

In the event of the admission of Dakota as a state, the World suggests that her motto be, "Let her go, Gallagher."

The News says there are at least a dozen farmers in Waring township, Ness county, who have from 100 to 150 acres each sown in wheat.

SENATOR FARWELL, of Illinois, says that if Blaine had really meant to decline, "he would have signed his name at the end of the first paragraph."

BROTHER CONWAY, of the Norton Champion, always logical if sometimes eccentric, declares that "Smith is in imminent danger of being nominated for governor."

TUESDAY evening of last week at Ness City, it is Newsed, little Charlie Miller was helped onto a horse with too much momentum, which landed him on the opposite side, resulting in a broken arm.

The mayor and councilmen of the very new city of Ellis have levied an occupation tax. It does not, as a rule, pay to keep up a city organization where the ordinary method of taxation has to be supplemented by an occupation tax.

We are in receipt from Congressman Turner of a pamphlet containing the recent speech of Senator Eugene Hale on "Civil Service Reform." Mr. Hale shows conclusively that civil service reform under the Cleveland administration is a humbug.

The people in the southeastern part of Greeley county must be a bad lot. The Horace Messenger hears it "intimated that parties out there are in the habit of catching up horses that are running on the range, and selling the same." That paper calls this horse stealing.

The Leavenworth Times of last Sunday publishes a well-executed portrait of Hon. A. W. Smith, accompanied by a sketch of his life and public services. For the sketch, we make room in this World. We take great pride in supporting for governor a man with such a record.

EUGENE BRUSHER, late proprietor of the LeGrande Hotel, Ness City, was recently shot and killed by a fellow named Morris near Beaver City, I. T. The two men were traveling together. Morris is said to be an old resident of Ness county. The desire to get a thousand dollars belonging to Brusher is believed by the Ness City News to have been the cause of the murder. Morris has been arrested.

RANDALL RIGHT.

It may be remembered that about the time when the present congress met the World uttered the prophecy that, with Mr. Randall and the rest of the small band of Democratic protectionists in their way, the Democrats in the house would be unable to work through that body any measure looking to the destruction of the tariff laws. Mr. Randall seems to take precisely the same view of the case. To an anxious delegation of glass manufacturers from New Jersey he said the other day:

You can go home and make yourselves at ease on this subject. There will be no legislation in this congress which will destroy or injure any American industry. There is a majority in the Democratic party who would like to do some of these things, but it is not in their power to do it, not even in the house of representatives. There is too much labor in this matter of the tariff for the Democratic majority in the house to succeed, as you will observe by the vote which has just been taken on the resolution to investigate the Reading strike.

CONSTITUTIONAL.

On Saturday last the Kansas supreme court handed down a decision affirming the constitutionality of the Metropolitan Police law, which was passed by the legislature last winter. This is a black eye for Leavenworth, Kansas City, Kan., and such other cities in this state as have been pleased to despise this law.

The fact is, it is a law which should have been passed several years before it was. The people of the state are the supreme rulers in state affairs to any point short of a conflict with the United States. We are ready to admit, on the same principle, that the people of any county or any city in the state are the supreme rulers within their territories, unless they attempt to occupy the domain allotted to higher authority. It is plain that all the cities in eastern Kansas owed it to the state to respect her constitutional and statutory provisions concerning the abolition of the liquor traffic. When any municipality within the state undertook to override the state authority, it was simple justice to the law-abiding portions of the state that the defiant locality be forced into subjection.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.
Proceedings of Saturday, Feb. 4.

The program for the forenoon was: Floriculture—Mrs. J. W. Carson. Growing of Small Fruit—Prof. Walters. Opportunities for Intellectual Development in Farmers' Homes—Miss Carrie Davis.

SATURDAY FORENOON EXERCISES.
Prof. Walters started the small-fruit subject, and claimed that he had made a success of grapes in this country. In fact, in the country where I came from (Switzerland) this is their industry. The wettest place in western Kansas is not too wet. I would not plant on a hillside. My former experience has taught me this. Plant on level ground, and trail your vines on trellises. Put posts sixteen feet apart, and on these posts place three wires. Plant the vines eight feet apart. Give them plenty of room. The method of culture is to mulch. In laying out a vineyard, cultivate the ground deep for two years, and lay out in rows not more than eight feet apart. I do not think it will pay you to raise your own plants. Buy them from a responsible nursery. See that your plants have plenty of roots. Always buy plants two years old, and see that the shoots have but two eyes. You can buy them for four cents. The first year these plants will grow at least two two shoots two feet long. Do not trellis your vines the first year or the second year. The second year these four eyes will drive shoots four feet long, and then in the fourth year you must trellis, and cut your plant so that two runners are allowed to grow. Train one way, and the other in the opposite direction. It will not do to train your plant as low here as further east. In the fifth year you should have a few bunches of grapes, but do not allow them to bear too much. In the summer cut off the ends of the vines. Also check the growth by pruning. Prune in February. The crop in a small patch will astonish you, both in the amount of fruit and the money which you can derive from it. I have stock which bears six or seven pailsful to the vine. Do not train your vines too much. If you do, they will not do as well as in the eastern part of this country or in Europe. You want the leaves to shade the vine. Of the varieties to plant here, is the Concord, a stand-by, hardy, good-looking grape, berry large. Another grape for table use is the Delaware. Another good grape is the Griffith, and if you are almost certain you will neglect your vineyard, plant the Clinton. You can, after getting them started, let them go. The Niagara is not a hardy grape, and does not do well. The Isabella and the Martha are grown with us.

I will say something about the blackberry. I think every farmer should plant it. It always gives ample returns. Put blackberries in rows two or three feet apart. Cultivate two years, and then let them go. The first year they will grow two, four and six feet high. Then, in August of the first year, pinch them back. Mulch well. A shoot must be two years old to bear. When they grow three feet high, cut off again in August. Don't do anything to them in the way of cultivation that year. Every two or three years, plow in the rows, and fill in with straw. In this way you can have all the berries you want. From a patch as large as this court room, we produced at least thirty bushels. I urge upon every farmer to plant this fruit. The Kittinging is the best of blackberries. Do not plant on the hills. Go down into a draw, where the soil is black and rich. We clip off the head of the vine in order to multiply the branches, and in doing so the berries are multiplied. This should be done in July. I would speak of the currant. In the East, it does well, but I do not think it will do well here. I have the same to say of the gooseberry.

The Male Quartette—Messrs. Blair, Metz, Curtis and Dr. Farmer—gave the institute one of their fine selections—Annie Laurie. We would say in reference to these gentlemen that we stump western Kansas for their equals in the production of fine vocal music.

After the Male Quartette music was digested, the ladies and gentlemen farmers of this vicinity had a fine discussion on the strawberry.

Prof. Walters does not think that hop culture can be made a success. Mrs. Sawtelle's experience with the hop was not successful. Mrs. Rich claims that a lady in Ellis county has made a partial success by growing the hop on the north side of the house.

The Committee on Program reported the list of afternoon exercises, as follows: Poultry—Mrs. Jennie E. Rich. Essay—Miss Davis. Dairying—L. L. McGarvie. Floriculture—Mrs. E. D. Carson.

In discussing the subject of poultry, Mrs. Rich held the very close attention of the audience. She believes she can say that she brought the first chickens into Trego county. She does not think the Dark Brahma any too large for profit. What we want is a fowl that will hunt for itself. Some chicken eaters are prejudiced as to the color of poultry which is to be eaten. I am going for you farmers roughly. You can plan for horses and cattle, but you do not care for your chickens. I would build a chicken house 12x14 feet in size, and then I would have plenty of glass, so as to enable the sun to shine in. Keep them in during a storm, and give them plenty of warm water in winter. I never would keep chickens over four years old. Dispose of them. They are poor profit. Some think black chickens lay better than white ones, but my white ones are good enough for me.

Mr. McGarvie agrees with Mrs. Rich, that the Dark Brahmas are not good chickens. He thinks there is more profit in fifteen chickens than in the best cow, if they are well taken care of. Corn alone will not make hens lay. They must have mineral food. The best roost for chickens is about eighteen inches high. It should be movable, so the house can be cleaned. This climate and country can not be beaten for chickens.

Mr. McGarvie now comes to the rescue of the dairy. [The publication of this interesting paper will be made in the course of a week or two.—(EDITOR.)

A general discussion ensued. S. C. Robb thinks that the only trouble in co-operative dairying is that a sufficient number of farmers do not live close together out here. In the New England states the farmer owns only from 40 to 100 acres of land, thereby bringing neighbors close together. If we can surmount this obstacle, we can compete with the world. Our grasses are fine, and our country is all right.

If we can get our neighbors close enough together, and get the cream to the factory without heating, we are all right, Mr. McGarvie claims.

Prof. Walters says: We started a creamery in our country, and it works well. By buying the creamery outfit of eastern parties, and getting it cheap, our farmers were encouraged to open up this trade.

Ben C. Rich thinks the co-operative system can not be made profitable. Men do not agree. Some want to raise stock. Here the arguments for and against the system waxed warm by various ones.

Opportunities for Intellectual Development in Farmers' Homes, was now taken up by Miss Carrie Davis. [This splendid essay will appear in these columns within a short time.—(EDITOR.)

Now comes the subject of floriculture, as treated by Mrs. E. D. Carson. The most of these subjects have been discussed with an eye to financial success. I think most ladies should grow flowering plants. Most ladies would rather pay ten cents than to try to raise them themselves. Such flowers as the Verbena, Portulaca, etc., are good to plant out of doors. There are other plants, I think, which should be grown in the house only. I find this is growing the plants with great pleasure. [Here the reporter's attention was drawn from his duty, and he lost track of the subject.] Mrs. Carson evidently convinced the institute that she is not an amateur, but an expert, in the matter of floriculture.

On motion, a committee was appointed to place in nomination officers of the institute for the ensuing year. The chairman appointed as such committee B. Mapes, S. F. Bartlett and S. C. Robb.

Resolutions of thanks were adopted unanimously by the institute, as follows: 1. Resolved, That, although the weather has been deplorable, yet we have great reason to be thankful for the success of our institute.

2. Resolved, That we thank the citizens of Wa-Keeney for their cordial co-operation at our session.

3. Resolved, That we feel under great obligations to Professors Walters and Kellerman, of our State Agricultural College, for the earnest and efficient manner in which they have assisted us.

4. Resolved, That the farmers of Trego county, and more particularly the members in attendance at this institute, are under many obligations to the Hon. W. S. Tilton, of the Western Kansas World, for the hearty manner in which he has encouraged and sustained this institute; and that we hereby tender him our hearty appreciation of his labors.

5. Resolved, That we tender our sincere thanks to Mr. J. Word Carson for the use of the Opera Hall.

The Committee on Nominations made the following report, which was unanimously adopted: President, I. L. McGarvie; vice president, J. M. Welch; secretary and treasurer, R. G. Kessler.

The institute adjourned sine die.

J. M. WELCH, President.

R. G. KESSLER, Secretary.

THE FARMER AND MERCHANT.

An Address delivered by Mrs. A. L. Fuson before the Recent Session of the Farmers' Institute in Wa-Keeney.

The relation between the farmer and merchant should be a sympathetic one in feeling, for it surely is a very close relation financially. When the crops fail, the merchant looks sober and finds he must cut down expenses to the lowest notch. There are several reasons why this is so. The farmer may not be the heaviest purchaser of his goods, and does not buy the goods with the first margins—the most profit in them; but the farmer is the great balance wheel of all public interests. Financially, when the ground yields abundantly to reward him for his labor, the rest of society feels confident of secured prosperity with the farmer. Politically, when the farmers are undisturbed no great revolution will be inaugurated—a feeling of peace and security is felt by all. How closely and ever anxiously are the farmers' interests watched and forecast by wholesale dealers. Men are especially appointed to observe and notify, because the interests of all are so closely connected. If the farmer fails, it is like a chill to the whole system, and a continued chill may cause congestion—in financial terms, a panic. As a cure is not always certain, even if the best medical skill is employed, much thought now-a-days is given to the prevention of a disease or disaster. So, if I may be able, even in a small way, to prevent some of the evils in our own community, your time will not be wholly wasted in listening to me.

A great hue and cry is always made against the merchants for extortionate prices; that goods can always be purchased at a distance so much cheaper. It is very hard to live down a bad reputation. One of our first merchants said that if he

could go it alone here one year, he could become independently rich. He did go it alone—to some other place, but while he stayed he gave the place a bad reputation for high prices. With such sharp competition as we now have, prices are as reasonable as if any farmer or mechanic should exchange their plow or hammer for measuring calico and ribbon or counting buttons. They don't look at it in that way, however, and many a five and ten dollar bill is sent off in exchange for goods at a distance, when the same can be procured at home. A young lady recently sent to St. Louis for 5c calico, the same to be 5c calico, but it cost her more. The satisfaction, that it came from a distance, made it more valuable. This might all be very well if there was only one side to the story. The purchaser has a right to purchase where he can get the most for his money; yes, may be, if cash was always paid. Now go with me to the other side of the counter, and observe what you see from actual life. The store is a general one in a small town; most of our merchants occupy such, hence the illustration. We must go early, for the merchant is there early. The first caller is a little girl, who must have some coffee for breakfast; the next, a mechanic, who is after nails and tobacco before he can go to work. The merchant must be up and have his breakfast before any such callers. Here comes a man for a sack of flour, a little sugar and soap. "Charge it, haven't the money now." The next is a boy, who wishes a lead pencil, which he proceeds to sharpen forthwith on the floor; but the whittlings do not show, for the fellow on the shoe box has whittled the corner off that, and has a nice lot of little sticks around him; he keeps the dust down in his region, too. He seems to have an artesian well in his system, from its constant overflow. Here comes a farmer; he wants a barrel of salt, a quart of molasses, a gallon of coal oil, 4 yards of gingham, a paper of soda, 13 yards of unbleached muslin, and he will settle for this and other little accounts when he sells his corn. The merchant must keep these items in his head until he has time, for a young lady who has just come in says very plainly by her actions that if she is not waited on immediately she will go somewhere else. She wishes 1½ yds of ribbon, a can of baking powder, a spool of silk and 5c worth of nutmegs. "Charge it" (Continued on page 7.)

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