

The Sioux County Journal.

[ESTABLISHED 1888.]

Subscription Price, \$2.00

L. J. SIMMONS, Editor.

Entered at the Harrison post office as second class matter.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1895.

Republican Judicial Ticket.

For judges, 15th district, M. P. KINKAID, ALFRED BARTOW.

County Ticket.

For county clerk, W. S. NICHOLSON.

For county treasurer, HENRY COVEY.

For sheriff, DAVID BARTLETT.

For superintendent of public instruction, W. H. DAVIS.

For county judge, W. O. PATTERSON.

District Ticket.

For commissioner, 3d district, B. F. JOHNSON.

The republican state convention will meet at Lincoln next Tuesday to name the man who will be elected in November to sit on the supreme bench for the next six years and his name will be Theophilus L. Norval.

C. J. Smythe, chairman of the Bryan wing of the democratic party has resigned. T. J. Mahony, the nominee of the other faction for supreme judge is his business partner. Mr. Smythe saw a chance to get out and took advantage thereof.

It is reported that Edward Rosewater will soon retire from the management of the Bee and the responsibility will be transferred to his son, Victor. With such a change it is quite likely that many of the animosities engendered by the senior and by him made so prominent in the policy of the paper would disappear.

Judge Maxwell has agreed to run for supreme judge, but not one word appears in his letter of acceptance that indicates that he has climbed onto the Omaha platform or that he contemplates attempting such a thing at his time of life. The spectacle of the middle-of-the-road pops running a republican at the head of their ticket has a ludicrous appearance.

Secretary of State Piper has decided that the tickets put up by both wings of the democratic party will be put on the ballots designated simply as democrat. The Bryan wing objected to the administration candidates being designated in that way, but they deferred filing such objection too long. It will take a democrat who is onto his job to know just who to vote for at the coming election.

H. G. Stewart, who misrepresented this district in the last state senate has had himself nominated for treasurer by the pops of Lawes county. He worked that party in Sioux county until they got onto him so that he could do no more and then, about a year and a half ago he moved across the line into Lawes county. He got the pops of that county to support him last fall for the senate and now he has worked them to nominate him for the best office in the county. It is hardly likely that he will get near the vote of his own party at the polls.

The vigilantes of Holt county are again coming to the front. The successful evasion of the law by the murderers of Barrett Scott seemed to have given the gang a notion that they can repeat such outrages with impunity. There is but one result that can be looked forward to and that is punishment. A man or gang of men may violate the law for a time but sooner or later justice is certain to overtake them. People for a while may shut their eyes to the petty crimes but when it comes to drawing the line between law-abiding citizens and those who do not respect the law the masses of the people in every community are to be found on the side of the law.

The reports from Sheridan county are that from thirty to fifty per cent of the population will move out of that county this fall. From Box Butte county the report is that many are leaving and that some districts will be almost depopulated. The same is true of other western counties. Sioux county has lost a large per cent of her population in the past, but a census on January 1, 1895, would show a loss of nearly, if not quite, fifty per cent of its people during the year 1893. Such a condition is not at all encouraging on a business standpoint but there is no use in trying to keep people here when they do not make a living. It is a fact, however, that those who intend to remain will be, in almost every case, quite comfortably housed. The future of western Nebraska is no much of a problem now as it was five years ago.

A Water Day for Nebraska.

The following appeared in the Lincoln Journal of last Sunday and is worthy of the consideration of all:

The failure of crops in this state for three successive years would seem to be a calamity of sufficient magnitude to attract public attention to any feasible scheme for the amelioration of climatic conditions, and to induce the people to take united action for relief, providing any such scheme is presented. Another year such as the present or the past and Nebraska's rural population will abandon it en masse, and the property of its towns will not sell under the hammer for enough to pay the annual taxes.

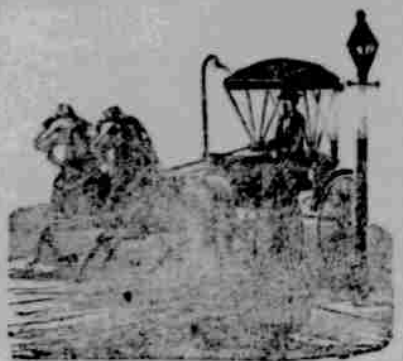
It is now the hope of every one that a sufficient amount of rain will fall before the ground freezes to fill it with moisture. It is only the realization of this hope that will make a crop certain next year, and yet, a little reflection will convince any thinking man that the hope is very unlikely to be realized. With each succeeding year of drouth the ground has become dried to a greater depth. As the ground becomes dryer evaporation is increased and the chances for rain diminished. Unless there is some outside source from which a supply of moisture can come it would seem that we may hope in vain for the greatly increased amount of rain fall we need to insure a crop for next year. But is there any such outside source? No. The regions south, west and north of us have suffered in the past three years to almost as great an extent as we have and there is no reserve of moisture to be found in any of them that give us reasonable hope for what we need and must have to insure our agricultural and commercial salvation.

It is true that some special act of providence may take place—general rains may come from we know not where, caused by we know not what—and save us from impending ruin. But this is not likely. According to my observation providence works through the agency of certain general laws and it is the duty of men to learn what those laws are and use such powers as they have to bring them into operation.

I have devoted a large amount of time to this subject of drouth and hot winds, being as a farmer deeply interested in it. Some years ago when the crops of Kansas were being destroyed by hot winds, I made a long trip into the southwestern part of that state and some distance into the territory to investigate. Without going much into the details, I will give my general conclusions. The great mistake in relation to hot winds is that they come from some arid district remote from where they are felt. The fact is that the hot winds originate exactly or near where they are felt. If air that burns as though it came from the mouth of a furnace is felt on the corner of 11th and O streets, it rises from the pavement within one hundred rods of that corner. When in southwestern Kansas at the time referred to I found hot winds prevailing and the earth scorched and opened in great cracks everywhere. They apparently came from the southwest. I went southwest until I came to a sandy region where the ground was not cracked, and where a short distance below the surface there was plenty of moisture. I was out of the region of hot winds—but the hot winds in the Kansas regions I had just left still prevailed.

Not many years ago southern Dakota was being devastated by hot winds, coming apparently from the south. But at that very time there was no hot wind in Nebraska. The hot wind is the effect of drouth. Drouth is caused by absence of moisture which may be evaporated and precipitated in the form of rain. This may seem like a platitude, so obviously is it true—but it is an important statement, providing it can lead to a remedy. Large areas of land in regions comparatively destitute of lakes and rivers, become superheated by long continued exposure to the direct rays of the sun at a temperature of 100 degrees and upward and the still air resting upon this land becomes also superheated. A gentle north wind now springs up, in fact is induced by these conditions. This superheated air rises and more is being continually heated. The wind increases in velocity and we have the western simoon or hot wind. Its continuance depends upon the dryness and extent of the preceding heat. But it will not extend far or do any appreciable damage beyond the area where the ground was so superheated.

Hot winds can only be felt when the winds are from the south or southwest. Wind from any other quarter soon cools the superheated air. I have known the hot wind to be felt for a few hours with a southeast wind, but the southeast wind being cool and moist soon overcomes the influence of the heated air. In the south and southwest wind the hot air continually rises, but the earth supplies its place with more heated air, but in a somewhat less degree, the mere motion of the atmosphere tending to coolness. This process goes on until a uniform temperature is established, either by gradual process or a storm. We are now witnessing the unusual spectacle of hot winds in the middle of September. With all moisture sucked from the earth—with a rarified air, vegetation almost dead and the burning rays of the sun beating the dry and parched earth, the sun may go on until the sun is so far



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declined to the north that its rays will no longer heat the ground. Long continued absence of dew is a condition precedent of hot winds. With a certain degree of moisture in the atmosphere nightly falling in refreshing dews the earth, even where quite bare of vegetation, could not become so intensely heated as to heat the air to the extent I have described. Hot winds under such conditions, or at any time when the atmosphere was saturated with moisture, have never been known.

Philosophy and science will confirm the truth of the above theory as to hot winds.

THE REMEDY. Is there an effectual remedy which can be generally and easily applied by the people themselves, without resort to law and without any considerable amount of money capital? I answer yes, unhesitatingly, and I will describe it. It is this: Supply artificially what nature has failed to give us, viz.: Ponds and small lakes all over the state, which will be filled with water by the fall and spring rains and from which evaporation will continually take place, supplying moisture to the air, which will soon be returned in the form of rain. Set up by artificial process nature's own system for purifying the air, irrigating the soil and promoting vegetation—thus making a wilderness blossom as the rose.

This is stated in general terms, and may at first glance seem impracticable, but as a matter of fact nothing is easier. Over nearly all of Nebraska, Kansas, eastern Colorado and all of both coasts the surface is gently rolling, with many draws, which as we go westward become canons. There is comparatively little country so level that artificial ponds of from one to ten acres cannot be made on nearly every quarter section. The labor of constructing these ponds is very little. It is entirely unskilled labor. It is done with plow and scraper alone. It needs the sanction of no law—the division of the state into no irrigation districts—the payment of salaries to no irrigation commissioners. No gas, explosives in the clouds or the legislative lobby is necessary. A few days labor with team, plow and scraper, now, before the fall rains begin on every farm in the state, is all that is required.

But the last-named condition is indispensable. The movement to be valuable must be general. The application of this plan to one county like Lancaster might perhaps have some value but it would be very little. But its application to the state at large could not fail to be of incalculable value. If these dams are constructed the fall and spring rains would fill them with water ready for evaporation during the next summer. The moisture thus raised would be redeposited in showers or dews within the influence of this system. An interchange of such showers and dews would go forward, and drouths in all the great area that might adopt the system would be impossible. Then indeed the benefits portrayed by some enthusiastic editors to result from Major Powell's mountain reservoirs might be realized: "An addition of 100,000,000 acres of rich but now arid land would be made to the tillable area of the west."

In behalf of all the people—in behalf of increased production—in behalf of those struggling farmers who are being brayed in the winter of destitution—I ask the press of the state to take up the subject and secure an immediate and concerted movement to put the plan into force. J. FURROWS, Lincoln, Neb.

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Sioux county is the northwest county of Nebraska. It is about thirty miles east and west by about seventy miles north and south and contains

OVER 1,300,000 ACRES of land. There are more bright, sparkling, small streams in the county than can be found in the same area elsewhere in the state. It has more pine timber in it than all the rest of the state combined. Its grasses are the richest, and most nutritious known so that for stock-growing it is unequalled.

The soil varies from a heavy clay to a light sandy loam and is capable of producing excellent crops.

The principal crops are small grain and vegetables, although good corn is grown in the valleys. The wheat, oats, rye and barley are all of unusually fine quality and command the highest market prices.

The water is pure and refreshing and is found in abundance in all parts of the county.

The county is practically out of debt and has over forty-five miles of railroad within its borders, has a good brick court house and the necessary fixtures for running the county and there has never been one dollar of county bonds issued and hence taxes will be low.

The Fremont, Ellipton & Missouri Valley railroad crosses Sioux county from east to west and the B. & M. has about fifteen miles of its line in the northern part of the county.

The climate is more pleasant than that of the eastern portion of Nebraska. There is still

OVER 800,000 ACRES of land in Sioux county yet open to homestead entry. It is better land and more desirably located than that for which such rushes are made on the opening of a reservation. There is no railroad land in the county and for that reason its settlement has been slow for no special effort to get settlers was made, as was done in the early days of the settlement of the eastern part of the state.

Good deseed land can be purchased at reasonable rates with government land adjoining so that a person who wants more than one quarter section can obtain it if he has a little means.

There are about 2,500 people in the county and there is room for thousands more.

Harrison is the county seat and is situated on the F. E. & M. V. railroad, and as good a town as the thinly settled country demands.

School houses and churches are provided in almost every settlement and are kept up with the times.

All who desire to get a homestead or buy land cheap are invited to come and see the country for themselves and judge its merits. Home-steads will be obtainable much cheaper and if you wish to use your right and get the best land from Uncle Sam free it is time you were about it.

Look at This List of western cities: Chicago, St. Joseph, Omaha, Lincoln, St. Louis, Denver, Kansas City, Pueblo.

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JUDICIARY: Chief Justice, Edward F. L. Norval; Associate Judge, Cummings A. M. Post; Asst. Judge, Oran and Island T. O. C. Harrison; Clerk and Reporter, Lincoln D. A. Campbell.

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT: M. P. Kinkaid, Judge, O'Neill; Alfred Bartow, 1st " Hudson; M. J. Blewett, 2nd " Clark, Harrison.

COUNTY OFFICERS: Robert Wilson, County Judge; H. S. Woodruff, Treasurer; W. H. Davis, Supl. Public Instruction; A. R. Dew, Sheriff; J. E. Pillsbury, 1st " Sheriff; S. J. Ellis, 2nd " Supervisor; M. J. Blewett, Clerk of District Court; Alvin T. Clark, County Attorney.

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LEGISLATIVE: H. G. Stewart, senator, Dist. No. 4, Crawford; W. Dempsey, Rep., Dist. No. 3, Hemphill.

VILLAGE OFFICERS: M. J. Blewett, 1st " " " " " " ; E. Royce, 2nd " " " " " " ; J. W. Scott, 3rd " " " " " " ; D. H. Griswold, 4th " " " " " " ; W. H. Woodruff, 5th " " " " " " ; L. J. Simpson, 6th " " " " " " ; Lewis Gerlach, 7th " " " " " " ; J. W. Smith, 8th " " " " " " ;

SCHOOL OFFICERS: J. W. Scott, Director; B. L. Smith, Moderator; G. W. Heister, Treasurer.

TERMS OF COURT: District Court, At Harrison, commences April 8th and November 23rd; County Court, At Harrison, commences first Monday of each month.

CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES: M. E. Church, Preaching, each alternate Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and every Sunday evening at 7:30. REV. C. E. COSSITT, Pastor. Methodist Sunday School meets every Sunday morning at 11:30. J. E. MARSHALL, superintendent. W. H. DAVIS, secretary.

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