

# THE BARBER COUNTY INDEX.

VOL. XXIV.

MEDICINE LODGE, KANSAS, JANUARY 11, 1905.

NO. 35

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The County Commissioners were in session all of last week. Among the more important business transacted was the following:

S. S. Kincaid was allowed to construct a cattle drive under the highway between the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  of 5-34-10 and se $\frac{1}{4}$  32-33-10.

C. W. Smith of Lake City was allowed to place a gate across the road between sections 21 and 22 in township 31, range 13, one-fourth of a mile south of the north line of sections 21 and 22.

W. C. Alford was appointed trustee of Hazelton township to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of J. F. Gamble.

Walter Middleton and Pearl Roney were appointed constables of Kiowa township to fill vacancies.

The Protheroe road case was compromised. By common consent the new road petitioned for was not granted but the old road was legalized. Mr. Protheroe relinquished right of way and the road remains practically the same as it now is. The city gets the right to repair the dam and enter upon the premises at any time, provided no plowed fields or crops are driven upon.

Compromise assignments and redemptions were granted to N. W. Burnett, A. J. Ayers, J. P. Caudill, H. L. Wainscott, Hazelton Coal & Lumber Company, J. C. B. Hargis, Jas. Dillwith, S. B. Blake, S. S. Kincaid, Hazelton; Jacob Begert, Mr. Linnville, A. B. Purdy and Chester Martin, Medicine Lodge; J. M. Miller, N. W. Hockett and W. C. Botkin, Kiowa; Jas. Huffaker, Sharon, and O. J. Corliss, Sun City.

Road petitions were granted on petition of V. C. Sleeper of Valley township and Hugh Rankin of Sharon township. The viewers for the former are Hugh Rankin, D. H. Axline and Ed. Boots; for the latter, Bert Evans, V. C. Sleeper and John Spriggs.

The P. B. Cole road east of town was granted and Geo. T. Knight was given the privilege to construct a cattle pass under it.

The G. W. Purdy road near Lake City was ordered se-advertised. H. W. Skinner, W. K. Nichols and Wm. Roark were appointed.

A petition to expose to sale the n $\frac{1}{2}$  of 16-33-13; school land, was rejected.

The following school lands were leased to parties as follows:

L. D. Elliott, n $\frac{1}{2}$  16-31-12, 5 yrs. @ \$12.50 per year.  
W. K. Nichols, se $\frac{1}{4}$  16-32-14, 5 years, @ \$6.25 per year.  
J. W. Burton, sw $\frac{1}{4}$ , 16-33-15, 5 years, @ \$6.25.

J. R. Holmes, se $\frac{1}{4}$ , 36-34-15, 5 years, @ \$6.25.

The J. W. Metz Mer. Company of Kiowa and Scott Buck of Lake City were relieved from a partial burden of their taxes on account of the fires recently sustained. Mr. Metz was allowed a rebate of \$200 and Mr. Buck \$141. Commissioner Lake opposed the action very strongly, the same as he did a year ago when the Chase Hdw. Co. of this city was given like consideration, and Commissioners Crouse and Wadsworth favored it for the same reason that they favored the same proposition a year ago. Mr. Lake takes the position that a man who loses his goods by fire is as much obligated to pay his taxes as a farmer or a stockman who loses his cattle or any other business man who meets with misfortune. The other two commissioners, however, contend that there is a difference, that a man should not be compelled to pay full tax on stocks that do not exist. Mr. Metz paid a tax on \$4,500.00. His stock probably would have invoiced at \$10,000.00 or \$50,000.00. It is said that 60 per cent of the invoice

was covered by insurance. Ordinarily, it is a nice thing to go to the assistance of a man who meets with misfortune, but in this matter a bad precedent has been established. It is now a fixed practice for every man who has a fire loss, to appeal to the county for relief. In our judgment Mr. Lake has taken the proper stand.

The Citizens State Bank of this city was again designated the county depository. The Southwestern State Bank of Kiowa, through its cashier, C. D. Sample, asked for the use of the county funds and offered 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on average daily balances. The Citizens Bank has been the depository for fifteen years and has always paid three per cent. Mr. Sample said if he secured the funds he would arrange to deposit a sufficient amount with a Medicine Lodge bank to carry on local business, for convenience. Commissioner Crouse took a decided stand in favor of the Kiowa bank, but Commissioners Lake and Wadsworth took the stand that inasmuch as the Kiowa bank was a new institution, that it had not yet paid taxes, while the Citizens Bank had paid taxes for many years, and had paid three per cent for a long time when other counties were paying only two, and that if again agitated it might result in the county's not receiving any interest which at one time was the case, the small difference of one-fourth of one per cent was no inducement to make a change. The average deposits run between \$40,000.00 and \$60,000.00 and a majority of the board considered it unwise to place such a great amount of money in new and strange hands when the profit to be derived is practically nothing, while a change would bring more trouble next year when all the banks would probably become disturbed and none could afford to pay as high as three per cent. on account of the uncertainty of getting it. It is highly probable that if the matter were repeatedly submitted to bids no bank would offer three per cent. in a few years hence, at least that is an experience prior boards have had.

J. B. Neal, L. C. Vandivier and J. R. Newsom were appointed appraisers of the Wisner school quarter in Sharon township.

F. J. Cartan and Aug. Schmidt were appointed to assist the probate judge in making the next quarterly examination of the county treasurer's books.

The Board purchased six lots from A. W. Smith, adjoining Capt. J. N. Titus' residence on Kansas Avenue east, on which to construct the courthouse cess pool. They paid \$250 for the six lots, abstracts and warranty deed to be furnished. Captain Titus protests against the action of the Board and will fight it out in the courts. He does not want a cess pool near his residence and claims it will not only affect him in a sanitary way but it will also depreciate the value of his property.

There is a great amount of what seems to us just indignation over an expense bill allowed to the county attorney of nearly \$150. It is money for time and expense in resisting the Crawford pardon. Mr. Tinscher made a number of trips to Lansing and Topeka and employed physicians to examine Oscar Crawford, in resisting the pardon and he presented a bill. Commissioners Crouse and Wadsworth voted for it and Commissioner Lake opposed it. An opinion from an attorney of prominence was had and he held that the bill was not a legal one—that the duties of the county ended when the man was convicted. To the average man it smacks of individual junkets at the county's expense which to say the least should not be encouraged.

The new Board organized Monday afternoon. Riley Lake was re-elected chairman. Pat Flannagan and B. E. Wadsworth voted for Mr. Lake. Mr. Lake voted for Mr. Flannagan. The Cresset will probably not accuse Riley of voting for himself this time.

The new Board adjourned without transacting any further business.

**RETIREES WITH A GOOD RECORD.**

On Saturday evening J. M. Crouse retired from the Board of County Commissioners of Barber county after having served four years with marked credit and ability. Mr. Crouse, when he first took his place on the Board in January, 1901, took special pains to inquire into the county's financial standing and especially its bonded indebtedness and accrued and maturing interest. At that time the county's bonded indebtedness aggregated \$24,225.00. It was a discouraging state of affairs, considering the county's assessed valuation, but he went to work, with the assistance of his colleagues, to "do something" and after he had served a year and three months \$208,695 of bonds and coupons were surrendered for cancellation. When he retired from the Board the amount of redeemed bonds and coupons swelled to \$261,725, leaving a bonded indebtedness of \$162,500.

These bonds were bought and compromised at a discount. The Board paid from 65 to 85 per cent. for them. The tax levy for a few years was high but the Board saw the opportunity and they embraced it, and every citizen in the county has benefited by it.

The levy of 1904 on the general fund has been again scaled down to two mills—the place it was before the bond negotiations began.

Mr. Crouse does not claim credit for all that has been accomplished, but he is entitled to a good share of it. The bulk of the bonds which were lifted, were surrendered during his administration and he has reason to feel some pride in the result.

As a commissioner, it is to be presumed that he has made some enemies, but his motives were always honest and his judgment generally good, and he has made fewer mistakes than most commissioners make.

During all the time Mr. Crouse served on the Board two of the members were democrats. His successor, Mr. Flannagan, is also a democrat, and the Board continues to be of the same political complexion with every promise of a continuation of the same good record. Chairman Lake who has just entered on his second term, is without a superior as a business man and our new commissioner has also an A 1 reputation in that respect. The democratic party has certainly been very fortunate in and has every reason to be proud of the men it has chosen to take care of the county's business.

**A JOINT INSTALLATION.**

The Knights of Pythias and Rathbone Sisters will hold joint installation at the new K. P. hall tomorrow (Thursday) night. After installation lunch and social amusement will be indulged.

All Knights, Esquires and Pages and their wives are invited. The hall is nicely furnished. A special feature is a new "F. P." lighting system, like that in the Chase Hardware store.

**G. A. R. INSTALLATION.**

Eldred Post G. A. R. of this city will have a public installation at their hall on Saturday of this week at 11 o'clock a. m. After installation the old veterans will repair to the Central hotel where they will partake of a big dinner—a genuine old soldiers bean bake, with all the delicacies of the season on the side. The dinner will be at 1 p. m. The old soldier who misses this order will always be sorry.—By order of committee.

**IT SNOWS!**

One of the heaviest snows that ever fell on Kansas soil "fell gently down" yesterday, beginning at 3 o'clock in the morning and continuing the greater part of the day. Fine on the wheat.

**SOCIAL BALLS—Jan. 27 and Feb. 14.**

The next ball will be by the Band Boys at the opera house on Friday night, Jan. 27th. The usual good time assured to all who attend. A general invitation extended.

On February 14th—St. Valentine's day—the Rathbone Sisters will give a ball suitable for the occasion. The sisters have purchased a new piano for the K. P. Hall and they employ this method to raise part of the funds to pay for it.

**J. W. NETZ WILL REBUILD.**

The J. W. Metz Mercantile Company are preparing to rebuild in Kiowa. The new block will be the same dimensions as the one burned but it will be only one story high instead of two—something similar to the Chandler block in this city.

**NEXT LECTURE COURSE NUMBER.**

Dr. Daniel McGurk will entertain the people of Medicine Lodge with one of his celebrated lectures next Wednesday night, January 18. This will be the fourth number on the course and the second lecture. Dr. McGurk has flattering recommendations from all over the country and is certain to please all who hear him. Seats on sale at usual place.

**Better Southwest Mail Service.**

A new Eagle-Deerhead mail route and schedule went into effect this week. It extends from Medicine Lodge southwest to Eagle and Deerhead, and the patrons along the route will have rural mail facilities. Heretofore the mail to Deerhead went by way of Lake City and was very slow and late. Under the new arrangement the carrier on this route leaves Medicine Lodge on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday of each week at 6 o'clock a. m. It will make the postmaster and the carrier both cut their morning nap short these mornings. An effort is being made to make the leaving time a little later.

A petition has also been sent to Washington asking to discontinue the postoffice at Eagle and establish one at Lasswell's store and call it Long, in honor of Senator Long.

Will South has been appointed carrier.

**J. HARRY GAY COMING.**

Remember that J. Harry Gay, Ophthalmic Optician and eye sight specialist, will be in Medicine Lodge at Grand Hotel on Tuesday morning, Feb. 7th, and will examine your eyes free of charge until Wednesday evening, Feb. 15.

The lecture on South America by Rev. D. McGurk, last Monday evening, was well attended and all pronounced it one of the finest and most instructive lectures ever delivered in this city. Mr. McGurk was formerly pastor of this charge but for the past five years has been doing mission work in South America.—Belleville Telescope.

Rev. McGurk will lecture at the opera house in this city next Wednesday night, January 18th.

**Mrs. Emma Johnson and son, C. M., returned home from Missouri last Wednesday.**

**W. V. Stranathan was up from Moore township last Friday in commissioners court.**

People say that the finest groceries in town are at H. T. Woodward & Son's. Phone 38.

Adam Jackson went to Kansas City on Monday to buy a stock of goods. He will also go to St. Louis.

Ed. Adams visited with J. M. Helling and wife at Coats last and part of this week, returning on Monday.

Reserved seats for the McGurk lecture will be on sale on Friday night of this week, Jan. 13th. at 8 o'clock.

The Misses Bradley of Attica visited Mrs. C. W. Wilson the latter part of last week and the first of this week.

M. Cramer, through Samuel Stewart, sold his farm of 320 acres, the first of the week. He received \$9,000. A few years ago he paid \$4,000.

White Rabbit Flour insures good eating. A. B. Wilkins & Co. handle it. Call up phone 69 and get a sack today. Try it and you will use none other.

Drs. Coleman and Moore were called upon to straighten up a dislocated shoulder for D. M. Houghton last Thursday morning. Mr. Houghton's home is in Woodward county, Oklahoma, but he is working at present for S. R. Willan west of town. The accident happened by Mr. Houghton's stumbling and falling violently to the ground while running down a steep hill.

Rev. Daniel McGurk is a pleasing, thoughtful and forcible speaker. He has unusual power as an orator. His lectures are full of thought but interspersed with humor. They bring new life to the hearers. I heartily recommend him as a safe and desirable lecturer.—C. N. Poe, Principal Schools, Lincoln, Kansas.

Hear him at the opera house Wednesday night, January 18th.

On Monday A. W. Smith retired from the office of clerk of the district court and immediately took a place behind the counter of V. S. Cook's Merc. house. Mr. Smith served as district clerk four years and leaves a record without a single stain. He is the first clerk in our knowledge who came out without a shortage and who instead of drawing on the county for financial aid, turned a surplus over and above his fees into the county treasury. During his four years he turned in \$231.33 above his salary. This is not as much as other officers turn in, but it is a small fee office and it is the first time that the office has been self-sustaining. Allen has certainly made an excellent officer. He is painstaking, honest and trustworthy wherever you find him.

While Riley Lake was at Texline a few weeks ago he met Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Swayne and her mother, Mrs. A. L. Freeman. Mrs. Swayne is the daughter of the late Capt. A. L. Freeman. She and her husband are operating a big hotel at Texline and her mother is living with them. They inquired about all old-timers in Medicine Lodge and sent their regards. They enjoyed very much to meet Mr. Lake and through him learn of their old Medicine Lodge and Barber county friends, and say they have a warm place in their hearts for Medicine Lodge and her people. Texline is on the division of the Denver and Ft. Worth railroad and hotel business there is good.

**JOHN T. JESSE DEAD.**

John T. Jesse died at his home in Mingona township, five miles northwest of this city on Sunday morning, January 9, 1905. For years Mr. Jesse has suffered untold misery from cancer. One side of his face had been almost eaten away and other parts of his body badly affected. He had submitted to several surgical operations, but they only served to partially relieve and eventually spread the disease.

A simple funeral was held at the home on Monday and the remains interred on the homestead, at Mr. Jesse's request before his death.

John T. Jesse was one of our pioneer citizens. He came here when the country was new and hardships were accepted by the settlers as one of the numerous inevitable conditions of the country. With the exception of a few years in Oklahoma, he has lived in Barber county ever since coming west.

Mr. Jesse is survived by a wife, four sons and four daughters. He was 65 years, 10 months and 24 days of age.

**TEACHERS MEETING.**

The Barber County Teachers Association will meet in Medicine Lodge on Saturday of this week, between the hours of 2:45 to 4 p. m. A full attendance of the members is expected and visitors will be made heartily welcome.—P. L. Lake, Co. Supt.

A new stock of Dress Goods and a large variety to select from. They are on display at the new store. A. B. Wilkins Phone 69.

Apples in bulk or crate for \$1.15 per bushel. Best in town. A. B. Wilkins & Co. Phone 69.

Those suits for men and boys are the finest out.—Woodward & Son

**WHAT CAUSES THE MILKY WATER.**

The question is often raised by people who do not understand the operation of our city water system, what causes the milky appearance frequently observed in the water from the mains. The scientific American answers the question for a correspondent who describes a similar condition. It says: "All natural water contains air. Under more pressure it can hold more air than under ordinary pressure. So when the water of which you write flows from the pipe and escapes from pressure the contained air expands and rises in bubbles. No harm is done by the air in the water."

**Serenaders Roasted.**

The editor of the Asbland Clipper was "serenaded" recently and this is the way he complimented them: "That company that stopped in front of the editor's den and attempted to sing Saturday night, will probably never know what a narrow escape they had. Such noise as that near this office has resulted in disaster. Don't take such chances."

**NOTICE! REWARD.**

Strayed or stolen from my ranch 12 miles northwest of Kiowa, Kansas, 4 head of cattle, one-year-olds last spring, branded  $\nabla$  (quarter-circle V) on left hip, marked either half under-slope or half under-crop in each ear. I will pay a reasonable reward for information or delivery of same.

I will also pay a Reward of \$250.00 for the conviction of any person stealing stock in any of above brands or marks.

V. S. COOK.