WESTERN KANSAS WORLD

H. S. GIVLER, Publisher.

WA KEENEY .....KANSAS

LONDON AND NEW YORK.

"London has reached a stage when the growth of population has nearly come to an end," says a report to the county council on the decline in taxable values. For almost 100 years London has grown in population more steadily, though less rapidly, than New York, averaging about 20 per cent. increase in each decade. But in 1901 the increase dropped sharply to seven per cent., and in 1911 in the county of London there was a slight decrease, instead of the predicted increase of four per cent. The International Whitaker, an English almanac, places New York, with 4,770,000 population, at the head of the "largest cities in the world." London, second with 4,523,000. Both are round numbers from the census of 1910-1911. If the decline has been constant, London has now about 4,520,000 inhabitants, New York, if its rate of growth remains the same, would have by May 1, 5,250,000 souls. It is credited by the World Almanac with 5,173,064 on January 1. There is more than 650,000 margin in favor of the American city. Metropolitan London had in 1911 7,252,963 inhabitants, which may have increased to 7,400,000, considerably more than metropolitan New York can claim.

No storm ever disturbs the sea more than a comparatively short distance beneath the surface. There is little effect of wind or waves 100 feet down. At 200 feet both practically cease to exist. At 500 feet light and all motion having its source on the surface vanish as forces affecting the still, dark depths. Since there are many parts of the Great lakes where the water is from 100 to 700 feet deep and a few spots where it reaches 900 or 1,000 feet, is it strange that the storms which sweep these inland seas should attain extreme force and often cause great havoc? The lakes present many stretches of open water much wider than certain channels and bays of the salt seas which are notorious for their tempests and giant waves. Lake storms may be nearly as dangerous as ocean gales of the most destructive kind, says the Cleveland Leader. It depends upon the wind more than on the extent of the bodies of water affected. There is room for almost anything in the form of waves on Lake Superior or even on Lake Erie.

The so-called craters, ring mountains and empty lava beds of the moon are not the only interesting phenomena which our satellite presents to the view, says Harper's Weekly. There are on many parts of the moon's surface long, narrow lines called "rills," evidently much below the general level of the ground, some of them comparable in breadth and depth to the great canons of our western country. Certain astronomers have been disposed to regard these rills as cracks and rents in the crust of the moon, but others have adopted the suggestion, made long ago, that they are river channels. It may be remarked of these ancient lunar river channels, if such they really are, that their wider ends always terminate in pear shaped hollows like little craters, and this end is nearly always higher than the other, so that if the craters were once lakes their waters must have flowed out into the rivers instead of the waters of the rivers emptying into the lakes.

An unusual form of pen was used when the treaty of Paris was signed after the Crimean war. On March 23, 1856, the Empress Eugenie having expressed a wish to possess the pen with which the plenipotentiaries were to sign peace, the emperor ordered that the finest eagle in the Jardin des Plantes should be plucked of its best feather, which, being "taillee en plume," was used on that occasion and then handed over to her majesty. The eagle's feather had been used for the signature of one or two copies, "mais, qu' on e' est revolte," against the employing of it for all, as in that case the plenipotentiaries never would have got to the end of their labors.

A Russian lawyer says that American prisons are worse than those in Russia. After recent strenuous efforts at equipping our penal institutions with all the comforts of home, including orchestras for dinner and baseball teams, this is really disheartening.

Germany is officially considering the powers of the divining rod. As popular superstitions are often based on a grain of truth or fact, it is sometimes a prudent matter to investigate them that the underlying truth so carried to absurd extremes, may be discovered. One above these foolish superstitions is apt to smile at divining powers, as at present understood, but the German officials evidently see enough in the efforts to warrant a serious investigation.

THE WEEK IN KANSAS

A RESUME OF INTERESTING OCCURRENCES FROM ALL PARTS OF STATE.

ADIEU TO DISTRICT SCHOOL

State Teachers' Association Goes on Record in Favor of the County Unit System—Want Rural Schools Standardized.

Topeka.—The Kansas school teachers have demanded of the Kansas legislature a complete change in the Kansas school system. It is proposed that the teachers enter into an active campaign at once to see that the next legislature carries out the plans which the teachers believe will make the Kansas schools more efficient and offer more equal opportunities to every boy and girl in the state. The biggest school meeting ever held in Kansas was enthusiastic for the improvements.

The important changes asked for by the teachers in these school systems are:

That the county be the unit of school organization and administration instead of having so many districts independent of each other.

That departments and schools of agriculture be established in every school in the state in order to create among the youth of the state a greater love for farm life.

That the rural schools be standardized and an examiner of rural schools under the direction of the state board of education should devote his entire time to the standardization of the rural schools.

That county normal institutes be changed so that less emphasis be placed upon academic work and more upon professional subjects of teaching.

That physical training work in all the schools be encouraged.

That free high school tuition be provided for all Kansas students. That state uniformity in high school textbooks be abandoned, that supplementary text books be allowed in the grades, that free texts be furnished the school children.

That rural schools be consolidated wherever possible.

That the course of study in the rural schools be concentrated to eliminate unnecessary classes and give the teachers more chance to instruct.

After $180,000 for Baker.

Several men from Baker University, prominent in the endowment campaign now being carried on, have returned from Topeka, where they had been called by Bishop Shepard of Kansas City, the resident bishop of this conference. The meeting at Topeka was that of a special committee of seventy gathered to formulate definite plans to secure $180,000 endowment for Baker University in subscriptions of less than $500. Bishop Shepard has apportioned the following amounts to be raised by the various districts: Atchison, $20,000; Clay Center, $18,000; Emporia, $19,000; Fort Scott, $20,000;; Independence, $18,000; Kansas City, $22,500; Manhattan, $20,000; Ottawa, $25,000; Topeka, $20,000. The central office will be in Baldwin City and Dr. O. G. Markham, dean of the university, has been released from all classes for the rest of the year or until such time as the conference raises the $180,000 for endowment. He will act as executive secretary and will direct the work.

The End to a Salina Pioneer.

Word was received in Salina of the death of James W. Russel at Elmo, in Dickinson county. He was 84 years old.. He was one of the pioneer residents of Salina.

To Tear Down a Miser's Home.

The buildings on the farm of Daniel Killaban, a miser of Saline county, who died amid plenty from starvation, are to be torn down by the administrator of the estate, Daniel Cunningham, in a search for cash and valuables, by order of the probate court. Since his death more than $2,000 has been found in banks throughout the county and a hundred dollars in bills were found wadded in a coat pocket. Other money was found in drawers and other hiding places about the house.

Death in Dugout Playhouse.

While playing with other school children at Jennings in a dugout they had built for a playhouse, the 6-year-old son of Hans Jypson was smothered to death. The roof fell in, burying two boys. One was rescued, but young Jypson was dead when found.

Trading Land for Motors.

Deeds being filed in the office of the registrar of deeds at Wichita show that considerable property is being traded for motor cars. Almost a third of the chattel mortgages filed in Sedgwick county now are on motor cars.

To Emancipate Teachers.

Emancipation for the high school teachers of English is the object of Prof. E. M. Hopkins of the University of Kansas, who has been appointed by the United States Bureau of Education to gather information on the work of that department.

Killed in Runaway.

Guy Little, representative of the Standard Oil Company, was killed at Oketo when his team ran away, upsetting the heavy wagon. Little was caught under the vehicle and crushed.

Urged to Grow More Cattle.

Southwestern Kansas farmers who nearly kill themselves in summer caring for a wheat crop and then have little or nothing to do the remainder of the year are engaged in a wrong system of farming. Plant fewer acres to wheat, raise more live stock and grow more drought-resisting kafir, milo and feterita.

This is the gospel preached on the Santa Fe silo special and if several thousand farmers in Southwest Kansas are not converted to that system of farming the special operated by the Kansas Agricultural College and Santa Fe railroad will have been run in vain. That is the doctrine expounded on this train, and the lecturers told in plain words what ails farming in Southwest Kansas.

"We're not here to discourage wheat growing," said H. M. Bainer, agricultural demonstrator for the Santa Fe, to a crowd at Hutchinson, "but we want to encourage you to grow other crops and live stock with it. Grow truck, raise some sorghum crops for silage, and by rotating crops and manuring you can get just as much wheat on fewer acres, besides having a dependable income from live stock in bad wheat years. You've got to come to that sooner or later, for it is the only permanent system of agriculture for this region. So, in the words of the revival leader, 'Why not now.'"

The Cost of Living at K. U.

According to statistics compiled by University of Kansas authorities, the high cost of living which may strike the college student who gets his education in the East, does not touch the boy or girl who chooses to remain in Kansas to obtain his higher education. A report just issued by Registrar George O. Foster shows that the expenses of the University of Kansas student varies from as low as $186 up to $350, depending upon the courses pursued and the tastes and habits of the student.

"The average price of board, rooms, light and fuel may be placed at from $4 to $7 a week," says the report. "Day board in private families and at restaurants may be obtained for $3.50 to $5 a week. Day board in clubs varies from $3.50 to $4 a week. Furnished rooms usually occupied by two students range from $4 to $15 a month. Students who can supply their own furniture and buy and prepare provisions for the table themselves can lessen expenses materially.

A Miner Sues With Thirten Lawyers.

Thirteen lawyers represent L. J. Chapman, a miner of Radley, in an attack on the Workmen's Compensation act, brought in district court at Pittsburg. Chapman was injured in a mine of the Fidelity Coal Company in August. A rock fell on him, causing severe injuries to the chest, shoulders and lungs. When Chapman sought to take action under the act he discovered he could obtain nothing, not having been incapacitated for more than two weeks, as the law provides. The suit filed by the small army of lawyers asserts that the law is not constitutional and asks for damages under the common law. He asks for $2,985. It is understood that the lawyers have given their services free, wishing to test the law and get it out of the way, if possible.

Scratch Causes Boy's Death.

Frank Swartz, the 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Swartz, a farmer of Olmitz, is dead as the result of blood poisoning. A few days ago while putting on his shoes he scratched himself on his leg with the tin on the end of a shoestring.

Atchison Forms Militia Company.

Atchison is to have a militia company. Sixty names have been pledged and the company, to be known as Company A, will fill a vacancy in a state regiment. M. A. Marey, a veteran of the Spanish-American war, is pushing the work of the organization.

Suit Hits Taxpayers.

As the result of a heated controversy and a lawsuit between city and county officials, taxpayers residing in Wichita will not be given rebates for paying all taxes in advance. Property owners living in the county will have this advantage. The city officials have brought suit against the county to collect $60,000 said to be the amount of rebates with the county allowed city taxpayers since 1898. In retaliation the county commissioners decided they would refuse rebates to city taxpayers, thus avoiding an additional suit.

Masons Lay Cornerstone.

The grand lodge of Masons of Kansas convened at Olathe recently for the purpose of laying the cornerstone for Olathe's $15,000 Masonic Temple. The exercises were opened by Elrick C. Cole, grand master. There were 300 Masons in attendance and a procession formed at the lodge room, after marching through the main streets, assembled at the temple site. The proceedings were watched by more than 1,000 people.

A Careless Cleaner Burned.

Ignoring recent warnings sent out by the state fire marshal, Walter Campbell, a clothes cleaner of Pittsburg, used gasoline in cleaning and an explosion resulted when the fumes gathered in such quantity that a gas stove ignited them. He was severely burned, but will recover.

Kansan Killed Under Car.

Ernest Hunt, 30 years old, was killed recently one and a half miles west of Formoso in a motor car accident.

HUERTA IS STILL DEFIANT

Lind Gives It Up and Leaves for Vera Cruz—No Further Parleying.

The City of Mexico.—Gen. Victoriano Huerta tacitly refused to accede to the demands of the United States, expressed in an ultimatum sent to him by President Wilson's personal representative, John Lind.

General Huerta was notified early in the day that unless he returned an answer by 6 o'clock to the effect that he would prevent the newly elected congress from convening, and furthermore make this action known to the members of the diplomatic corps by midnight, the United States would have no further parleying with the Mexican government.

Mr. Lind waited until 6 o'clock and received no answer. He then made arrangements for his departure on the train leaving for Vera Cruz at 8 o'clock.

AT WORK ON NEW TRUST LAW

President Wilson Will Devote Most of His Annual Message to That Problem.

Washington.—With a certainty that the Currency bill will soon be before him for his signature, President Wilson turned to the trust policy. This will be the all overshadowing issue of the regular session of congress.

The president will devote the major part of his message to that problem. He has told a score of congressional visitors in the last few days that the anti-trust bugaboo must be eliminated for all time.

The big corporations, he believes, are ready to go ahead and do business under the new Tariff bill, but they have, the president believes, the right to expect that they will have defined for them how they can operate and whether they are to be limited by a series of new laws.

NO CAUCUS ON MONEY BILL

Committee Shows Signs of Agreeing on Measure And Is Given Further Time.

Washington, D. C.—The attempt to force the administration Currency Bill through the senate by the way of the Democratic caucus has been abandoned and the banking and currency committee of the senate was given time for further consideration of the bill. A practical agreement by six Democratic senators, half of the committee, and hope for a final report within five or six days, was reported to the Democratic conference when it met by Senator Owen, and at his request the conference took no action.

A FUNK DEFAMER CONVICTED

Jury Finds Attorney Donahoe Guilty and Assesses a Fine of $2,000.

Chicago, Ill.—Attorney Daniel Donahoe, charged with conspiring to defame Clarence S. Funk, former general manager of the International Harvester Company, was found guilty and fined $2,000. Detective Isaac Stiefel, tried on the same charge of conspiracy, was found not guilty.

Donahoe and Stiefel were indicted, charged with conspiracy to defame, after a suit charging Funk with having alienated the affections of Mrs. John C. Henning had been dismissed.

SHOT GUARDS FROM AMBUSH

Strikers at Walsenburg, Col., Have Confessed to Killing Four Mine Guards.

Walsenburg, Colo.—Major Kennedy, provost marshal of the Huerfano County Military district, has obtained from Charles Shepperd, a striking miner, a confession regarding the ambushing and killing of four mine guards at Laveta, which corroborated in detail the confessions of five other strikers. The men agreed that they had lain in wait for the guards and had shot them down. Shepperd and his five companions are held in seclusion.

A Kansas Marshal Slain.

Caney, Kan.—When John Mackinroy, city marshal stopped a motor car at 10 o'clock at night, he was shot by one of the two occupants, said to be bootleggers from Bartlesville. Mackinroy died a half hour later. The men in the motor car escaped, driving west from Caney.

Senate to Give Silver Service.

Washington, D. C.—A silver service will be the wedding gift from senators to Miss Jessie Wilson, according to an announcement made by Senator Martine, who is receiving voluntary subscriptions from his colleagues.

Peru Quake Killed 200.

Lima, Peru.—Late official dispatches confirm the reports of a disastrous earthquake in Abancay province. The dispatches say that the city of Abancay was wrecked and that more than 200 persons were killed. Thousands of persons are homeless.

Big Banquet for Roosevelt.

Buenos Aires.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt was the guest of honor at a banquet at the Colon theater here at which covers were laid for more than a thousand.

JEW ACQUITTED IN RUSSIA

Much Discussed Trial of Beilis at Kiev Resulted in Verdict of Not Guilty.

Kiev, Russia.—Amid scenes of wild excitement Mendel Beilis, the Jew, was acquitted of the blood ritual murder of Andrew Yushinsky, the 12-year-old Christian boy who was slain in March, 1911.

When the verdict was announced a roar of protest went up from the crowd that jammed the little courtroom, which was quickly taken up by the throng that surrounded the courthouse.

Beiliss, half fainting from fear and excitement, broke down completely when he heard the verdict that made him free after almost three years.

He uttered a cry of thankfulness and then began to weep. His counsel supported him on either side and soldiers escorted him to his home.

THE SITUATION EXPLAINED

Secretary Bryan Tells Foreign Nations That Huerta's Congress Won't Be Recognized.

Washington, D. C.—Developments in the Mexican situation here tended to emphasize a purpose on the part of the Washington government to refuse to recognize any of the acts of the Mexican new congress. Secretary Bryan had a long conference with Senor Algara, charge d'affaires of the Mexican embassy.

The secretary also summoned the ministers from five Central American countries and outlined to them the actions of the United States in its diplomatic parleys with the Huerta government. Later he announced he also had been in communication with the diplomatic representatives of the European powers and had informed them of the steps taken by the United States thus far.

OFFICERS FIND JOPLIN MINT

A Fine Residence There Used by Counterfeiters for the Making of Bogus Money.

Joplin, Mo.—That a plant for the coining of spurious United States money flourished throughout the summer in one of the principal residence sections of Joplin has just become known. Federal officers who raided the plant several weeks ago kept the fact secret until after the arrest of W. C. Gardner, a miner, who is charged with having operated the coin factory. Gardner was arraigned before a federal commissioner and pleaded not guilty. He was held for trial November 11.

Molds for the coinage of dollars, half dollars and quarters were seized by the officers. Gardner was arrested on instructions from Harry J. Head of Joplin, a deputy United States marshal.

INCREASED CORN ESTIMATE

The October Figures of the Government Raised 89,000,000 Bushels—Plenty of Old Corn.

Washington.—The preliminary estimate of the corn crop, announced by the Agricultural Department, makes the crop 2,463 million bushels, which is 89 million bushels more than the figures indicated by the October report a month ago. Even with this increase the crop is 706 million bushels less than last year's big crop, and the smallest since 1903, when the crop was 2,244 million bushels. The average farm price is 70.7 cents a bushel.

The quantity of old corn on the farms November 1 was 138 million bushels, compared with 64,764,000 bushels reported a year ago.

DYNAMITE IN THE COAL BIN

A Panic Among Engineers and Firemen When Explosive Was Discovered in Utah.

Grand Junction, Col.—One hundred pounds of giant powder and fifty sticks of dynamite, accidentally found in the coal at the Rio Grande Western Railroad supply depot at Helper, Utah, spread a panic among engineers and firemen of engines stopping for fuel. The explosive is believed to have been placed in the fuel by sympathizers with the Colorado coal strikers. The coal was shipped to the supply depot from Castlegate, Sunnyside and other Utah towns.

MORE MONEY FOR TRAINMEN

Fight for Higher Wages on Eastern Railroads Won After Long Contest.

New York, N. Y.—The long controversy between railroads of the East and their conductors and trainmen over demands for more pay has ended. The employes are granted an increase in wages averaging 7 per cent and totaling $6,000,000 annually from October 1 last, effective for one year. One hundred thousand men will share in the increase. The award is about half the increase asked by men.

Cheer Leader Died at Game.

St. Louis.—Over-wrought by the excitement of a soccer football game at which he was cheer-leader, Ramon Garcia, a Spaniard, fainted while watching the game here and died a few minutes later.

Stricken at His Organ.

St. Louis.—Philip Kolb, organist at the Lutheran church at Mascoutah, Ill., was stricken with paralysis while playing at the church service. He had just finished a hymn when he fell from his seat.

Some men are willing to say nothing if others will saw the wood.

Members of parliament in Belgium receive $85 a month while parliament is sitting.

Heredity.

"That gambler's son is a chip of the old block.

"I see. A regular poker chip."

Suggestion.

He —Don't you love birds?

She—Not jays.—Baltimore American.

Her Status.

"Jennie is a very bright girl."

"Then why did they send her to a polishing school?"

Any Way He wanted.

The Professor—Boy, get me a fly.

New Page—Yes, sir. Dead or alive, sir?—Punch.

Other Side of Shield.

Wife (Complainingly)—The Wilfinsons' house is much larger than ours.

Husband—Yes, my dear, and so is their mortgage.—Boston Transcript.

The Diagnosis.

"Did the dog that bit you when you tried to take his bone away seem mad?"

"Well, he was somewhat peeved."

Persuasion.

"No," said the timid man, "I don't want any flying machines today. I'm afraid of them."

"Why, sir," said the persuasive salesman, "a flying machine might save your life."

"How?"

"You might be out riding in one when an earthquake takes place."—Washington Star.

Near Tragedy.

A Pittsburgh millionaire stood beside his $8,000,000 automobile wondering where to go next.

A woman whom he had known rushed out of the hotel and sought to solve this problem for him in a hurry.

She shot at him, but, of course, she did not hit him.

Instead the bullet punctured the chauffeur's leg.

"Great guns, that was a narrow escape!" exclaimed the millionaire. "She might have punctured a tire!"