

THE COURIER

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BUSINESS CIRCLES

The contrast in the general tone of business as compared to that of several weeks since is noticeable in a marked degree. The rains which have prevailed throughout the west have brought about a renewed feeling of confidence exceedingly encouraging at this time. To say that things looked remarkably bad for a time is putting it mildly. Every crop except corn had suffered materially and the long continued drought was beginning to have its effect on that cereal. A failure of the corn crop would have been disastrous in the extreme. Merchants throughout the state realized this and consequently the fear of damage to that crop had a depressing effect on business. The abundant rains have dissipated all apprehensions of that kind for some time to come and the warm cloudy weather has materially aided its growth. With three weeks more of such weather as has prevailed here recently corn will be well up, shading the ground from the sun's rays and retaining the moisture.

Shortage of the wheat crop has raised the price of that cereal and there is every reason to suppose that it will remain firm at a reasonably good figure.

Business in most lines has kept up fairly well for this season of the year. There are few large orders and very few reports of new concerns starting in business. As a matter of fact, jobbers and retailers alike are resigned to the condition of affairs.

The summer season is now here and little change in the situation may be expected before fall. In all staple lines business is holding its own, and while close buying and small orders is the rule, the total foots up to quite a satisfactory amount. Dealers in the necessities of life are doing a fair amount of business, but those selling high class goods and articles of luxury continue to feel the stress of the times. This is a very natural condition.

ALBERT ANDRIANO.



THE OBSERVATORY

If some question that had nineteen different sides to it should come up one of these days, we would bet everything that we could get our hands on that the *State Journal* would get on all sides of it at once. Our contemporary is remarkably agile in feats of this kind. When the Herron flopped its wings in this city last week and Governor Crouse promptly clipped them, the *Journal* was on the side of the Herron and the governor. It was also on the side of the chancellor of the university. It was on everybody's side. Wednesday morning our contemporary started out to make an apology for its timidity and ended by making a worse job of it than it was before. There are some curious things about the "policy" of the *Journal*.

There continues to be talk of nominating Crouse for governor. Stronger things have happened.

Men in charge of insane asylums seem to develop brutal instincts. There is no question that Eugene Montgomery was inhumanly treated at the state hospital for the insane in this city, and if other reports that are current on the streets are to be believed, there has been a good deal of serious maltreatment of patients at the asylum in recent years. The public would undoubtedly like to see the matter fully ventilated. It is fully as important to know whether patients are abused as to know some other facts to ascertain which there was a great and much heralded investigation recently.

A few more Dave Rowes and there would not be any interest in base ball left. Honest sport suffers greatly from blacklegs like Rowe.

THE COURIER has not been at any time particularly enthusiastic in praise of Mayor Weir; but it feels that some acknowledgment is due His Honor for his attempt to abate the practice of throwing waste paper and garbage into the street. May be there is some good in Weir after all.

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