

# COUNTY WARRANTS bought by JONES & VERITY.

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Editor.

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Constitutional convention of Wyoming will be composed of 24 republicans and six anti-statehood democrats, the latter being from Johnson and Sheridan counties.—*Look Hear.*

A number of American engineers and geologists are negotiating a contract to complete the Panama canal. It is fast becoming an established fact that any great undertaking a success must be American brains and gold. It is safe to presume that if a contract is made some of the \$200,000,000, which is said to be the contract, will remain in the pockets of the men who assume the task.

Some scientists recommend that fangs will cure certain nervous diseases. Those not versed in the scientific workings of the plant, it appears as if the fangs would tend to make a person nervous. We never heard of a patient being cured who was not reported as being very nervous, although the patient seemed to twitch after they had had a short time.

### Reform Needed in the Grand Jury.

Let the citizenship of the country assist itself in the grand jury room as well as the ballot box. Self government, in its latest analysis, is a matter of individual duty, in administration as well as in legislation, in securing public safety as well as in guarding against official malfeasance and neglect.—*A. W. Tompkins in Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

The prospectus issued by Mr. Hitchcock to the patrons of the late Omaha Herald cannot fail to impress democratic aspirants for office with grave apprehensions for their future. Notice is served on the democrats in advance that the support of their candidates will be dependent upon their ability to fill the void which the editor may form in each individual instance as to their fitness or lack of fitness for any particular position. This will make the democratic candidates pass in review before Mr. Hitchcock acting in the capacity of civil service commissioner. The average democrat has a natural dislike for such an ordeal.—*See.*

The publishers of educational books have formed a trust for the purpose of shutting off the traveling school book agent. If this is made effective the country at large will be the gainer. In the past it has several times occurred that shortly after a new county superintendent or board of education had been elected that a slick-tongued school book agent has called upon them and after showing the advantages of the line of books he had to sell, induced them to sign a letter of recommendation to the school district officers. Armed with this he would proceed to work the officers of the various school districts and induce them to purchase a set of his books. In a year or two a new superintendent is elected and the same thing is gone over again, only the last one takes the old books in part payment for those he substitutes. The result is that the school officers are kept in hot water most of the time and in some cases the school treasury is continually depleted in order that the book agents may make their contribution on a bill of books.

### The Railroad Trust.

The proposition for a great railroad trust is making considerable headway among the principal managements in the country, and there is little doubt but the logic of events will bring about such a solution of the troubles of the railroad men before a great while. The principal question now seems to be whether it will be wise to form one trust, covering the entire country, and bringing the entire system of American railroads under one management, or whether two or more trusts shall be formed, one for the roads east of the Mississippi and one or more for the western lines.

The trust or trusts when formed would be of course subject to the control of the interstate commission, and the laws of congress and could not use their power for the exacting of exorbitant rates. Doubtless the consolidation of all the lines under one, two or three managements would greatly facilitate the business of transportation and enable the commissioners to work with more rapidity and freedom, and would not be inimical to the commerce of the country. The present situation suggests that such a combination is probably the only alternative to government assumption of ownership and control.

### "FOR GOD AND HOME AND NATIVE LAND."

Contributions by the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

WINE.  
When forth from out the sheltering ark  
Thine Noah with his sons,  
To till and plant the earth again  
Thy vine legend runs,  
A mighty djinn or spirit  
Brought into him a vine,  
And taught him how to plant and tend,  
And turn its fruit to wine.  
"Son of an earthly father,"  
Then said the living djinn,  
"Beware of this bright spirit,  
A strange power lurks therein.  
One draught will change man to a sheep,  
With spirit weak and wild;  
Another makes a lion,  
Fierce, roaring, rampant, wild;  
To this add yet another,  
His senses whirl and ring,  
He grovels grunting in the mud,  
Transformed into a pig."  
The spirit did but fling remonstrance,  
Its power had not increased,  
For drinking now the liquid  
Makes man worse than a beast.

Not long ago in a conversation with a friend, Mrs. B. B. Stone remarked: "A dog who lives up to the hars of his being, is in our view, a nobler creature than a man who sinks below his."

A New Orleans paper tells of a printer who, when his fellow workmen went out to drink beer, during the working hours, put in the bank the exact amount which he would have spent had he gone out to drink. He thus kept his resolution for five years. He then examined his bank account and found he had on deposit \$241.95. In the five years he had not lost a day from ill health. Three out of five of his fellow-workmen had in the meantime become drunkards, were worthless, and were discharged.

The emptying of Iowa jail under-taken by the state, is a fact that throughout the country over nine-tenths of all arrests are due, directly or indirectly to the sale and use of intoxicants. It is not a worn-out theme, and must be ultimately the basis of our legislation. The relation of liquor to pauperism and crime cannot be overlooked or put to one side if we expect society to escape ultimate disorganization. The license system as a whole was a failure as a prohibition. Statistics are alarming the economists, and the citizens of the western states are unwilling to trust any longer to the license method of restriction. A recent writer gives a long array of statistics, of which we may select as a sample the fact that in Massachusetts the pauper expenses in five license towns increased 253 per cent, while in five no-license towns of equal size they decreased 65 per cent. Facts all point this way; and now, where is the remedy?—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

### One Phase of it.

If western farm mortgages are scanned a little more closely than formerly in the money markets of the east this must not be considered a final condemnation of western property. The fact appears to be that there has been mismanagement in the business of the companies engaged in loaning money in the west, and this has had not a little to do with discrediting this part of the country. Some of the abuses that have crept into this mortgage business have been summarized as follows:  
The lack of a sufficient guarantee fund to insure the safety of the investments in a period of bad crops or other disasters.  
The frequent division of earnings which have not fully matured, and a portion of which may represent a subsequent liability of the company instead of an asset.  
Injudicious or speculative loans in new or old territory, resulting from competition for business between companies or local agents, or the result of employing dishonest or incompetent ex-aminers.

The common danger of formation of weak and dishonest companies for swindling purposes, which is as liable to occur in any other branch of trade as in the farm mortgage business.

The fearless editor may offend and lose a subscriber, but if he is right in the end he will gain five. He may lose one advertiser, but if he is right he will gain two thereby. If he labors not to displease any one he will please no one. If he tries to pile all the horses in the field he will be unhorsed by each one of them. The editor should follow his honest, well considered convictions, and the man he should labor to please is himself. If he does this with ability and without fear or favor, he will have a greater following and better support, though he be wrong half the time, than he who tries without chart or compass, principle or purpose, drifts aimlessly about with every shifting tide.—*Condit's Dakotian.*

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