

Now that the city election is over, lets all lay aside our hammers and try letting the officials run the city affairs

## WILSON'S WATCHFULNESS.

Believes Red Tape Not Sufficient Sustenance For Starving Unfortunates.

President Woodrow Wilson, true to the philosophy which has actuated his private and public careers, has been the first to declare that no steps however grave, are too grave to take in relieving the suffering in the flooded districts. The announcement that he may himself go into the district where thousands are homeless, traffic tied up, food scarce and disease appearing, is an instance of his courage and dogged persistence in a purpose. He will cut all the red tape in the government offices and spend every dollar he can, as president, get his hands on, use every resource of the government, to bring the quickest possible relief to the stricken people.

Now this is not only interesting and inspiring of loyalty in the patriotic breast which can't help feeling some reverence for the head of the government, but it is most salutary in its general effects. We are all prone to take much as an incident, just such terrible catastrophes as those that have taken place in the Middle West. We declare that the incidents are awful, we really believe that we feel bad over them and perhaps we give a dollar or so that will provide a short and passing satisfaction to some sufferer as well as to ourselves. But what we need at such a time as this is for some person to spur us into a fuller realization of the deep, broad value of human life and emotions—to make us see that this loss, this suffering, this travail of body and soul of our fellow citizens is vastly more than a thrilling story in a book. They are our own people—they are our brothers—and these considerations make the relief of their distress the very first duty of ourselves and of our government.

To put the matter more directly, we are now in an era that considers the happiness of a human being whether poor or rich, able to take care of himself or not, as beyond any fancy theories and dignities and forms of custom.

## GOTCH RETAINS TITLE.

Frank Gotch, of Iowa, champion wrestler of the world, successfully defended his title in his match in Kansas City Tuesday with George Lurich, the Russian who had defeated Hackensmith, Zybosky, and all the other foreign mat artists of note. Gotch won the match in straight falls the first in 13.10 and the second in 5.35. The crowd witnessing the exhibition is said to have been the largest ever at any like match in Kansas City, the ticket receipts amounting to over \$20,000. As Gotch is to receive 60 per cent, he is well paid for the little exercise indulged in.

Ed Hoodysbell of Pawnee Rock, was a county seat visitor Friday.

## TO MAKE TEST CASE.

Island Claim In Ford County To Be Used In Making Fight.

Attorney F. Dumont Smith, counsel of the Settlers' association, composed of the river island "squatters", along the Arkansas, has chosen a Ford county case for the test in the state supreme court.

The test will be made in the case of Chester I. Vincent, of Dodge City, who has filed on some valuable land belonging to Victor Carson, on the river below Dodge City.

The land claimed by Vincent contains 135 acres, most of it lying in the old bed of the river on the north side. There are a number of islands and sand channels in it.

## U. S. TREASURY SHOWS SURPLUS FOR FISCAL YEAR.

The treasury department began the month of April with \$30,050,448, as a working balance of the federal government. The surplus of receipts over disbursements for the current fiscal year to date, exclusive of Panama canal and public debt transactions, has reached \$12,620,140, as compared with a deficit of \$9,951,951 on April 1, last year.

The showing for March this year, however, was not as good as for March, 1912, customs receipts falling off about \$3,000,000.

Including Panama canal and public debt transactions, there is a deficit in the treasury for the current fiscal year to date of \$18,656,199, against a deficit of \$8,642,830 at this time last year.

## LANDLORD BROWN RENOVATES.

The interior of the county jail has for some time been sadly in need of a little attention and Sheriff Brown probably catching the house cleaning microbe from some of the excellent housekeepers of the town, has had the entire interior of the jail thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and has everything painted in a pleasing combination of colors. The cleaning and painting was done by three of the prisoners who displayed considerable skill as decorators. The sheriff is justly proud of the present cleanly state of the apartments and expects to keep things in the same condition so long as he remains in charge of affairs at this location.

He is not advancing the theory that the jail is really a desirable place to take rooms, but believes in making and keeping the place at least clean and sanitary and eliminating so far as possible any dangers of disease or contamination so often found in places of this sort. The inmates of the jail, of whom there are now seven, are willing to co-operate with him in keeping things in first class condition.

County Attorney Russell left Wednesday evening on a business trip to Topeka.

## EMERSON-HARRIS.

Waldo Emerson, of Anadarko, Oklahoma, and Miss Bertha Harris, of this city, were united in the holy bonds of matrimony Wednesday evening, April 2, 1913, at the home of the bride's parents, on Stone street. Only the relatives and close friends of the contracting parties were present to witness the ceremony, which was performed by Rev. G. W. Alford, of Hutchinson, formerly pastor of the Christian church here. The ring ceremony was used and was made very impressive to the invited guests as well as to those whose lives and destinies were being united.

Promptly at 7:30 Miss Edith Harris, sister of the bride, took her place at the piano and as the strains of the wedding march were being played, the wedding party, accompanied by Miss Mary Omer of this city, and Lloyd Mosbarger, of Pawnee Rock, cousin of the bride, entered the parlor where the nuptial knot was tied, after which the guests were permitted to bestow upon them their congratulations and wishes for a happy and prosperous career in their new relation. A delicious repast was served and the happy couple departed for Hutchinson where they will visit a few days, returning here the first of the week.

Mrs. Emerson is the younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Harris, of this city. She is a bright and accomplished young lady who has, by her sunny disposition and hospitable nature, won a place in the hearts of all with whom acquaintance is made. She is a graduate of the Great Bend high school and has held positions of responsibility with different business houses of the city. She is indeed deserving of all the good things in life that the future can bring to her.

Mr. Emerson is a young man of unquestionable honor and integrity. He is a prominent farmer, living near Anadarko, Okla., and one who is making good. He is a former resident of Great Bend and has many friends here. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson will make their home on their farm about five miles from Anadarko. The kind regards of the Democrat and their many Great Bend friends, and good wishes for their future happiness go with them to their home in another state.

## MARRIAGE LICNSSES.

Licenses to wed were issued since last publication to the following: E. E. Shattuck, age 22, Hoisington, and Teresa Butler, age 21, Hoisington; Waldo Emerson, age 34, Anadarko, Okla., and Bertha Harris, age 21, Great Bend; T. H. Whitlock, age 29, Great Bend; and Dora Hunter, age 25, Great Bend; Wm. M. Fleming, age 25, Great Bend, and Ruby DuRaine, age 20, Great Bend.

Miss Valeria Kell of Pawnee Rock is visiting her sister, Mrs. C. E. Morrison.

## CITY ELECTION.

The first election under the commission form of government in Great Bend is now a matter of history.

D. C. Luse was chosen mayor, L. P. Aber and C. L. Moses for commissioners, all by healthy majorities. J. E. McMullen, Dr. Kendall and S. A. Newcombe were elected as members of the school board. The following is the vote by wards, as it has been filed with the city clerk:

For Mayor	1	2	3	4	T
D. C. Luse	55	117	173	114	459
Nick Smith	38	122	105	46	311
Tobias McGill	7	1	4	9	21
Luse's majority	148				
For Commissioner 2 Year Term					
L. P. Aber	83	211	251	146	691
S. G. Odell	7	3	7	8	25
For Commissioner 3 Year Term					
L. D. Lewis	37	67	109	88	301
C. L. Moses	53	155	135	136	481
C. P. True				5	13
Moses majority	100				

For Treasurer of School Board  
C. R. Aldrich 83 190 211 128 611

Members of School Board					
Morrison	38	136	127	53	379
Kendall	55	126	147	93	423
Gwinn	15	100	88	39	256
McMullen	61	126	197	100	486
Newcombe	65	116	158	91	421

Socialist candidates, 4 votes in Second and 12 in the Third.

The only fight in this election was over candidates for mayor and for the 3-year commissioner of finance. Luse, who was elected for mayor, and Dr. Lewis, who was defeated for commissioner, being the nominees of the so-called citizens mass convention and Smith and Moses, the opposition candidates, having been placed in nomination by their friends. Very few people had at any time entertained the idea that Luse would be defeated owing to the fact that he is a man of unquestioned ability and much experience in city government, which, together with the fact that he was the almost unanimous choice of the citizens convention, made it very improbable that he would fail of election. The fact that the public made a good guess in this matter is well substantiated by the returns.

The contest over commissioner of finance really occupied the center of the stage during the city campaign. Dr. Lewis, the convention candidate, and one of the most popular business men of the town, looked like a winner in the early stages of the game, but failed to show the required strength to land the position. C. L. Moses, who was elected, is recognized as being one of the shrewdest financiers of the state, and is a man with whom the affairs of the city are safe. We believe the city of Great Bend can now claim the distinction of being the only institution of any kind in the state able to hire "Boss Moses," as he is affectionately called by his friends, to become a paid employee.

The change of administration will be the cause of some change in the appointive officers. Chief of Police Wennergren will retire, as may some of the other employees. There are several aspirants for the position as marshal but it is too early to be able to give any reliable information as to the new list of employees.

As a whole, the result of the election was satisfactory and the line-up seems to indicate a prosperous, conservative administration.

## CAR OF KANSAS FLOUR DONATED TO RELIEF FUND.

Hutchinson and Vicinity Show Generosity.

When the sum raised by Hutchinson, Reno county and the section tributary, was totaled up last evening, it was found that \$831 in money had been subscribed. Included in this is the value of the flour received from Turon.

The sum will be sufficient to send a 40,000 pound car of flour to the flood victims from that city. This flour will be transported by one of the railroads free of charge to St. Louis or Chicago and thence sent on to Governor Cox of Ohio for distribution among the afflicted cities.

The response by local and neighboring people has been prompt and generous. They have shown that the bond of sympathy that exists between the west and east is real and genuine.

F. E. Baer, Gus Wurm and Pete Thul were here from Ellinwood Wednesday looking after business matters and visiting with friends.

## LINDAS WON IN LARNED.

Larned, Kas., April 1.—The Citizens ticket, headed by Ed S. Lindas for mayor, was elected without opposition. Two contests for councilman resulted in the election of D. A. Ely, independent, in the First Ward, and Chas. Evans, Citizens, in the Fourth. The other officers elected are: Mrs. B. Lee Victor, city treasurer; George R. Warren, police judge; W. W. Charles, treasurer board of education; H. T. Taylor, Dr. C. H. Ewing and A. B. Lovett, members of the city school board, and Mark Krouche and H. M. Reed as councilmen in the Second and Third wards respectively. There was no contest of any kind except for councilmen in the First and Fourth wards, and no public issue at stake.

## WEATHER REPORT.

Following is a record of meteorological observations taken by the undersigned as a co-operative observer of the Weather Bureau of the U. S. Department of Agriculture during the week ending March 30, 1913, at Great Bend.

Date	Precipitation	Character of day
24	.....	Cloudy
25	.....	Cloudy
26	.....	Cloudy
27	.....	Clear
28	.....	Clear
29	.....	Cloudy
30	.....	Clear
Total Precipitation	0.05	
Elevation above sea level, ft.	1836.8	
Latitude, degrees	38.22	
Longitude, degrees	98.45	
Central Time.		

ISAAC PRITCHARD,  
Co-operative Observer.

## CONCERNING LONGEVITY OF KANSANS.

Kansas citizens are fairly long lived, according to the figures compiled by W. J. V. Deacon, registrar of the state vital statistics department. The department has been in operation only a little more than a year now, and of the 17,000 deaths during the first year the average age at death was 43.3 years. The death rate in Kansas is 10.16 per thousand, about seven points below the death rates of all the eastern states and one of the three lowest rates of the country.

"I have been asked many times about the length of life in Kansas, so I took all the deaths in the state during the past year and found that the average age at death was 43.3 years," said Mr. Deacon, in discussing the figures he had been working on. "If we should omit from the total the 2,804 deaths of children less than one year old, it would raise the average length of life of the others to 51.7 years. If we also omit from the totals the death of children less than five years of age, totalling 3,935, it would raise the average life of the Kansas citizens to 55.9 years. It might be proper to exclude from this list the children under one year and that would make the average age of the Kansas a little over fifty years."

"Couple these figures with the Kansas death rate of 10.16 per thousand it will be seen that Kansas is an unusually healthy state, its climate, working conditions and natural sanitation, with the campaigns of education in habits of life and the proper preparation of foods conducted by the board of health and the schools of the state, all tend to a long and happy life. As the state grows older and more people put into effect in their homes the teachings of the schools and the health bulletins and working conditions are improved, more and more the average Kansas will live to the full three-score years and even more."

"The Kansas health figures really make a wonderful showing for the state. The death rate is among the three lowest of the states of the country and with the present interest taken in health and sanitation, the death rate ought to show material reductions each year, and the average span of life ought to be increased."

Clyde Allphin and wife are now at home in their handsome new home recently completed on Broadway.

Misses Anna and Agnes Brandt are home from Manhattan where they have been attending college.

J. W. Hendricks was in from Helzer Saturday.

Frank Keenan and Gene McCabe of Seward were among the visitors in from the south side Saturday.

## STOLE THEIR SMOKES

And As A Result Five Young Men Are In Trouble.

Three young men are in jail here and two more of the gang have been located and will be placed under arrest during the next few days, charged with stealing various sundry articles from the Missouri Pacific railroad company at Hoisington. One of the boys, Harry Fitzgerald, of Hoisington, was placed under arrest and lodged in jail a few days ago. Two more, L. E. Craddock and Robt. Karney, were captured at Oklahoma City by officers there and were brought back to this county by Sheriff Brown Wednesday morning. The other two members of the crowd, Clinton Allen Turner and Harry Jenkins, have been located and will be placed under arrest shortly. Fitzgerald and Craddock are Hoisington boys while the other three belong in Council Grove, but have been employed in Hoisington a part of the time lately. Their ages range from 19 to 21 years.

Cigarettes were the downfall of these young men, having broken the seals of cars in transit in the Hoisington yards and appropriated therefrom hundreds of thousands of the little "coffin nails" that have started many a bright boy on the road that leads to the penitentiary, a trip which the five will undoubtedly take. And they were choicy as to the quality of the goods they smoked, too. At one time, some weeks ago, they broke into a car in the Hoisington yards and stole a box containing 331 pounds of "Pinhead" cigarettes, consigned from Virginia to Shanghai, China, but after smoking a few of these they found they were not to their liking and the case was later found where it had been left along the railroad right-of-way.

"Fatima" cigarettes were their favorites and they had stolen something like 350,000 of this brand, over 250,000 of which have been found where they had hidden them and at Hoisington, and when Karney and Craddock were captured at Oklahoma City they had over \$200 worth of these in their possession.

Another charge which the officers have against the same crowd is that of stealing a barrel of beer from the Pacific, and this was not only taken while in transit but while the train was on the move. This robbery occurred in December and their method was such that showed that it was not committed on the spur of the moment but was carefully planned beforehand. A through freight was passing through Hoisington late in the night, and on the train were some cars of Anheuser-Busch beer. Two of the members of the gang boarded the train while in the Hoisington yards and rode it out of town. West of Hoisington, near Boyd, there is a steep hill that a heavy train must climb very slowly. While the train was going up this hill the fellows who were riding one of the beer cars broke the car seal and opening the car door, dropped off a barrel of beer. The rest of the gang followed the train in a surry, picked up the beer and their comrades and proceeded back to town, where it is presumed they enjoyed a feast of beer interspersed with Fatima cigarettes.

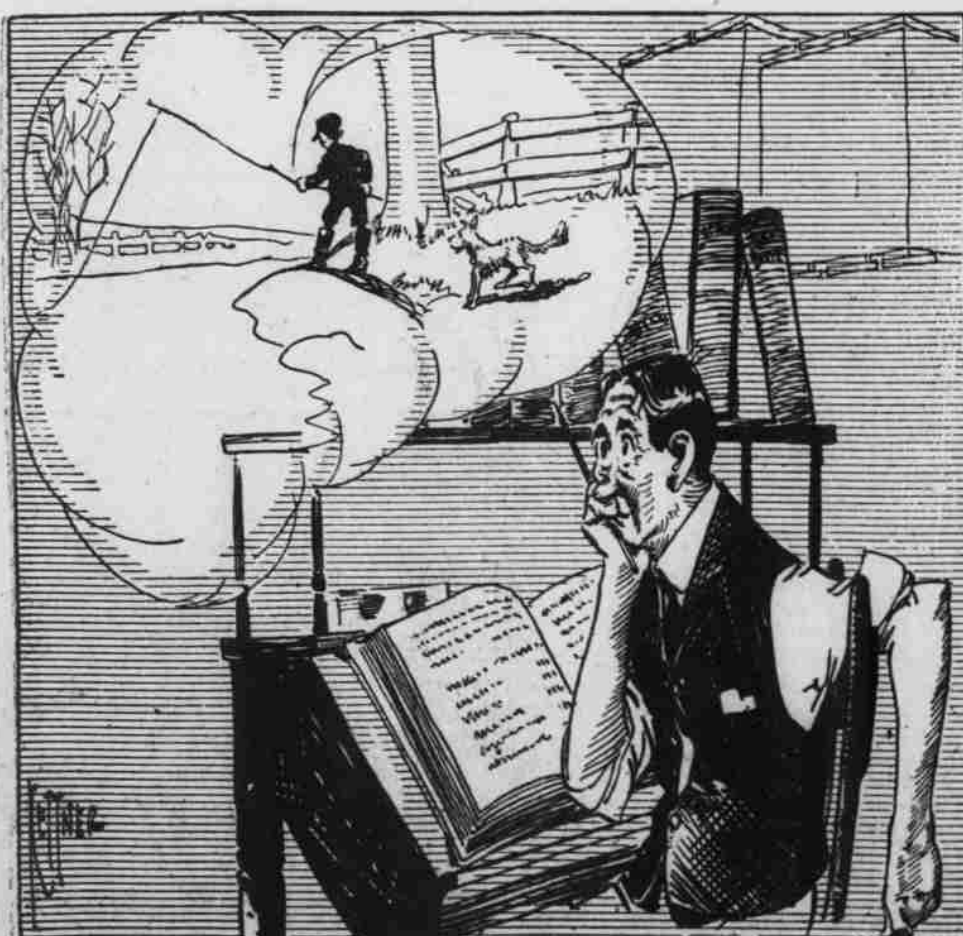
County Attorney Russell states that he has ample evidence already in his possession to convict the entire bunch, and we understand that at least part of them will plead guilty when their case comes to trial, and it is probable that all will be guests at the Hutchinson reformatory or the state penitentiary for several years to come. Even if nothing had been stolen the fact of their breaking the car seals would be enough to convict, and their is an abundance of evidence whether they fight the case or not.

Score another bunch of victims for the cigarette. Five more homes are made sorrowful and five more men's lives wrecked on account of a habit probably started because it looked smart.

Mrs. Harry Shore and son, of North Stafford county, were here Wednesday on a business trip and for a visit with friends. They report crop prospects as good out that way, but say that a good rain is going to be needed soon.

Lees Langford was in from Helzer Saturday with an auto load of fair maidens from his home village.

## SPRING FEVER



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