

News of 1906



The news in 1906 was, again, largely about progress. Telephone service, albeit only a handful of 'phones, had been established in the county's major towns. The excitement was that pole setting was under way to connect the areas. The year also saw the first use of concrete blocks as a building material for commercial structures in Waynesville. The conflagration that had reduced the commercial district in Waynesville on the south side of the square almost twenty years before (1887) was still a fresh memory. Concrete block buildings were seen as much safer from fire, although only one had been built on Commercial Street by the end of the year.

Another building project caused even more excitement. An electric railroad was proposed to link those "land locked" communities in the southern part of the county, including Waynesville, with the railroad in the northern part of the county and even farther north to Jefferson City.

An effort to restrict the open range and get pigs and cows off city streets was still an issue. Both sides of the stock law controversy were argued in the pages of the newspapers but the debate had cooled somewhat from 1905.

At the end of the year, another sensational murder trial was in the news, this time a family was grotesquely slain in Texas County. We have followed these "big" stories and a few mundane ones.

Each community correspondent reported who was sick, who visited whom, who sold what, and what was being built. This type of news accounted for about 95 per cent of the ink. We have generally omitted the sick call and the visitation reports. The larger railroad towns (Dixon, Crocker, Swedeborg, and Richland) reported faithfully each week. News from the much smaller communities (e.g. Big Piney, Decker, Bailey, and Hooker) was reported sporadically. Some of these communities have lost their identity today for the general public (see map).

A new paper started in Crocker and the established paper in Dixon had difficulties.

Pulaski County Democrat
January 5

SCHLICHT—We will soon have two saw mills near here.

GASCONADE—Quite an excitement over the discovery of lead in this neighborhood.

An immense quantity of fish have been caught out of the Gasconade during the past few weeks of clear water by means of the gig. The sport never seems to get old to the boys as long as there is any fish to be found.

GOLDEN CENTER—W. W. Lee was called to Hooker last week to dress mill stones.

The singing and graphophone entertainment at W. W. Lee's on New Year's eve was a grand success.

HANCOCK—The Frisco is fixing to put in a spur at Helms.

There is going to be a canning factory here in the spring. About seventy acres have been pledged to be put in tomatoes. Mo. W. H. Cannon, O. Mitchell, and Jack Decker are the owners and have already bought the plant and the sight to build on and are to go to work on it soon.

Lemuel Davis, who lived north of Hancock in Miller County, died on the 25th of December after a siege of sickness at sixty-five days duration. He was buried by the Woodman lodge at the Seton grave yard in the presence of something near three hundred people. He leaves a wife and five small children, some relatives and a host of friends to mourn his loss. He carried a thousand dollar policy in the Woodman lodge.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Teachers and advanced students should arrange to enter the Springfield Normal School as soon as the district schools close. There never were as

good opportunities for young men as now, but they must be prepared to do good work. Now is the time to prepare.

Work on the telephone line between Crocker and this place [Waynesville] is progressing nicely and they expect to get the wires up some time next week.

Pulaski County Democrat
January 12

DIXON—Several of the boys took too much stimulants Monday evening, and undertook to "clean house" at the [Frisco] depot. Marshal Liesman interfered and gave them a warm bed in the lock-up.

SCHLICHT—All the local sports have 'signed the pledge,' and the Magnesia water has taken quite a boom.

A party of five Iowagiens were here this week, looking for land. They drank of the Magnesia Spring water and started for Waynesville to close a deal. The magnesia wins them.

RICHLAND—[*The Democrat devoted the entire back page to Richland news and advertisements, the page header being "Richland--Queen of the Ozarks".*]

City Marshal W. J. Manes expects to open a blacksmith shop in the Burhans block.

Richland is to have a bath-room in a few weeks—in the McDonald building. George Laquey is to be the proprietor, and he threatens to soak the bark loose from some of the old mossbacks and young skinflints.

o'clock in the afternoon.

Pulaski County Democrat
January 19

BELLEFONTE—One more week of school at Bellefonte. Mr. Joyner has taught one of the best schools ever taught here, and has given almost entire satis-

faction.

DIXON—The new fast mail train made its first trip Wednesday morning, arriving at 6:20, on schedule time. This gives our patrons of the St. Louis daily papers a chance to read the news before breakfast. Those who get up late—well, they don't read, anyway.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Sheriff Sutton has had the court room and the upper part of the court house scrubbed and cleaned up generally—a much needed renovation.

Quite a number of schools in the county will close to-day. Among the Waynesville teachers whose terms expire are Paris Christeson, Eddie Christeson, Virgil Wheeler, Clyde Joyner; and Albert Matthews' school will close next Wednesday.

Pulaski County Democrat
January 26

Must Have License

A recent decision of the St. Louis Court of Appeals settles the game law question that has been discussed so much here recently. The court sustains the ruling of the Game-Warden, and rules that parties must have a license to hunt in their own county. Several circuit judges had ruled differently, and much hunting was done last season without license. But, from now on, they must procure a license or take chances on being prosecuted.

RICHLAND—The supplies for the new bath-room have arrived and are being installed.

Pulaski County Democrat
February 2

BIG PINEY—Well what a charivari Monday night. The wedding took place Sunday.

J. W. Scales is building a good hotel and a substantial barn, which adds to the town's beauty.

DIXON—H. E. Rollins and Chris Veasman are each having them a new residence planned. They expect to build soon and they may build of concrete.

Contest Between Schools

A contest between Hooker School of Pulaski County, and Western Star School of Phelps county, was held at the Hooker School house on Tuesday Jan. 30. Mr. George Johnson is teacher of Hooker, and Mrs. Phena Rolufs is teacher of Western Star.

The contest began at 1 o'clock p.m. in the form of spelling, the first trial of which ended in a complete victory for Hooker. The second attempt was nearer even, Mrs. Rolufs and Mr. Johnson being the last to leave the floor, Mr. Johnson being victorious. After a short recess the ciphering match began, and resulted in a complete victory for Western Star, seven of Mrs. Rolufs pupils ciphering Mr. Johnson's entire

school down, with him included. Hurrah for Western Star. Mr. Johnson is a very competent teacher, and I believe was liked very well at Hooker. His enrollment was 48, and I believe he had very good attendance throughout the term.

Pulaski County Democrat
February 9

RICHLAND—Phin Storie, who left for California last month, has returned to his old haunts. He is much improved in health, and his friends are congratulating him on having kept his age so well, as he looks as young as when he left for the golden state.

Candidate's Announcement

Richland, Mo. Feb 6, 1906

Editor Democrat—As I have had several inquiries lately as to whether I would be a candidate for re-election as Representative, I believe that the best way to settle the matter would be to send in my announcement. I may be a little early in making this announcement, but none too early if we have an early primary, which all are favor of, so far as I have heard. In this connection I desire to say to my Democratic friends that if you see fit to confer upon me the honor of again heading the ticket in this county I shall do everything I can, honorably, to further the interest of the Democratic party in this county, and, should I be elected,

will endeavor to be the representative of the whole people. As you last Representative I am not ashamed of the record I made on all questions in any manner affecting the interests of the people of my county. I used my best judgement in voting, as I thought, for the best interests of my constituents. I can further say, without boasting, that I had the confidence and respect of every member of the House, as well as every official of the House, from Speaker down to the pages. By reason of the experience I have had, and friends and acquaintances that I have made I feel that I am prepared to make a more valuable servant than I did before.

If I am elected there are many laws that I shall endeavor to have repealed or amended—for one, the Game and Fish law. The purpose of the present law is to protect the game and fish for the benefit of the hunting clubs of the cities. I am in favor of prohibiting the professional sportsman from coming here and killing our game and fish, and am in favor of our home people hunting and fishing at proper seasons without having to pay any license whatever.

Respectfully,
J. L. JOHNSON

COOKVILLE—A new blacksmith shop will soon be established at Cookville.

J. C. Cook, John Bell, Ed. Padget and N. Barnes have built new dwelling

houses. Cookville is on a boom.

GOLDEN CENTER—Our school closed last Friday with a good attendance. Mr. Harrison [Miller's school house] has taught us a good school, and we offer him many thanks for the good service he has rendered our district.

GASCONADE—We recently visited Laquey school, conducted by Prof. Jack Gladden, and will say that the Professor has one of the largest and best disciplined schools we have visited for some time.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Papers were filed with Circuit Clerk Gan last Friday for the incorporation of the People's Bank at Dixon, which is to be ready for business by the first of March. Charles Murphy will be cashier, and the capital stock is to be \$10,000.00. The protracted meeting has been well attended at the Baptist church. While there has not been any great excitement [*probably meaning shaking, jerking, or other outward signs of the spirit*], there has been much good work done, and there have been several additions to the church.

School Notes

Only one month more of school. Emir Christeson entered school Monday.

Pulaski County Democrat

February 16

DIXON—The Bell Telephone Co., this

week connected with the Dixon exchange, making it possible for us to talk to the most distant parts of the country.

The town board has ordered new sidewalks built along all the streets in the vicinity of the school house. The new school building is just about completed and these walks are to be built before moving into it.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Rev. Montgomery closed a sixteen days meeting at the Baptist church last Friday night, with fifteen additions to the church. The members gave Rev. Montgomery a gold watch in appreciation for his service.

Joe X. Wright after three months on the DEMOCRAT force left for Richland the scene of his future operations and greatness.

Several who have been absent to attend the revival meetings at the Baptist church are in school again.

FOR SALE

Town property, one acres, new house, two rooms, seventy fruit trees, drilled well, barn, new woven wire fence, owner leaving town, big bargain, at \$500 cash.

J. P. Power,
Swedeborg, Mo.

Missouri High Schools.

Jefferson City—The fifty-fifth report of public schools, now in the hands of the state printers, will show there are

555 public high schools in the state. Supt. Carrington classified 350 of them, as follows: (1) There are 61 first-class high schools, each doing full four years of approved work, (2) There are 72 second-class high schools, each doing three years of approved work, but not four years. Many of them do four years' work, some of which can not be approved—some on account of lack of equipment or school room, other because of short terms or insufficient teaching force in number of preparation.(3) There are 103 third-class high schools, each doing two years of approved work. Many of these fall below second class for one or more of the reasons stated above. (4) There are 115 other high schools that may easily get into the third class by making greater efforts. The difficulty with many of these schools is lack of funds and principals with managing ability and well-matured plans. While they can not classified under the law, Supt. Carrington puts them in a fourth list to distinguish them from another list of 204 that do some high school work, but are not near to standards set for third-class schools.

Pulaski County Democrat
February 23

LAQUEY—The much needed work, fencing the Ideuma grave yard, was completed last week by C. H. Aker and H. F. Siesser, it is now enclosed by a

neat woven wire fence.

Laquey is small in number but mighty in power, but you never hear us boast of canning bed bugs or straw but just count us among the canners, for C. L. Morgan and H. F. Siesser will put in one of Browns canning factories that will can 20,000 daily. It will be put on Siesser's fruit farm, close enough to Laquey that they can smell the juice of the forbidden fruit. Seeing is believing, and if you don't think our little town is up-to-date call and see.

Another Maries County citizen was killed in a shooting affray last week, which makes the third in a short time. This time it was not a Copeland that was killed as in the other two cases but Martin Copeland did the killing. The shooting occurred in Freeburg, just over the line in Osage county and J. W. Green was the man killed. Copeland and Green lived on adjoining farms and the killing is the outgrowth of an old grudge.

SWEDEBORG—The Swedeborg Canning Company have most all their contracts let for tomatoes for the coming season.

DIXON—The Pioneer Telephone Company now has over fifty phones in Dixon, besides having connection with Waynesville, Crocker, Iberia, Hooker, Franks, several farm houses, post-offices and the long distance lines.

Mark C. Prugh
Attorney

LOCAL BRIEFS

We failed to mention the order of the County Court last week to vote on a proposition to restrain hogs from running at large at the November election. No doubt this question will elicit much comment and cause considerable argument both for and against, but until after Circuit Court the Democrat will not have room to publish any of the arguments. [The *Democrat* ran short of space while the Circuit Court was in session. It published required official notices, sales, etc.]

Waynesville Cornet Band hied themselves to the bluff by the Big Spring and rendered some excellent music Sunday afternoon. G. M. Reed deserves much credit for the interest he has taken in the band.

Pulaski County Democrat
March 2

SCHOOL NOTES

This is the last week of school and most of the time will be given to examinations. Several of the pupils are absent on account of high water. Five of our pupils go to Springfield to attend the Springfield Normal.

David Lewis, Ernest Christeson, and Virgil Barlow, three of Pulaski's popular young teachers, went last week to Springfield to attend the Normal School. This is a good school and quite a number of Pulaski teachers attend each year. They ordered the DEMOCRAT

to furnish them the news.

A fight of a peculiar nature and one with considerable novelty attached to it occurred in town Tuesday, in which J. E. Lane and Sam Laughlin were the belligerents. A difference of opinion arose between them and after considerable parley they decided to go on top of Dr. Tice's drug store and there fight it out. A few passes were made by Lane when Laughlin in making a side step stumbled over the fire wall and fell to the roof of J. B. Christeson's ware room, seven or eight feet below. Jerry helped him out of his difficulty and the fight was declared a draw.

HANCOCK—B. F. and E. L. Goodman have commenced the completion of the well for the canning factory.

Pulaski County Democrat
March 9

Sheriff A. D. Sutton announces this week as a candidate for re-election and solicits the support of all democrats. Dodson Sutton was elected to the office of sheriff two years ago and has made a splendid official. He is willing to be judged in his race for the second term by the work he has done in the first. He is a democrat true to the principals [sic] of the party and fearless in the discharge of his duty. If nominated he will add strength to the ticket and if elected will, as in the past, continue to make a splendid official.

Interested in Local History?

**Can you volunteer a Saturday
once a month
April through September?**



**Is preserving and sharing our
local heritage
important to you?**

**If your answers are "YES"
then you need
to be a volunteer at the
OLD STAGECOACH STOP.**

Interested?

**Contact Jan Primas at 573 435-6766
or Marge Scott at 573 774-5368**

DIXON—Prof. Hall, of Jefferson City, was in Dixon Tuesday visiting and inspecting our public school. Mr. Hall approved our high school and endorsed it to the state superintendent.

LOCAL BRIEFS

A lumber yard is badly needed in Waynesville. Why don't some one put in a small stock.

Our public school closed last Friday and a very successful term was taught. Prof. Gove is a teacher whose scope of instruction reaches far beyond the covers of the text books, and the board will do well to hire him as principal for another term.

Waynesville Normal will open April 9th. Conducted by C. H. Gove and J. S. Lumpkin. Address C. H. Gove, Waynesville, Mo.

The Spring Term of Iberia Academy begins March 26th. As usual during the Spring Term the Academy will pay a great deal of attention to the training of teachers for our public schools. Teachers will find here advantages which compare favorable with those offered by the approved Summer Schools at Springfield or Columbia. You are invited to write to the principal for further information.

Teacher's March Examination

The next regular teacher's examination will be held at Dixon on Friday and Saturday, March 23 and 24. All those who desire a certificate should be present all of both days. Those who

expect to use grades made at former examinations should bring a copy of those grades. Many who want to receive a certificate in June will find it convenient to take part of the work at this March examination. Work begins about 8 o'clock each day.

ROBERT GREEN,
County Commissioner.

HANCOCK—Mud. Mud. MUD. Hancock is dull this week as everybody is courting. *[We take this to mean that everybody is in Waynesville for the Circuit Court session, not shopping for a mate.]*

Boys prepare your bells, as Willie Goodman still makes his regular visits at Yoakums. *[Willie is looking for a mate. "Prepare your bells" is a phrase referring to throwing a charivari after a wedding.]*

Pulaski County Democrat
March 23

GASCONADE—The stork left baby number ten, a twelve pound girl, at the happy home of James Brown, a poor but industrious workman of this community.

COOKVILLE—Boys, just as well hang up your bells and store your tin pans until some future time, as the present indications are not as favorable as they were last week. *[Apparently, the romance has cooled between an unnamed couple.]*

Cookville will soon have a drug store.

This will make four stores in our town carrying different lines.

Jefferson City—Gov. Folk has made public the report of the board of visitors of the state school of mines at Rolla, Mo., in which charges are made that Director Ladd is neglectful of his duties in frequently being absent, and that he has often played billiards in public halls with students of the institution, which, in the opinion of the board, is prejudicial to the interests of the school.

Local Briefs

The Approved Summer School at the Springfield Normal will be held this year between the dates of county examinations, April 9-June 9. Total cost \$31.50. Teacher may pay in monthly payments next fall.

All those wanting to grow tomatoes for Waynesville Canning Factory, will please come in at once and let us know how many acres you wish to put in as the contract must be let by April 1st.

The meeting at the M. E. Church, south, that had been in progress for two weeks was brought to a rather abrupt end Tuesday by Rev. Jarad getting word from home that his wife was sick. The meeting is said by many who have lived here to have been one of the most interesting held here for many years. There were 36 conversions and 35 additions to the church. The mem-

ber made Rev. Jarad up a purse of \$55.00...in addition to which were a few nice presents to himself and wife.

Pulaski County Democrat
March 23 Special Edition

Dixon—Town politics is growing in interest. What is called a peoples ticket for the Town Board officers is as follows. G. S. Scott, G. W. Shelton, Dr. Walker, M. F. Sweet and E. S. Mex. The main question for the voters consideration seems to be for or against the stock law and for or against the fourth class city.

Additional Local Happenings

A new 600-candle power gasoline street lamp was put up in front of Methodist church last week. It is a beauty and lights all that part of town. It is a pity but what the business part of town had a few of them.

The Game Law Again

The Court of Appeals last week reversed its former decision on the game law and rendered another to the effect that parties are allowed to hunt in the county in which they live without a license and further that parties owning land in another county than that in which they live are allowed to hunt in the county in which this land is located also without a license.

SCHLICHT—Gold mining is in full blast at lower Egypt.

The UPS Store

Lowe Chevrolet

Pulaski County Democrat
March 30

A Narrow Escape

Last Sunday afternoon while out driving with two of the fair sex Ed Burchard and Guy Reed attempted to cross the creek which was considerable swollen. When they were in about the deepest water Ed who was driving let the team stop to take water. While drinking the off horse caught his outside cheek on the end of the neck yoke unsnapping it and the team turned down stream into deep water, whereupon Ed became somewhat excited and began to try to stop the team which he finally did and turned to Guy for counsel as to how they should get out of this predicament. Guy quickly swung himself around the side of the carriage onto one of the horses and guided the team to the shore amid the applause of several spectators on the bank, and thereby saved the party from a good ducking and perhaps a watery grave. The party have about got over their fright by this time and Ed says he shines in some lines, but will let the girls drive the next time he goes out with a team.

SCHLICHT—Orville Brown of Lower Egypt was a caller here this week. The gold mine is on a boom he reports, with good mineral success.

HANCOCK—W. H. Scott Jr. unloaded his

saw mill here Saturday and is making preparation to saw the lumber for the canning factory here.

In digging the well for the canning factory they struck something in the rock that looked like silver, it seemed to be all through the rock.

[G. W. Lane published the "Collector's Annual Statement." It showed total tax revenues from all sources to be \$31,595.63 for 1906.]

Pulaski County Democrat
April 6

Against Hog Law.

Editor Democrat.

Dear Sir: As I see your paper is open for discussion on the Hog Law and I see no one has said anything in regard to the matter, I will express my sentiments in regard to the matter. I am an upland farmer and write in behalf of upland farmers in general. Someone will say, does he call himself a farmer? I am a farmer like the boy said of his father, he was a preacher but did not work at it very much. But I do raise some hogs and raise them outside too. Now this hog law makes me think of the story in old blue back spelling book about whose ox is gored. Now it is my ox that is gored this time and every other upland farmer in the county. We don't raise much corn, have to depend on the tender roots in spring and mast in fall and

winter to raise our hogs. Some winters I have known whole car loads of fine fat hogs sold from the acorns that never ate any corn. Now I could keep up my hogs if I had to but what would those people do that have no land? Our neighbors who live in the bottoms tell us the mast does more harm than good by making the hogs diseased then what about the past winter? There was no mast and nearly all the hogs died and if you notice that three-fourths of all hogs that die are along the rivers where they are not let out to get the mast. Now if I lived on the river where the water kept the fence down so much I would be in favor of a hog law, but as it is would rather have cattle kept up and turn the hogs out. They are what bother us upland farmers. The way it is now the upland farmers have to build a fence that costs about as much as the crop is worth to keep their cattle and mules out and when they eat our crops they say let them fix their fence. So let Mr. Hog run until we have a general stock law.

T. L Davis

Pulaski County Democrat
April 13

Local Happenings

At the school meeting in Crocker last Tuesday bonds were voted to build a \$3600.00 school building and an eight months term of school was also voted. Lots were presented by R. H. Hawkins

for school house site. Crocker is coming to the front and will keep pace with her sister towns.

A move was inaugurated last week to build a band stand, but it met with such poor encouragement from our citizens that it was abandoned. A band stand is something that is badly needed, since we have a band, and the benefit if any derived from it falls directly on our business men. The band would, if they had a proper place to meet, give two afternoon concerts in each week during the summer, which would bring much trade to town.

The board of trustees of Iberia Academy let out the contract last Tuesday night for the new Boarding Hall to McCaw and Gray of Rolla, for the sum of \$6,809.00. There are some extras which will bring the cost of the building up to something over \$7,000.00 and including the furnishings the total will be about \$10,000.00. It is expected that the work will begin right away.

HOOKER—We understand Hooker is to have a canning factory.

LAQUEY—The Laquey telephone line has such a large number of phones that a switch board had to be placed in A. A. Parsons' store. A new line is promised soon.

BAILEY—This district voted as usual for a nine months school.

The Eyeglass Center

Zeigenbein Feed and Farm Supply

Alarmco

St. Robert Auto Supply

Business Graphics

Designs from Nature

Your correspondent believes that when we get the hog law that the swine plague and cholera will disappear.

DIXON—Sheriff Sutton is the only candidate we have seen in our town since the passage of the stock law. It is claimed that all but the sheriff are afraid to come here since animals have been restrained from running at large. [Dixon is in the forefront in passing an ordinance prohibiting animals from roaming its city streets. According to the correspondent, the politicians thought such an ordinance included them.]

Pulaski County Democrat
April 20

DIXON—The People's Bank of Dixon opened for business this week.

The Frisco is planning to put in a large water tank here soon, work to begin about the first of June. The town will confer with them for the purpose of securing water for fire protection.

For the Hog Law

Editor Democrat:

In reply to Mr. Davis' discussion on the hog law, he says he is an upland farmer and in favor of the stock law, he says the upland farmer don't raise much corn that is true but one acre of clover will be of more benefit to your hog than ten acres of woodland and if your hogs and sheep pastures are fenced hog tight you will not have to spend the worth of your crop fencing against your neighbors hogs. Four wires will turn cattle or horses which cost only about \$12.00 per quarter and is not like a rail fence have to be rebuilt every year and how much better would the country look if all the timber was cleaned out and hogs and sheep grazing on clover than running their legs off in the woods trying to find an acorn or some tender root to eat.

So come again Mr. Davis.

T. Stokes

LAQUEY—W. C. Morgan is planning the erection of a canning factory and has employed a lot of growers.

A crowd from Laquey spent Sunday at Maxie cave and in the evening went to the Easter entertainment at Ideuma church.

Pulaski County Democrat
April 27

CROCKER—Saturday was the banner day for Crocker in the freight line. The local put off over 34,000 pounds, the largest ever unloaded here in one day. The country is certainly growing.

Saturday evening the fast mail struck a large hog belonging to Everett Rowden and knocked it with such force against the mail crane that it was knocked over and the clerk failed to catch the mail bag. Thus the mail crane was knocked down by being hit by a male hog that had been hit by the mail train.

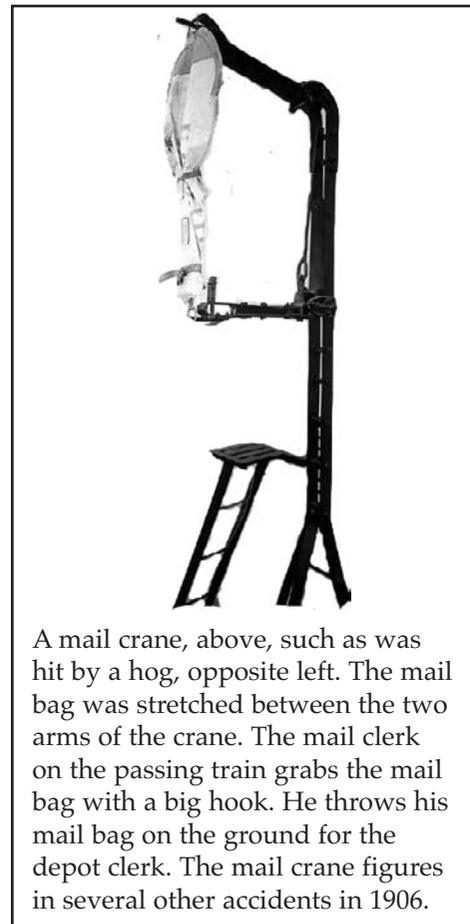
There was a traveling circus in town

Monday night. Like all of them it was a professional "fake."

Against Hog Law

Editor Democrat:

If you don't think I am making too much trouble I will reply to Mr. Stokes. He can picture things very nice on paper but when it comes to putting those things into practice is where the trouble sets in. In the first place it is very difficult matter to raise clover on the hills. I have been trying for twenty-five years and the only way I can successfully set clover is to feed the hay and set with manure which is very slow. Could not keep many hogs on that, then what would his hogs and sheep do in winter? Next he says one can make good horse and cattle fence with four wire at a cost of twelve dollars per quarter of mile. Well we will do some figuring on that: each forty would cost \$48.00 beside the work on outside, not saying anything about his hog and sheep pasture which would cost as much or more, then we have \$96.00 expended on each forty acre tract, so you see there are but very few upland farmer who could do this and when you vote to restrain hogs you do sheep at the same time. Hogs can be kept on small pastures if they have plenty to eat, but not so with sheep they must have either a change of pasture or a very large one, so you see if the sheep and hog law carries it will knock out both on uplands and small farms in general. Now there is another thing I wish to say in regard to those voters living in incorporated towns voting on said law. I don't think there is but one class of them who should be allowed a vote on the hog law and that is those who have farms in the county. We would have as much right to go to these town and meddle with their corporation laws as for the other to vote on this question. In my neighborhood



A mail crane, above, such as was hit by a hog, opposite left. The mail bag was stretched between the two arms of the crane. The mail clerk on the passing train grabs the mail bag with a big hook. He throws his mail bag on the ground for the depot clerk. The mail crane figures in several other accidents in 1906.

the horse and cattle range is bout all gone but it is excellent for sheep which do better outside than anywhere else. There was sold and lotted at my place last summer about two thousand of the range near here so let us not jump out of the frying pan into the fire. Hoping some one will come forward with some better ideas I remain

Yours truly,

T. L. Davis

Local Briefs

Work on the telephone system is progressing nicely and the phones are being put in this week. Waynesville [will] take about twenty-five phones.

The postoffice department has decided that children going to and from school shall not be allowed to get their parent's mail, so do not blame the postmaster if your children are refused the mail. The postoffice habit among children has become a nuisance both to the public and the postmaster, and the department has done wisely in making this decision. This has been one of Postmaster Reed's greatest trials as the children go to and from school. We hope this will be observed and not other means need to be used to enforce the law.

[George M. Reed was postmaster of Waynesville from 1904 until 1914. Most likely, the post office was in his residence. The Reeds lived in a large two-story house at the corner of Commercial and Linn (or Historic 66 and Lynn today.) This was next to the Black Hotel (now known as the Old Stagecoach Stop.) Mr. Reed was accomplished in several ways. He was County Surveyor, 1893-1896. He was a lawyer, although at this he had one notable failing when his most notorious client, Elias Smith, was hanged for committing murder in 1905 (see 2005 Old Settlers Gazette for a thorough account of the crime, trial, and execution.) Mr. Reed founded the Pulaski County Democrat newspaper, from which we cull most of our 100 year old news. Mr. Reed also was an accomplished musician, playing the violin, and made an effort in 1906 to improve the fledgling Cornet Band in Waynesville.]

[Some self-serving copy from the editor of the Pulaski County Democrat.]

The newspaper is a law book for the indolent, a sermon for the thoughtless, a library for the poor and an admonisher for the lawless. It may stimulate the most indifferent, but it cannot be published without cost and sent free to subscribers. This is no joke.

The Democrat subscription list still continues to grow and now claims a bonafide circulation of 1200 which brings good results as an advertising medium. Our home advertisers are well pleased with the results of advertising in the Democrat as the majority of the county read[s] it. [Editor Wheeler says elsewhere that the Pulaski County Democrat readership is more than all of the other county papers put together. In 1906, the "other" papers included the Richland Cyclone, Crocker News, and,

possibly, the Dixon Echo.]

Pulaski County Democrat

May 18

SCHLICHT—During the past week the Gasconade river and the Schlicht Milling Company's spring have been replenished with fish. Fish Commissioner Neosho, of St. Joe, having placed in them 5,000 Brook Trout and 5,000 Jack Salmon [walleye].

[The tourist season was shifting into high gear. Sportsmen came to the river resorts and private clubs, while the health conscious sought the healing waters.]

LAQUEY—Next Saturday will be the "doing day" of the year for the Laquey school, for there is to be a big spelling match and box supper. Old and young will do well to study their old "blue backs," and girls, it would be a good idea for you all to bring a well-filled box, for we are sure to have the time of our lives.

Still More Locals

The ordinance of baptism will be administered at the creek [Roubidoux] near town today (Friday) by Rev. Jar-rad at 9 a.m.; preaching services at 11 a.m. The candidates are requested to be present.

Richland Votes School Bonds

Richland held a special school election Monday for the purpose of voting bonds to build a \$9,000.00 school building. The proposition carried by a vote of 134 to 61. As it required two thirds to carry the proposition it only had twelve votes more than enough. The people of Richland will never regret this move and will have a school building that will be a credit to any town.

The Bridge Question

The citizens of Piney Township presented a petition to the County Court asking the Court to build them a bridge across the Big Piney river. They state in their petition that the county has built Dixon a free bridge, Waynesville and Crocker a free bridge, and Richland a free bridge, they claim that their lands are assessed higher than the north side of the County and that they are entitled to a bridge.

The court considered the question of building a bridge across Piney, and after looking up the amount of money on hand they find that there is not sufficient funds to build them until after the court pays for re-recording the old deeds, and after that is done and they find a surplus, they will then take up the bridge question.

Roubidoux [Township] is asking for a bridge. The citizens of Dixon are asking for a bridge across the river at Riddle ford, the citizens at Hooker also want a bridge across Piney. [The County Court pleaded insufficient funds because of the cost of re-recording the deeds that were lost in the court house fire of 1903. The citizens of Piney Township, however,

did not have too long to wait. Ross Bridge was constructed in 1908 and served that part of the county well for 90 years. It was the last remaining early 20th century steel truss bridge in the county when the County Commission had the Army blow it up in 1998.]

TWENTY FOUR YEARS OLD

Last week's issue closed the twenty-fourth volume of the *Democrat*, one more year will make a quarter of a century since the *Democrat* was established in Waynesville by G. M. Reed. Mr. Reed had charge of the paper for several years selling the plant to Judge W. T. Wright who continued the publication until April 1894 when he sold to J. A. Swan. The present editor [Nathan Wheeler] took charge of the paper in November 1898 and during the seven and a half years we have had control of it, we have put forth every effort to make it a success and how far we have succeeded we will leave for you to judge.

That the people appreciate our efforts is shown by the fact that notwithstanding the paper was 17 years old when we took it, and then had a large subscription, we have during our administration, added over 400 bonafide subscribers to the list and today we have far the largest subscription list of any paper in the country [county]. What better evidence of approval could any one want?

We want to thank the business men

of Waynesville and our sister towns for their liberal patronage and hope to merit a continuance of the same in the future.

Our correspondents, to whom we owe much of our success, have our sincere thanks for their assistance in making the *Democrat* what it is, and kindly ask a continuance in their good work. We expect to continue to give the news and stand up for the Democratic party without fear or favor, as we have done in the past.

Ed Burchard is at Big Piney this week, painting W. J. Scales' new hotel building. It is said Mr. Scales has one of the best hotel buildings in the country, and Ed is sure to do a good job painting it for he understands his business.

The band boys [cornet band, which includes the editor] received their new uniforms last week and made their first appearance in same Monday afternoon. They presented a very pretty sight and the music was much better than when they play in just common clothes.

Pulaski County Democrat
May 25

Bridges are wanted and have been asked for across the Gasconade at the mouth of Bear creek and the Riddle ford. Across Piney at Wagon ford and

Big Piney, and across Roubidoux at Cookville and Waynesville. None will be built, for a while at least.

COOKVILLE—Dundas and St. Anne are very much like Rome and Corinth were one day, constantly in war, but still marriages take place. B. F. Doyel last week married Sadie McCann That is three of our boys who have married Dundas girls. Who will be next?

CROCKER—The Band Stand is up and now resembles Joseph's coat of many colors.

A soda water gas tank belonging to J. M. Long at Waynesville exploded at the depot Monday and caused considerable excitement. Crocker had more gas in her for a little while than was ever known before. Made one think he was in Richland or Dixon.

Notice to Contractors

Bids will be received for the building of a schoolhouse in School District 3, Twp. 36 10 and 11, up to noon on Saturday June 30, 1906.

Said house to be a frame, weather-boarded and plastered, 18 by 24 feet, 12 feet high. For further particulars and complete plan and specifications call on, or write,

H. A. Rigsby, Dist Clerk
Hooker, Mo.

Waynesville Will Celebrate

A meeting of the citizens of Waynesville was held in the Court house

last Friday evening for the purpose of discussing the question of an old time picnic and celebration on the Fourth of July. Most of the business men were out and all seemed heartily in favor of a time like we used to have. The Waynesville Cornet band will have the matter in charge but our people have promised to help it along in every way possible. Several talks were made on the subject and finally it was agreed that every business house in town should close their doors from ten until three o'clock and each man has signed an agreement to that affect. The people of the town have also agreed to go out and take their dinners and mix with and enjoy the company of their country friends.

Pulaski County Democrat
June 1

Bargain Carnival, T. A. Murphy & Co.
Dixon, Missouri
June Second to June Sixteenth

[The movement to construct more bridges in the county, instigated by a petition from the folks in Piney Township, seemed to be building and the County Clerk did some inquiry into the cost.]

Editor *Pulaski County Democrat*,
Dear Sir:—

At the request of the court I give you below letters from the Chicago and

Gasconade Hills
Dental centers

Greg Warren

Richland bridges, showing what it will cost to build bridges at the present time:

E. G. Williams, Clerk County Court

Dear Sir:—

Replying to your favor of the 18th, will say the two bridges we built for you had spans 120 ft with 14 ft roadway and piers 42 in in diameter, 26 ft high in one and 35ft in the other, our records show considerable loss on this contract. This in connection with the advance of material would make the approximate value of two such bridges at the present time Ten Thousand (\$10,000) Dollars. We are not in the highway bridge business at the present time and would probably not be bidder on your work.

Very Truly Yours,
Chicago Bridge & Iron Works
By E. G. Ladd

I also wrote the Canton Bridge Co. by J. W. Hoover General Agent, the company that built the Dixon Bridge and the company sent their Springfield Mo. agent here and he wrote out and left with me a statement of what such bridges as the Crocker and Dixon would cost at the present time. I requested him to give the amount he would bid on such bridges at the present time, and below is his letter to the County Court.

Gentlemen:—

Mr. E. G. Williams, I give you below approximately the cost of Steel Bridges as compared with the cost of those you have bought in the past. A bridge like those sold you by the Chicago Bridge Company will cost you about Eight Thousand Two hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$8,250.00). A bridge like the one built you by J. W. Hoover on the Dixon Road will cost you about Nine Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$9,250.00). The reason of this advance is very plain, the two bridges built by the Chicago Bridge Company in 1894 were taken below cost to start with, and at that time the plain metal base was about \$900. Now it is \$1700, if you take this and add a reasonable profit upon the work it will run this job to above figures.

The bridge built by J. W. Hoover in 1897 for \$5,900.00 was a reasonable contract at that time but metal advance is about 65 per cent, also a good advance on labor, almost 50 per cent on skilled labor, almost 50 per cent on cement, and I do not know how much advance on lumber perhaps not as much advance on lumber here as in other places upon the R. R. and other points but undoubtedly a good advance.

Yours Truly,
The Canton Bridge Company
by J. W. Hoover, Genl. Agt.

[E. G. Williams went on to give a financial

accounting of the county's funds and expenses, saying that by the end of the November Term, 1906, he expected the county to have a balance of \$760.55.]

Local Briefs

Frank Brittain was over from Dixon to do some work on the telephone line last Friday. He installed four new phones in the court house.

Mrs. E. M. Black, of the popular Black Hotel, called Tuesday and renewed her subscription; also that of her son, Lewis Black, of Sterrett, I. T. [Indian Territory] Mrs. Black is one of our best citizens and never lets her subscription get behind. [A year subscription to the Democrat was \$1.00 or a cord of wood.]

Pulaski County Democrat

June 8

**ARMSTRONG ON THE
BRIDGE PROPOSITION**

With a Number of Richland Democrats Answers the Letter of County Clerk Williams, which appeared in this Paper Last Week.

Richland, Mo., 6,2,'06

Editor Democrat:

I hope you will not deny us space in your valuable paper to analyze the remarkable letter from Col. Williams in your last issue, in which he attempts to create the impression that we have no available funds for bridge purposes or other internal improvements. We have a strong suspicion that this showing of the financial condition of Pulaski county is on a par with that made by the Colonel when application was made for a bridge at the Riddle ford and by this same method he convinced the applicants that there was no money in the treasury, but immediately after the burning of the old court house, Colonel Williams could show some \$15,000.00 surplus. This system of juggling figures reminds us a great deal of a game sometimes practiced by a gentry that travel over our country— "Now you see and now you don't. The fact is our friend Williams has become so expert in figures that he can show a deficit or a surplus as he chooses. That is, if he opposes he can make us ready for the bankrupt court with equal facility.

After reading his estimates, showing a probable balance in the treasury Nov. 1st of \$760.55, we invite his attention to the following figures and estimates taken from the Financial Statement of the County and published under date of April 30, 1906, and certified as correct by him:

Cash on hand
in expenditure funds.....\$10,355.33

Cash in back tax and
foreign insurance funds..... 443 27
Money loaned at 8 per cent interest,
belonging to above funds.....6,505.70
Annual interest on above 520.46
Estimated collections to credit of ex-
penditure fund—same as the
last year,.....10,747.11
Total.....\$28,571 87

Less estimated expense,
same as whole of last year,.....8,341.48
Estimated balance to credit of funds
available for internal improvement at
close of fiscal year.....\$10, 230.39

We estimate receipts same as last year, but it will be conceded by all that they will be larger on account of the increase of assessed valuation, and the only extra expense necessary is that of holding the general election, and, as Judge Woodside declared from the bench that we would probably not have another Grand Jury soon, we estimate that the amount thus saved will almost pay the cost of the November election.

We have made no estimate as to receipts from back tax, foreign insurance and sinking funds, and, it will not be denied but that there will be some revenue from that source. The estimated credited balance in cash and solvent notes at the close of the present year of \$20,230.39 does not seem too large unless the County Court should see proper to have some old deeds re-recorded and which Col. Williams suggests will make serious inroads into our already well-nigh depleted treasury.

As the expenditure for the purpose of recording old deeds is limited by statute to \$800.00 in any one year we do not see how it can possibly jeopardize the solvency of the county or make it imprudent to spend a little money for bridges. We understand there is now on file about 2,000 deeds for record and if the County Court will accept the proposition of Colonel Williams to record these deeds at 15c each, it will cost just \$300 to clean up the whole bunch. Or, if this proposition does not suit, set apart the annual interest of \$5,000 of the money already loaned and for this \$400, we will engage to furnish as good a man to record deeds as ever placed a pen on our county records, and will guarantee that he will do honest work for a whole year and put in 50 per cent long

WRECKED WITH DYNAMITE

THE FAMOUS FERRIS WHEEL A TANGLED PILE OF JUNK.

St. Louis, May 12—The big Ferris wheel at the World's Fair grounds was blown up by dynamite at 4:30 p.m. Friday. One hundred pounds of dynamite were exploded under the supports at the north side of the structure, wrecking the foundation and permitting the wheel to drop to the ground, a matter of but a few feet.

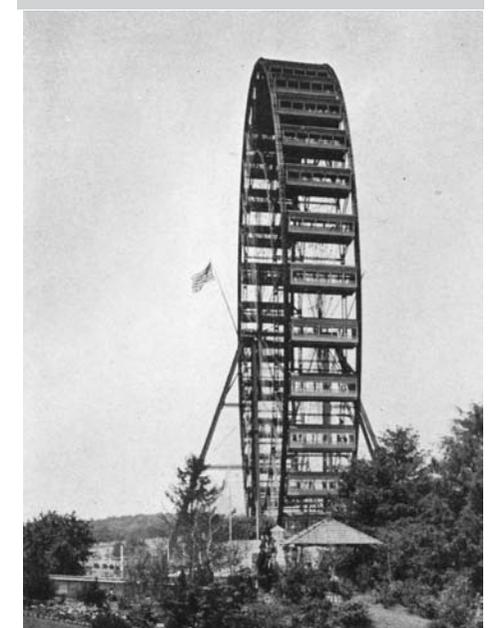
As the wheel settled it slowly turned, with the bottom of the wheel as a support, and then, after tottering a moment, slowly collapsed. It did not fall to one side as the wreckers had planned—it merely crumpled up slowly, and within a few minutes was a tangled mass of steel and iron 30 or 40 feet high.

The huge axle, weighing 74 tons, dropped slowly with the rest of the wheel, crushing the smaller braces and steel framework into fantastic shapes and forms. When the mass finally stopped settling it bore no resemblance to the wheel so familiar to all St. Louisians.

Mrs. Cora Bennett, wife of W. G. Bennett, superintendent of the Chicago House Wrecking Co., touched the button that exploded the dynamite.

The wheel weighed 4,000 tons. It cost originally \$750,000 when erected in Chicago 13 years ago. It was sold there for \$15,000 and \$200,000 was spent bringing it to this city and erecting it.

During the time it was in use at both fairs it carried 6,000,000 passengers.



The wheel was 250 feet in diameter and stood 264 feet high. In reality it was two wheels securely braced together. Between the outer rims of those wheels the eleven-ton cars were suspended on 6 1/2 in. pins 6 feet long, 9 feet high, and carried 60 persons each. There were 36 of them, so the total capacity of the wheel was 2,160 persons. A more complete description of the wheel and its history can be found in the *Gazette* 2004.

hours than does any official.

We hope the tax-payers will not be scared into the belief that all the money loaned will have to be collected for the purpose of re-recording of deeds when the fact is the interest for one year will suffice to record nearly twice as many as are now in sight.

Next we want to address ourselves to the estimated cost to the county of the proposed bridge at the mouth of Bear Creek. Taking the estimate made by the Chicago Bridge Company, that it will cost \$5,000 to duplicate the bridge at the McCain ford, we do not see why it should cost more than \$4,000 to build the proposed bridge. The fact is by actual measurements made by Dr. E. A. Oliver, G. W. Pippin and myself and was found that the proposed bridge at the mouth of Bear Creek would be 100 feet shorter and at least seven feet lower than that one at McCain ford. This should reduce the cost to not over \$4,000—which is deducting 20 per cent from the estimated cost of larger bridges when as a matter of fact the new bridge would be more than 30 per cent shorter. This is just what the applicants for the bridge told the court the thought the bridge would cost when they made the application and offered to donate \$2000 toward its construction and advised the Court that they believed this would be one-half the cost. According to all the information furnished in the complete financial statement and estimate furnished in your last issue by Colonel Williams as to the cost of bridges, it would cost the County very little, if any, in excess of \$2000 to build this bridge and still leave a handsome surplus in the treasury at the close of this fiscal year, which we favor using to build other bridges, where the citizens will subscribe sufficient to show that the bridge is necessary.

Now, if Mr. Williams can find any errors in our figures or estimates, we will be glad to correct them, but we must not only be told, but must be "shown." We are from Missouri and propose to "figger" a little for our selves.

J. W. Armstrong

COOKVILLE—There will soon be a telephone line from Cookville and Plato. The company meets Tuesday to arrange everything to go to work.

Notice to Contractors

Waynesville Canning Co. will receive bids to build the canning factory, up to noon June 13, 1906. Building to be boxed 30 by 40 feet. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids. For complete specifications call on J. M. Long, or L. N. Hufft.

Waynesville, Mo.

The opening day of Murphy's big carnival sale, at Dixon, was a grand success. The first days sales being \$826.15. They gave a prize to the one of the new salesladies who sold the most goods. Mrs. Gertrude Williams was the lucky one, her sales being \$55.58. Ethel Hooker second, \$50.86, Lula Baker third, \$48.28. Either of these sales is considered good for an old hand at the business.

A GALA DAY IN DIXON

The Bargain Carnival advertised by T. A. Murphy & Co., of Dixon, opened last Saturday and it is said to have been the busiest day that Dixon had ever seen.

The event was judiciously advertised and the crowd present is estimated at 500 people. They had 19 clerks, all of whom were kept busy, and their sales for that day amounted to \$826.15. They offered a present of a new hat to the lady selling the most good, which was won by Mrs. Ethel Williams. The success of the day was caused by liberal advertising and is another illustration of the virtue of printer's ink.

T. A. Murphy & Co.'s ad filled the front page of the Democrat. The two week "Bargain Carnival, as it was billed, drew a huge crowd. The sale became known as "Murphy Days." The top of their ad addressed their patrons.]

TO OUR MANY FRIEND IN DIXON AND SURROUNDING COUNTRY:

The rush to this great sale is simply wonderful. If our store was ten times its size and we had all the people in the country we could not have begun to accommodate the crowd. We did not anticipate such a rush but now we think we can attend to them at a better advantage. We would ask the kind indulgence of those who have been in the store and did not get prompt attention to come in again this week and next. Big Bargains for everybody. Don't wait until the last day. Biggest bargains in rain coats, for both ladies and gentlemen, ever heard of--Special while this sale is going on.

Guy Reed accompanied Miss Lona Wilson home Monday and took in the show in Crocker Monday night. [When



This is a postcard taken during "Murphy Day", ca. 1910. The sale, inaugurated in 1906, was apparently a big success for several years afterwards. Courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas

was the last time a date you had made the newspaper?]

RICHLAND—Uncle Alex Bryan has a new cement walk at his place. How many more will follow his example? [Alexander Bryan was a rather interesting fellow. He and his wife Mary owned the Waynesville House, now the Old Stagecoach Stop, from 1874-1886. Bryan joined the Confederate company raised in 1861 by Judge V. B. Hill and Sheriff Stewart, which drilled on the courthouse square and fought at Wilson's Creek. After serving the Confederate cause for about six months, Bryan later joined the Union Army. For his service with the 48th Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Mr. Bryan received an invalid pension beginning in 1891. That initial pension was for the sum of \$6.00 per month. Although claiming a variety of ailments when petitioning for the pension, Bryan lived until 1919. When he died in Richland at the age of 94, his pension had reached \$32.00.]

PROTRACTED MEETING CLOSED

The series of meetings at the Baptist church closed Sunday night. The grand rally and church re-union was held Sunday in the grove north of town. While the crowd present was not near as large as it was year ago, a great many people were present. Two sermons were preached and dinner was served on the ground. After the evening services twenty-two candidates were baptized, Revs. S. M. Manes and J. A. Francis performing the ordinance. Quite a number were present from a distance, many of whom we did not meet and whose names we did not learn.

Most of those present seemed to

enjoy the day and we hope much good was accomplished.

CROCKER—Frank Burls came in Saturday night and reported that he had been bitten by a snake at noon near the river. He was with a crowd of St. Louis sports and while going for a bucket of water, the snake bit him. He grabbed it and threw it from him but it sprang at and bit him the second time. He was very sick Saturday night, but by a vigorous administration of the time-honored and ever popular remedy, he pulled through. Boys, take warning. Never go into the domain of snake without a good supply of the usual cure, and it may be well to take a few doses occasionally whether bitten or not, as the snake may attack and you not discover it in time.

LAQUEY—Clarence Mosier and a bunch of honey bees had a regular scrap one day recently and Clarence got the worse of the encounter. Dr. Sell is attending. [Might be the ever popular snake remedy could have helped.]

A. A. Parsons lost about a half-mile of fence burned one day last week. [Seems split rail fences are still in use.]

TRIBUNE—At Sunday school last Sunday it was decided to dig a cistern, clean up and scrub the church, and raise money with which to purchase cuspidours—we are very much in favor of these first three decision, but can't say so much for the last one—buying spittoons for the Lord's house, for it does seem that those parties, who use tobacco and those who are continuous expectoraters could manage to

“hold their spittal” during church services for you should remember that we are not accustomed to “old time Quaker sermons” here in the 20th century, as were our ancestors, in Benjamin Franklin’s time. So we would move that you “cut out” the spittoon proposition and if necessary put up a big sign to read as follows:

DO NOT SPIT ON THE FLOOR

Pulaski County Democrat
June 15

Ex-Confederate Encampment

The executive committee of the South Central Missouri Ex-Confederate Association met at Barnitz Lake Saturday, June 2nd, and selected August 29th, 1909, as the date of opening the 10th annual encampment of the Association, to continue four days. It was also decided to devote one day to an exhibition of blooded stocks. Bids from bands to furnish music during the four days encampment should be sent to the secretary before the next meeting of the committee to be held at campgrounds on Saturday, August 10, 1906

J. E Organ, Sec’y.
Salem, Mo.

TRIBUNE—We understand that the cistern at the Rollingheath church is nearing completion which is a great

improvement.

Local Briefs

Phone number 5.

To make your hair curly, Drink Monarch Coffee, for sale by J. B. Christeson.

The new switchboard for the Pioneer Telephone Co. arrived Monday and was duly installed and now the system is in perfect working order.

Marshall John Sheppard has been widening the upper part of the ditch through town, which was badly needed. [A creek or ditch ran right down the middle of Commercial Street in Waynesville.]

Today closes the Normal school and a very successful term it has been.

HANCOCK—The Canning Factory will soon be completed. They will be ready to use all the tomatoes they can get as the product is ripe.

It is reported that they are laying out lots for a new town at Helm crossing, which is about half way between Dixon and this place.

Pulaski County Democrat
June 22

DIXON—The Dixon Normal closed on Wednesday in order that the teachers in attendance could take the examinations held in this and Maries counties on Friday and Saturday of this week.

BAILEY—Phillip Jasper of Bloodland has a colony of bees that have produced four swarms this summer. The writer has sixteen strong colonies that have not produced a swarm yet.

CROCKER—[The current correspondent from Crocker was a rather acerbic one, as you will see from the next two items.]

Dan Johnson, the light weight champion lawyer of Waynesville, was in town last week on business. [W. D. Johnson successfully prosecuted Elias Smith for murder in 1905. Mr. Johnson weighed about 380 pounds.]

The Dixon paper, speaking of the man killed there by the train says, “conditions indicated that he was not married”. By what psychological legerdemain or mental gymnastics did they arrive at such a conclusion? What conditions led them to such a decision? By what process of reasoning did the writer form such a judgement? Was it the absence of gray hairs, a careworn expression, scars from coming into contact with the skillet and rolling pin, or was it the heavenly smile of sweet content and mental rest that over-spread his countenance?

The mail sack from No. 3 Friday morning fell under the train and was ground to pieces, but fortunately there was no mail in it except papers. [The mail crane apparatus doesn’t always work—probably a new man on the train.]

Pulaski County

Surplus Products in 1905

[Surplus products were all commodities which were shipped to outside markets, nothing consumed at home being included. The figures are furnished by railroads.

Below are selected commodities to give you an idea of the exports of Pulaski County.

“Good gains” were shown over 1904, which was a banner year.]

Cattle, head	5,504
Hogs, head	19,504
Horse and mules, head....	242
Sheep, head	10,582
Wheat, bushels	47,802
Flour, barrels	10,768
Railroad ties	31,575
Dressed poultry, pounds	120,823
Live poultry, pounds.....	678,235
Eggs, dozens	613,940
Strawberries, crates	2,856
Game, pounds	58,243
Furs, pounds	3,910
Hide and pelts, pounds.....	38,062

LAQUEY—The sawmill at the still house is in full swing and lumber is being sawed for the new store and postoffice.

The farmers who have ‘phones have no use for alarm clocks as they are pretty sure of being awakened at an early hour—usually about four o’clock.

Mr. Beeler of near here sold a hun-

Arrowmart

CableAmerica

Tanning Spa

Practically Enchanted

Bo Peep Ceramics

Fitness Happens

dred pounds of honey to A. A. Parsons last Saturday.

C. J. Morgan has been hiring all the hands he could get to work in his canning factory.

Pulaski County Democrat
June 29

DIXON—The Frisco Railway company Wednesday unloaded the engine boiler and material for a water tank here and the tank will be built at once, the water to come from a spring two miles away. Charlie Murphy was in Springfield Wednesday to make arrangement for furnishing the town water. If the arrangements are perfected Dixon will have system of water works.

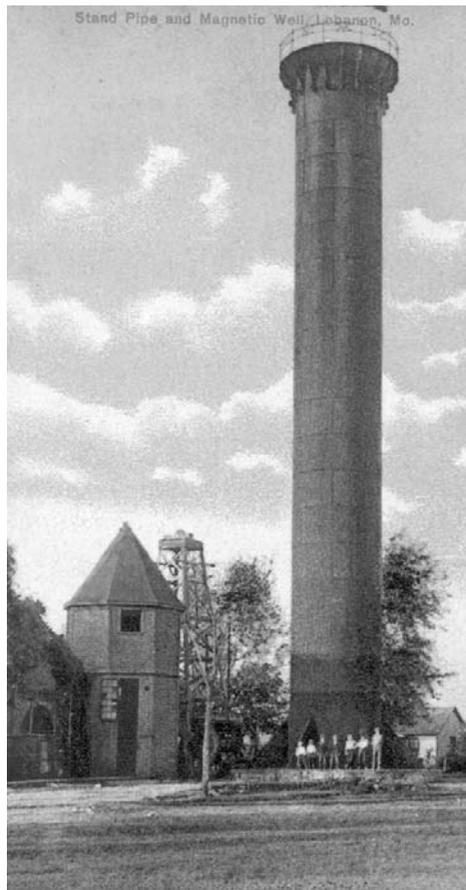
COOKVILLE—The Cookville & Plato telephone Co., will soon begin work on a line from Plato to Cookville.

SWEDEBORG—The machinery for the Swedeborg Canning Factory arrived Saturday. The factory is nearing completion and will be ready in a short time for the machinery and then the tomatoes.

C. L. Bough, who has been drinking Magnetic water at Lebanon for a couple of weeks, returned to Mr. Hawkins where he is spending the summer.

Notice to Contractors

Bids will be received for the building of a school house in District 3 [Big



The Magnetic Well in Lebanon, reputed to produce healing waters and apparently believed by C. L. Bough. The water was also bottled and distributed in the area. There were several springs/resorts in Old Pulaski where guests could bathe and drink the curative mineral waters. Courtesy of John Bradbury.

Piney].

Said house to be a frame weather-boarded and sealed, put on a stone foundation 12 inches in the ground and 12 in above. Covered with galvanized Corrugated roofing, 28 by 40, 20 feet high, four rooms, two flights of stairs, 6 foot porch on one end, 4 doors, twenty windows, iron flues, painted three coats of paint of the best lead and oil inside and out. Contract to furnish all material and to have said house completed by the 1st of September 1906.

For further particulars, call on or address Elkins or S. G. Page District Clerk, Big Piney, Mo.

Pulaski County Democrat
July 6

A GLORIOUS FOURTH OF JULY IN WAYNESVILLE

[Business and town leaders formed a committee to put on a 4th of July celebration that was "no catch-penny picnic, but a real up-to-date" event. Apparently, the holiday celebration had languished for many years. The Democrat devoted a large amount of ad space and printed one thousand handbills promoting the celebration. There was a news item filled with anticipatory excitement that even Col. John A. Schlicht and family would attend. It seems he didn't show.]

Waynesville celebrated the glorious Fourth in a manner that was credit to our citizens, and one that was satisfac-

torily and pleasing to all who attended. The day was pleasant and the crowd even larger than was expected was present, notwithstanding the fact that every town in the county celebrated too. All the business houses were closed at ten o'clock as stated and most of our people took their dinner to the ground and joined in making the day one of enjoyment, but we are sorry to note the fact that some of our citizens, and business men too, have let their patriotism get so weak as to refuse to go out and celebrate the day of all days.

At ten o'clock the parade started from the square headed by the band, which was followed by the Sunday schools with banners they were followed by citizens on horseback and in carriages. The parade was nice and grand, several hundred people taking part therein.

At the grounds the program was carried out exactly as printed, except that G. M. Reed read the Declaration of Independence instead of W. D. Johnson who was unable to attend.

[We think the picnic ground west of town was located at Campground Cave on Swedeborg Road, the early site for religious camp meetings. It was still being used for town picnics in the 1930s.]

CROCKER—The celebration at Crocker was a success and the band boys feel elevated as the result of their efforts...It was estimated that 1200 people were

Primrose

Bench Motor Co.

present. This was the most orderly Fourth ever seen in Crocker, not a cross word was spoken, and scarcely any drinking.

When we see so many young men with their hair parted in the middle and hanging down over their foreheads so as to obscure every trace of intellect, and so many young women with their hair all fizzesley-frowsly and flopping around over their faces in fifty different directions, we are not surprised that the followers of Darwin are positively sure that mankind descended from the monkey.

GOLDEN CENTER—Another telephone line will soon be built from Schlicht to Crocker—may the progressive wave keep coming.

BIG PINEY—The prospects for a telephone line to this place is now flattering. It is already completed to James Riden's and will connect our town with Relfe, Rolla and Licking. What we want next is a line to connect Big Piney with Waynesville and Crocker and we solicit some good telephone company to put one in.

Pulaski County Democrat
July 13

DIXON—The Pickle Company are putting their large tanks or vats near the canning factory.

CROCKER—there will be a "sweet time" at the Baptist church this summer, as a swarm of bees entered the walls last week through a knot hole and now are at work storing up honey.

Pulaski County Democrat
July 20

DIXON—You have often heard of "finding money on the bushes"—well, that is what the people in and around Dixon are doing this week. On last Thursday, posters were out announcing "Blackberries wanted." The Dixon Canning Factory, through Staben Bros., is paying 15 cents a gallon for them. By Saturday night—in two days—over \$300 had been given to the boys and girls, who had "found it on the bushes." It is estimated that at least \$1500 or \$2000 will be paid out at this place for this crop. Some boys make as much as \$2.00 a day.

Local Briefs

The W. O. W. [Woodmen of the World] of this place will formally unveil the monument dedicated to the grave of their deceased brother, T. J. Mosier, at the Ideuma cemetery next Sunday afternoon. Everybody is invited.

W. A. Lumpkin and Albert Matthews have just completed a map of Pulaski County which is probably the most complete map of the county ever made. It shows all rivers, creeks, county roads, postoffices, school houses and shows the location of over 900

farm houses. They have made arrangements with the Rand McNally Map Company to lithograph print and finish these maps and will have them on the market soon. They will be printed in colors and will have a map of Missouri on the reverse side. They will be worthy of a place in every home. [We have a copy of this map and use it often to locate people and places of the period in Pulaski County.]

CROCKER—A man in St. Louis last week struck his wife with a bottle of beer. Such carelessness, suppose he had wasted the beer.

A man in St. Louis lived to be 70 years old without having a doctor and died shortly after the first visit of the physician. Question: How long would he have lived if he had never called a doctor?

Pulaski County Democrat
July 27

SCHLICHT—A telephone line will be built this week from here to Crocker, so Colonel J. A. Schlicht can tell his friends "hello" and send his "orders" direct to Rolla and save postage.

Local Briefs

A number of the Woodmen of the World from this place went to Ideuma cemetery Sunday, to conduct the exercises at the unveiling of the monument of the grave of T. J. Mosier.

Several members were expected from Richland and would have been there had it not been for the high water. As it was the members from the Camp conducted the exercises alone. The Waynesville band rendered a few appropriate pieces and notwithstanding the small number of members the exercises were carried out in a very pretty and appropriate manner.

CROCKER—The Crocker Mercantile Company will soon have a delivery wagon. This is the third for the town.

The Telephone Company has had a booth erected in the Central office here making it quite convenient for the talking public.

Pulaski County Democrat
August 3

DIXON—The cucumber crop is being marketed at the Canning factory now. The farmers are getting one dollar per hundred for this crop and claim it's a very profitable article.

Murder at Richland

William Manes, Constable for Liberty Township and Marshall of Richland, was murdered last Friday evening by James Price, alias Pritchett, just out of the town in Camden county. Price was a deserter from the Army at Jefferson Barracks and Manes had him under arrest for the purpose of returning him to the army.

He was taking him into Richland on foot and had one of the prisoner's hands hand-cuffed to his hand. Just

before they reached town Price attacked Manes and after overpowering him took his pistol and shot him in the head killing him instantly.

Bloodhounds were sent for and posses formed and a vigorous search instituted and Saturday afternoon he was arrested near Stoutland and taken to the Lebanon jail for safe keeping.

CROCKER—The Crocker Bank received a new up-to-date Burroughs adding machine last Saturday.

A young man in Kansas this week blew himself up with dynamite on account of love affairs. Why didn't he wait until he was married and save the expense of dynamite?

Local Briefs

The *Democrat* is taking no part in the prohibition [local option] question and does not wish to be drawn into it. We have warm friends, whose feelings and opinions we respect, on both side of the question whom we do not wish to antagonize. Our correspondents will please govern themselves accordingly and steer clear of arguing either side of the question in their items. [We find this somewhat puzzling. Nathan Wheeler, the editor of the *Pulaski County Democrat*, has often made his opinion known on the evils of liquor and tobacco, as well as many other political issues.]

RICHLAND—The tent meeting still continues and much interest is being shown.



Thomas J. Mosier's marker in the Ideuma Cemetery. It is a classic Woodmen of the World monument, a tree stump signifying a life cut short. Photo by Terry Primas.

Pulaski County Democrat
August 10

SCHLICHT—The Pioneer Telephone Company completed the new telephone line between here and Crocker which connects us with the outside world. We are certainly proud that this company has taken this interest in our town and can say the phone is of great convenience to our citizens.

Local Briefs

The cannery will commence work next week. The Canning Company had a 'phone put in their factory this week.

J. M. Long commenced work yesterday making concrete blocks for his store building which he expects to put up soon. [This will be the second concrete block store building in Waynesville.]

A. B. Fairfield of Crocker drove his fine team over Monday morning making the trip of ten miles in one hour and thirty-five minutes. Mr. Fairfield has one of the best driving teams in the country.

The following teachers from in and near town commenced school at the following places Monday: Paris Christeson, Mt. Gibson; Alf Christeson, Lone Star; Seba Baker, Schockley; Addie Christeson, Gospel Ridge; Eunis Christeson commenced at Lee last Monday, and Eddie Christeson will begin at Hicks next Monday. [It seems a good part of the county was schooled by the Christeson family.]

Work on the telephone line from Waynesville south commenced yesterday. It is said that the work will be completed in about forty days. Then we will have connections with Big Piney, Roby, Plato, Licking and other points in Texas county.

HANNA—School begun Monday at Cave Spring school house under the management of Mr. Fred Brownfield.

Pulaski County Democrat
August 17

The strike of the section hands on the Frisco [Railroad] is extending and now it is said but few men are working between Newburg Mo. and Paris Texas. The strike was for an increase in wages from \$1.25 to \$1.40 a day.

The Canning Factory commenced business Wednesday and is running nicely now.

Notice to Settle

Owing to the fact that I have commenced the erection of my new storehouse, I would deem it a great favor for all who are indebted to call and settle between now and the tenth of September, as building is very expensive. I shall need every cent that I can raise. Thanking you in advance for an early response, I am,

Truly Your,

J. M. Long

Improve Crocker Road

A subscription list was circulated here in Waynesville one day last week to raise money to improve the road

between this place and Crocker. About \$225.00 was subscribed here at once. The County Court made an order to appropriate \$200.00 for that purpose which makes \$425.00 to start with. Several others in and around town have signified a willingness to help this worthy cause along and some of the Crocker people have said they will give liberally to the enterprise, so we hope to have between five and six hundred to spend.

Lee Baker will have charge of the work and this amount should make much substantial improvement on this road.

Pulaski County Democrat
August 24

NOTICE TO PARENTS
AND GUARDIANS

Provisions of the Compulsory Attendance Law

(Approved April 17, 1905)

1. Every child between 8 and 14 years old and between 14 and 16, when not regularly employed, must attend some day school at least half of the term each year.

2. No child can be excused on promise to attend; he must attend first half of term before being excused on that account.

3. Courts having jurisdiction (Justice of the Peace in rural districts and in cities having less than 50,000 population) may excuse children from attending school for following reasons: (1) parents can not supply proper clothing; (2) child is mentally or physically unable to attend; (3) no public school two and a half miles of the home; (4) labor of child is necessary to support family; (5) child has completed the common school course.

4. No child between 8 and 14 can be employed in mine, factory workshop or store unless excused for one of the five reasons or has a statement from a teacher that he has already attended half of the term for that school year.

5. It is the duty of attendance officers and district clerks to notify parent and guardians when children fail to comply with the provisions of the law.

6. The penalty for non-attendance falls on parent or guardian, and it is a maximum fine, \$25.00 or imprisonment for 10 days, one or both.

7. For illegal employment of a child, the employer is subject to a fine of fifty dollars and costs.

8. Every school board shall publish this synopsis in newspaper of the district or post it in at least five public places ten days before school opens each year.

In the special election held in Phelps county last Saturday on the question of local option, the question lost by a majority of about 500 votes. A full vote was polled. The city of Rolla gave a majority of thirty-seven against local option and St. James voted 280 for and 102 against it.

GOLDEN CENTER—Golden Center is O. K. except a few "tigers" who do nothing but loaf, steal frit, tear down telephone wire and fences, break pumps and leave gates open and other such depredations. Last Tuesday night they were fired on at two places, and we guess they are running yet as they started off. Boys, let this be your last for fear that the next shot may disable you so that we will find out who you are. Mr. Mitchell was here replacing telephone wire that had been torn down by our native "tigers."

Local Briefs

W. L. Anderson has installed a lighting system in his place of business, of the latest improvement [apparently gas]. It is a nice light and equal to electricity. [Waynesville had no electricity.]

Rev. C. B. Day closed a two weeks meeting at Bloodland last Thursday with sixteen additions to the church. Rev. Day is an able preacher and has done much good since he came here. [There have been protracted meetings at numerous churches all summer.]

HANNA—The baptizing at the Ballard ford was well attended last Sunday. There was twenty-two candidates for immersion. Elders Zumwalt, Manes, and Swain were present. [This was the result of another protracted meeting.]

BIG PINEY—The Revival Meeting at this place has been well attended and we do not know how long it will continue.

The work began on the 20th on the Big Piney and Roby telephone line which will connect us with Waynesville.

RICHLAND—J. W. Spicer arrived from Illinois the first of the week with a small colony of people to populate the new town they are building just across the bridge near the old distillery on the Waynesville road. [The 1906 map shows a large building labeled "Distillery" on the east side of the Gasconade at McCain Bridge. This is probably the result of the emigration efforts to bring people into Pulaski County.]

Pulaski County Democrat
August 31

[The docket for the September term of the Circuit Court was published. Prosecuting Attorney W. D. Johnson, whose bid for reelection didn't make it through the primary, usually had quite a few prosecutions for selling liquor without a license, aimed at drug stores and moonshiners. However, there were only five such cases this term. He seems to have turned his attention to gamblers. There were nine cases involving "games of chance." He was also enforcing the wildlife law with one case of "killing game out of season" and another man charged with "killing fish with dynamite". Apparently, prosecuting game law violators is not easy. They were both found not guilty. Those charged with participating in games of chance pleaded guilty and were fined \$25, paroled on payment of \$1 each

and costs.]

COOKVILLE—The telephone from Cookville to Waynesville will soon be completed, after the phone is up and court week is over ye scribe will try to have news every week.

Band Stand Dedication

Last Wednesday afternoon Guy E. Reed, Albert Christeson, Roy Reed, Virgil R. Wheeler, and G. M. Reed, five of the Waynesville "tooters", drove over to Crocker to accompany the Crocker Band on a trip to Iberia, in honor of the dedication of the Iberia Band Stand.

Dr. B. N. Pippin and family left for their house in St. Louis, Tuesday, after a stay in our city of over two months. [While staying at their farm on the Roubidoux, Dr. Pippin had an office in the second story of the new bank building where he saw patients.]

J. F. Vaughan brought the champion water melon to town this season. It weighed 42 pounds.

J. Goves, Crocker's popular plasterer, passed through town Monday enroute to Big Piney to plaster the big hotel building for W. J. Scales.

CROCKER—Saturday night the band stand was formally dedicated. The bands from Waynesville and Iberia, accompanied by large delegations of beauty and gallantry assisted in the festivities... Miss Stella Turpin, one of Crocker's fairest damsels, performed the proverbial feat of breaking the bottle of wine, thus dedicating the band stand according to tradition and custom.

SCHLICHT—The Forest Park Fish Hatchery deposited 5000 Black Bass in the Schlicht Milling Company's springs to grow up before placing them in the Gasconade river.

Team Killed by Bees

The *Windsor Review* gives an account of the death of a team near that city last Sunday caused by bee stings. A swarm settled on two teams but the men succeeded in driving one of them away. The other team refused to move even after a whip had been completely worn out on them and the harness cut into shreds. The young man barely escaped with his life. He became insensible to the pain of stings although the bees stung him after the horses were dead. His shirt bosom was emptied of nearly a gallon of bees.

Pulaski County Democrat
September 7

Iberia Academy is entering upon the greatest year of its history. The beautiful new \$10,000.00 boarding hall for young women will be finished and ready for occupancy by Sept. 12. the date on which the Fall Term opens. The boys dormitory is being repainted and put into first class shape. These halls are not money making institu-

tions but are run for the benefit of the students, and good board will be furnished including room, lights, and fuel for \$2.00 a week.

Work on the well, commenced in the Court Yard last week by T. L. Davis, was delayed several days this week on account of not having the proper tubing.

School will begin here [Waynesville] next Monday with Prof. C. H. Gove, Principal,; Clyde Joyner, Intermediate; and Mrs. Vivian Christeson, Primary. With this able faculty the school is sure to be a success.

The town board has built a large and substantial bridge across the ditch opposite the Southeast corner of the square which is a valuable improvement.

Joe Long will begin the erection of his new store building next Monday. It will be a two-story concrete block building and when completed will be one of the best in town.

Ex-Confederate Encampment

Salem—The tenth annual encampment of the South "Central Missouri Ex-Confederate Association, at Barnitz lake, ten miles west of this city was a success. The field had the appearance of an army camp. The attendance this year exceeded that of any of the association's preceding encampments.

Conductor Hurt By Mail Crane

Boles—Conductor Ed Stephens of a Missouri Pacific freight was knocked from the train and badly hurt by a mail crane. He was taken to the hospital in St. Louis.

CROCKER—The Section men returned to work on the 1st inst. at the same old wages, so we are informed. [The section hands on the railroad had been on strike since August 17 but to no avail.]

SCHLICHT—A dozen of the politicians of City Hall of St. Louis are at Forest Lodge. They are certainly a jolly set. [Forest Lodge at Schlicht Spring/Mill was a favorite vacation spot for city dwellers, especially from St. Louis.]

Pulaski County Democrat
September 14

School opened Monday morning with an enrollment of 102 pupils Room No. 1, 36; Intermediate, 31; primary, 33.

On last Saturday afternoon, with about 3 thousand pounds of tomatoes on hand and about ready to spoil, the sealers [those who sealed cans at the canning factory] went on a strike for 20 cents an hour. The furnace man decided that his time was worth as much as the others, resorted the same. The raise was granted that afternoon and the work went on, but Monday morning new hands were procured and the work is progressing nicely.

CROCKER—The section house is now vacant, the only vacant dwelling in town.

The music of the chase greeted the sportsmen last Saturday night when the wolf belonging to Bun Thornsberry was turned loose and a dozen hounds put onto its track, but at midnight they returned without the wolf.

Pulaski County Democrat
September 21

CURIOUS HONEY BEES

While sitting by the window sewing one day last week. Mrs. L. R. Bates heard a very peculiar noise and upon looking out noticed a swarm of bees passing the window. Seeing they were about to settle, she secured a tin pan thinking she would soon hive them but when she commenced beating the pan the bees, to her great surprise, settled on top of an old gum and discovering a small opening in the cover began to crawl through and in a very little while all were securely on the inside where they are now busily engaged storing honey for the winter and seem to be very proud of their new home, and well contented.

Now this is no joke, neither is it a bee story—it's truth and quite a curiosity, but the strangest thing of all about it is, did the queen have this particularly old home-made hive already selected for her colony, or did they just happen to settle on top of the hive and finding a split in the oak cover mistake it for an opening in a tree that caused them to go on the inside? We are inclined to

believe that the king or queen had made an investigation previously to the colony's arrival. Anyway, Mrs. Bates is very proud of her new comers and sincerely hopes they may decide to remain indefinitely as she had just lost the last swarm she had only a few months ago.

Considerable improvement has been made on the Black Hotel lately. Plasterer Dodds of Crocker is making a grani-toid porch floor and walks in the rear of the Hotel this week.

The new public well in the court yard was completed the first of this week and the pump is now in working order. No more need to go thirsty in Waynesville.

UNION SCHOOL—Friday, Sept. 14 closed the first quarter of our school at Union. The new school on Dry Creek begun with an enrollment of ten in excess of he number of school children in the new district, with A. C. Thomason teacher. This neighborhood has been practically without school until this year, which accounts in a measure for the excessive enrollment. *[This might be due to the new compulsory attendance law.]*

Pulaski County Democrat
September 28

The Canning Factory [Waynesville] has done exceedingly well although the

outlook did not seem very flattering in the beginning on account of the light crops, which has turned out much better than was expected. Three full car loads, 36,000 cans of tomatoes have been canned this year already.

Pulaski County Democrat
October 5

Don't fail to hear Hon. W. J. Bryan at Lebanon, Thursday, Oct. 11 at 10 a.m. Mr. Bryan's speech will be from a platform in the Court House yard and seats will be arranged to accommodate as many as possible. Mr. Bryan's speech will not be from the rear end of a train but as we stated above from a stand in the court house yard.

Although Waynesville is a small place and at present an inland town *[no railroad]*, yet she has never let her sister railroad towns get ahead of her. We now boast of the largest and best instructed *[cornet]* band in Pulaski County.

A crowd from this place attended the speaking at Dixon Wednesday: G. W. Lane, W. A. Lumpkin, Joe McGregor, and Sam G. Ballard. *[All are candidates for county offices. The electioneering is heating up.]*

Let every body in town who is interested in the new Electric Railroad Project turn out this (Thursday) night and see what can be done to help Waynesville and vicinity. The new road

WILL BE BUILT. DOES WAYNESVILLE WANT IT? Just think how it would help our mail service, besides a thousand other ways we might mention. Come out to the meeting. *[The prospect of building an electric railway that would connect Waynesville with Crocker and other points is being floated again, as it was in 1905.]*

CROCKER—The section men struck again Monday morning, but went to work immediately, the company having raised their wages to \$1.50 per day.

SCHLICHT—James Bastic and party were at the river hunting pawpaws. The bottoms are full of them.

The Lebanon Rustic
October 11

Bryan Spoke An Hour

The Famous Nebraskan Greeted by a Large Crowd this Morning.

People Here From All the Surrounding Counties to Hear Mr. Bryan.

This morning dawned bright and fair and as the sun peeped over the eastern horizon he found the farmers of Laclede and adjoining counties up and on their way to Lebanon—for this was the day that Hon. William Jennings Bryan was to speak, and whenever Mr. Bryan comes here he has a crowd to greet him, even if the hour of Mr.

Tony Froehlich
American Home

Patty's University
Bookstore

Woodin's
Body Shop

Roubidoux Vacuum

Laura's Jewelry
Designs

Skyline Honda-
Yamaha

Bryan's arrival is such as to make his admirers arise before the lark or start the night before to reach Lebanon in time to hear the noted Democrat.

The special bearing Mr. Bryan and Judge Woodson, candidate for Supreme Judge; Rube Oglesby, candidate for Railroad Commissioner; Judge W. N. Evans, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee and National Committeeman W. A. Rothwell, was nearly two hours late in getting to Lebanon. Mr. Bryan spoke at Columbia last night, and it was a long run from that place to Lebanon, via Clinton and Springfield.

It was about half past nine o'clock when the train arrived, and Mr. Bryan and the others on the train were hurried into carriages in waiting and driven to the court house, where a speaker's stand and seats have been erected for use during the campaign.

In spite of the early hour at which the train was scheduled to arrive, a crowd gathered at the depot and was augmented by those coming to town until the arrival of the train. When Mr. Bryan appeared on the rear platform of the car a shout went up from the crowd.

The crowd followed the carriages to the court house and when Mr. Bryan stepped upon the speaker's platform he faced an audience that had put itself to great inconvenience to hear him, for 9 o'clock is an early hour for a busy Laclede county farmer to get to town for a campaign speech—but he was equal to the occasion and was here in large numbers to hear Mr. Bryan. Not only from Laclede county did they come, but from the neighboring counties of Pulaski, Camden and Dallas.

Though the morning was cool and the Ozark air crisp and the further fact that Mr. Bryan has been making several speeches daily for some time, he was in good voice and could be distinctly heard. His address was a fine one and he discussed the issues of the campaign in his masterly and convincing way.

He dwelt particularly upon the fact that every proposed reform of President Roosevelt which has been popular with the people was stolen from the Democrats, who have advocated them for years, but which the Republicans have in the past declared were too radical and revolutionary, but have been taken up by the President and pushed to the front by him, even against the protest of his party's leaders. The laws which have been passed along these lines owe their being upon the statute books to the votes of Democratic Congressmen and Senators.

Mr. Bryan closed his speech at 10:30 and the special train left for Springfield where he will speak about noon and go from there to Joplin where he will speak tonight. From Joplin he comes back to Springfield tonight and goes into Southeast Missouri.

William Jennings Bryan in Lebanon

William Jennings Bryan was the most popular and populist Democrat of his era. His nickname was "The Great Commoner" because of his avowed total faith in the goodness of the common man. He was the Democratic presidential nominee in 1896, 1900, and 1908.

Woodrow Wilson appointed Bryan Secretary of State in 1912. Acting on his pacifist beliefs, Bryan negotiated an agreement among thirty nations that provided for a twelve month cooling off period when conflict arose. In 1915, the Wilson administration's reaction to the sinking of the Lusitania was in opposition to Bryan's beliefs and he resigned in protest.

History remembers Bryan today primarily for his "Cross of Gold" speech that promoted valuing the dollar on a silver standard and his participation in the prosecution of John Scopes in Tennessee (1925) for his inclusion of Darwinian theory in a high school biology course.

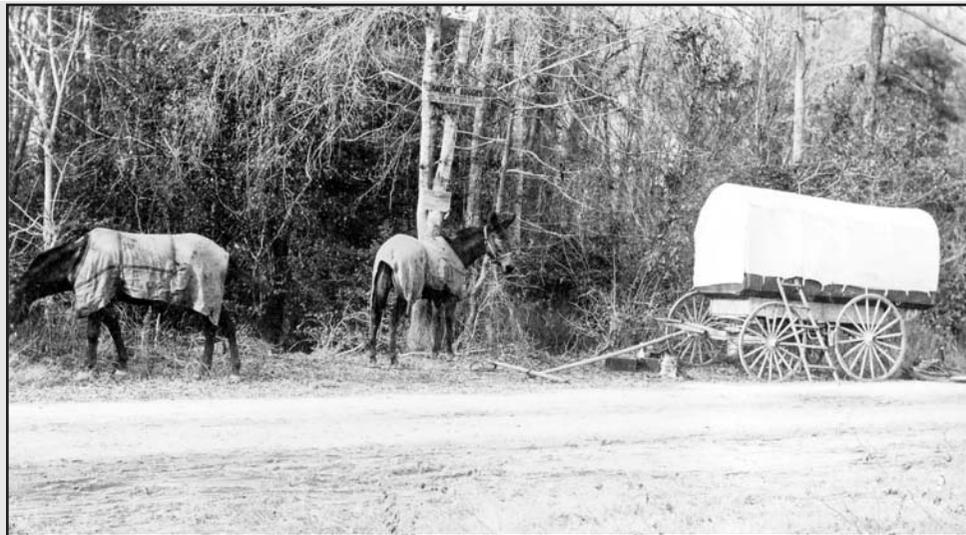
Old Pulaski Democrats were excited about Bryan's appearance in Lebanon. Some made a two day wagon trip to hear The Great Commoner, such as the Christeson family members who lived south of Waynesville. Here is Ernest Christeson's remembrance of the event.

I can remember these dates and these events quite clearly, due in part to the big change that had taken place, but more especially to the fact that it was a general election year and Bryan and McKinley were the candidates. We were all pretty evenly divided among the Republicans and the Democrats, some of us for Bryan, and some for McKinley. Of course we got our ideas from the folks at home for we did little newspaper reading. Never was an election more hotly contested and fought over than that one there at that time in the Cedar Hill school. Many was the fight we had, sometimes pretty serious. But we managed to remain good friends and to continue that way through the years. There were Perry Sparks, Harry Wallace, David Lewis, Orville Laughlin, and a number of others, besides the four in our own home, who in later years have still stood as loyally by other candidates and have become good citizens. I think, also that the girls in school were just about as much excited over the election as were the boys. Within the past few years I have met again some of those old schoolmates and we have had a big laugh together over our political disagreements of years gone by.

It was about this time, or shortly afterward, I do not recall the exact year [1906], while William Jennings Bryan was still in the hey-day of his oratorical glory that he was scheduled to speak at Lebanon, some thirty miles from home. Our whole community was excited about it and came near to going en masse, except for a few rabid political opponents. It was arranged that we were to go – father and four of us boys, Uncle Lish and four of his boys, and several neighbor boys. We rigged up two covered wagons on the old prairie schooner order, packed in our bedding and food supplies, and set out for Lebanon at 4:00 a.m. on the day before the rally. It was a two-and-one-half day round trip, with two nights camping on the road, sleeping wherever we could throw down a blanket. I think that the excitement incident to the trip had more appeal for us than the fact that we were going to hear a great political orator, or to hear current political questions discussed.

Mr. Bryan spoke in a shady grove just outside of Lebanon, in some of the region made famous by Harold Bell Wright in his stories of "The Shepherd of the Hills" and "The Calling of Dan Matthews." He spoke literally to thousands who had come there about as we had come. I remember that I had a seat within a few feet of him as he spoke, and even though just kids, some of us were among the first to shake hands with him after the speech was over. Such are the glories of childhood experience. It was one of the hottest days I ever remember, but no one had a greater time that day than we did. After the speech was over we assembled our bunch and started the long drive home again, with another night in camp.

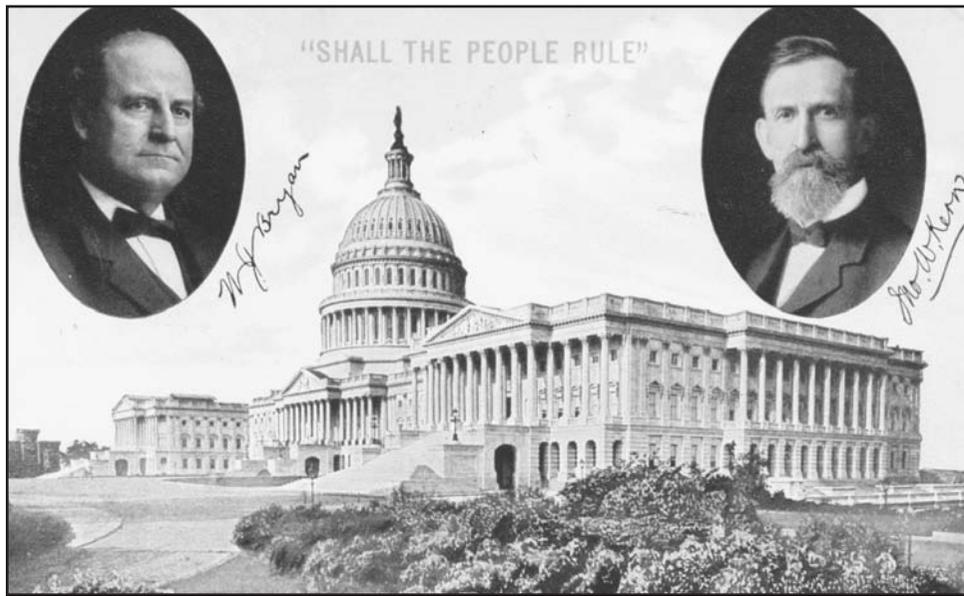
[from the Autobiography of E. L. Christeson, unpublished, 1943. The Christesons lived on a farm near Cedar Hill, on what is now Fort Leonard Wood. Courtesy of Mike Christeson.]



Giving the team a break on the trip to hear William Jennings Bryan. The thirty mile trip to Lebanon required a night's sleeping on the road. Ten Christeson men and boys made the trip, along with several neighborhood boys, in two wagons. Courtesy of Mike Christeson.



Great crowds gathered wherever William Jennings Bryan spoke. This postcard is in the Christeson family collection but the setting does not look like the one described in Lebanon. It was probably purchased in Lebanon on the trip in October of 1906 by Ernest and family members when they heard The Great Commoner speak. Courtesy of Mike Christeson.



This 1908 campaign postcard features the pictures of William Jennings Bryan and his running mate, John W. Kern of Indiana. The slogan "Shall The People Rule?" plays to Bryan's populist and common man appeal. Bryan's platform included curbing the trusts, banks, and railroads. His proposal to socialize the railroads may have been his undoing. William Howard Taft, Roosevelt's pick as his successor, won an overwhelming victory with 66% of the electoral vote. Taft had 52% of the popular vote to Bryan's 43%. Participation of eligible voters in the 1908 election was 65.4%. Courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas.

Pulaski County Democrat
October 12

Railroad Proposition

Last Thursday night, to a crowded house of attentive listeners, Mr. J. J. Burns made a straight-forward talk, and explained his plans in regard to the proposed electric railroad between this place and Crocker...

Mr. Burns proposed to organize a stock company, with \$150,000 capital stock. If the citizens of this community would raise \$20,000 of the amount that he would invest the remaining \$140,000, that work would begin on the road in sixty days and that the road would be completed in 18 months.

The money to be paid in as follows" 10 percent within five days after work begins and 10 per cent every 20 days while the work progresses, and the expense of building said road would not be over \$15,000 a mile, also that he would insure them that the road would extend from the Frisco [at Crocker], south to Mountain Grove.

His proposition for taking stock seemed to be an easy one, the shares

were put at 50 dollars each and can be paid in work, ties or poles will be accepted as cash in stock...

The next meeting was held on Monday night and a report of the committee was had. They report \$12,000 raised...

At the time of going to press, stock to the amount of \$12,450 is subscribed.

The maps of Pulaski county gotten up by W. A. Lumpkin and A. L. Matthews are now ready for sale. On the reverse side of this map is a map of Missouri. The map measures about three and a half feet by four feet, and each township is shown in bright colors, every school house, and almost every farm house and cross roads are shown on this map. In fact everything that is needful on a map is there. There should be one of these maps on the wall of every school child's home. The price only \$2.18.

CROCKER—John C. Thompson will celebrate his eighty-first birthday by cutting down a bee tree near the Johnston school house on Saturday, October

27th. Everybody invited.

GOSPEL RIDGE—Jessie Burrow attempted to see a young lady safe home Tuesday night but had the misfortune to get the mitten. Cold weather is close at hand boys.

Pulaski County Democrat
October 19

MAN, WIFE AND THREE CHILDREN MURDERED IN TEXAS COUNTY, MO.

Houston, Mo., Octo. 14—Carney Parsons, well-known Texas County farmer, his wife and their three young children were murdered on Friday afternoon by Joseph Hamilton, a young man who lives in the neighborhood of Platter's Mill. Hamilton is under arrest and confesses to the crimes.

He says he shot Parson in a quarrel over a trade and then beat Mrs. Parsons to death with the stock end of the gun and cut the throats of the three children in order that there might be no eye witness to this deed.

The five bodies he threw in the Piney River. It was the finding of two of them—a child about five years old and an infant of one year—that led to an investigation which resulted in Hamilton's arrest.

Hamilton was at church with his sweetheart when he learned that Judge W. L. Hitt and Clark Dooley had found the two bodies above the Platter's Mill Dam while fishing, and he hastily bade her good-by and started for Houston. He rode into this town on one of Parsons' mules and hired a rig to drive to Cabool, the nearest railroad station.

Someone recognized the mule as belonging to Parsons and suspicions were aroused. Deputy Sheriff John Upton, of Simmons, was wired to intercept Hamilton and an hour later the man was under arrest. He broke down completely when placed in jail and told the full story of his crime.

According to his confession, Hamilton traded some harness and a saddle which did not belong to him to Parsons for a horse. Later, fearing he would get into trouble, he started for the Parsons home to see Parsons. On

the road he met Parsons and his family in a spring wagon. Hamilton and Parsons had an altercation and Hamilton shot Parsons dead before his wife and children.

Then, apparently crazed with a lust for blood, he clubbed Mrs. Parson to death with the butt of the gun and seizing the little children one by one cut their throats.

While a mob was forming on the streets of Houston Sheriff Woods of Texas County spirited Hamilton away and arrived at Springfield Monday morning, but again spirited him away to Carthage in time to prevent a lynching at night. Hamilton is confined in a cell in the Carthage jail under heavy guard. He is a raving maniac and has to be watched constantly to see that he does not commit suicide.

The subscription (stock sale) for the electric railroad, as of October 18, amounted to \$18,600.

DIXON—Two concrete block residences under course of construction in Dixon now. J. W. Fisher is building in south Dixon and G. W. Peck in north Dixon.

A moving picture show is billed for Dixon 18,19, and 20. It is claimed to exhibit the eight wonders of the world and that all may have a chance to see, they will give two performances daily.

Pulaski County Democrat
October 26

Sam T. Rollins, G. M. Reed and Fred L. Scott went to St. Louis Monday morning on business connected with the new railroad. Waynesville having already subscribed the amount of their obligation the matter now rests with the capitalist, J. J. Burns of St. Louis.

They report that everything seems very favorable and that Mr. Burns has already been looking after the preliminaries.

The outlook now seems very satisfactory and in a short while Waynesville will no longer be an inland town but a progressive little railroad city.

DIXON—Our city park has been converted into a stock pen. Hogs and cows that thus far have disregarded

Realty Executives

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our town ordinance and crossed the boundary line into the sacred precincts of our city are summarily arrested and cast into the town pound to suffer the penalties of our town laws. The city park, a beautiful four block square tract, is used as the live stock holdover and will soon be transformed into an ordinary hog pen.

Local Briefs

One of the first official acts of our new marshal, S. R. Hale, was to incarcerate a woman hobo who had been playing the Carrie Nation act in this community. She was armed with a large knife and revolver.

COOKVILLE—No person gets lonesome who has a 'phone on the Cookville and Plato line.

OIL IN MACADAM HIGHWAYS

Road experts are more or less interested in the use of oil on highways. In Chicago, says the Prairie Farmer, what was known as the old "Midway" in 1903 has been converted into a boulevard connecting Washington and Jackson parks. On the south drive of the old "Midway" the park commissioners have applied oil to the drive, with the result that it has become hard and somewhat unsafe for horses. Consequently, drivers of fine horse are avoiding this thoroughfare and taking the other which is macadam [broken stone or gravel], but unoled. It is reported that the oiled side of the boulevard is in high favor with automobilists.

When oil is applied to earth roads the effect is not so marked. In portions of southern California, for instance, where the seasons are mild, the use of oil is regarded as highly beneficial to earth roads.

The department of agriculture is working on the oil road proposition and is hopeful of results. In Europe oil highways are spoken of very highly by writers who have inspected them, but it is evident that if oil is used in this country to any great extent it must be applied in a combination which will not be either risky or injurious to horses.

Pulaski County Democrat
November 2

Another railroad meeting was held last Thursday night, for the purpose of electing one director. G. W. Gan was the chosen director. Again on Monday night another meeting was held, for the purpose of raising a little more money and reading the articles of incorporation, under which the company is to be incorporated. About \$500.00 was raised.

Special to Voters of Pulaski County

We don't see why it is that anyone should want a stock law, as there is thousands of good outside sheep and hog range, and it seems as though a man is voting against his own interest to vote for a stock law and have to keep his stock up, and therefore take twice the amount of land, and many of our buyers say they would not give fifty cents an acre for our farms if it was not for the free stock range. Davis Bro's. Realty co., by A. H. Davis [The question of whether or not to have a stock law in the county is also on the ballot.]

Pulaski County Democrat
November 9

TUESDAY'S ELECTION

a GRAND DEMOCRATIC VICTORY!

Robert Lamar is elected congressman by a majority of 500 votes [over incumbent Republican A. P. Murphy].

The entire democratic county ticket was elected by majorities ranging from 228 to 529.

The Democrat has done a good work for this victory and no one rejoices more than us. [The paper gave itself a good pat on the back. The only thing that could equal the county Democratic sweep would be a William Jennings Bryan presidential victory in 1908.]

The Hog Law [stock law] went down to defeat with 676 For and 1104 Against.

Pulaski County officials elected in 1906 were:
State Representative-W. A. Lumpkin
Judge County Court Eastern District-J. M. Long
Judge Western District- John A. Manes

Presiding Judge of County Court-George W. Berry
Circuit Clerk and Recorder-Sam G. Ballard
Collector of Revenue-G. W. Lane
Sheriff-A. D. Sutton
Coroner-Dr. Louie Rolens
County Clerk-E. G. Williams
Probate Judge-Joe McGregor
Treasurer-William A. Bates

Houston Herald
November 15

Hamilton To Be Hung

Joseph Hamilton, the self confessed murderer of Carnie Parsons, wife and three small children, the revolting crime which so thoroughly aroused our people one month ago, will pay the penalty of his crime by a legal death upon the gallows...

The Hamilton case was called Monday and when the prisoner was brought before the court and the information was read to him, he entered a plea of guilty. Hamilton seemed to have made up his mind to take the full consequences of his terrible deed. Judge Woodside had a jury empaneled and appointed Attorneys Dodson and Grove to defend Hamilton. [Circuit Judge L. B. Woodside is the same judge

who sentenced Elias Smith to death by hanging in Pulaski County in 1905. See 2005 Gazette.] The defendant was placed on the stand and his testimony was a full admission of the crime, as follows:

Joseph Hamilton, being duly sworn, testified as follows:

Well, gentlemen, I am guilty.

By one of the Jurors:—Q. You acknowledge being guilty? A. Yes, sir. Q. Go ahead and tell the circumstances. A. Well, the circumstances is that I am up here before you and I have committed a crime. Committed the murder and it can never be called back. It was brought on in my angered mind. Of course, how a person will be when a person gets mad and their temper gets so far and they can't control it, and I just got my mind started and I couldn't stop it seemed like, and it seemed like when I got into it with the man it seemed like I was plumb wild and I am up here today with the crime of murdering the whole family. Q. You did murder the whole family? A. Yes, sir. Q. The old man, his wife and three children? A. Yes sir. Of course, the way it is and everything I'll have to take whatever punishment comes. Their lives can never be brought back and all



The Carnie L. Parsons family that was murdered by Joseph (Jody) Hamilton on October 12, 1906, near the Big Piney River in Lynch Township, Texas County. The local photographic gallery sold this picture of the slain family. Courtesy of Texas County Historical Society.

I know is, I have to take whatever comes.

[Mr. Hiatt, Texas County Prosecuting Attorney, then asked a series of questions, probing for details of the murders.]

[Other witnesses were examined by the state], their statements completely corroborating Hamilton's confession. The defense put on no witnesses, and the case was given to the jury without pleading. After being out less than an hour the jury returned the following verdict:

We the jury find the defendant, Joseph Hamilton, guilty of murder in the first degree in manner and form as charged in the information for the willful and deliberate killing of Edward Parsons and find that at the time and place charged in the information did willfully, deliberately, premeditatively and of his malice aforethought kill the said Edward Parsons by striking him the said Edward Parsons on the head with a gun barrel with the intent at the time to kill the said Edward Parsons.

A. C. Ross, Foreman

Hamilton was then brought before the court and asked if he had any statement to make before sentence was passed. He said that he had nothing to say. He was cool and not excited, seeming to have very little realization of the serious situation confronting him. Without a tremor and without a tear he received the death sentence. Judge Woodside spoke to him earnest-

ly, but the young man never even expressed a regret for the terrible deed. The court then passed sentence that Joseph Hamilton should be hung on Friday, December 21st, 1906. In one month after the crime was committed the murderer is doomed to death, and in a little over two months he will pay the full penalty of the law.

Pulaski County Democrat
November 23

The Globe-Democrat of Tuesday contained the following dispatch from Jefferson City: "Application has been made to the secretary of state for a certificate of incorporation by the Ozark Transit Company, of Waynesville. The company, capitalized at \$50,000 proposes to build an interurban line from Waynesville, Pulaski county, in a northerly direction into and through Miller County, to Cole county, touching Jefferson City, and through to Texas county. The men behind the enterprise are Warren E. Burns, Philadelphia, Pa.; E. A. Lee, St. Louis; Bertram Brown, Glendale; G. W. Gan, Waynesville; J. J. Burns, Webster Groves.

The Waynesville Canning Co. have canned 40,800 can of tomatoes this fall, making 3 2/5 car loads. We call this exceptionally good for the first season. They are hauling them to Crocker to be shipped.

For the benefit of the young man who

is dissatisfied with the profits on the farm, we would just say that during the latter part of February and first of March, Jacob Starnes, neighbor boy, cleared an acre of ground, on which he raised \$75 worth of tobacco and more than 100 bushels of potatoes. He is selling the potatoes at 40c per bushel. Besides working this crop, he worked 20 acres of corn, which will fall little short of 40 bushels to the acre. This was raised on upland. He has sown 20 acres of wheat, and we came near forgetting to add that he hired out through wheat and hay harvest at \$1 per day. He expects to plant 20 acres of corn in the spring. and two or three acres of tobacco and potatoes. Mr. Starnes does not use tobacco, but he knows there are plenty of people foolish enough to do so, and he might as well have the profit as any one else.

Houston Herald
November 29

Jodie Hamilton, murderer of the Parsons family, who is awaiting the legal execution set for December 21st, probably contemplated a self-inflicted hanging, for the jailers took away from him Monday night two plaited ropes made from strips of his bed blanket which he had torn to pieces. The ropes were each provided with a noose and would have answered his purpose if he contemplated suicide, but the officers and other prisoners do not believe

Hamilton has any idea of committing such an act, for he seems free of care and worry.

Jodie Hamilton's prison made ropes are on exhibit at this office.

Pulaski County Democrat
November 30

L. N. Huffts has just received a splendid gas lighting system which adds wonderfully to the appearance of his already neat store.

Pulaski County Democrat
December 7

Just as we go to press we learn that J. J. Burns the railroad promoter in company of two other gentlemen is here on business relative to the new road.

The services at the Methodist church on Thanksgiving evening was well attended. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Cooper. A collection was taken for charity amounting to \$5.61. A very good donation.

The Band concert and oyster supper given by the (cornet) band boys last Thursday night was a success in every way. With a crowded house the band rendered a few appropriate selections. Then the feast began, oyster and more music, until quite a late hour. The proceeds amount to \$19.60, leaving about \$6.00 to go into the band treasury.

KANSAS CITY—Jesse James, Jr. a son of the famous outlaw of that name, was

in police court to prosecute his brother-in-law, Luther McGowan, for taking his horse without permission and misusing it. McGowan pleaded guilty and said he had been drinking.

"You are his brother-in-law; what do you want to do with him? Judge Kyle inquired of James.

He ought to be fined. I believe in law enforcement," said James.

Judge Kyle imposed a fine of \$100.

The first snow fell in Missouri this year on the fourteenth day of November. A saying is that here will be as many snows as is represented by the date of the first snow or fourteen snow storms this winter. Another old saying is that as old as the moon is on the day of the first tracking snow, that many snows will there be that winter. The moon was twenty-eight days old Wednesday the day the snows gave evidence of its ability to be "tracked."

W. F. Burls, the oil agent, reports that November, just past, was the best month ever known in Crocker for his business, having sold 67 barrels of oil and gasoline, besides a great deal in smaller quantities. Crocker keeps on improving.

Let our two churches prepare to have Christmas Trees that will take the shine off anything of the kind ever yet held in Waynesville. The little folks deserve the enjoyment it will bring them, and if the joy of the youngsters

will not bring pleasure to the older ones, then they have no hearts.

LAQUEY—There will be a canning factory, evaporator and steam cider press on H F. Siesser's fruit farm in time to take care of all the fruit next season.

Everything is on the boom at Laquey—new houses, new barns, fences, young orchards being planted—all getting ready for the new railroad.

RICHLAND—The revival meeting at the M. E. church, conducted by Mrs. Miller is progressing nicely and quite an interest is being shown.

The Curtis Comedy Company gave three performances in this town last week and were very liberally patronized. The company is a very creditable one.

E. M. Rollins, so we are informed, contemplates erecting a canning factory, a necessary enterprise, and their many friends will be much pleased to know that his worthy man and wife are to remain in Richland.

Richland Camp No. 5203, M.W.A. [Modern Woodmen of America] held their regular meeting Monday night [and elected officers.]

DIXON—The Curtis Comedy Co. gave three night performances in our city. Taking away about \$200 from our fun loving people.

Houston Herald

December 13

Preparations are about complete for the execution which is to take place here the 21st. Sheriff Wood has the enclosure and gallows virtually finished, the stockade being about 14 feet in height and is 24 by 48 feet in size, being built adjacent to the north wall of the court house. He has also received the hangman's rope and as soon as the trap door is in place and tested, everything will be in readiness for the first legal execution that has ever taken place in Texas county. It is a terrible duty for an officer to have to perform, but it is the law and it is the sheriff's duty to perform the demands of the law and the Herald believes that Sheriff Wood will face this duty as he would any other. It is sad to contemplate that a young man has but one more short week of life, but again when one's thoughts go back to his terrible deed, the verdict can only be, "It is just."

Pulaski County Democrat

December 14

G. M. Reed has been out with the surveyors this week who are trying to locate the route for the railroad. Mr. Reed having done a great deal of surveying in the county knows the lay of the country well.

J. M. Long is having the walk and stairway leading to the opera hall built

this week. [Long recently completed building a concrete block two-story store building. The upstairs, or "opera house", is to be used for community affairs.]

Messrs. Cash and Rush, both Civil Engineers, and Surveyor G. M. Reed are already in the field making preparatory surveys and measurements [for the new railroad.] Commencing at the Skaggs bridge (or near there) they are coming this way. The present outlay is to follow the river bank (along Wade Hamilton's farm around to the mouth of the Roubidoux, where the first obstacle was encountered in making the curve; from there on to Waynesville the route will be along the creek bank to town. Construction work on the road will begin in a short time. The engine to be used has been ordered and will be here by March 1st.

RICHLAND—The Brownies are to be here next Saturday. By using a Mirror the people of Waynesville and vicinity will be enabled to see them. They will come in a balloon. [In folklore, brownies are little brown goblins who help secretly with household work. There had been previous mention of some citizens looking for brownies. The "Mirror" refers to the Richland Mirror newspaper. This might refer to a current jest going around the county.]

BAILEY—At every cross roads may be seen groups of people discussing the new railroad.

First State Bank

The merchants of Bloodland and Cookville are about ready for the holiday trade, and some of them have already placed their goods on display. All of them, anticipating large sales, have purchased unusually large lines and the assortment and quality are better than ever before. In fact, so wide a choice is offered and prices are so reasonable that there is no excuse for people sending to St. Louis or Chicago to get their presents. The various stores have assumed their holiday attire and have arranged attractive displays. Christmas is in the air, and there is every reason to believe that the season will be a happy one for practically every person in this end of the county. [Notice that this is less than two weeks until Christmas. In 1906 they didn't start their Christmas sales season before Thanksgiving.]

Houston Star—Jodie Hamilton, who is under sentence to hang December 21st for the killing of the Parson family, intends to have fun as long as he is a resident of this sphere. Last Tuesday evening he made one of the guards believe he had secured a revolver and made the guard go to the rear of the jail and hide under some old cells, where the deputy sheriff, John Wood, found him when he took supper to the prisoner. The guard had the key to the front door and John could not get in until the guard finally passed the key to him through the wire screen over the rear window. The guard said he firmly believed that Hamilton had a revolver and would shoot him if he passed in front of the cells.

Pulaski County Democrat
December 21

HANNA—The wood chopping and play-party at R. A. Craddock's was pronounced a success. Several boys from Waynesville attended.

Houston Herald
December 27

Jodie Hamilton Pays the Penalty of His Crime

Joseph Hamilton, murderer of Carnie L. Parsons, wife and three small children, the crime which so startled our community last October, paid the full legal penalty of his awful crime on the gallows in the court yard at this place Friday morning at 11 o'clock.

The young man passed his last days without apparent fear and was evidently possessed of a wonderful nerve that carried him through one of the greatest ordeals a human being has to meet: to be face to face with the knowledge that death is a certainty and that his hours are numbered on earth. Hamilton was cheerful at all times and had a ready conversation for all visitors at all times.

About 7 o'clock Thursday evening a song service was held in the jail, after which Rev. Waggoner made an appro-

priate address. Jodie listened to all attentively and then sang a song himself, after which he shook hands with each one present, bidding them good by. He seemed sad but not deeply affected.

Hamilton rested well Thursday night and ate a hearty breakfast Friday morning. He was shaved and dressed Friday forenoon, at all times showing very little nervousness.

Everything was in readiness by 10:30 o'clock and those who had permits were admitted to the stockade. Hamilton was brought from his cell at 10:42 and ascended the scaffold with steady step. "Jesus Lover of My Soul" was sung by the entire crowd, in which the condemned man joined. Hamilton was then invited to make a talk and spoke clearly without a tremor to his voice. He then sang his favorite song with the following chorus:

"Only a prayer, only a tear,
Oh, if sister and mother were here.
Only a song, 'twill comfort and cheer,
Only a word from the Book so clear."

Elder Waggoner then spoke a few words of advice regarding the necessity of obeying Divine, natural and civil laws, and then offered prayer. Hamilton added a few more remarks and then stepped upon the trap; he stood perfectly still and immovable while his arms and legs were being tied, seemingly without fear or tremble. The black-cap was adjusted at 11 o'clock and Sheriff Wood shook hands with him, saying: Good-by, Jodie, may the Lord have mercy on your soul." Sheriff Wood then sprung the trap at 11:02 and then occurred the feature that caused a groan of horror to arise from the crowd. The knot slipped and the man's body fell to the ground. He was uninjured but not unconscious. Another knot was tied by Sheriff Bay, of Shannon county, and the condemned man was carried back on to the scaffold. The noose was again adjusted



September of 1906 saw the completion of the town well, located in front of the courthouse. "No more need to go thirsty in Waynesville" if you didn't have a well of your own.



The gallows in Houston, constructed for the hanging of Jodie Hamilton. Hangings were public events in 19th and early 20th century Missouri. Sometimes a fence was constructed around the gallows. Witnesses, including officials and jury members, were admitted by permit. The hundreds (or thousands) of other people who turned out for the event scrambled for any perches offering a view over the stockade. Courtesy of the Texas County Historical Society.

and just two minutes later the trap was sprung the second time by Sheriff Wood. This was at 11:04 and in just 11 1/2 minutes the young man was pronounced dead by the attending physicians. The second knot had not taken up quite as much of the rope and the condemned man's toes touched the ground but his neck was broken by the fall and at 11:17 1/2 he went to eternity.

Sheriff Wood handled the trying ordeal in a manner worthy of public approval. The rope was a regular hangman's rope and was shipped here by express, a hangman's knot being already tied at each end. The knots were examined by all the visiting officials and no deficiency was noted. That the knot should have slipped and caused the accident is deeply regretted but it is a matter for which no just blame can be attached to the officials. After the rope was placed in position, it was tested by the weight of four men

and seemed secure in every respect. The HERALD is informed that the express package containing the rope was opened at Cabool and the rope handled by various parties. Whether anything was done to affect the knot we are not informed, but that it was not a proper proceeding is apparent to all.

The visiting officers were Sheriff Bay, of Shannon county, Sheriff Morgan, of Howell, Sheriff Sutton, of Pulaski, Deputy Followill, of Phelps, and Marshal Wheeler, of Mountain Grove.

The physicians were Doctors Phemister, Coats, Haggard, Herrington, Womack, Bradley and Covert.

The crowd in attendance numbered probably 2,500 or 3,000, but less than 200 could be admitted to the stockade. The visiting officials occupied places on the scaffold and each assisted in the part assigned to him. Revs. Waggoner and Foard and Atty. Hiatt were also on the platform. Chas. Hall, George Sroufe, Otto Gladden and Tom Johnson acted as pallbearers.

Pulaski County Democrat
December 28
Local Briefs

Considerable drunkenness was indulged in here Monday afternoon among the young men and boys, probably more than we have had for many years before, notwithstanding the fact that this is a "dry city." Later in the evening there were a few knockdowns between "native" and "foreigners" but no one seriously hurt.

GRACELAND—The loud reports from those terrible dynamite explosions in the direction of Waynesville is an evident fact that something is doing on the new railroad. Much praise is due J. J. Burns and the progressive citizens of Waynesville. [We will see how his story turns out in the 2007 Gazette.]

