

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

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NO. 6

TURKEY SOLD FOR \$26.50

Paris, Mo., Dec. 20.—A mammoth bronze turkey, weighing twenty-six and one-half pounds, raised by Mrs. Dave Bryan, who resides south of Paris, was shipped to the editor of an agricultural paper published at Springfield, Mo., last week and sold for a dollar a pound, bringing \$26.50.

So far as known, this is the highest price ever paid for a turkey. The fowl was shipped in response to an advertisement appearing in the journal calling for the largest turkey in the country.

A California turkey, which died en route, weighed more, but was of inferior quality, and Monroe county won the honor, according to a letter received by Mrs. Bryan.

The Message is told of a bigger Monroe county turkey than the above. It was raised by J. S. Weaver. He lives so near the Audrain line that really we ought to claim him for this county. Mr. Weaver tells us out of his own mouth that he sold a big gobble last week to a Santa Fe merchant that weighed even 38 pounds. That's a long way ahead of Paris. C. C. Lucas, another Santa Fe citizen, sold a turkey a few days since that weighed 36 pounds. Paris, you will have to come again.

Three Noted Odd Fellows.

The following story is going the rounds of the metropolitan press of Missouri:

Willis Hulen of Centralia, not only has the honor of being past grand of the Odd Fellows Lodge, but also has the distinction of having two sons who are past grands and another son who is now noble grand.

Mr. Hulen was noble grand of the Centralia Lodge several years ago; his oldest son, Albert, was noble grand of the Mexico lodge about ten years ago, and his next son, Kennan, also was noble grand of the Mexico lodge.

Vaughn, the third son, is now noble grand of the Centralia lodge, and the youngest son, Price, is a member of that lodge.

Audrain county for the present year led the State in the production of oats. The total yield for the county was 1,135,650 bushels.

A woman's suffrage club might not be out of order in Mexico. Your "rights" are coming, ladies, just as well get ready for them.

The Missouri College of Agriculture has recently sold a yearling son of Carlotta Pontiac to go to Old Mexico. The purchaser is the owner of a large dairy herd of 800 cows. Carlotta Pontiac is a Holstein cow, bred and owned by the College of Agriculture. During the past year she has produced 93 barrels of milk containing 708 lbs. of fat, which is equivalent to 827 pounds of butter.

S. J. Bishop and family, of near Rush Hill, have moved to the Lawder farm, east of this city. They will now get their Message at Mexico.

T. J. Wilson and wife went to Kansas City Monday to be the guests of their daughter, Mrs. Florence Walton, during the holidays and for several weeks following. Mr. Walton is clerk at the Rock Island Depot, at Kansas City.

SOME INTERVIEWS.

Fred Lehnen's Visit — James Slaughter in Kansas — Dr. Tralle's Lecture.

Fred Lehnen: I used to farm out northwest of Wellsville but I live in Wellsville now. I came around by Mexico on a return visit to my brother-in-law, Sam Torreyson, near Rush Hill. Another brother-in-law of mine, James Wilkins, who has been in business at Bowling Green for several years, has sold out there and will move back to Laddonia in February. None of us like to get far away from good old Audrain county.

J. E. Hodge: I live near Rush Hill. I had a field of 25 acres of corn this last season that yielded on an average of near 60 bushels to the acre. That was going some, don't you think?

Clarence Harvey: I'm out southeast from Rush Hill. All my corn in but three days' gathering. I'm ready for cold weather, but hope this is to be one winter when we shall have but little cold weather.

Homer Dillard: I live down on Cuivre. Fine weather, Mr. Editor. Finest autumn days I ever saw. How's the farm? All right. We're all ready for Old Santa's visit down our way.

F. G. Bertels: I farm out southwest of Laddonia. Thru gathering corn, you bet. I ought to be able to enjoy Christmas and New Year's, eh?

James F. Slaughter: I go this week to Garden City, Kansas, to spend a few days with my brother, John F. Slaughter. John is in the dairy business at Garden City and is doing well.

Willie Bradley: And is this John Beal? Why, my dear sir, I'm truly glad to see you again. We haven't met before in 25 years. I've been about the country some since then. I'm a traveling man now and my headquarters are in New Orleans. You're the first man I ever worked for. Ed. Rodman, now of Kansas City, and I "stuck" type for you when you and J. N. Cross established the Laddonia Herald in 1884. And you are now publishing a paper, the Message, in this good town of Mexico? I'm now visiting old friends here, and I'm glad to meet you among them.

Will Wilkins: I'm a busy man every day and hour—selling shoes thru the day, and I think I may truly say I attend "all the ordinances of the church." But I can't get around as I would like to all of Dr. Tralle's lectures and his Sunday school institute held every Thursday night. By the way, Tralle's lectures on Psychology are the finest thing in that line I ever heard. You ought to go and taste and see.

G. E. Maddox: I live three miles west of Santa Fe. You might say that my wife, Mrs. Ida Maddox, raised and sold, during the past two years, 1500 pounds of turkeys which brought her \$240, besides keeping seven hens for her own use. She wants to hear from the one who can beat it.

Sam G. Emmons: I have bought A. G. Smith's Fix It shop. I'm going to give Mexico a hospital at last—for repairing furniture, etc., and that's no joke. I expect to make a house to house canvass of the town monthly looking for "patients."

R. F. Hopkins: I have a farm up 10 miles north of St. Joseph. I'm here to visit Mexico relatives and friends. I'm well pleased with my new location at St. Joseph. Stocking up my place and getting along fine.

Mason Creasey: Mr. Editor, tell 'em I'm rejoicing. Just received by express from relatives at Wortham, Texas, a big fat gobble of the Woodrow Wilson variety. Yum, yum, but I'll put in a day at meal time this Christmas.

FROM BEAVER DAM.

Big Prize Crops in The "Valley" — Object Lessons in The Schools.

Beaver Dam, Mo., Dec. 23.—Mr. Shout, living on the north bounds of the Valley, received second prize of \$10.00 for delivering poultry to Mexico merchants recently. Now it looks to us that at our County Fair the pumpkin that would make the most pies, the largest and most perfect ears of corn, fruits of various kinds, even the tallest timothy grown in the county, year 1912—we noticed at Mexico Southern Bank from its card that all was the production of the Valley. Who says no when we say, hurrah.

Agriculture may be taught in our common schools with some degree of success, yet many of our teachers prefer giving object lessons that children often grow weary of when they are confined to one or two special branches of study. One of our school teachers claims that object lessons furnish the best discipline for the mind. That by the ordinary methods of teaching pupils receive very little mental discipline. But let a child use his senses in observing interesting objects, and it will soon be noticed that his natural intellect is developing itself. Indeed you might as well deprive a plant of light or heat of the sun and expect it to grow as to endeavor to impart good mental discipline to a child without the use or presence of objects.

You ask us, Do we agree? Yes, we believe object lessons are intended to lead the child in the way nature intended and the object method should be used in all our common schools.

How about that big mule mentioned in the Ruralist owned by E. J. Stewart of Battlefield, Mo., that is 5 years old and 19 hands high, weight 1,700 pounds, valued at \$1,000? That is all right for Missouri but pretty tough on Audrain county, boasted the banner county in the state on big mules. We wonder, boys, if we couldn't muster up one somewhere along the Valley that would measure up to twenty hands and weigh 2,000 pounds?

Farmers enjoy getting good prices for all live stock they have to market, whether they pay a high or low price for their living or for what they consume. They are then prosperous and ahead, because the large majority have more to sell than they consume.

Wage earners down here get from \$25 to \$35 per month, higher than ever before since we have known the Valley, and help scarce; many farmers are not thru with their corn gathering, because of this scarcity of help. There is perhaps a greater demand for farm products than ever before and of course our farmers are successful and are prosperous and our help, or wage earners, should be content and as happy as the happiest of those in the Valley.

Wm. Goodson near Benton City was gift to a friend at Clarence,

SHIPPED TRAIN OF BIG MULES

Fulton, Mo., Dec. 20.—A train of more than twenty stock cars left McCreedie, north of Fulton, today with the first big shipment of fat mules from Callaway county.

There were 543 cotton mules that have been sold to East St. Louis firms by Kingdom feeders at an average price of more than \$200. The activity in buying began yesterday when representatives of Sparks Bros., Maxwell Crouch & Guyton and Harrington of East St. Louis appeared in North Callaway, the home of the big feeders.

The rapidity with which the first load was gathered showed that the buyers and sellers had little trouble over prices. It also dissipates the many rumors before election of drops in prices in the event of a Democratic victory.

About 1,000 more mules are on feed in Callaway county and it is believed the activities in trading will continue for some time. It is probable that some of those who sold this week will buy more mules for the fattening process.

The recent demand of South Carolina buyers on the St. Louis market is believed to have stimulated the activities in Missouri mule counties.

Message Friends.

The following have subscribed or renewed for the Message since our last report:

Thad Boulware.
S. V. Stone.
G. C. Valentine.
Frank Steward.
G. P. Gregory.
J. E. Snook.
C. E. Casper.
M. T. Pierce.
Wm. Hesterburg.
R. W. Goodell.
Billie Weaver.
Jos. Steinman.
B. W. Hale.
C. D. Holbrook.
Irvin Watts.
Gieseker Bros.
Lena Hopkins.
F. F. Bush.
F. M. Shoup.
Wm. Frazier.
Barton Iman.
S. J. Bishop.
T. A. Mosley.
Mrs. Molly Solomon.
Arthur Wright.
H. A. Doyle.
Mrs. Mary Slaughter.
F. G. Bertels.
Clarence Harvey.
J. E. Hodge.
F. S. Skelly.
Mrs. Elizabeth Stockwell.
Homer Dillard.

Ralph S. Lewton, of near Santa Fe, writes us this note: Please change my address for the Message to Laddonia, Mo., R. F. D. 4, as I am moving this week and do not wish to miss a single copy.

Ed. Summers and daughter, Miss Flora, of Prosser, Neb., have returned home after a visit to Mr. Summers' brothers at Laddonia, John and Harvey Summers, and to the family of Tobe Teague in Mexico.

Cecil Chambliss, of this city, a grandson of W. J. Rixey here, is at Ocala, Fla., and orders the Message to come to his address. Cecil is engaged with a big lumber firm at Ocala.

James Quinlan, Jr., and Fred Jacobi, who are attending St. Mary's College, at St. Marys, Kan., arrived here last week to spend the holidays with their parents in this county.

SPECIAL MENTION.

Three Weddings—Fire Co. Gets Donation—Dr. La Rue Dead.

The Waters Pierce Oil Co. gave the Mexico Fire Co. \$50 in appreciation of the firemen's efforts to save the three big oil tanks in the recent big fire of oil near the Ice Plant.

Mr. Fred Husman, living near Farber, and Miss Neva Ball, were married at the bride's home at Hereford, Texas, last Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Husman will return to this county January 1st, and will live on a farm north of Farber. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Ball, of Vandalia. Our best wishes extended them.

The wife of Noel Edwards, the latter being a son of J. F. Edwards of near Gant, has been very ill lately at her home in Columbia.

Rev. W. H. Hook of this city had an invitation last week to attend a "Roll Call" of Miriam I. O. O. F. Lodge, at Bethany, Mo., in Harrison county. Bro. Hook is a member of Miriam Lodge and was pastor of the Christian church at Bethany four or five years.

Mr. Edward Hildebrand and Miss Lula Duffin, both of Benton City neighborhood, were married in Mexico the 18th inst., Rev. A. A. Wallace officiating. It's a splendid young couple and the Message wishes them long life and happiness.

Mr. Claude Powell of this city and Miss Mayetta Foster were married one day last week at the bride's home in Nevada, Mo. The couple spent a few days at Muskogee, Okla., as a honeymoon visit, afterwards returning to this city to reside. The bride is a niece of Mrs. B. A. Powell of Mexico.

Dr. R. J. LaRue, 75 years old, a former citizen of Mexico, died a few days ago at Gulf View Hotel, Cortez, Fla. He was a cousin of I. M. Greer and Rev. J. D. Greer of this city.

Prize Winning Poultry.

The Poultry Show at Wellsville a few days ago was a great success. Audrain county people won some fine prizes as follows:

Barred Rocks: L. C. Kirk, Vandalia, 1st, 2nd and 3rd pullet; 1st and 3rd cockerel; 3rd cock, 1st pen.

J. T. Beatty, Thompson, 1st cock, 2nd cockerel, 2nd pen.

S. C. Buff Leghorn: Ed. Sanbothe, Martinsburg, 1st pullet. S. C. Hamburgs: Ed. Sanbothe, Martinsburg, 1st pullet, 1st cockerel.

S. C. Buff Orpingtons: J. A. Parker, Laddonia, 1st and 2nd pullet.

Mottled Anconas: Jos. Meyerpeter, Martinsburg, 1st cockerel, 1st and 2nd pullet.

I. R. Ducks: M. D. Porter, Vandalia, 1st, 2nd and 3rd pair.

The Laddonia Herald has the following mention regarding a brother of the Message editor: Chas. W. Beal, of Broken Bow, Neb., son of W. H. Beal of this place, was elected Prosecuting Attorney of his home county at the recent election. Charlie is a Democrat but is in a strong Republican county. His friends here will be glad to hear of his success.

Lawrence Arnold, attending college at Lawrenceville, N. J., is in this city on a visit to relatives.

A Suggestion.

"In unity there is strength." This fact was again demonstrated in our last election regarding the single tax amendment. The time and energy spent in the defeat of this measure will result in good, other than the mere defeat of this proposed amendment. It brought to the knowledge of the farmer the defects of raising revenue by our State. The most prominent defect as far as landowners are concerned is the double taxation, under which the land and the mortgage secured by this land are both taxed (prorata) to the full amount. For instance, a man has \$4,000. He buys a farm and is to pay \$8,000 for it. He has to mortgage his farm to the man that loans to him the remaining \$4,000, and pays interest on half of his farm, but the State taxes him for all the land the farm contains and the mortgage holder also is taxed to the full amount of his mortgage. Somebody pays taxes on something he does not own, and this somebody is the farmer. Now the suggestion: Exempt all mortgages from taxation, provided it is on farm land, and for a low rate of interest, this rate to be fixed by law, and the reduction to equal, as near as possible, the taxes payable on land.

O. F. HAFNER,
Rush Hill, Mo.

Mrs. John Stevenson, now of Harrisburg, Mo., wishes to hear of her husband who last fall, was traveling in this section, peddling a cleansing preparation called "Knox Spots", says the Surgeon General. He is nearly 60 years of age, and a 15-year-old boy is with him. They had an open buggy and a sorrel horse.

Chariton county papers are reporting an immense crop of pecans this year. The Brunswicker says the farmers in that vicinity cashed \$2,100 worth of checks in one bank there on a recent Saturday. Many farmers have sold as much as \$1,000 worth each. If you are an Audrain county farmer why don't you plant a few pecan trees? Never plant a tree without it will bear something besides leaves—let it be either nuts or fruit of some kind. Plant your tree and then take care of it; feed it with manure or mulch as much as required and never allow it to go thirsty for a drink. If you want to raise a tree you must care for it, just the same as you must in raising a garden or growing a field of corn.

W. Smith Jones, near Holliday, Monroe county, has a catalpa plantation about ready for the ax. There are 3,000 of the trees, some of them are as big as a telephone post while others are not yet large enough for use. "Every farmer should devote an acre to this best of all post timber," says Mr. Jones. "And if he will set aside ten acres of good land to it he will realize a big profit in 12 or 15 years. The yearling plants cost \$6 a thousand and 1,600 can be grown to the acre. At maturity there would be at least 3,000 posts to the acre, worth by that time 25¢ a post, a total of \$750 an acre. After cutting the timber another crop can be grown from the same old roots in a very short time. The hardy, or catalpa speciosa, is the sort to grow."

Rev. W. A. Shullenberger of this city will assist in a revival meeting at the Christian church at Perry, beginning next week.

Y. M. C. A. IS ORGANIZED

The Juniors of McMillan High School entertained the student body and faculty last Friday afternoon with a Christmas tree and literary program. The gymnasium, where the exercises were held, was beautifully decorated in appropriate colors. A herald was sent to the different classrooms who invited the students to partake of the hospitality of the Juniors. The program was opened by an address of welcome by the Junior President, George Irion. Leonard Coatsworth made a spirited oration against the "crystallized bureaucracy" of the Faculty. Anna Caldwell gave a humorous oration on "Fashions," and Mabel Threlkeld, carrying a suffragette banner, advocated "woman's rights" with true suffragette vigor. The debate also was very humorous. The question was, Resolved that the Jesse tribe should be forced to pay the Single Tax or be exiled from the country. The affirmative was represented by Morris Dry, Mildred Pearl, Percie Fuhrer and Alma Shoush. The "Jesse Tribe", represented by Morris Rodas and Louis Jesse, ably espoused their own cause.

The last number on the program was a travesty on "Macbeth" by the following: Macbeth, Hubert Warden; Banquo, John Creigh; King Duncan, Oscar Haskell; Three Witches, Frances Pearl, Lucile Kunkel, LeRoy Warden; Herald, Halley Bradford.

After the program Santa Claus emerged from the chimney and distributed his presents. The Freshmen, who were seated in the balcony, received their presents from a baby carriage, which ran on a track just outside the balcony.

A temporary Y. M. C. A. organization was formed with a membership of 18. The following officers were elected: Ray Miller president; Orlando Worrell, Vice Pres.; Calvin Tilton, Sec'y.; Charles Guthrie, Treas.; Russel Moore, Sergeant; Orlando Worrell was elected delegate to the Y. M. C. A. convention at Sedalia, Dec. 27, 28 and 29. Russel Moore was appointed alternate.

A Word From Oklahoma.

Frederick, Okla., Dec. 18, 1912. Mr. John Beal: You will find inclosed postoffice order for one dollar for your paper for another year. Our county has been blessed with bountiful crops of all kinds this year. Our little city, Frederick, has three gins which have already ginned over 8,500 bales of cotton this fall and lots of cotton still coming in. Tillmon county is the banner county of Oklahoma.

Mrs. Emma Byrns.

The anti-profanity league recently launched by the Catholic Church is making gratifying headway. Its object is to discourage the use of rough language and to impress young men and boys with the fact that it is neither smart nor gentlemanly to use billingsgate. There ought to be such an organization in every community.

Mexico Savings Bank
Capital Stock, \$150,000.00
43rd Year in Business.
W. W. FRY, President.
SAM LOCKE, Cashier.