 5,000 white employees during the same length of time, have lost from yellow fever only eighteen. The important question, however, is the health of the Ameri-

BY THE WAY

BY HARVEY PARSONS.

Woodrow Wilson is a thin, skinny person, but he hath a long leg and a largish foot. Several "hurry-touch" job seekers can verify this statement.

But far be it from us to name the seekers; that would be adding insult to a swift kick.

Anent this election: about 6,668 of us were April-fooled by having voted for the gamest little gentleman who ever wore whiskers, we should try to emulate him and make a noise like game losers.

No one will ever hear a squeak of protest from Mr. Billard. He was forced into the first and second races, and lost. And if Topeka ever establishes a hall of fame, the clean, square, unobtrusive little gentleman may look down from above and see his chin-whiskers embalmed in marble.

JAYHAWKER JOTS

Down at Altona the glass plant is being prepared to turn out fruit jars and lamp chimneys. The Santa Fe railroad is established seventeen experiment farms in southern Kansas just to show what fine things the land there will do. State Superintendent Ross will be able to see all the moving pictures free of charge. But the fact is not likely to cause any rush for his job next year.

Forty-one babies were born in the Dayton flood district. From which one might gather the ornithological information that the stork is a bird that does not fear water.

ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT

BY ROY K. MOULTON.

He fell upon his bended knees And said: "Oh Agnes, wed me please." He told her that she was his queen; The grandest girl he'd ever seen; That no one had no eyes like her's— He was his own, the cowboy hero.

QUAKER MEDITATIONS.

(From the Philadelphia Record.) The only proof of the bluffer is in making a bluff.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

(From the Chicago News.) Beauty either fades or rubs off. Nature is probably too busy to turn out handsome men.

HUMOR OF THE DAY

"What's the trouble now?" demanded his employer when the idea of being in half an hour late. "The ice on the pavement," said the lad. "Every step I took, I slipped back two." "You did, eh? Then how did you ever get here?" "I started back home."—Judge.

FROM THE HICKEYVILLE CLARION.

Sombody stole Constable Ezra Hand's dark lantern last week and hid it in a nest of birds. He says he ain't naming no names, but he has seen his dark lantern on a certain automobile in this town 'bein' used as a headlight, and if it ain't returned at once somebody will git persecuted. Anse Frisby owns the only auto in this burg and this is believed to be a clew.

DEACON PRINGLE'S INTENTIONS.

Deacon Pringle has asked several humorous to the choir singers and the popular milliner, and not one of them would admit that he had any intentions whatever, so the deacon has put on his front gate: "No admittance Except on Business."

TEACHER'S "WHAT DAYS OF THE YEAR ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?"

Teacher—"What days of the year are most important to you?" Willie—"Christmas an' April 10." Teacher—"April 10? Why, what happens then?" Willie—"Gee, don't you know, that's the day 't baseball season opens!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

IT NEVER HAPPENED.

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THE EVENING STORY

BY JANE OSBORN.

It was a glorious day in May and there was a half-holiday... It was a glorious day in May and there was a half-holiday...

AN AMATEUR KIDNAPING.

By Jane Osborn.

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KANSAS COMMENT

BY JANE OSBORN.

It will do no good to become scared. But it will pay to use extreme care in watching the storm clouds which form off in the southwest. Kansas has been talked about a great deal as the home of the festive twister. While she has never fairly earned that reputation she is not immune, and she has the advantage of knowing that her storms, at least the more destructive ones, are of one kind and character. They travel from the southwest to the northeast. Other states have been devastated by numerous storms this spring. The season is new. There is no disgrace in running if you are scared. A live coward safely esconced in the sheltering haven of the southwest corner of a convenient cellar beats a dead bull, and brave folk think he can successfully combat the fury of the Lord Almighty as evidenced in a tornado. Beware of the storm cloud.—Newton Republican.

STOP THE MOVIES?

Is it possible that the great state of Kansas has started something in her moving picture law? Has the measure been so drawn that it is put a damper on the industry? The views for the entertainment of the thousands, day and night, all over the state? Surely the Democratic legislature did not do this. Surely no such law was taken with the law regarding movies than this? Some people might joke about the moving picture shows and their wild and extravagant nature. They fill a place not otherwise filled. There are thousands of most excellent and entertaining films shown each after night, and the lack of this sort of entertainment would be a sudden and a great loss to the people. Let us all hope that some way may be found to keep the motion views passing before the bright light of the picture. The place must be filled in some other manner, if this method of entertainment would suddenly come to an end.—Hutchinson News.

FROM OTHER PENS

BY JANE OSBORN.

AN EDUCATIONAL DISCOVERY. It is a real education which has been equipped and set to work in the house in Alabama described by Booker T. Washington. It is a real education, a substitution of learning, not less physics, but they will come away from it with practical knowledge of a kind of side of life, which is their largest need.

FROM OTHER PENS

BY JANE OSBORN.

As a schoolhouse a neat cottage replaces the old one in farming and stock raising. The family both live and teach there. Everything about the house is treated as an object lesson for the children. Girls learn cooking and housekeeping in kitchen, dining room and bedroom. They prepare the morning meal under the eye of the mother.

FROM OTHER PENS

BY JANE OSBORN.

Boys work at farming, gardening and farm carpentry. Not only with tools, but in figuring the cost in labor and materials. Their work in English and grammar lies in written description of the work. They prepare the morning meal under the eye of the mother.

FROM OTHER PENS

BY JANE OSBORN.

A MAN WHO DIED POOR. Tom Johnson certainly spent himself, in every sense of that word, in his fight for "fundamental democracy" in Cleveland. He was a millionaire. His ordinary business investments were quite uniformly successful. And yet his estate at the time of his death, as totaled up last week by the estate appraisers, was only \$2,070.12 in cash, property, stocks and bonds.

FROM OTHER PENS

BY JANE OSBORN.

The people of Cleveland know pretty well where this money went. It didn't go to philanthropic enterprises, or to any other purpose that form of giving is. But it went in contributions to the "war chest" from which the people of Cleveland are so extensively the people of Ohio—cried on their struggle for self-government.

FROM OTHER PENS

BY JANE OSBORN.

The career of Tom Johnson may suggest to the man whose good blood pounds in his veins that it is vastly better to give a course of ten years in the fight for democracy than ten thousand for the charity ball.—Chicago Post.

FROM OTHER PENS

BY JANE OSBORN.

Over-indulgence is not the only way to make a child develop desirable qualities. Sometimes results in making a child go to opposite extremes. Most of us see pendulums by nature. The more violently we are pushed in one direction, the more violently we ultimately swing in the other.

FROM OTHER PENS

BY JANE OSBORN.

An acquaintance of mine who is the mother of a very pretty little girl of sixteen, is excessively anxious to have her daughter shall be very quiet and refined in her intercourse with the other sex. Of course that is a natural desire for any mother, but in this woman it is a mania and drives her to an excess of severity. She is always scolding her daughter for some outburst of her natural vivacity. She is always forbidding her some pleasure which her companions are freely permitted to join.

FROM OTHER PENS

BY JANE OSBORN.

And of course the harvest of such severity is ripening for her sad reaping. Her daughter is rapidly