

NEWS SANS WHISKERS

Items of Interest Told As They Are Told to Us.

WHEN AND HOW IT HAPPENED

Local Happenings Portrayed For General Education and Amusement.

Bail ties and wire always on hand at Neil Brennan's. 15 tf

Attorneys Searl and Scott was down from Atkinson Wednesday.

FOR RENT—House of six rooms, rent reasonable. Enquire of Mr. Doyle. 16tf

Mr. Luce has moved into town and now occupies the Swingley residence on "Kid hill."

Use H and G remedy for black leg. As a preventative it has no equal. Sold by Hershiser & Gilligan. 15 tf

Patrick Gaghan was a caller last Friday and left a couple of gold standard dollars on subscription.

Mrs. J. J. King, and daughter May, went down to Ewing yesterday for a few days visit with friends.

For teeth or photos, go to Dr. Corbett's parlors, 23rd to 30th of each month. Photographs \$1 per dozen.

Herman Damero and Mary Lampier, of Phoenix, were granted a marriage license last Friday by Judge McCutchan.

Do not let the black leg into your herd. Prevent it by using H and G. Sold by Hershiser & Gilligan. 15 tf

It would be a good idea if some of the lady bicycle riders would be a little more careful when they are out riding. One of them ran into M. M. Sullivan last evening, burising him quite severely.

Everyone desires to keep informed on Yukon, the Klondyke and Alaskan gold fields. Send 10c. for large Compendium of vast information and big color map to Hamilton Pub. Co., Indianapolis, Ind.

The ladies of the Presbyterian church will meet with Mrs. Dobbs next Wednesday, October 27, at 2 o'clock p. m. to reorganize the working society, elect officers and transact what other business may come up. All members are requested to be present. Sec.

Last week we received a letter from Roscoe Coughlin, who is still in Washington, D. C. Roscoe has secured a position in the government printing office and says he is doing well. He sent his regards to all the boys and said he would come out and see them all next year.

The morning of the populist convention a delegate from the western part of the county, who was being solicited to vote against Stewart in the convention, said, "No, I can't vote against Stewart in the convention, for I have received \$10, a keg of beer and my ticket down here to O'Neill today, but when it comes to voting at the election I can vote as I please." And that is just the way Mr. Stewart has conducted his whole campaign—with money and booze.

Soap will not remove tan nor freckles. Bathe the face in warm water, and dry very carefully with a soft towel. Do not use soap on the face unless absolutely necessary. Never use face powder of any sort, it spoils the skin by closing the pores. If your child suffers from sunburn moisten the face at night with cucumber juice; cut a cucumber lengthwise and rub it on the face, allowing the juice to remain until it dries off; or use a mild solution of baking soda.—Mrs. S. T. Rorer in October Ladies' Home Journal.

The board of supervisors were in session last week. A petition praying for the establishment of a poor farm was presented and the board decided to submit the proposition for such establishment to the voters of Holt county at the general election to be held November 2, 1897. On October 12 the entire board went to Butte, Boyd county, where they met with the Boyd county board and opened bills for the building of a bridge at Badger, Holt county, across the Niobrara. The contract was let to W. C. Townsend, of this county. He receives \$999 for the new work and \$759 12 for repair work. The members of the board returned home Friday and on Saturday they adjourned to meet December 1, 1897.

CARD OF THANKS.

The members of the O'Neill fire department hereby extend their sincere thanks to the orchestra for their services in playing for the firemen's dance, to the rink management for the use of the rink, and to W. T. Evans for getting up the supper; also to the business men who have subscribed so liberally toward the repair fund.

THE NEW BALLOT.

Omaha Bee—The blanket ballot, which has been in use for some years in Iowa and other states, but which has never before been placed before the voters of Nebraska, will be a novel feature of the coming election. The amendment to the election law, which provides for this form of ballot, was passed by the last legislature. It was urged as a means of simplifying voting, and it was asserted that it would not only be a material assistance to the illiterate voter, but would also make it possible for voters to occupy less time in the booths for the reason that they could vote the entire ticket with a single cross if they were so disposed.

While the merits of the new plan can be more accurately estimated after it has received a practical test, it is certain that, like any novelty, it must be thoroughly understood by the voters before they can use it satisfactorily. The scheme involves some radical changes from the old system, and it is scarcely likely that they are entirely familiar to the mass of the voters. During the remainder of the campaign an effort will be made by the speakers of all the political parties to familiarize the voters with the new ballot. County Clerk Redfield has agreed that as soon as the ballots are received from the secretary of state he will have several hundred sample ballots printed and distributed among the various campaign committees, to be used in practical object lessons by their speakers.

The ballots that will be used in the election will be of white paper, as under the old law, and will contain the names of all the candidates of the various parties for state and county offices. As there are no presidential electors and only three state officers to go on the ballots this fall, they will be of moderate size as compared with the huge sheets that would be required in an election like that of last fall. Each ballot will be six columns wide, the columns containing respectively the names of republican, democratic, populist, national democratic, silver republican and petition candidates. The candidates for supreme judge and regents will head the tickets, and county officers will follow.

The Nebraska law differs from that of Pennsylvania and other states in which the blanket ballot is used in the respect that a voter may mark a cross in the circle at the top of one party ticket and still vote for candidates on other tickets. If, for instance, he wishes to vote the republican ticket with the exception of one or more candidates, he will mark his vote for the straight ticket in the circle at the top and then place a cross opposite the names of the candidates on the other tickets for whom he wishes to vote. The judges will then record his vote for the republican ticket with the exception of those candidates on other tickets for whom a vote is indicated.

The law further provides that every precaution shall be taken to prevent confusion on the part of the voter. Each of the columns containing a list of party candidates must be separated from the others by a distinct black line. The names of the candidates must be printed in capital letters from one-eighth to one-fourth of an inch in height and a printed square in which to record a vote if the voter so desires must be left at the right of each candidate name. At the right of the printed lists of candidates there must be a blank space large enough to admit of a name being written in for each office that is to be filled.

The official ballot must be printed and in possession of the county or municipal clerk at least five days before the election, and the red or green sample ballots must be printed and ready for inspection at least ten days before the election.

Joseph Schwartz, of Spencer, Boyd county, was in this city last Friday with two loads of hogs. He left for home Saturday morning and after they got across the bridge at Whiting's he sent his little girl, who was with him driving one team, on home, about two miles northeast of Spencer, while he went into town to get a carpenter to go out and do some work on his place. While in town he succumbed to the seductive influence of the fluid that robs man of his wisdom. He left Spencer for his home after dark Saturday evening, but never reached home. He was found Sunday at noon in one of the canyons about a mile and a half from town, with the wagon upset and lying on his chest. He was so badly injured that he died about two hours afterward. It seems that he got lost and in wandering over the gulches the team upset the wagon, throwing him out and the wagon falling on him. He leaves a wife and nine children, all girls.

WOLFE AND HIS DEALS

The Pop Land Commissioner's Business Methods.

RAILROAD PASSES HIS HOBBY

Several Thousand Dollars Lost by the State Through His Management.

LINCOLN, NEB., October 19, 1897.

And now a word about Land Commissioner Wolfe and his land manipulations. He was the populist candidate for state treasurer in 1890. In that campaign he made a vigorous protest against the free pass system. He said a pass was a bribe, and that no state official could ride upon free transportation and at the same time do justice between the people and the corporations. He was a candidate for a state office again in 1892, and he again canvassed the state with the same old anti-pass doctrine which he had talked two years before. In 1896 he was again a candidate for a state office, making the same anti-pass speeches, and was elected. The first official act of Land Commissioner Wolfe was to load himself with all the annual passes he could procure for himself, and from the day that his official administration began up to the present time he has been a medium through which free passes have been extorted from the railroads and distributed to the populists without limit. Mr. Wolfe is a farmer, and as a candidate on the ticket of the farmers' party he made special promises as to what he would do if he ever became a member of the state board of transportation. He would reduce the rates. That was right in his line. In his speeches he used to read off long statements of tabulated figures proving the injustice of the prevailing rates, and he would regulate all these things. Now it transpires that Farmer Wolfe was no more sincere in his pledges to the farmer voters of the farmers' party than were the other politicians. Since he has been in office he has betrayed his party upon every vital point. But the land commissioner, with that addressiveness peculiar to professional reformers, while betraying his party upon the reforms which he promised, in order to cover up his betrayals and keep his name favorably before the people, procured a law to be passed by the last legislature which gave him power to cancel the contracts between the state and its thousands of tenants, who had leased the school lands with a view to improvement and subsequent purchase, which was their right under the old law. The public familiar with the grandstand play which Commissioner Wolfe has made to this state in the last few months in handling these public lands. Wolfe, though a farmer by profession, is a shrewd advertiser. When he had procured this law, and got ready to make his reform flourish, he called in the newspaper reporters and gave them a glowing outline of his plans. For weeks, through these public interviews he kept himself in the public eye, pretending that he was saving a great deal of money to the state, and was rendering the farming community valuable services. And now that Mr. Wolfe has had his inning and his advertising through the press it is only fair to enquire just what has been its effect upon the public pocket and upon the farming community which is interested in the school lands.

To understand the situation as it was when Land Commissioner Wolfe commenced his reform at the beginning of the year, we should bear in mind that from 1890 to the present year, the occupants of school lands as tenants under the state were no more able, by reason of drouths and hard times, to pay their annual rentals to the state than were other tenant farmers able to pay their rentals. During these years of short crops and low prices these tenants were unable to pay, and it was the duty of the state to nurse them along and keep them on the land until such time as they would be able to pay. This was the policy under republican administration, for republicans understood that it would be disastrous to crowd these tenants when they had no money and there could be nothing gained by removing them from the lands and driving them from the state. The land could not have been re-leased. There was no demand for land. Now, there accumulated during these years an indebtedness of \$460,000. How to collect this indebtedness was the problem which should have been in the mind of Commissioner Wolfe when he entered upon his office. However, under this new law, he cancels and throws away this \$460,000 without any attempt to collect it. This \$460,000 is a total loss. With a flourish of trumpets and much newspaper advertising the land commissioner has succeeded in collecting \$5,800 as

payments on new leases, with \$5,500 as bonuses. He has thrown away \$460,000, a large part of which could have been collected, and in lieu thereof has collected \$10,800 on new leases. He cancels the leases on 766,789 acres, throws away \$460,000 due the school fund of the state, collects in lieu of this \$10,800, and calls this business. Had one man in forty paid up his back rent on this school land, the amount would have equaled all the bonus money. Had 30 per cent of the old leaseholders retained their farms and paid regular rent in the future the amount would over balance which will be received on the new leases. This reform land commissioner seems to have taken about as costly an experiment as the reform governor's approval of Bartley's worthless bond. But from an examination of the records at the state house it seems that the majority of the new leases were secured by the old leaseholders. These school-land tenant farmers seem to have been about as cunning in a land deal as the reform land commissioner is in his reform politics. Each one of them had a friendly neighbor to bid in the land and then transfer the lease to him. Does the farmer who has a tenant in arrears for rental cancel the old lease, forgive the old debt, and then re-lease the land to the same party? Or does he not rather hold the tenant to the old contract and then as fast as possible collect the old rent money? Bear in mind the land commissioner has represented through his advertising in the press that he has saved money to the state. It is his business to collect the money due the state, not to cancel the debt. It was by means of this double-shuffle act that J. H. Edmisten, chairman of the populist state committee, flimsified the state out of four and one-half years' rent on some land in Dawson county and still holds the land. Commissioner Wolfe calls this reform. Mr. Edmisten, parading himself at the populist headquarters nowadays instead of attending to his business at the state house, is full of eulogies for Land Commissioner Wolfe, and he is sending out literature under state house postage urging the taxpayers to rally once more for reform. In hundreds of cases under this auction scheme inaugurated by "Uncle Jake" new leases on well improved farms went without bidders, and on the books the land is still marked vacant. It means that the man who occupied a farm like this had such standing in his community that no one cared to bid on his lease, and by tacit consent he is allowed to hold on without lease or title of any sort except occupancy. He has cancelled the leases on nearly 800,000 acres and released 80,000 acres. For each ten acres cancelled he has released one.

Well informed men in the western part of the state say that at least \$300,000 of this \$460,000 back rent could have been collected this summer. Archard, one of the pop county treasury examiners under the state auditor, not satisfied with the \$3,000 per annum which he gets from his office, connived with the land commissioner and got three improved farms in York county away from the men who had improved them and expected to purchase under the old contract. The effect of all this school land reform is to lose to the state at least \$800,000 which could have been collected this year, and to put every man in jeopardy who had improved and expected to buy his home. There's more of this to come out later. When it is all told "Uncle Jake" will have all he wants to do explaining himself without capturing the state university for his son. Letters are coming from all over the state asking the governor to clear himself of the Ransom charges and to require a new bond from Treasurer Meserve. J. W. JOHNSON.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

Strayed, from my place at Rochester, Boyd county, about August 13, 1897, the following described horses: One gray, three years old; one gray, two years old; one black, one year old; and one light bay, one year old. A liberal reward will be given for information leading to their recovery. H. C. BAKER, Rochester, Neb.

Hatfield & Hall

Have moved their restaurant into the Dwyer building, second door south of the postoffice, where they will be pleased to meet all their old customers and a lot of new ones. They will serve up oysters in any style desired, and their dining parlors are the best in the city. 15-2

Small precautions often prevent great mischiefs. DeWitt's Little Early Risers are very small pills in size, but are most effective in preventing the most serious forms of liver and stomach trouble. They cure constipation and headache and regulate the bowels. HERSHISER & GILLIGAN.

CROSS SAYS IT'S FALSE

Dickerson Assisted in Hunting Down the Guilty Parties.

AN HONEST AND UPRIGHT MAN

Mr. Cross is a Populist But is Opposed to the Populist Method of Slandering Opponents.

The cattle men of the county are being thoroughly aroused over the efforts of the cattle thieves to elect Bill Dickerson sheriff. Men are learning of the close relation that existed between John Fanton, Jim Perry, Bill Dickerson, and Dell Alken. They know that Dickerson is part of the gang, and for that reason they do not intend to have such a man for sheriff, when they know that his election would mean a return of the cattle thieving, hog thieving and harness thieving of the past. The people see the sneak thieves and cattle thieves legging for Dickerson and they propose to cut off their little game in the bud. With the experience of the past we cannot afford to have the cattle thieves candidate hold the important office of sheriff.—Independent.

What a malicious man McHugh is! For the past two weeks he has been trying to make Bill Dickerson out a cattle thief. Has accused him of being tangled up with John Fanton in the Cross cattle stealing case. Has said that Dickerson aided Fanton to get away, and then helped to delay and mislead the officers in their search after him. When McHugh wrote the above he did not expect anyone who knew Dickerson would believe it, but it was written solely with the hope that it would find a few believers in parts of the county where Dickerson is unknown. However, read what M. F. Cross, the complainant against John Fanton, has to say in the following affidavit and then judge for yourself how much truth there is in the charges made by the prevaricating defender of the woman and child beater. Its location (underground) is a fitting place for such a sheet to emanate from:

STATE OF NEBRASKA, ss
HOLT COUNTY.

I, M. F. Cross, being first duly sworn, depose and say, that I was the complainant witness and filed the complaint in the State of Nebraska against John Fanton, et al, and assisted in hunting down and prosecuting the parties who stole our cattle (the Cross cattle) and I am and was intimately connected with the prosecution of said thieves, and knew the inside workings of said case, and was familiar with the facts in said case, and wish to say at this time that William Dickerson, the present candidate for sheriff on the republican ticket, was in no way suspected of having anything to do with said cattle thieves, at that or any other time, but on the contrary assisted us and the officers in every way he possibly could to hunt down the thieves and see that they were punished, and has rendered valuable assistance and advice in the above case to break up cattle stealing and other thieving in Holt county. I have known him for twenty years, and during all that period I have known him to be an honest, upright, respectable and law abiding citizen. I make this statement under oath in justice to Mr. Dickerson, having seen an article which was published in last week's issue of the Holt County Independent reflecting seriously on Mr. Dickerson, charging him with connection with cattle stealing, and which charge I believe to be absolutely false in every particular and without any foundation whatever. I am a populist but believe in justice to all candidates who may be running for office in Holt county. M. F. Cross.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of October, 1897.

J. ELMER ALLISON, Notary Public.
My commission expires Feb. 2, 1899.

STATE OF NEBRASKA, ss
HOLT COUNTY.

I, James McKathene, being first duly sworn, on oath depose and say that I am a student in the Atkinson public schools, that I am fifteen years of age, that my home is with my father, Benjamin McKathene, who lives about eighteen miles north of Atkinson, and that since the 6th of September, 1897, I have been boarding in Atkinson and attending school, and that one night in the month of September I had a boyish altercation with Johnnie Stewart, son of John M. Stewart of this place; while the trouble was brewing John M. Stewart, his father, came up to us, sent his boy home and questioned me as to what the trouble was, while I was trying to tell him he became very angry and called me a s—of-a-b—, struck me very hard in the face with his fist knocking me off of the sidewalk. Further affiant saith not.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of October, 1897.

J. ELMER ALLISON, Notary Public.
My commission expires Feb. 2, 1899.

STEWART AT HOME.

That John M. Stewart is not a fit man to occupy the high position of sheriff of Holt county many of the leading populists admit and that his nomination was dictated by the ring they don't deny. The court-house syndicate, who controls the editorial mutterings of the Independent, realize that Stewart has no pos-

sible show of being elected, and that they can not refute the charges this paper has brought against him, but they try to excuse him by saying he was not to blame. In order to show the people the kind of a man this "gang" want to force upon them we publish the following, which is the third clause set up by his wife, Della M. Stewart, in her application for divorce, now pending in the district court. This is an exact copy of the original now on file in the office of the clerk of the district court. Read it carefully, dear reader, and you will believe, as we do, that he is not fit for this position, nor worthy the support of the people:

SECTION 8. The plaintiff further represents that on or about the 15th day of January, 1896, the defendant regardless of his duties as a husband was guilty of extreme cruelty toward the plaintiff without any just cause or provocation on her part; that on said date defendant whipped plaintiff with a horse whip, struck her with said horse whip repeatedly and also struck plaintiff with his fist and knocked plaintiff down, at the same time cursing her and using foul, profane, indecent, cruel and abusive language toward plaintiff and that about 10 o'clock p. m. on the 10th day of December, 1896, defendant cursed plaintiff and used foul and profane language toward plaintiff; struck plaintiff with his fist, pushed her out of her own house in Atkinson, Neb., shut the door and locked it on plaintiff when she was sick, and she was obliged to take refuge from the winter weather in the home of a neighbor, and did not see her children for several days and weeks thereafter.

Plaintiff further states that during many years past, and often and on divers days and dates which plaintiff cannot now specifically name, it has been a common occurrence for defendant to come home drunk and act toward plaintiff in a shameful, abusive and violent manner, and has repeatedly during the last two years placed plaintiff and her children in great fear for their personal safety by reason of his wild, malicious, unreasonableness and unlawful actions, and plaintiff states that she is now constantly in fear of defendant and is afraid for the personal safety of herself and children, and therefore asks the court to grant a temporary order immediately against the defendant, prohibiting him from interfering with plaintiff or her children or plaintiff's home or property or effects, or in any way or manner meddling with plaintiff or her children until the further order of the court; and also asks that the court grant a restraining order against defendant, prohibiting him from disposing or transferring his property except in the ordinary course of business until the further order of the court.

THE FAIR.

Following is a complete list of the articles donated for the Catholic fair and the names of those contributing. The fair commences Tuesday evening and an interesting literary program has been prepared for each evening and those who attend will be well entertained:

- Gold watch—N. Brennan.
- Lap robe—John Mann.
- Silk bed spread—J. P. Mann.
- Water pitcher—Mrs. Nell Brennan.
- Card receiver—R. H. Hall, Chicago, by Nell Brennan.
- Hat—Mrs. N. Martin.
- Hat—Mrs. Roberts.
- Cow—Michael Gallagher, Inman.
- Cow—William Hart, Inman.
- Hat—Mrs. Nichols.
- Pair of curtains—Mrs. P. C. Corrigan.
- Rocking chair—Bridget Cooke.
- Pair of shoes—F. C. Kirkendall, Omaha by P. J. McManus.
- Silver tea pot—Mrs. S. B. Howard.
- Pair of lambs—Peter Donahoe.
- Pig—B. J. Donahoe.
- Crazy quilt—Young Ladies.
- Cow—D. J. Cronin.
- Pig—Mrs. Cleary.
- Pig—Ed Graham, Jr.
- Bed—Mrs. J. J. McCaffery.
- Cow—James Ryan.
- Silver tea set—Knapp, Spaulding & Co., Sioux City, by N. Brennan.
- Silver butter dish—E. Whitfield, by Nell Brennan.
- Silver fruit dish—E. Whitfield, by Nell Brennan.
- Chest of tea—Tolerton & Stetson Co., Sioux City, by M. M. Sullivan.
- Suit of clothes—M. M. Sullivan.
- Painting—R. Scott, Chicago, by P. J. McManus.
- Cow—Dan Gallagher, Inman.
- Yearling steer—Peter Ryan, Inman.
- Fifty pounds of flour—Con Keyes.
- One hundred pounds of flour—Steve McGinnis.
- Cow—John Donlin.
- Berry dish Richardson Drug Co., Omaha.
- Bottle of perfume—E. E. Bruce, Omaha.
- Vase—P. C. Corrigan.
- Menshaum pipe—Dr. Benedict, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Sheep—Thomas Walder.
- Mower—O. F. Biglin.
- Rocking chair—Murphy Wasey Co., Omaha, by J. J. McCaffery.
- Copper boiler—Western Tinware Co., by J. J. McCaffery.
- Set of silver knives and forks—Baker Hardware Co., by J. J. McCaffery.

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