

INMAN NEWS

At the annual meeting of the township board the same levies as last year were made.

A. M. Hopkins, living south of Inman, is confined to his home on account of illness.

Lewis Kopecky returned Saturday from Omaha where he had been in attendance at the state convention of the Farmers Union.

The Royal Neighbors held installation of officers last Monday evening. The following officers were installed: Earl Miller, Noble Grand; Art Renner, Vice Grand; A. N. Butler, Treasurer; R. R. Gray, District Deputy. Grand Marshal, of Page, acted as installing officer.

W. H. Kestenholtz, cream buyer for Swift & Co., is seriously ill at his home in Inman. He suffered a partial stroke last Friday evening. His condition is reported some better at this writing. His daughter, Mrs. Evan Stover, of Central City, arrived Sunday to assist in caring for her father.

An over-heated stove caused small damage to the roof of the Ed Sattler residence last Friday night. The fire was discovered about 11 o'clock, just after the family had gone to bed. Bob Conard, a neighbor, was called and after cutting a hole through the roof, the fire was extinguished. Mr. Sattler is in the hospital at Council Bluffs.

EMMET ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. Vern Beckwith were week-end visitors at the G. A. Seger home.

The new wall paper, books and seed catalogs remind us that Spring is nigh.

Bessie Cleary spent the week-end at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mat Cleary.

Lowell Johnson was an over Sunday visitor at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Johnson.

Harold Seger was quite ill with the "flu" a few days last week. He was unable to write at the teacher's examination given Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Beckwith and family; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Beckwith and daughter; Mr. and Mrs. V. Beckwith and Miss Minnie Seger were Sunday dinner guests at the Fred Beckwith home. Mr. and Mrs. Leon Beckwith were absent because of the bad roads.

Emmet folks were very sorry to hear of the sudden death of Ralph H. Keiser, of Cody, Nebraska. The Keiser family formerly lived on a farm northwest of Emmet and Mr. Keiser was well known and liked in this vicinity. Emmet folks extend their sympathy to the Keiser family.

The weather seems to insist upon remaining many degrees below zero. Everyone thinks he has the hardest job keeping warm. The country school teachers are protesting somewhat loudly and are all quite agreed that their job is the most difficult, but luckily no one has frozen yet and there are still hopes that the weather man will soon get over his grouch.

Mrs. Tony Lech came up from Omaha a week ago Saturday to visit relatives and friends. She visited at the homes of her sisters, Mrs. Frank Osborne and family and Mrs. Wallace Weller and husband. Tuesday Mrs. Weller brought her to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Johnson, southwest of Emmet, where she visited until Thursday. She returned to her home by train, Friday morning. Mr. Lech remained in Omaha to keep the home fires burning, which is very necessary these cold days.

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"The Virginian"

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday

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SCREEN CLASSIC

MAKING HISTORY

"All-talking," the new medium of the silver screen, is proving its tremendous power as an added quality for entertainment at the Royal Theatre.

"The Virginian" is just the type of picture for which "all-talking" is most admirably suited. An American classic of the pioneering days in Wyoming, this epic theme of red-blooded drama and beautiful romance is so stupendous, so vast in its great outdoors scope, that "all-talking" alone can do it full justice.

Photographed and "miked" in the open spaces of the Western cattle country, the film presents to the eye and ear of the beholder every living detail of this thrilling story. You hear the bellowing of a thousand head of cattle, you hear the shouts of the cowboys as they drive the stampeding herd through the swift flowing current of a river, you hear the cowboys around the crackling camp-fire chanting their typical ditties, you hear the dance hall in full blast, you hear Gary Cooper, the hero, barking those immortal words "Ef you wanna call me that—SMILE!"

Cooper, in his first full-dialog role, is giving a wonderful performance. His handsome features and his rangy supple physique fit him into the character as though it were written for him. His charming Southern drawl as the Virginian is making many a feminine heart flutter.

Walter Huston, as Trampas, is the most convincing bad man seen and heard since "all-talking" revolutionized the movie show world. He plays the role with intense dramatic feeling. Richard Arlen as Steve, the wayward buddy of the Virginian, and Mary Brian as Molly Wood, the charming school teacher with whom the hero falls in love, are equally artistic in their portrayals.

At the Royal theatre Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

MRS. GLADYCE SIMMONS
WRITES FROM HAITI

Columbus discovered Haiti in 1492. He established forts, founded cities there (they can show you anchors in two or three cities which were Columbus') and proclaimed it Spain's colony. The Spaniards enslaved the natives with such cruelty that they were wiped out before many years had passed.

In the sixteenth century, English, French and Dutch sea rovers, later pirates, made the little island of Tortuga off Haiti's northern coast their headquarters. Captain Kidd's treasure is said to be still buried there. They made raids upon northern Haiti and drove out the Spaniards. In 1697, by treaty, Spain ceded the western part of the island to France. The French developed great plantations of cotton, sugar cane and coffee, importing slaves from Africa to work them. It became the wealthiest of all the French colonies. The city of Cape Haitien was known as the "Paris of America." Then came disorders arising from the French Revolution and Napoleonic wars, weakening the military strength of the French. The slaves, whose numbers had greatly increased, arose and wiped out the whites by horrible massacres. Though Napoleon sent over to subdue them, 60,000 troops under LeClerc, the husband of his sister Pauline, yellow fever and malaria helped the black men to be victorious and in 1804, Haiti was independent—the first state to be peopled and governed wholly by negroes.

It is said that Napoleon's failure to hold Haiti influenced him to sell Louisiana to the United States. He reasoned: "If I can't hold a little island like that against blacks, how can I hope to hold a vast territory like Louisiana against whites?"

Toussaint l'Ouverture, whom many writers have called the greatest negro of all time, Dessalines and Christophe, were the three greatest military leaders of the blacks. Toussaint was captured by a ruse and sent to France. Dessalines became the first black ruler. Christophe, the first President, later, crowning himself king. It was in building fortifications to use against the French, should they try to reconquer the lost colony, that about which we heard so much on the Christophe built the great "Citadel" boat and which I shall describe later.

From the time of Christophe on, practically every negro who could get arms and a sufficient following, proclaimed himself ruler. After making himself king or president, he and his followers robbed the treasury until a new revolution occurred. Then, they sailed for Jamaica with their loot and the new president probably repeated the process. Of twenty-four chief executives from the founding of the republic to 1903, fifteen were banished, eight died violent deaths, and only one survived to die naturally. After 1903, it became worse, until by 1911 the president remained in office less than a year. In 1915, the crisis was reached. The most bloody action of all occurred. France demanded that the United States do something or waive the Monroe Doctrine and allow her to, and the United States Marines landed. They found that chaos ruled; armed bands roved about, burned and murdered. Eighty-seven per cent of the people had contagious diseases; less than three per cent could read or write; the country was practically bankrupt. Order was restored, a president was elected who served eight years; then another president, who is now finishing his eighth year. In 1915, the Haitian Congress ratified a treaty with the United States, making a protectorate, since extended to 1936. Under the United States "advisoryship" law and order have been established, sanitation has been improved, yellow fever and small-pox wiped out, malaria reduced, roads built, harbors improved, an efficient police system installed, economic prosperity promoted and schools built.

And now as we wander about, we

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can realize that these people are just a hundred years out of slavery, and only fifteen years from a time when they were victims of constant warfare, murder and robbery.

Behind the beautiful Cathedral, whose scandal provoked this digression in our trip about Port au Prince, on the top of a hill, is one of the strong forts which the French built to protect their prosperous possession. Many of the old guns are still in position, pointing out to the sea. They look quite able to handle the enemy's ships of a hundred years ago though of course they would be useless in a modern battle. Many guns and cannon balls are buried in the dirt. We found up there milkweed eight feet high. It is no wonder that cane and cotton grow so well in such soil. The view was beautiful; white-caps rolling in over a sea of changing blue; green-clad mountains; at one's feet nestling white buildings of the city. When we visited it later, we found that we could have easily imagined ourselves back home in one of our own beet sugar factories, except for the black workers. We learned that these men earn on the average of twenty cents a day. Haitian sugar can be made much more cheaply than American and if we are to produce sugar on American farms, ours needs to be protected by a tariff.

Coming down from the fort, we stopped to take a picture of a native hut of woven bamboo with thatched roof. The woman occupant spied us, and before the shutter clicked, she was upon us with a bucket of eggs, urging us to buy. The Haitians are undoubtedly merchants.

The city is full of contrasts; ramshackle wooden houses, some boasting prosperous corrugated iron roofs; the imposing white buildings of recent construction, housing government activities. Crippled beggars about the Cathedral; the big hospital with staff of Haitian doctors and nurses, many black people gathered about on the lawn waiting for their turn at the free clinic. The squalid market place; a park with grandstand, palms, lawns, statue. Black people riding bourricues (burrows); expensive automobiles. Ragged, barefooted women carrying burdens on their heads; in the prosperous-looking convent, classes of neatly garbed black girls intently studying. The present Marine Corps barracks which in the old days was the President's palace, its thick walls designed for the protection of the President (if possible); the new President's Palace, designed by a Haitian architect for beauty.

And beautiful it is indeed—glistening white with its foreground of extensive lawn, and background of jungle-clad mountains. Above it floated the Haitian red and blue flag—the French Tricolor with the white torn out, symbolizing the removal of white dominion over the country. After presenting credentials, we were allowed to enter to pay our respects to the President. We were ushered up a beautiful white marble stairway, through a spacious hall, into a reception room luxuriously furnished with oriental rugs, elaborate draperies, richly upholstered overstuffed furniture. Unconsciously, we thought of our own White House, with its less

pretentious furnishings. President Borno, we found to be a fine looking man, of a brown complexion, no darker than that of many Americans, iron gray hair brushed back from an intelligent forehead, glasses, a small black mustache. French educated, as

are all of the elite of Haiti, he had the Frenchman's courtly manners. The President did much to give us hope of the possibilities of Haiti's future.

(Continued next week.)
GLADYCE W. SIMMONS.

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