

#### Farmers Bank of Bates County.

Among the other prosperous institutions of our city there is none we speak of with more pleasure and pride than the Farmers Bank of Bates County. This Bank was established in 1888 by able financiers and from the very beginning had the confidence of the public, and is now one of the strongest institutions of the kind in this section of the state, and it might truthfully be added, as ably and efficiently managed. These gentlemen are wide awake and progressive in their own business and see that all interests of the bank are looked after, even to the smallest detail and are always to the front in all enterprises that affect the city and county's welfare. D. N. Thompson, a wealthy and prominent farmer and progressive citizen, is president; E. D. Kipp has been the cashier from the first and it is largely through his untiring and intelligent efforts the Bank has reached and maintains its high place in the financial world. He is courteous and clever in the transactions of business, as are all the employees, and retain the highest regard of the people of the whole county. Geo. W. Newberry is the very efficient assistant cashier. The bank building, located on the northeast corner of the square, is now undergoing repairs which, when completed will make it the handsomest, most conveniently and comfortably arranged of any banking room in the state. Two large windows, ten feet in width, are put in on the north side, together with the other windows and doors, making it the best lighted and ventilated room in the city. Comfortable upholstered window seats are arranged for the convenience of customers. The lobby has been greatly enlarged by moving back the handsome and highly finished cherry furniture, much to the convenience of the public, and still leaving ample room on the inside. A handsome waiting and reading room is made in front, raised about six inches above the lobby floor. The president and cashier have their desks just to the rear of this room, accessible at all times to the customers and their friends. They have one of the most conveniently arranged vaults it is possible to imagine, with indexed files for all papers, checks, notes, etc., and safety vaults for private papers of their customers. To the rear of the main room handsomely fitted up, with a six foot window in the north, light and airy, is the directors room, convenient and private from intrusion. Still farther back in the handsomely fitted up law office of T. W. Silvers & Son, which has been improved with large windows. Back of this is the telegraph office which will also be fitted with the double windows.

#### Deacon Bros. & Co., Groceries, Hardware, Farm Implements, Etc.

Among the prominent and representative business men engaged in the mercantile business in this section special mention must be accorded Messrs. Deacon Bros. & Co., who are successors to R. R. Deacon, who established the house in 1880 since which time they have built up a large first class trade, at the same time sustained a high reputation for their enterprise and business sagacity. It would be impossible as well as impractical to attempt an enumeration of the various articles pertaining to this important branch of commerce that may be found at this establishment. The stock is very large, and the specialties in some articles of which they possess many, are of such a nature and bear such a character of usefulness as to claim universal attention and general patronage. The general stock carried embraces every known article in the line of cutlery, tools, manufacturers' supplies, builders hardware, shelf goods and general supplies in iron goods and tools for all trades, also stoves, ranges, oil and gasoline stoves, making a specialty of the celebrated Majestic malleable iron and steel ranges, which are acknowledged as being superior to any range on the market. They also carry all kinds of farm implements, vehicles, harness, etc., and conduct a general supply business, and their line of farm implements are unrivaled by any similar establishment for utility,

durability and general excellence, while their grocery department is stocked to overflowing with everything in the line of fine family groceries, fine teas, coffees, relishes, sauces, table luxuries, canned goods of all kinds, butter, cheese, flour and the very best of everything the market affords, all of which are sold at prices which challenge successful competition. The fact that they can supply anything in their line and are known to be independent of all competition has made the house the name, reputation and extensive trade it is now enjoying. By addressing or calling upon Messrs. Deacon Bros. & Co., our readers will be afforded immediate information relative to facilities of the house, prices and terms for the supplying of any goods, and callers may further depend upon receiving that attention and consideration in keeping with the character of one of the best establishments of its kind in this section of the state. Personally Messrs. Deacon Bros. & Co. are among our most enterprising and progressive business men, and who take an interest in all matters tending to promote the progress of trade in this section.

#### J. A. Trimble, Druggist.

That a first class pharmacy kept according to modern ideas and conducted with personal skill and intelligence is a great boon to any community is too palpable to admit of question. In this respect Butler is well provided for in the establishment of J. A. Trimble. The store, which is one of the finest in the city, is complete in all its appointments and well stocked with an assortment of pure fresh drugs, medicines, chemicals and druggists' sundries of every description, including a judiciously selected line of proprietary preparations of standard value and merit; while everything about the establishment betokens thorough system and practical judgment. Physicians prescriptions and family recipes are compounded with skill and accuracy and receive at his hands that attention their importance demands. The prescription department is under the supervision of experts in pharmacy, and none but those competent are allowed to handle physicians' orders. He has a large trade and all the available space in the store is thoroughly occupied with the stock of a first class drug store, including physicians' and surgeons' requisites of all kinds; also toilet and fancy articles, sponges, soaps, perfume etc. He also makes a specialty of Hires Root Beer in season, which is the best summer drink going. Personally Mr. Trimble is a pleasant, courteous and enterprising gentleman, prompt and accurate in all business transactions, and who takes an interest in all worthy projects pertaining to the advancement of trade in this vicinity.

#### Ray McCulloch, Pianos, Organs and Musical Merchandise.

The leading and most popular establishment in its line in this section of the state is that conducted by Ray McCulloch, who is well and most favorably known in business and financial circles of the county. His music rooms are tasteful in arrangement, and a full line of pianos and organs of the most noted manufacturers of the country are carried in stock. Pianos and organs are sold for cash or on the installment plan on approved credit, and those intending to purchase are cordially invited to call and inspect stock and get prices before purchasing elsewhere. Pianos are taken in exchange on a liberal allowance; and are rented, tuned, repaired and accurately adjusted and at reasonable rates. He also carries a full and complete stock of string and wind instruments in a variety of makes; also a full line of supplies, including strings for all instruments, and all the newest and most popular sheet music of the day. All mail orders for supplies or music are given immediate attention. It is the aim of this house to give every customer full value for money expended and this it is enabled to do by means of direct purchasers. Mr. McCulloch is a gentleman of unusual business ability, standing high in business, social and musical circles, and enjoys the respect and esteem of all.

#### Williams Bros., Fine Family Groceries, Hardware, Farm Implements, Etc.

As an establishment of the highest standard, the above named house is worthy of special mention. It stands in the front rank among the commercial enterprises of the city and is in every sense of the word a metropolitan concern and reflects credit not only upon the proprietors but also upon the general mercantile interest of the city. The stock, which is extensive and well chosen, comprises everything in the line of staple and fancy groceries, fine teas, coffees, relishes, sauces, table luxuries, canned goods of all kinds, butter, cheese, flour etc., as well as vegetable and fruit in season. Great care is taken in the selection so as to always have on hand fresh goods and the establishment has the reputation of being the place to get just what you want and at the right price. They also carry a large assortment of crockery, queensware, stoves, tin ware and are extensive dealers in farm implements and supplies of all kinds, including binders, mowers, threshing machines, binder twine wind mills, carriages, buggies, etc., all of which are sold at prices that challenge successful competition. An uninterrupted continuance of the vast patronage which has been built up by zealous, enterprising methods, sterling integrity and close application to the interest of trade and needs of customers is deservedly merited. By giving good weight and never misrepresenting goods to any customer, the house of Williams Bros. bears an enviable reputation in this community and the proprietors are well and most favorably known in social and business circles of the city and county.

#### Geo. W. Dixon, Furniture, Sewing Machines and Wall Paper.

Handling nothing but reliable first class goods and strictly upright in his dealings, it is only in the nature of things that Geo. W. Dixon should have attained the full measure of success that has attended a patronage vouchsafed to few established in this section. The store is well and neatly arranged and an extensive stock is carried constantly on hand, embracing elegant parlor and chamber suits, in plain and artistic designs, substantial and handsome dining room and kitchen furniture of every description, exquisite cabinet articles, richly upholstered goods, sofas, lounges, rocking chairs, wall paper and a complete stock of everything in the furniture line. He also handles the Wheeler & Wilson and Standard sewing machines and does all kinds of picture framing. Bottom prices prevail and customers may feel assured of getting honest value for their money in every article they buy. Mr. Dixon is always pleased to show customers through the store and an inspection of stock incurs no obligation to purchase. He does not tolerate misrepresentation; what he sells is sold on its merit and for its true value. The style and finish of the parlor, dining room and office furniture displays a degree of cultivated taste and skilled workmanship rarely excelled and are sold at prices which challenge successful competition. Personally Mr. Dixon is among our enterprising and progressive business men, and our readers can do no better anywhere than patronize this popular and reliable house the reputation of which is too fully established to need any word of commendation in these columns.

#### Fisk & Erickson, Fine Family Groceries.

There is no more progressive branch of trade than that represented by the above named, it being among the leading and successful business houses in this line of trade. Special attention is paid to this popular and reliable establishment, which is enjoying a liberal and permanent patronage owing to the well directed efforts of capital, enterprise and energy coupled with capable management, occupying well appointed quarters, centrally located, it is in every sense a permanent source of credit to the mercantile interests of Butler. The stock, which is extensive and well chosen, embraces staple and fancy groceries fine teas and coffees, canned goods of all kinds, relishes, sauces, table luxuries of the very choicest kinds, also foreign and domestic fruits and

fresh vegetables in season; as well as everything in the line of fresh and salt meats, making a specialty of prime beef, veal, ham, sausage pork, mutton, and smoked meats of all kinds. The wants and wishes of customers is a first consideration in all cases with Messrs. Fisk & Erickson, who are among our most enterprising and progressive business men and who take an interest in all matters tending to promote the progress of trade in this vicinity. The strong points of this house are that here you find the lowest prices the largest stock and assortment the most complete.

The greatest care and diligence is exercised in the selection of stock which is invariably the best the market affords, and purchased for cash from the best sources of supply. We take pleasure in inviting the attention of our readers to this enterprising family grocery house, with the assurance that they will find it an agreeable place with which to establish profitable trade relations.

#### Misses Evans, Millinery Parlors.

To achieve success in any branch of business it is necessary to have a natural aptitude and taste for its operations and in no line of business is this more true than in the millinery art. Thus it is, with confidence, that we place before the notice of our readers, the millinery establishment conducted by Misses Evans, who, for years have been a recognized authority in all things relating to the business. Misses Evans carry a well selected assortment of millinery material of every description, such as bonnets, hats and toques in all the latest shapes, also ribbons, velvets, silks, satins, English crepe, lace, feathers, plumes etc. This establishment has, since its inception, been considered the most reliable of the kind in this vicinity in view of good taste, skillful arrangements and combinations which have been characteristic of the products. Particular attention is devoted to orders and mourning orders are promptly filled in all cases. Good taste, the best of material, and workmanship, courteous treatment and reasonable charges are the rules of these millinery parlors.

#### Frank Eakin's Cash Store.

The steady growth of this representative and popular house since its organization has been the legitimate result of the honorable methods which have characterized its transactions. The store is completely stocked with a general line of the choicest designs of silks, dress goods, jackets, capes, wraps, ladies' suits, underwear, hosiery, corsets, embroideries, lace curtains, kid gloves, carpets, rugs, notions, fancy goods, as well as a full line of shoes, slippers, rubbers etc.; while the grocery department is stocked with the very best of everything in the line of fine family groceries, fine teas, coffees, relishes, sauces, table luxuries, canned goods of all kinds, butter, cheese, flour etc., in fact, the store has the reputation of being the place to get just what you want, and at the right price. This house enjoys a large and lucrative trade, not only in Butler territory. This large trade is due to the simple fact of keeping the very best in each line of goods, selling for cash and at moderate prices, and keeping each and every representation made to customers. Everything new, desirable and fashionable to be found in the dry goods line markets are displayed at this establishment, and at equally low prices; in fact, goods are sold at such low prices as to gain for this store the reputation for the greatest bargain house in the city, and new bargains are being offered every day. The store is fitted up in metropolitan style. The business is thoroughly systematized and each department is under efficient management, and all is under management of Mr. Eakin, who is among our most enterprising and progressive business men, and who takes an interest in all worthy projects pertaining to the advancement of trade in this vicinity; and owing to courteous treatment of patrons has gained for this store a most enviable reputation throughout this section.

#### Bennett-Wheeler Merc. Co., Groceries, Hardware, Farm Implements, Etc.

A representative and popular establishment in its line in Butler is that of Bennett Wheeler Mercantile Co., who are steadily pushing their way to public favor through the channels of well directed efforts and to day stands in the front rank of commercial enterprises. When one considers the great strides the city has taken in the past, he must needs admit that the indefatigable energy and foresight of her merchants have formed a solid and substantial basis for her steady growth. The above house is an excellent illustration of this fact. Some extent of the business may be gleaned from the fact that the premises although very large, are scarcely sufficient to contain the quantity of groceries, hardware, cutlery, tools, manufacturers' supplies, builders hardware, shelf goods and tools for all trades, also stoves, ranges, oil and gasoline stoves, etc. They also carry a large stock and complete assortment of farm implements including binders, mowers, reapers, etc., and do a general supply business. There is also shown one of the largest assortment of carriages, buggies and harness in this section of the state, all of which are sold at prices which challenge successful competition. Their grocery department is stocked to overflowing with everything in the line of staple and fancy groceries including fine teas, coffees, relishes, sauces, table luxuries, canned goods of all kinds and the very best of everything that the market affords, and all goods can be relied upon as being of the best and freshest in the market. Through representations pleasing to customers a large and prosperous trade has been built up and the most honorable and upright methods are pursued in all transactions. Personally Messrs. O. A. Heinlein and J. B. Armstrong, the managers, are among our enterprising and progressive business men and have a reputation which never comes by accident and is held by the same principle that made it, namely, sterling integrity and straight forward dealings and it is favorably known throughout the city and vicinity.

#### W. H. Mead, Cigar Manufacturer.

Among the leading and most popular cigar manufacturers of this section of the state prominent mention must be accorded W. H. Mead, who has recently established business here. Employment is furnished to skilled cigar makers who are kept busy in the manufacture of a superior quality of cigars. He enjoys a large and prosperous trade throughout this section, and the demand is steadily increasing. Mr. Mead has acquired a high reputation which he has fairly earned by the careful selection of stock manufactured, promptness in filling orders and reliability in all transactions. The cigars manufactured are in demand on account of their purity and excellent flavor. Among the special brands manufactured we mention particularly the Home Comfort 10, Isie, Purity, Perfecto, Keywest and celebrated Peg which on account of their superiority have acquired wide reputation and are in great favor with the traveling public as well as with the smokers of Butler and vicinity. He also carries a large stock and complete assortment of smoking and chewing tobacco, pipes and smoker's articles of all kinds. Mr. Mead is widely known for his skill and reliability in all transactions and has been eminently successful in the special line of business and among our enterprising and progressive business men and citizens.

#### T. L. Pettys, Fine Family Groceries.

A leading and very prosperous grocery house in Butler is the well known enterprise of Thos. Pettys. He carries a full and complete assortment of the finest staple and fancy groceries obtainable, embracing everything in canned goods, tea, coffee and spices, butter, cheese, fresh eggs, flour, etc., with a leading reputation for prime delicacies, relishes, sauces, table luxuries and the very best of everything the market affords. Also fresh fruits, vegetables, etc., in season. The relations of the house with leading sources of supply are of such a char-

acter as to enable it to obtain the best and freshest goods at the most satisfactory prices, and as a consequence is enabled to compete most successfully with any house in the business. Obliging and attentive assistants attend to the wants of customers and a delivery is made to all parts of the city. He also carries a large and complete assortment of staple crockery, queensware, stoveware etc. The wants and wishes of patrons are a first consideration in all cases with Mr. Pettys, which fact, coupled with his honorable business methods have made this establishment a very popular resort for the citizens of Butler and farmers of the surrounding country to procure their supplies. Personally Mr. Pettys is among our most enterprising and progressive business men and who gives his personal attention to every detail of the business and by courteous treatment of patrons, fair and honorable dealings has built up a trade and reputation second to none.

#### Excelsior Roller Mills.

Among the very important flour mills in this section of the state, none enjoys a higher reputation for the excellence of service and superiority of its productions than does Excelsior Roller Mills. The plant consists of very substantial buildings having the most improved facilities for turning out an excellent quality of flour, mill feed, graham flour, etc. In fact, nothing has been left undone that skill, capital and experience could command to make the plant complete in every detail of equipment and power and its productions are noted for their general excellence, and are in constant demand throughout this and surrounding counties. The leading brands of flour manufactured are the celebrated Purity, Victor, Fancy Patent, which are general favorites in the market, and are unsurpassed and rarely equalled for prime quality by any mill in the state; corn meal and mill feed of all kinds are also always carried in stock and sold at market prices. Custom grinding is done in the most satisfactory manner, while the highest market price is paid for all kinds of grain. Mr. Payne is thorough and skilled in every department of the industry and is among our most enterprising and progressive citizens and the milling business under his management has become one of our most prosperous and substantial institutions, and it plays an important part in the business life of the county.

#### Laclede Hotel.

When hotel proprietors study the comfort and convenience of their guests, and succeed in lending an air of home comfort and cheerfulness to surroundings they never lack for patronage. News, such as this or that hotel is a good place to stop, travels fast, and former guests advertise the deserving landlord while he sleeps, with such expressions exchanged with fellow travelers as these: "Been to Butler lately?" "No." "Well, when you go there be sure and stop at the Laclede Hotel, cuisine excellent, rooms large, light, well ventilated and nicely furnished, beds clear, service tip top and the landlord a gentleman." The listener makes a mental note of it and even as is commanded unto him, and there you are—a house full of paying people all the time. This, and more, is daily said of the Laclede Hotel. Since his establishment in the hotel business Mr. Sam Walls, the proprietor, has made the Laclede Hotel very popular among commercial men and home people, and as a matter of fact, the accommodations, at one dollar a day, are much superior in every way to most hotels charging twice the rates. The best table in this section is set at the Laclede, the proprietor believes in the best and plenty of it. Everybody in normal health likes a good dinner, and the landlord who guarantees to furnish it is an important factor in the economy of civilized existence. The Laclede is a desirable and pleasant place of sojourn for families, centrally located and fitted with every requirement of comfort. Mr. Walls, the proprietor, is a thorough hotel man, acquainted with the needs of the traveling public, and spends no expense in securing the comforts of his guests.