

The Sioux County Journal.

[OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER.]

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L. J. Simmons, Editor.
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THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

The report of the expert accountant again illustrates that THE JOURNAL advocates measures that are in the interests of the taxpayers.

Chicago had a terrible fire on last Sunday afternoon. The loss is estimated at from one and a half to two million dollars. Nearly a thousand people were in one of the buildings when it caught fire but all escaped uninjured. No lives were lost by any means growing out of the conflagration.

Last week A. W. Crites qualified as the second judge of this, the 15th, judicial district, and assumed the duties of that office. His work for some time will quite likely be done chiefly in the east part of the district on account of his having been interested in cases in the western counties as an attorney and that fact would disqualify him as a judge in such cases.

A fire broke out in the Paxton hotel at Omaha at about 10 o'clock Sunday night. The firemen had a terrible fight with the flames and four of the men were seriously injured by falling walls. The loss is estimated at twenty-five thousand dollars, mostly on furniture and carpets. A number of employees of the hotel lost all their clothing except what they had on.

Gov. Boyd signed the eight hour bill and now laborers have to work but one-third of the time, so that the twenty-four hours is divided into three equal parts as follows: eight hours work, eight hours sleep and eight hours play. Now if a law could be made so that employers would have to work but eight hours, and a similar one for the farmers, a square deal all around would be had.

The reports from Chicago relative to the recent city election indicate that it is high time that the state of Illinois adopted the Australian ballot law. It is also stated that Cregier, who failed of reelection, will attempt to prevent the men elected from taking their seats and thus hold over. The element in Chicago must have heard of the scheme attempted in Sioux county on January 1, 1890.

The Chadron Journal gives the saloon keepers of that town notice that they must publish their notice of application for license in that paper or else the notice will not be legal. The law provides that such notices must be published in the paper having the largest circulation. Druggists and saloon men will have to be a little careful in more places than Chadron or they may run against a snag.

From the tone of the papers throughout the state it does not appear that the sentiment in favor of an extra session of the legislature is very strong. The re-appointment is desirable but not enough so to warrant a special session. Railroad legislation is needed, but it is very doubtful if a bill could be gotten up which would be acceptable to the present members and still escape the veto of Gov. Boyd. If nothing can be accomplished a special session would be a needless expense.

At the recent municipal election the issue in many places was the granting or refusing of license. The result was that a smaller number of towns go dry this year than last. The license question in a great many places overshadowed all others and men are put up as candidates solely on the position they take on that question, no attention being paid to their qualifications or fitness for the offices nor to what they will favor or oppose in other matters. A good move has been inaugurated in a few places and that is to have the ballots provide an opportunity to vote for or against the granting of license and have all candidates pledged to act in accordance with the expressed will of the people. With that arrangement men can be selected as candidates because of their fitness for the municipal offices and good is certain to result to the places where such a course is pursued.

It is reported that the work of sinking wells in the oil districts of Wyoming is to be resumed this spring. It is to be hoped that the work will be pushed with vigor and that before the close of the season it will be definitely known whether there are oil fields of value in that locality or not. It is also stated that great development will be made in the oil districts in South Dakota. If these industries prove to be good the result will be that this part of the country will become a rich and prosperous one and an amount of money hauled to new a market for the products of the soil. The little villages and towns of Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, a vast number of hidden wealth in the west and the work of the country has been established the country for the future. It is certain that the country will be better off than it is now.

The Same Old Tactics.

Under the heading of "Asked to Resign," the following appeared as a special to the World-Herald from Harrison, bearing date of April 13th:

"At a mass meeting of the citizens of Sioux county held here today the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, By the investigation of the county records of Sioux county by an expert accountant it was found that Conrad Lindeman, county clerk, John A. Green and Charles U. Grove, county commissioners, were found to have defrauded the county out of certain sums of money, and we, as citizens and taxpayers, not wishing to tolerate any further discrepancy in the county affairs, request that the said officers resign for the good of the county."

The special does not state who presided at the meeting; it does not intimate where the meeting was held, nor is the public informed who the individual was who was selected as secretary, neither does it state who the citizens of Sioux county are who request the resignation of the officers mentioned.

We have talked with a number and have learned of but one who was present at the mass meeting or knew of it. We are informed that the meeting was held in the office of Satterlee & Walker and that the former stated that he was present. That was a good place to hold a meeting to pass resolutions asking Messrs. Lindeman, Green and Grove to resign because of their having defrauded the county. To illustrate the consistency thereof we refer the readers of THE JOURNAL to the figures taken from the report of the expert, in another column of this issue.

We venture the assertion, without fear of contradiction, that there was not a man present at the so-called mass meeting who was not short in his accounts with Sioux county, and also that there was not more than one man present who was not a party to the damnable plot concocted in January, 1890, to prevent the newly elected officials from taking their seats, in order to prevent an investigation of the county records.

The county commissioners are called to meet on next Thursday and THE JOURNAL predicts that when the board adjourns not one of the men referred to in the above article will owe Sioux county a dollar by reason of excess fees charged. Will the proprietors of the "mass meeting" put themselves in the same relative position to the county? We shall see.

It looks as if the second republican paper was established in Chadron for the purpose of downing the Journal of that place. Last year Mr. Egan was in poor health and his opponents gained something of a victory, but the columns of his paper indicate that Mr. Egan has fully recovered his health and is able to hold his own. There will likely be a mad and merry newspaper war in Chadron for a while.

The report of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad for the past year shows that a dividend of a little less than 5 per cent had been earned, and it is expected that a great falling off will occur in the first six months of the present year on account of the short crops which prevailed all over the west. When railroads pay the salaries of their officers, running expenses and interest there is not a great deal left for the stockholders. There is probably no business which has as many high salaried officers as the railroads, and few lines of business that have as heavy debts to carry. To the average individual it is a mystery why, when hard times come that a reduction is made in the wages of employees, beginning with track men and going up, but business never was known to get so dull that the salary of a president, director or manager was reduced.

The reports from all points indicate an improvement in business of all kinds. The crop prospects in the United States are unusually good and money is again seeking investment which has been lying idle for some months past. The crop prospects in foreign lands are not good and that will be certain to insure to the farmers of the United States good prices for all they raise. The tide appears to have turned and the hard times which have prevailed for some years past will be followed by a season of prosperity. The lesson learned by the hard times should not be forgotten, and use and not abuse of the improved condition of business should prevail. Every time a foolish, wildcat adventure is made, disaster is certain to follow and it is such abuse of good times that frequently bring on hard times. If people keep close to shore their gains may not be so large but they will be a good deal more certain and ultimately more satisfactory.

It is hoped that one of the first ordinances passed by the new village trustees will be one compelling to owners of stock to take care of it and not let it run at large about the streets. If Harrison is ever to become a good town the authorities must make it as pleasant for the farmers as circumstances will permit. It is unpleasant for a farmer to drive his team a long way to town and then have the feed he has brought for them eaten up by stock belonging to people of the town. It also has a tendency to cause a person to use some forcible language when he puts a stack of grain in some one's wagon and so on as he leaves his team to have a care of them.

walk up and tear a hole in the sack and proceed to devour the contents. The village board have it in their power to make the farmers feel a great deal more friendly toward this town, if a little pains is taken and it is hoped that the new members will take hold of the matter in earnest.

Down in one of the counties in the eastern part of the state a man missed a load of corn and traced the thief a dozen miles by the grains scattered along the road and had the man arrested. After he was caught and criminal proceedings commenced in court against him, the thief settled for the corn and the case was dismissed and the owner of the corn and the county attorney of that county are being severely roasted by the press and people of that locality for their action. Similar acts are of too frequent occurrence. It is a great way that people have of using the criminal law to secure debts. A man disposes of mortgaged property and the mortgagee has him arrested. The defendant pays the debt and gets possession of the documents and then the case is dropped. Such acts simply increase the magnitude of the crime and make the mortgagee and his attorney parties to it and the costs are put upon the taxpayers, and the sooner the courts cease to permit such use to be made of the criminal law the better it will be for people in general.

Notice of Commissioner's Meeting.
The board of commissioners of Sioux county, Nebraska, are hereby notified to convene in session at the clerk's office of said county, in Harrison, Nebraska, on Thursday, April 23, 1891, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the transaction of ordinary county business.

CONRAD LINDEMAN,
County Clerk.

Notice—Timber Culture.
U. S. LAND OFFICE,
CHADRON, NEB.

March 3, 1891.
Complaint No. 235 having been entered at this office by William P. Lindsey against Colville P. Terrett for failure to comply with law as to timber culture entry No. 113, dated Oct. 17, 1887, upon the section 25, township 20 N., range 26 W., in Sioux county, Nebraska, with a view to the cancellation of said entry, copies and a portion of said tract during the 31 year of said entry—2nd. He has failed to plant to trees, tree seeds or tree cuttings five acres of said tract during the 31 year of said entry, and further he has failed to plant any portion of said tract to trees, tree seeds or tree cuttings during the 31 year of said entry, and has wholly failed to cure said defects up to the date of this affidavit, to-wit: Feb. 26, 1891.

The said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the 4 day of May 1891, at 10 o'clock a. m., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure.

Testimony of witnesses will be taken before S. H. Jones, a notary public, at his office in Harrison, on the 27th of April 1891, at 10 a. m. T. F. POWERS, Receiver.
H. T. CONLEY, Contestant's Atty. [39-32]

Sheriff's Sale.
By virtue of an order of sale directed to me from the district court of Sioux county, Nebraska, on a judgment rendered in said court on the 17th day of February, 1891, in favor of L. Allen Watson as plaintiff, and against Elmer McFarling and E. S. Ormsby, trustee, as defendants, for the sum of \$41.57, and costs taxed at \$9.25 and accruing costs, I have levied upon the following real estate taken as the property of said defendant, Elmer McFarling, to-wit: Lots 3 and 4 and the 1/2 of lot 4 of section 4, in township 20 N., range 26 W., of the 6th P. M., in Sioux county, Nebraska, subject to the first mortgage of E. S. Ormsby, trustee, for \$50 and accrued interest, and will offer the same for sale subject to the first mortgage of E. S. Ormsby, trustee, to the highest bidder for cash in hand, on the 26th day of April, A. D. 1891, at the front door of the court house of said county, at Harrison, that being the building wherein the last term of court was held, at the hour of one o'clock, p. m., of said day, when and where due attendance will be given by the undersigned.

Dated the 26th day of March, 1891.
THOS. REIDY,
Sheriff of said County.

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