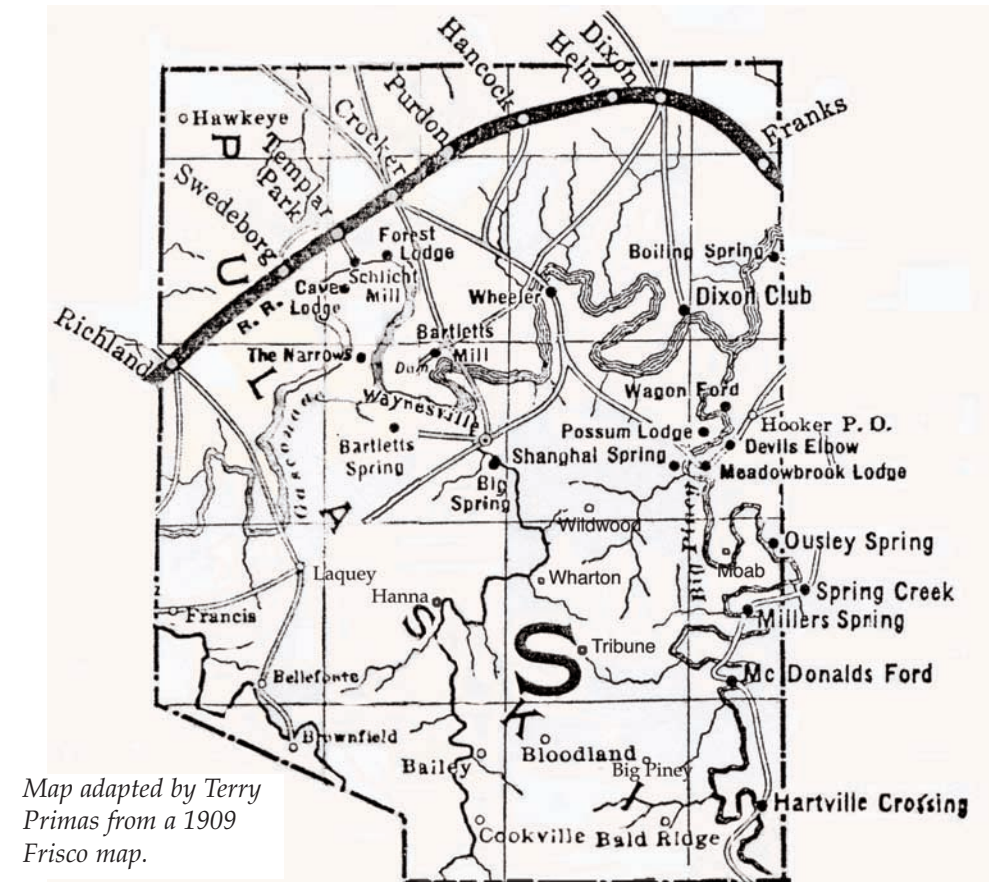


News in 1904

Compiled and edited by Jan and Terry Primas

One of the best ways to get a feel for what was happening in a particular locality in a given year is to read the local newspaper. What was on the minds of the citizens will appear there. This is particularly true of the *Pulaski County Democrat* in the fourth year of the twentieth century. The *Democrat* was not a misnomer. Many newspapers of the 19th and early 20th century made no effort at unbiased political news coverage. The *Democrat* heralded the virtues of the Democratic Party and bashed the Republicans. Theodore Roosevelt and the Republicans were "evil doers" (it's not a new phrase) in the pages of the paper. The subscription price was \$1.00 per year or a cord of wood would suffice.

Nathan Wheeler, editor and publisher of the *Pulaski County Democrat* wanted his paper to have county-wide appeal and readership. He had "correspondents", called stringers today, in the small communities throughout the county. They reported the news from their enclaves each week. Not every area submitted news every week. Correspondents apparently came and went and some were less reliable than others but coverage of the county was



Map adapted by Terry Primas from a 1909 Frisco map.

generally good.

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. We have gleaned those items that give a sense of the

times, the mood of the populace, and the events that had an impact on history. The larger railroad towns (Dixon, Crocker, Swedeberg, 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). As an example, Golden Center was often cited but we have been unable to pinpoint this area. We hope some reader may have a memory of this community's location.

The year 1904 had some things in common with 2004. It was a leap year, a national and local election year, and the year of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition (St. Louis World's Fair). References to these last two events appear often in the pages of the *Pulaski County Democrat*. The completion of the county courthouse, which we commemorated last summer, was also big news during the first part of the year. There was much mineral and land speculation. Citizens of the area had a boom time feeling and optimism about business, inventions, and the good life was apparent in 1904.

January

Pulaski County Democrat January 1

Annual sale now on; don't go elsewhere to be cheated; come in here.

Local News

The roof has been put on the court-house this week and the building will soon be enclosed. When this is done the work will then proceed regardless of the weather, which has greatly impeded construction all along.

There was remarkable good order in Waynesville during the Christmas holidays. Very few drunk people in town and they were very orderly and quiet.

We learn from some who were present that the Christmas tree and entertainment at Crocker last Thursday night was a "howling success" with much more howling than anything else. It is said that a drunk man went in and took the house, tore up the tree and stopped the program and a regular riot ensued. If this be true it speaks poorly for the nerve of the law abiding citizens of that town, in letting one man break up a gathering of that kind, as it does also for the morale of the town. Crocker has no saloon but they get drunk there just the same.

BIG PINEY—Big Piney Township report-

ed the tie business was brisk. If you want any ties made call on Wayne Clark and Chas. Page. Lane & Co. have their saw mill near the Ross ford and are doing considerable business.

Pulaski County Democrat January 8

Cold winter weather continues with the Gasconade River being frozen over.

The County Court met Tuesday to make some slight changes in the Court House and to buy some stoves to put up in the offices.

Mr. Martin of Rolla, Architect Hohenschild's assistant, was here Tuesday to make examination of the courthouse. He ordered a few slight changes in the work but as a whole it was found all right.

The County Court met last Saturday and insured the court house. They insured in the Hartford and took out a policy for \$7,000 for five years. W. J. Barrows represents the company and Miss Lela Davis writes the policies in his absence.

The Bank of Waynesville has bought the Joe McGregor property at southwest corner of square and will begin the erection of a substantial bank building thereon as soon as spring opens and the roads get in shape to do the hauling. A

brick or stone will be built.

The license of B. F. Scott having expired, he closed his saloon on the first of January and Waynesville is now a dry town. How long it will remain such remains to be seen but we hope it will continue indefinitely. While Mr. Scott conducted as orderly a place as was possible there seemed to be a growing sentiment among all the people of the town to try it awhile without that luxury, so he decided to close out without making any effort to renew his license. We are individually opposed to the sale of liquor but have always preferred saloons to illegal "blind tiger" and if one is started here it will result in an open saloon in a short time.

Pulaski County Democrat January 15

Correspondents around the County

BAILEY— a neighborhood telephone is being talked up with good hopes of securing one.

BIG PINEY - There are now three large dry good stores in Big Piney now and all have a good trade. Bayou and Democrat Ridge schools will have what is termed "A ciphering match" in the near future. Bayou school stands ready and willing to accommodate any school in the county in a contest of this kind.

HOOVER - Harve Sheldon, the all round

fisherman, was casting his rod in Old Shanghai last week. And we are very glad to say that Harve always brings in the game. Berry Hance of upper Piney was buying corn in this vicinity the first of the week.

DIXON—The value of the new safe recently put in by the Bank of Dixon was proven by the fact that the day after its installment the deposits of the Bank exceeded ten thousand dollars, probably breaking all records for this or any other bank in the county.

Work on the court house is progressing nicely. The carpenter work is about completed, except the floors, and the plastering is well along. It will be finished by the March term of Circuit Court.

A Big Organ

One of the most interesting features of the World's fair will be a monstrous pipe organ, with 145 stops and pipes five feet in diameter.

The Ditch Problem

The ditch running through town has long been a source of aggravation and a problem that has caused our city dads much worry. Frequently people are tumbling into it in the dark [and]generally coming out much worsted by their experiences. We believe it would be a good plan to put a railing or balustrade

Ads



A good view of the ditch that ran through Waynesville. Courtesy of Pulaski County Historical Society.

along the ditch where there are no bridges. This could be done with little expense and would prevent pedestrians tumbling into it unaware on dark nights.

Pulaski County Democrat January 22

Around the County

DIXON—A Mr. Gordon of Mansfield Mo. was here the first of the week to organize a company to build and operate a cheese factory. He reports that a factory will be built here in the spring. A telephone line is being put into connect Franks, Fishdam and Hooker with this place. Dixon will be connected with most every town and “cross roads store” in Maries, Miller and Pulaski counties.

SCHLICHT—The steam heating apparatus lately installed in the Schlicht Milling Company’s mill is a perfect success and Boss Miller Lee takes pride in showing it in operation. Land buyers too numerous to mention from Kansas were in the Valley this week seeking homes, ready to leave the windy state. Some trades were made.

SWEDEBORG—Swedeborg is at last going to have a telephone from here to Crocker. S. C. Black of this place Tom Turpin and C. W. Farnham of Crocker are the promoters. The work is well under way. This is something that this place has needed for a long time.

WHEELER—Henry Burnett is dealing in furs. School is progressing fine under the management of Charlie Wheeler this week.

HOKER—The work on the Big Piney Lodge club house will soon be in full blast, as spring is drawing near and fishing will soon be good. Frank Graham of Spring Creek was buying ties in this neighborhood for John

Pillman last week. He is a good buyer and pays the highest prices. There is strong talk of a telephone at this place to connect with the Arlington line. We hope it will be put in as it would be quite a convenience to this neighborhood.

Local News

J. B. Christeson, J. J. Clark and W. A. Bates all went to the city Sunday, the first two named to buy goods and the latter to visit his old haunts and see what was going on at the World’s Fair grounds.

Architect Hohenschield and the original contractor Ed Long were up from Rolla Tuesday to inspect the court house and see how the work was progressing on same. They found everything about all right and suggested but few slight changes. The beautiful weather of late was a great help to the court house crew and work has been progressing nicely. W. J. Mitchell, who did the brick work on the court house, is here this week straightening up his business and doing a little work that was not completed. The County Court met Tuesday to examine the court house and issue warrants for part payment of same. The house will probably be completed by the middle of February.

Notice to Stone Contractors.

The town board of the town of Waynesville will receive sealed bids for curbing and walling the ditch on Commercial Street at southwest corner of the square up to Monday February 1, 1904. Plans and specifications can be seen by calling Albert Christeson. Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Done by order of the board January 4, 1904.

Pulaski County Democrat January 29

SCHLICHT—A telephone line from

Schlicht to Crocker will be built. A debating society is in full blast at the Miller school house. The Peterson Brothers have over 500 logs on the ground ready for the sawyer, Frank Walters, to cut into lumber. Bob Black, our bachelor friend, had to put his ferry boat in operation, so he could get his mail, he having wanted to hear from his best girl pretty badly.

WHEELER—Quite a snow storm Monday. The river has been past fording the last few days and quite a few visitors were at Wheeler Sunday.

The state of Georgia will reproduce as its state building at the St. Louis World’s fair the residence of the late Gen. John B. Gordon, at Sutherland, a suburb of Atlanta, Ga. [Ed. Note: Gen. Gordon died this month, being the oldest living Confederate Major General.]

They Will All Be There

France, Germany, Mexico, England, China, Japan and Brazil will each spend over \$5,000,000 on elaborate exhibits at the World’s Fair.

Local News

The coldest weather of the season visited this section Tuesday morning, the thermometer registering six degrees below zero. Roubidoux and the Gasconade both got on quite a boom as a result of the rains the latter part of last week, and the road under the bluff, though not in good shape, was found to be a great improvement over the road around the ridge.

Last Friday was a red letter day in the post office at Waynesville. Postmaster Peterson and his assistant W. J. Manes received on the evening mail four large sacks of matter containing over 4,700 pieces of mail, which were properly distributed in sixteen minutes.

Notice to Bidders.

The County Court of Pulaski County, Missouri will receive sealed proposals for furnishing and fitting up of the vaults of the new Pulaski County Court House at Waynesville, MO., until 9 o’clock a.m. February 13, 1904. Specifications are on file at the office of the County Clerk at Waynesville, Mo., and also at the office of the Architect at Rolla, Mo.

H. H. HOHENSCHIELD, Architect
E. G. WILLIAMS, County Clerk
Pulaski County, Mo.

The people of Waynesville, through the Board of Directors, have remodeled the school building and now we have a seating capacity in room 1 of 100, with well equipped recitation rooms.

February

Pulaski County Democrat February 5

DIXON—Staben Bros. put up a large supply of ice this week. Terry Bros. saloon and a barber shop at Vienna were burned Saturday night. It is reported that the whiskey was so well watered that it put out the fire and saved further loss. Moral: the more water the better in the whiskey.

WHEELER—S. S. Hamilton said that the rabbits were so quick that you had to dodge to keep them from running over you. If they were bigger they would break your leg.

Local News

The County Court will sell the old safe, formerly in the County Clerk’s office, at public sale on Tuesday, February 2nd, 1904, while court is in session. This safe is in fair condition and some one will get a bargain.

The County Court will draw Grand and Petit Jurors while in session this week. This will be the first Grand Jury in this county in several years and a general shaking up is looked for.

Pulaski County Democrat February 12

DIXON—A freight wreck on the Dixon Hill Monday morning in which about three freight cars got “cross ways” on the track in one of the big cuts, delayed the east-bound morning passenger trains at this place till about 11 a.m. We had all kinds, classes and colors of people in town that morning and the restaurants, hotel and saloon did a paying business.

Local News

The old safe that was in the County Clerk’s office was sold last week by the County Court to C. H. Davis for \$13.50.

Born Friday, February 5, 1904, to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kerr, a fine girl baby. Mrs. Kerr and the baby are getting along nicely but Ed is not yet out of danger.

The court house work is progressing nicely and the interior is receiving the finishing touches. The house will be ready for circuit court and will be the best house in the State for the money it cost. Everyone that has examined the house is well pleased with it.

Pulaski County Democrat February 19

School Notes—The entire school was together in room 2 Friday evening and an extemporaneous program rendered which was both instructive and entertaining to all pupils. The library books were all collected this week and shelved in the case by an appointed committee and only one book is out. This is being searched for. [Ed. Note: It can be inferred by this that the entire Waynesville School library fit in one book case.]

Local News

Work on the court house is progressing nicely and it is expected to finish it in time for Circuit Court. County Court met in special session last Saturday to receive bids for furnishing the vaults and other furniture for the court house. The new addition of Iberia Academy is finished and they have just added two more teachers to their teaching force, giving them a faculty of seven teachers. The spring term will be mighty easily attractive to teachers.

George M. Reed, the newly appointed

postmaster of the Waynesville office received his commission Saturday and took formal charge Monday morning and installed his son Guy as assistant.

To the Taxpayers and Others.

The County Court of Pulaski County invites all the citizens of said county to meet them in Waynesville on Monday, March 7, 1904 and examine our court house and finished, the cost of house and furniture will be made public, so all can hear what it cost. We expect prominent speakers to be on hand and address the people on the political issues. Come.

The County Court

[Ed. Note: There were 29 pieces of property listed for auction due to delinquent taxes in this week's Democrat. Hard cash for the tax collector must have been hard to come by.]

Pulaski County Democrat February 26

BLOODLAND—Weather bad-lots of ice and sleet. The Bloodland school was out last Friday. James Lane was the teacher and taught us a good school, and gave general satisfaction.

CROCKER—Guy Tallman is back in his old place of business. If you want a good shave or up-to-date hair cut he is the mustard. He also carries a line of groceries and serves lunch.

SCHLICHT—Capt. Chas. Peterson has at last got him a wagon made from iron.

The Captain makes sure of strength when he is hauling his bride around.

DIXON—George Franklin has bought a horse and delivery wagon and has put them into service. This makes four grocery stores here that use delivery wagons for the benefit of their customers.

BAILEY—The residence of Mr. Kirtsinger was burned to the ground last Thursday night, the family narrowly escaping. All efforts to save furniture were fruitless as the flames were under strong headway before the family were aroused from their slumbers. [Ed. Note: It seems every other week brings an item about a house fire during the winter season.]

Local News

Frank Bennett, the plasterer on the court house was here the first of the week to complete that part of the work. A. D. Sutton and W. G. White, two Roubidoux citizens, were shaking hands with the boys in town Thursday. The few warm days the first of the week started the candidates to budding and the crop promises to be quite prolific. The majority seem to want to be Assessor.

A Telephone to Dixon

Dr. Harrison and others are building a telephone line from Dixon to Hooker. The line was completed last week to

Judge L. L. Cobb's place and is being continued this week. They say that if the people on Piney, the wire road and Waynesville will help, that the line will be brought to this place, thus connecting Waynesville with Dixon, Hooker and all the country between these points, which would be a great convenience. Farmers and others along the line may have instruments put in at their homes or places of business at a reasonable cost. We hope to see the people become interested in this enterprise and encourage it.

[Ed Note: The space in the paper for news continues to shrink as there were 48 notices of public sales by the sheriff as a result of delinquent taxes.]

Pulaski County Democrat March 4

Our New Court House.

Some Facts About the New Court House Building to be Turned Over to the County Court and the People Next Monday.

The new court house is completed and will on Monday, March 7, 1904 be formally turned over to the County Court and the taxpayers of the county. The house is one of the neatest in the country and probably the best house, cost considered, that has ever been built in the state. It is a house that everyone should be proud of and one that every taxpayer in the county—if he will lay

Ads

his prejudices aside—will acknowledge to be a beauty both in architecture and workmanship. It is built on a foundation 60 feet long by 40 feet wide at the north. On the ground floor are five large office rooms containing probably twice as much floor space as did the offices in the old building. It has a south and east entrance with halls and corridor. The court room on the second floor occupies the same space formerly occupied by the court room and two jury rooms. In addition to the court room this floor has three jury rooms, one for Grand Jury and two for Petit Juries, a consultation room and a witness waiting room.

On the lower floor and conveniently arranged are two large fireproof vaults with ample capacity to hold all records that may accumulate in years to come. The interior of the entire building is finished in a very attractive style, the plastering being of Acme cement with a light gray finishing coat. The wood work is of hard pine finely polished and varnished giving it a finish equal to anything in the country for beauty.

The entire cost of the building including the seats and desks in the court room is \$10, 240, every cent of which has been paid out of money on hand and insurance received on old building without increasing taxes a penny and no one will ever feel the effects of our recent misfortune in a financial way.

The County Court and other officials



This is a photograph of the early courthouse, complete with hogs roaming the street. Courtesy Pulaski County Historical Society.

deserve much credit for the judgment exercised and economy used in this matter and they earnestly request every

taxpayer in the county to be present next Monday at the dedication of the building and make a careful examina-

tion of the same. It is expected that the furniture for the offices will be here by that time but if it is not the house alone

Sellers Sexton
Auto Financial

is worth looking at, so come and see it.

Appropriate dedicatory ceremonies will be had and good speakers will be present to participate in the exercises.

DIXON—A lodge of the Brotherhood of American Yoemen was organized here Monday night. An addition, to be known as Danner's Addition to Dixon, is being laid out on the north side of town and the lots are advertised for sale at public auction next Saturday.

HANNA—We understand Rob Davis has ordered a wife. Quite a crowd spent last Sunday evening at the Maxey Cave.

Local News

A Grand Jury has been drawn for the coming session of Circuit Court, which will be the first for two years. The county officials will all move into their new quarters in the court house next week or the week following. The County Court and the business men and citizens of Waynesville are anxious that you attend the dedication of the court house next Monday. The Dorcas society of the M. E. Church, South will serve dinner and supper to the people attending Circuit Court on Monday March 7th, the proceeds to go to improving the church building. A splendid dinner will be served and all you can eat for 25 cents.

Pulaski County Democrat March 11

The [wood]cut represents the new court house that was dedicated and turned over to the County Court and tax payers Monday. Early in the day crowds of people began to arrive and long before noon the town was filled with people from all parts of the county, some on business with the Court but many to see the new court house and meet people. In the afternoon the ceremonies of dedication were had in which many Pulaskians indulged. Appropriate speeches were made by Joe McGregor, W. D. Rowden, G. M. Reed, J. L. Johnson, C. H. Shubert, W. D. Johnson and Judge L. B. Woodside. Many complimentary remarks were made concerning our efficient County Court, as well as past courts, and all praised the new house, beauty in architecture, finish and convenient arrangement, and expressed surprise at the remarkable low figures at which it had been built and finished.

We gave a brief description of the house last week so will not repeat it this week, but of the hundreds of people who were here this week not a criticism has been heard nor an objection made and we believe the house meets the approbation of at least 99 out of every 100 tax payers in the county regardless of their political belief.

GASCONADE—Prof. Chas. Case recently closed a successful term of school in this district. Mr. Case is one of those rare teachers who, though stern in com-

mand, still retains the good will of the pupils. We hope to be able to secure his services another year.

DIXON—J. M. Mitchell has his tents pitched near the depot and has advertised his place of business as the face factory. Making false faces, we presume. W. W. Danner sold 12 of his lots at auction last Saturday. They ranged in price from \$8 to \$20.

HOOKE—Several people from this part are in Waynesville this week. Courting I guess. Most of the Republicans from here attended the convention at Waynesville last Saturday and we are proud to say that Hooker is almost a Republican town, there being but one Democrat.

SCHLICHT—A grand chivari, the best that could be gotten up, was given to the new married couple, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lundstrom. The gentleman responded with wine and cigars. [Ed. Note: See the sidebar for an explanation of this Upland South tradition.]

Pulaski County Democrat March 18

DIXON—George Lane was here this week in the interest of his candidacy. George has many friends on this side of the county. Orders served on many of our citizens this week by the marshal are causing considerable work to be done on our sidewalks. It was pretty badly needed

[Ed. Note: Under "Announcements" appear short biographies of candidates in the party primaries for county offices. They appeared last week and continue for a few more. We include one from this week as an example.]

A. D. Sutton

In the proper column this week appears the name of A. D. Sutton of Roubidoux township as a candidate for Sheriff subject to the Democratic primary. Dotson Sutton is one of Roubidoux's most popular young farmers. Two years ago he was elected constable of that township and has made a good official. He possesses the necessary enterprise and is well qualified to make a competent sheriff. He will be found an earnest worker and a strong opponent.



A. D. Sutton, ca. 1892. Courtesy of Benny Doolin.

The Shivaree (chivari, chivaree, or charivari)

The shivaree, with various spellings, is a custom from England, Scotland, Germany, and Russia. The ancient French tradition was for family and friends to serenade the newly wedded couple. The Scotch/Irish practiced the prank of a "bride abduction, where rivaling clans would kidnap the bride on the wedding night. As the immigrants moved westward, they brought this tradition to the Ozarks. On a night soon after the wedding, family and neighbors would stealthily gather outside the couple's cabin with cow bells, pots, pans, and guns. The noise would spontaneously erupt and continue until the couple emerged. It was expected that the couple would then invite the revelers inside and provide treats, usually cigars for the men and cake for women, and nonsmokers with a suitable drink. If the couple were unprepared and offered no refreshments, the groom was put on a fence rail, ridden to the nearest creek or pond, and thrown into the water. Treat or not, the groom was usually jokingly threatened with immersion. In the Ozarks, the phrase "get the bells ready" refers to impending marriage and the resulting shivaree. It appears often in newspaper gossip in the early 1900s and lasted into the 1950s in some Ozark neighborhoods.

The modern wedding with its fast automobile getaway and distant honeymoon has left us with a few modern relics of the shivaree. Throwing rice or birdseed with cheers as the couple emerge from the church is the serenading. Decorating the car with signs and affixing cans and pots to the bumper is the noise. The reception provides the treat. -The Editors

An Account of a Shivaree at Big Piney in the 1930s

It was on Thursday night we had the shivaree—or maybe Friday. Anyhow, after meeting people made as if to go home, but presently we crept back to the schoolhouse where we talked until we were sure the Ashtons [the newlyweds] would be in bed by the time we could make our way by moonlight through the woods.

Just as women afoot carried their Sunday shoes and put them on near the church, leaving the old ones hidden in the brush until afterward, so also had pans and buckets and bells and guns been hidden this evening. The deadened timber stood with fiercely raised arms as we walked through the frosty pasture and up the ridge. There was a lamp going down yonder at the house, but it went out even as we saw it. We crept downward. We were almost there when a dog bayed us. Then we started the noise.

Through the gate we went, and around the house. Our shotguns, streaking orange up into the air, deafened us as we jangled the bells and pans. A steel oil drum, the top cut out, was in the sideyard at the butchering place for scalding hogs. Empty, it made a fearful and unearthly din as it was beaten with sticks.

After about five minutes, in a lull, we heard the Ashtons urging the young couple to come out. The front door opened. We cheered, and as light was struck inside we were invited in. They were ready for us. Cakes, of varieties that would keep for a while, had been baked ahead, and George had laid in two cans of penny stogies. The women gathered in the kitchen and the back bedroom, the men in the two front rooms. In the asphyxiating smoke of the stogies we made talk. The men who had refused the tobacco were given cake, but the platters were not passed to the smokers.

Soon some of the young people were making molasses candy in the kitchen. They boiled it up and buttered their hands and had a pulling, and when the ropy stuff became brittle it was snapped up and passed.

Finally someone near me drawled, 'Well, we better mosey. ..If'n hit were *my* shivaree, I'd sho' be mad if they kep' me out of bed any longer'n this. . ."

We filed by the bride and groom (after having made a few more matter-of-fact references as to the advisability of ducking George in the creek, even though he had provided treat) and shook their hands and everybody said, "I wish you'uns every happiness," or "I wish you'uns a long an' happy life." This was very solemn, and many of the women hugged and kissed Martha.

It was a right good shivaree.

[from **Backwoods Teacher**, Joseph Nelson, L. B. Lippincott, 1949. This book, no longer in print is an account of Nelson's year as a teacher in Big Piney, an area "sometimes referred to as the last seed-bed of Anglo-Saxon culture in America".

Pulaski County Democrat March 25

SWEDEBORG—The Frisco tie loading gang was here the first of the week and cleaned up the tie yard. The M. W. of A. [Modern Woodmen of America] Camp of this place is at last going to have them a hall. S. C. Black is going to build one over his store for them.

RICHLAND—Richland is flooded with

land buyers—14 here at one time last week. We have four drug stores in full blast, yet they call Richland a healthy town.

Local News

The Hub Realty Company is the possessor of a new Oliver typewriter which arrived Sunday. The progress of our little Bank has been excellent. The business has been much greater than anyone anticipated and the Board of

Directors and Cashier Rollins deserve much credit for the creditable way in which this institution has been conducted.

DECKER—Decker is on a boom. Two gentlemen from the northern States were here Friday looking out a location for a mill. Mrs. J. E. Lane of Piney was selling eggs and trading with our merchant Saturday. Mrs. Lane's yearly income from eggs alone is \$50.00. How is that for the Missouri hen?

BAILEY—A. D. Sutton, our local candidate for Sheriff, will be a hard man to beat, while his knowledge of the business of the office makes him thoroughly competent.

April

Pulaski County Democrat April 1

BLOODLAND—Saturday was the banner egg day at Bloodland. Jaspar Bros. bought over six hundred dozen.

Local News

Rivers very high, preventing mail delivery. Many of our people went to the river to view the high water. Charles Page, in crossing the Roubidoux Saturday afternoon, while it was over much of the bottoms, got his boat overturned in the slough opposite the big spring and had to spend several hours on a small island before being rescued.

He was pretty well chilled but was glad it was no worse.

DIXON—Some talk of wanting to raise the incorporation a notch—to a city of the fourth class.

RICHLAND—A minstrel show in town Saturday night. More new land buyers this week—keeps our real estate men busy.

Pulaski County Democrat April 8

Local News.

Marshal Mitchell is walling the ditch at the crossing of Maple street and will soon have it bridged and ready for travel.

800 Strawberry Pickers wanted for the Richland and Stoutland Fruit Growers Association. Will commence picking by May 10th, 1904.

HOOKEK—Everything is on the boom (not bum). Mr. Cobert is taking in the sights at the Worlds Fair City.

RICHLAND—Richland was full of people Saturday, all the business houses were running over and three persons were calabossed before the day was over.

Pulaski County Democrat April 15

BAILEY—The recent storms have left the telephone wires on this route in very bad shape. The mail did not reach here

last Friday and Saturday on account of high water. The condition of the roads render it impossible for our merchants to keep up a supply of goods.

GASCONADE—Cattle are now doing well on the range. Tom Finley recently bought the John Baker hack and says he knows he can stand in with the girls this summer and buggy ride every Sunday.

Pulaski County Democrat April 22

Local News

The town put a substantial bridge across the ditch near L. N. Hufft's store last week. The rock is now being quarried for the new bank building, which is expected to be begun in a short time. Only four weeks from today until the primary election, and a busy four weeks that will be. The setting of the primary so soon will prevent candidates going back more than a half dozen generations to look up the records of their opponents.

DIXON—The Dixon cheese factory promoters held a meeting Saturday and appointed committees to superintend the building and secure additional subscriptions for shares. The building has been started and the Company will be incorporated for \$2,000. The Wildwood Fruit Farm plantation claims 4,000 barrels of apples will be raised by them this year. The Frisco Railroad Company has added a new employee to the pas-

senger train service. He is called the collector and his duties are to help the conductor "knock down fares" some claim. Under the recent order of no passes and with the "collector system" you have to pay full fare.

Pulaski County Democrat April 29

HOOKEK—Harve Sheldon is the cracker jack fisherman this spring.

GOLDEN CENTER—More measles.

Local News

One of the worst rain storms of the season visited this section last Saturday night. The town was flooded with water and the streets were badly washed. Account Louisiana Purchase Exposition the Frisco Railway will sell tickets from Crocker to St. Louis and return, the cheapest being \$5.30, with children being one-half of the adult fare.

SCHLICHT—G. W. Lane, candidate for collector, was electioneering in the Valley this week. His weight ought to be sufficient to hold down the office.

May

Pulaski County Democrat May 6

Local News

The County Court visited the Crocker bridge Tuesday to see what repair, if any, was needed thereon. The financial statement of Pulaski County will be

ADS

published as soon as possible after court meets. The statement shows, after paying all expenses for the year, a balance in the county revenue fund of \$8,220.00, and only about one-third of the back tax, sinking and county foreign insurance fund was collected and paid on court house and furniture, and the Court will have enough money to run the county until the next collection.

RICHLAND—Measles still running rampant, killing a three month infant.

SCHLICHT—Joey May Ledbetter ventured the roaring Gasconade last week to get a letter at the post office from his sweetheart.

Pulaski County Democrat May 13

GOLDEN CENTER—More rain, more rest. Wheat is looking very fine. Prospects for all kinds of fruit are good. The farmers are all badly behind in their work. All who have been suffering with the measles are better at this writing.

RICHLAND—Several of our towns people will visit the world's fair next month. George Lane of Waynesville was a visitor here the first of the week. E. G. Williams, our county clerk, was circulating among old friends here Tuesday of this week. The 12 year old son of A. Manuel living near here died last Monday of measles. The little 4 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Godfrey died of measles last Friday night.

DIXON—The Dixon Canning Company sold a car of tomatoes to the Sligo Iron Company at Sligo, Mo. this week. C. H. Streb is clearing ground just west of town to put up a brick yard. His machinery has been shipped here and he expects to [be] manufacturing bricks in a short time. The question of restraining stock from running on the streets has been the leading subject for discussion here this week. Keiper, whom everybody in Dixon knows and one of the most unique characters in this section of the country was in Dixon the early part of the week. Till about three years ago when he was accused of murdering his wife, he lived near here and was here most every day. He would haul ties to town on a wheelbarrow and would keep himself supplied in tobacco by picking up "snipes" or cigar stubs out of the street gutters. Since the time mentioned he has not been seen here till this week. His garments appeared to have been the same ones worn on his former visits, and to see him would make one think of Rip Vanwinkle.

All over the country there is a protest against the management of the public schools. Spelling, geography, history and all elementary studies seem to be neglected and pretense takes the place of real acquirement. [Ed. Note: *Sounds strangely familiar, doesn't it?*]

In the Republican state convention of Texas the Rev. Daniel Abner prayed as follows: "Grant one favor, O Lord, we ask of Thee that you don't let your party be defeated this year!" This is the first intimation we have had of celestial politics.

Local News

Dr. B. N. Pippin came in last Saturday and is doing dental work at the Black hotel this week. Marshal Mitchell with a crew of hands has been cleaning up our streets and done some grading at the mouth of the lane which was very much needed, the damage being done by the recent high water. Mrs. W. J. Barrows, while trying to cross the first ford of the creek on horseback one day last week, got into a drift of quick sand and was thrown from her horse and quite seriously hurt by being struck with the hoofs of the horse in his floundering.

The Portals Are Opened.

Saturday, April 30, will go down into history as a red-letter day for St. Louis, witnessing as it did the consummation of four years of unremitting labor in the conception, organization and construction of the Louisiana Purchase Centennial exposition and the opening of its portals to the world....Estimates of the attendance during the day were varied, running 200,000 to a quarter of a million. The actual attendance, according to official estimate, will come within 200,000, which show a new first day record, that at Philadelphia being about 186,000 and Chicago, something over 137,000. The grounds, however, are so vast, that a million people might be within the gates without causing unseemly crowding except, perhaps, around some special attraction. John Phillip Sousa's band played "Louisiana" for the first time in public...It had been arranged that President [Theodore] Roosevelt should press the [telegraph] key which would officially open the fair...and at approximately 12:15, St. Louis time, the official signal flashed back from the White House and the exposition was officially opened.

HOOKEK—Several cases of measles are reported on Gospel Hill. There will be quite a number of St. Louisians out in a few days to spend their vacation and enjoy the summer breezes of the Big Piney river. Big Piney needs no recommendations as an ideal summer resort, for it is the only place in the southwest to enjoy life.

Pulaski County Democrat May 20

1904 Financial Statement

The financial statement of Pulaski County for the year ending April 30th, 1904 showed total receipts in the General Revenue Fund of \$20,470.85 and total expenditures of \$10,793.67. This left a balance in the Treasury of \$8,220.88.

[Ed. Note: For comparison, the December 31, 2002 balance in the Pulaski County General Revenue Fund was \$232,437. Receipts for fiscal year 2003 were \$2,798,323. Expenditures were \$2,823,337 leaving a cash balance of \$207,423.]

Local News

J. B. Christeson is the proud possessor of a brand new, rubber tire, canopy top surrey, and he drives with the grace and dignity of an alleged lord.

SWEDEBORG—The Frisco put in an instrument [telegraph key] here Wednesday and are now ready for the operator.

GOLDEN CENTER—J. W. Robertson has contracted to build a fine hotel in Iberia. One new case of measles.

SCHLICHT—Mrs. Banty Williams presented her husband with a fine 12 pound boy. Mother and child doing well but Banty took to the woods and hasn't been seen since.

Pulaski County Democrat May 27

DIXON—Monday was an exceptionally dull day in Dixon and would have gone into history without an incident worthy of record but for two of our best citizens who it is claimed will have a record of their proceedings made on our police books. The trouble started over a changed public road leading into our town. Walter Scott was interesting himself and trying to interest others for the establishment of the road. It is reported that he was in a "weaving way" and after having spent his opinion rather freely with whoever would listen to him, he turned his attention to Dr. Harrison. In trying to convert him on the good roads question he pulled him from his horse and was proceeding to pound his argument into him with his fists. Bystanders interfered and separated the pugilists and except talk nothing further has been done.

GOSPEL RIDGE—The measles are raging in this community at present.

RICHLAND—J. W. Armstrong went to St. Louis Monday to take in the World's Fair. Mrs. F. M. Hance and Miss Mattie Patrick left for St. Louis Monday to take in the World's Fair. One hundred pickers went to work in the Evans strawberry field, which joins town, there are thirteen acres in berries.

SWEDEBORG—S. C. Black started Monday to build the new Woodman hall.

Local News

Waynesville has no saloon but whiskey was strongly in evidence here Friday and considerable electioneering done by means of that commodity. The defeated candidates have all, so far as we hear, taken their defeat manfully

and are now ready to do their part to elect the entire ticket. The ticket nominated last Friday is a strong one and will be elected by the old time Pulaski county majority.

June

Pulaski County Democrat June 3
CROCKER—Mrs. E. A. Rowden and Miss Blanche Tallman left on Wednesday night for a two weeks visit to the St. Louis World's Fair.

The Waynesville Normal boys challenge any marble players who think they can play to meet them on their school grounds. Marbles and ground furnished and all incidental expenses paid.

BAILEY—Our bee men are all boasting of large early swarms. Give them plenty of room according to their strength and they will gather in large stores of the precious nectar.

Local News

The Normal will take its annual outing and picnic on next Thursday, June 9th. They will go to the mouth of Roubidoux at the Club House to spend the day.

Pulaski County Democrat June 10

GOLDEN CENTER—Three families with measles, eight year old girl dies from the measles.

Local News

G. W. Lane, Scott Hicks and James Robinson all came in Sunday from a trip to the World's Fair and pronounce it a grand success. They feel sure they got their money's worth.

Pulaski County Democrat June 17

Local News

A new sidewalk was built this week in front of the Democrat office and the building occupied by the bank. The marshal has had a crew of men working on the streets this week and they are making quite a difference in the appearance of the town. John Wilkerson, a farmer living a few miles north of town, had him some patent bee hives made lately and when he painted them made an elegant bunch of roses on each hive. Now the bees hover around the painted blooms and refuse to go into the woods for honey and John is in trouble, as his crop of honey is likely to be spoiled by his skillful job of painting.

Pulaski County Democrat June 24

HANCOCK—We understand that Hancock is to have a new school house soon.

Confederate Vet's Reunion

Nashville, Tenn., June 14—Under every condition tending to a successful

reunion, Nashville today officially welcomed the United Confederate Veterans and their friends, constituting a host conservatively estimated at 30,000 people... E. G. Williams, Pulaski County Clerk was in attendance and is quite an active member in the organization. The credentials committee reported 2,316 delegates present, representing 726 camps. Missouri has 78 camps with 36 delegates present. The reunion will run three days and Louisville was selected as the convention city for next year.

Local News

Dr. Tice went to St. Louis last Friday for a few days stay in the World's Fair City. Judge Joe McGregor and M. G. Wyrich also attended. Mr. and Mrs. Bert Burchard and Sam Ballard and sister Miss Winnie compose a crowd that went to St. Louis Tuesday to take in the sights of the World's Fair. G. W. Gan and W. A. Lumpkin are two more Waynesvilleites swelling the thoroughfares of the World's Fair grounds and St. Louis, they having departed Wednesday evening to do the whole circus. So many Waynesvilleites are in the World's Fair city this week without protection other than the Jefferson guard, police and perhaps an old umbrella, we cannot refrain from bubbling over with that fatherly and time worn admonition, "Take good care of yourself, Bill, and don't let the street cars get ye." The editor, frow [frau] and two kids are seeing the elephant at the World's Fair. Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Williams are home from their trip to the World's Fair at St. Louis and Confederate Reunion at Nashville, Tennessee. The Colonel belongs to the old time Southern aristocracy and enjoys nothing better than to mingle with the old boys who fought and bled for the lost cause. He seldom misses a reunion possible for him to attend.

GOLDEN CENTER—Mineral wealth has been discovered in the hills in section 28, township 37, range 12. We invite capital to develop the mineral wealth in Pulaski county, for we have better prospects here than they had in Jasper county in 1830. [Ed. Note: *There was much mineral land speculation in the Ozarks during this time period.*]

ON THE NILE [Ed. Note: *This seems to refer to the Big Piney River and environs*]—Several thousand ties were rafted down the Nile last week. A stall fed tramp without brains, baggage or grub was wandering around on the Nile last Sunday in search of work. The Odd Fellows lodge at Big Piney was not very well attended Saturday night on account of the severe electrical storm. Corn in the valley is in good condition. Old corn is selling at fifty cents per bushel.

July

Pulaski County Democrat July 1

SWEDENBORG—Dr. J. B. Ross is going to take a rest and has ordered a Victor talking machine. The Woodmen hall will be ready for the Camp to use it at the next regular meeting July 16th.

GOLDEN CENTER—Peter Peterson will view the lion at the World's Fair soon. Some of the Centerites are preparing to set a large acreage to strawberry plants. This place will soon be Sarcoxie number two.

DIXON—A freight wreck on the Dixon hill last Friday caused the World's Fair special to wait at Dixon most of that day and the passengers spent the time taking in the sights of our little village. The stock law question was debated at town hall before the Farmers Association. Some were for restraining the live stock on the city streets while some were for giving all the poor dumb brutes their liberty. After a heated and thorough discussion the judges rendered a decision in favor of restraining the stock.

Local News

The editor returned from St. Louis Sunday safe and sound without having been held up, locked up or becoming the purchaser of a gold brick. Lucky, wasn't he?

Another very hard rain fell here Monday forenoon, over flowing the ditch through town and putting the creek and river up again. Richland sent another prisoner to jail last Saturday to serve a sentence of thirty days for steal-

ing a pair of socks from H. E. Warren's store This makes three prisoners now in our county bastille. [Ed. Note: *All for shoplifting at Warren's store.*]

SCHLICHT—Over one thousand bushels of wheat were bought of Miller county farmers by the Schlicht's Milling Company one day last week. They have to make room for the large incoming crop and are cleaning up.

Pulaski County Democrat July 8

CROCKER—It is rumored that our town has a good prospect for a bank in the near future. There is a splendid opening. The Nation's birthday was rather a quiet day in Crocker. Most of our people celebrated at Richland, Dixon and Wheeler's Mill.

GOLDEN CENTER—J. A. McGowan is finding rich mineral deposits on Mullen hill. A large delegation of Centerites enjoyed the rainy fourth at Waynesville and Richland.

Local News

It seems that the railroad holds quite an attraction for some of our widower citizens and Mr. Bates thinks that 'Squire McDonald and Judge Wheeler are taking an advantage of him, not letting him into their secrets. Judge Wheeler departed Sunday morning for somewhere to spend the fourth and did not return until late Monday evening. Where he went none but himself knows but rumor has it that something beyond Crocker—probably in the Hawkeye or Iberia neighborhood—has an attraction for him that takes him in that direction quite frequently of late.

SWEDENBORG—Crockett Strain and Lon Rowen are the champion horse shoe pitchers of this burg.

LAQUEY—Quite a number from this neighborhood went to Richland for the fourth. Misses Alice and Rosa Warrick are at the World's Fair City visiting their father and seeing the sights.

TAVERN—Waynesville boys, get your bells ready. Some one from that place is looking across the Tavern for a bedfel-

low.

DIXON—The Dixon cheese factory started to manufacturing cheese Wednesday of this week. The company is incorporated for \$2,000 and have about \$1,500 invested in the building and machinery. The hail storm that passed just west of here last Friday was so severe that many fowls, grown turkeys and chickens were killed. The ground was covered to a depth of six inches and the farmers who came to town the morning following the storm reported hail still on the ground in such quantities that wagon loads could be shoveled up. It completely destroyed the gardens and crops.

ON THE NILE—The Nile is on a high. W. D. Ichord killed a very large rattlesnake in his wheat field one day last week. The wire fence arrived and will soon be erected around the cemetery at Big Piney. Lightning rod peddlers and patent right sharpers not needing a new suit of clothing, (tar and feathers), are requested to give this place a wide berth.

Pulaski County Democrat July 15

SCHLICHT—Schlicht will have a doctor in the near future to attend to the sick and disabled patients. A party from Springfield, Missouri, is negotiating with the Schlicht Milling Company to build a hotel here.

LONE STAR—We have quite a measles scare in our neighborhood at present. The merchants will need a new supply of cow bells if all the weddings expected are pulled off in the near future. Cupid's work is great.

GOLDEN CENTER—Three new cases of measles in the Center again. J. W. Wheeler of Waynesville is continually passing through the Center drawn by magnetism. This is surely the garden spot of the world, as we have many visitors here from the four corners of the earth. They come for recreation and to enjoy our sparkling water, fragrant zephyrs, big red apples, beautiful scenery, shady groves and picturesque spots like the jungles of America. In

good old Pulaski county we have things that attract and interest those who are looking for something new.

Local News

The furniture for the vaults has arrived and when put in use will be a valuable addition to that part of the court house. "Make hay while the sun shines" is the old adage and that is what the farmers are doing. It is deserted around town. For lack of more lucrative employment some of our merchants have been engaged in flying kites for the last few days.

RICHLAND—Richland had the best celebration on the fourth she has had for years, and we believe it was because the drug stores were closed all day.

GASCONADE—The Sheriff and his deputies passed through with four more prisoners from town. Richland seems to have an over supply of criminals now.

Pulaski County Democrat July 22

In a reminiscence, an old timer tells of traveling the country 34 years ago "...and we are at the Blood school house, as it was then known, which name it retained until Rev. J. McCrary put the "land to it and it has went by Bloodland ever since...Not many farms of note in the Bloodland country then, just small patches. I believe Johnny Hamilton lived on the tract now occupied by the Jaspar mill. French on the Blood land afterward sold to Blood, hence the name Bloodland..."

DIXON—Several citizens are "doing the Fair." Dixon is soon to have a home band. J. J. Grempczynski is reorganizing the old band and getting new members. Dixon cheese has been put on the market in our grocery stores and is said to be as good as any cheese on the market. The factory is running only about one-fourth the time on account of not getting enough milk.

LONE STAR—The woods are full of berry pickers now. There is a good crop of berries.

[Ed Note: In this issue, Editor Wheeler gives much space to the Democratic national platform and the speeches of William Jennings Bryan in St. Louis.]

Local News

Mrs. Lane and son Ray departed Sunday for a visit in the World's Fair city. *[Ed Note: Numerous other citizens are mentioned as taking in the fair during this week in July.]*

LAQUEY—The blacksmith shop is quite an addition to Laquey, as it was badly needed by the farmers.

SCHLICHT—Threshing machines are in

full blast in this neighborhood, but wheat is not very good. Quite a delegation of St. Louis ladies are at Forest Lodge for an outing this week. Material is being delivered by the Frisco at Schlicht for a depot, which is badly needed.

Pulaski County Democrat July 29, 1904

LAQUEY—Laquey is still on the boom. C. S. Ott will soon be here with his up-to-date mill. The new Blacksmith shop has been kept pretty well in operation since started, a much needed improvement.

DIXON—Justice Groves' Court was in session Monday. Three boys were tried on the charge of stealing 4 cans of tomatoes from the Dixon Canning factory. The Jury returned a verdict of guilty and assessed their punishment at 10 days in the county jail.

BIG PINEY—The measles are holding down their job in and around Newtown *[Ed. Note: Newtown is the original and still sometimes local name for Big Piney].*

Local News

Constable Liesman was over from Dixon Tuesday to bring three boys who were sent up by Squire Goves to serve a ten days sentence for stealing tomatoes from the canning factory. This makes seven inmates now in jail, four from Richland and three from Dixon, six of whom are accused of stealing. R. A. Peterson has bought a new set of tools and opened a blacksmith shop in Albert Christeson's place near Hufft's store. This is a good location for a shop. Work was begun on the excavation for the bank building. It will be a commodious, two story stone and brick and will be pushed to an early completion.

SWEDEBORG—Frank Manes was made acquainted with the Woodman goat at the last meeting of that organization.

Pulaski County Democrat August 5

Local News

Ed Cook and T. M. Gardner were awarded the contract by the County Court this week for painting the three county bridges across the Gasconade river. Work will begin on same at once. *[Ed. Note: The three county bridges in 1904 were Crocker Ford, Richland Ford, and Fish Dam Ford. They were to receive a scraping and two coats of Sherwin-Williams paint mixed with graphite and linseed oil.]*

Pulaski County Democrat August 12

BAILEY—The merchants at Bloodland and Cookville have closed their stores against Sabbath day trade. Roubidoux townships want a Grand Jury. There are still a few young men who persist in firing off their revolvers around places of worship and we know of no better way of dealing with them than by an appeal

to the law. During the last session of court in Laclede county one young man paid a fine of \$65 and costs for having a little fun at church.

Local News

Fishing parties have been quite numerous lately and generally they report fair success. An exchange tells of an elderly Missouri maiden who on being asked if she was going to take advantage of leap year, replied most emphatically, "No, I don't need a husband. I have a dog that growls, a cat that stays out at night, and a parrot that can swear to beat the band. What use have I for a husband?"

Pulaski County Democrat August 19

LAQUEY—We understand that DeBruin post office has been discontinued. C. S. Ott has arrived with his mill and will soon be operating it at full capacity. C. S. Parson's new residence is rapidly nearing completing, another addition to Laquey.

GASCONADE—The picnic at the bridge last Saturday was largely attended, with all sorts of amusements for the pacification of those present. The animal nature seemed to predominate among some of the rougher element during the afternoon, and after witnessing the second fight, ye scribe fled, fully realizing in our own mind that there was safety at home.

HOKKER—Many of the people who have spent the summer at Lost Hill Farm and Big Piney Lodge are returning to the city. People continue to travel to the World's Fair.

DIXON—The citizens of North Dixon are having a public well bored in that part of town.

TAVERN—Crocker is having a big time this week—two days picnic and a merry-go-round.

Pulaski County Democrat August 26

COOKVILLE—T. H. Haynes has been having luck. He has his new house almost completed and had one of his horses kick and kill another one.

Local News

The stone masons are at work on the new bank building which will now be pushed to an early completion.

While the question of good roads is being agitated all over the country why not our people talk up the question of building a good road from here to Crocker. No road in the county has half the travel over it that this road does and almost all the people in the county use this road. A macadamized road from here to Crocker would be worth thousands dollars to the people of the county. Let us hear from some of our citizens on the subject.

An Electric Line.

We see from the *Licking News* that an electric line is being talked of from Cabool to Salem or Rolla, and that capitalists have been interested and are figuring on the same. Why not our citizens become a little enterprising and talk up a line from Crocker to Waynesville. This matter has often been suggested but has never been got at in the right manner. We believe a line from Crocker here would be a paying investment and if not we know it can be made to pay by extending it further south. Talk it up and work for it and it can eventually be built.

DIXON—A Mr. Vineyard of Granite City, Ill. has leased the building near the printing office and is now at work putting in a bakery oven. He expects to be ready to furnish the town in home baked bread. The canning factory will start Thursday or Friday of this week. The recent rains have improved the tomato crop and the prospects are good for a successful year's business with the Dixon Canning Company.

What About a Mill?

Although the wheat crop is very light this season we are again impressed with the urgent need of a good flouring mill in our town. Wheat is being hauled to the railroad and while there the farmers sell their eggs, chickens and other produce and spend their money. A good mill would overcome all this and be worth its cost in a few years to the merchants of the town. Can't we have a good mill here by the time another crop of wheat is harvested? Or will you sit still and see the trade gradually slipping away from you.

WHEELER—Elijah McKinnon is working in his mine. We hope for his success.

Pulaski County Democrat September 2

SWEDEBORG—Quite a crowd of young people in and around our town picniced at the Bat Cave last Saturday. All report a good time.

GOLDEN CENTER—Boys, get your cow bells ready. Moses Ray has regular appointments at Peter Roth's. It is reported there will be a sanitarium built at Schlicht.

WHEELER—The people are expecting a grist mill to move here in a few days.

DIXON—A force of men are here to do the grading for "Y" to be put in just east of town. This is to be used in turning the hill engines.

SCHLICHT—Kingfisher McGowan was here one day this week entertaining the ladies at Forest Lodge with fish stories. Several groups of people are coming and going at Forest Lodge drinking magnesia spring water for the benefits of their health.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

Pert Paragraphs Picked Up Here and There Pertaining to People of Pulaski and Adjoining Counties—General and Otherwise.

The matrimonial market is on the boom and seven couples have laid down a life of single cussedness since our last issue and will hereafter trot in double harness. Richland is to have a Creamery soon, an enterprise that will add much to the business of that city, as well as being a great source of revenue to the farmers in the county surrounding the town.

Pulaski County Democrat September 9

CORRESPONDENCE

SWEDEBORG—John Heimaster is our champion sunflower grower, having one that measures 15 1/2 inches in diameter and 46 inches in circumference. Many fair visitors. Swedeborg is always booming, we have a shoe shop now and Mr. Johnson knows his biz, too.

LAQUEY—Parson & Sons have begun the erection of their new store building. John Maxey, the blacksmith, is located at this place now and is ready for all kinds of work. C. S. Ott's saw mill is running at full speed now and in a short time will have his corn burrs

ready for use.

DECKER—Ball games are the only thing here. The practice of this game should be abandoned on Sunday.

BELLS CREEK—Everything is quiet this week, as most everyone attended court. They are still drilling for gas on the Creek. Me thinks they have passed it, as it is on top of the ground.

DIXON—An entertainment company gave two exhibitions of moving pictures in our town the first of the week.

Pulaski County Democrat September 16

CORRESPONDENCE

SCHLICHT—A cigar factory is the next thing that Schlicht will have. Let the good work go on.

SWEDEBORG—Our merchants are kept busy shipping chickens and eggs, which shows how industrious our farmers' wives are. Dr. Ross is quite happy over the possession of a new graphophone. He will soon start out giving free entertainments. Our town does not want for amusement since she got a hall, as there has been entertainments every night the past week. The Chester Comedy Company has been entertaining the people in and around town every night the past week with musical, vaudeville and comical features, highly enjoyable

Pulaski County Abstract Co.

Waynesville, Missouri.

Own the original [J. L.] Johnson Abstract Books. They being a complete exposition of the title to all land and town lots in Pulaski County, from its formation to the date of the fire which destroyed the records of the county; also own the original McGregor Abstracts. Complete abstracts carefully and promptly made, showing all features of the title fully. Charges the same as before the fire; a minimum fee of \$2.50 for an Abstract and Certificate; this will include any number of conveyances up to five; fifty cents a transfer for each additional conveyance over five; for one transfer, without certificate, showing any conveyance on any tract of land or lot in the county, \$1. We solicit your business.

**G. M. Reed,
Waynesville, Mo.**

[Ed. Note: This was an important business asset because the court house fire in 1903 destroyed the land records. Mr. Reed continued to take affidavits from residents for the next 15 years to establish chain of titles and property lines in settling boundary disputes.]

and appreciated by everyone. The Scenic Entertainment Company gave the people of our town quite a treat in the line of moving pictures, etc.,

Monday night.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

.Sheriff R. S. Anderson and deputy James Mathews went to Jefferson City Monday with Ike Godfrey and Oliver Newberry to be confined in the Penitentiary. Godfrey serves ten years and Newberry three.

Pulaski County Democrat September 23

SCHLICHT—The depot at Schlicht station is completed and painted and is a fine affair. Quite a delegation of Lower Egypt attended the patent medicine show at Swedeborg this week, laying in quite a supply of Salvation oil. The attendance at the World's Fair for the week ended the 10th was 874,954, making the attendance to date 9,994,590.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

Another delegation from Waynesville will leave for St. Louis to take in the sights Sunday.

LONE STAR—Somebody left their jug at the party Monday night.

Pulaski County Democrat September 30

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

The Black Hotel is being re-roofed this week.

DIXON—Several from Dixon went to

ADS

Newburg Monday to see the ruins of the ill fated town. The fire started in the garret of the Frisco depot. But for the Rolla Fire Department the entire block and probably the whole town would have burned.

Pulaski County Democrat October 7

SCHLICHT—A party of Crocker sports visiting in the Valley one day this week. They were drinking magnesia water and hunting paw paws.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

The bank building is now ready to commence the second story, but work is being delayed waiting on the masons.

Sam Wilson Free.

Sam Wilson, the lone train robber, well known in this county and at one time railroad agent at Hancock was released from the penitentiary last week, having served eleven years and three months. Wilson was agent at Hancock for several years and married a Miss Tibbs of that town and seemed to be getting along nicely until he took it into his head to rob a train, which he did in such a clever style that he became famous all over the country as "The Lone Train Robber." He was sentenced to serve fifteen years. Numerous attempts were made to have him pardoned but all efforts were without effect. Governor Stone, State Treasurer Lon V. Stevens and other State officials were on the train at the time of the hold up. It is not positively known whether he secured much money or not but his statement and that of the Express Company officials that he got about \$500, most of which was returned, is generally believed. He was raised in Laclede county and had many friends in that county and Pulaski.

Pulaski County Democrat October 14

SCHLICHT—Quite a delegation of city people is at the Magnesia Spring drinking its healthful water and enjoying a few days outing. C. M. Skinner & Company are drawing plans and specifications for an air ship. The partner will furnish the capital and we presume C. M. will furnish the wind. Success to

the enterprise.

HANCOCK—The boys are training their possum dogs now getting ready for winter.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

The odor given out by the cuspidores in the courtroom Tuesday night was something terrible and if they are not cleaned soon we need not be surprised to see the Court House collapse at any time, as no walls are of sufficient strength to confine such a stench long at a time. Some were compelled to leave the speaking on account of them.

Pulaski County Democrat October 21

DIXON—Dixon cheese and canning factories are shut down for the season. So many are going to the Fair from here that we are unable to name all of them. If some of the boys who are engaged in smearing our street corners with tobacco spit and filling the atmosphere with the fumes of cigarettes and foul language could reach 10 or 20 years into the future and hear the experience of such boys, they would no doubt realize the importance of being in school or at work.

GOLDEN CENTER—We visited the machine shops of C. M. Skinner & Co. last Saturday. They will have their air ship in working order about next June if they can find wind enough to operate it.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

Considerable excitement was created lately by the account of several persons being killed by eating cabbage which was said to contain snakes and many startling tales were told with the victims just a little ahead all the time, but scientific investigation has developed the fact the whole matter was a hoax and there is nothing in it. [Ed. Note: Several of the communities previously reported disposing of cabbage by burying or dumping their cabbage in the rivers due to reports of snakes in the cabbage.]

Pulaski County Democrat October 28

SWEDEBORG—A large delegation of St. Louis people came out last week to spend some time fishing and camping

out on the Gasconade near this place. If the "Snake in the Cabbage" story was another "kissing bug scare" there will be a good many heave sighs of regret over the loss of their good kraut thrown away.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

The new bank building has been roofed and will be enclosed in a short time. The first frost of the season was here Saturday morning, October 22nd.

Pulaski County Democrat November 4

RIFF-RAFF

Semi-Annual Report of the financial standing of the town of Waynesville, MO., from April 6, 1904 to November 1, 1904:

Amount on hand April 6, 1904...\$96.70
By license..... \$32.40

Total receipts\$129.10

Marshal for work on street\$34.25
Team work \$7.50
Special work \$2.25

Total Expenditures\$44.00

Balance on hand Nov 1, 1904.....\$85.10

Pulaski County Democrat November 11

The Result

Tuesday's Election a Republican Landslide. Returns from Tuesday's election are not complete from all over the State but Roosevelt is elected President of the United States by probably the largest majority ever given a presidential candidate, he having carried every doubtful state.

Fold is elected Governor of Missouri by about 25,000 majority. The entire Democratic state ticket is, we think, elected but the returns will show a great falling off in the party vote. [Ed. Note: Hard campaigning paid off. Collector G. W. Lane was reelected and A. D. Sutton won his first term as sheriff.]

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

The plasterers are finishing the interior of the bank building this week after which it will soon be ready for occu-

pancy.

Pulaski County Democrat November 18

The Dixon Murder

A Lynching Narrowly Escaped by the Timely Action of Sheriff Anderson and his Deputies.

The murder of James M. Smith, whose name was given last week as James Jones, has created considerable excitement over the country about Dixon and has been the chief topic of conversation for the last few days. The facts concerning the case as we have been able to learn them, are about as follows: Smith was a young man who came into the neighborhood of Dixon about a year ago. He bought a farm near Pisgah and was clearing up the same. Elias Smith, who was in no way related to the murdered man, was employed by him and he and his wife kept house and James Smith boarded or lived with them. Smith was not seen after Sunday night and Elias told that he had gone back to Atchison County, his former home. On Wednesday afternoon his dead body was accidentally found in a deep hollow about two miles east of Dixon and Elias Smith and his wife were arrested on suspicion. At the Coroner's inquest it developed that he had been murdered by having his head terribly beaten up with a blunt instrument and the body partly burned. Later Elias' wife confessed that her husband had committed the crime and when confronted with her statement he too confessed the crime, claiming it was done in self defense. Every indication pointed to a premeditated murder and the story that the killing took place in the woods where the two men were at work and was done in self defense was not believed as Elias had told before hand that he was going to buy deceased out and later that he had bought him out and that he had left the country. This story connected with other suspicious words and actions led to a more thorough examination and traces of the crime were discovered about the premises. An iron rod with hair and blood on it was found, his shoes and a portion of his clothing had been burned, and the shirt he wore was blood stained while

his outer garments showed no signs of blood. The inquest was not closed until Friday evening and by that time the citizens of the community were worked up almost into a frenzy over the atrociousness of the crime and in a few moments a mob was formed with the avowed intention of hanging the self-confessed murderer. Sheriff Anderson gave out word that he was going to hold the prisoner over until the next day and as soon as it was dark succeeded in slipping him away and drove overland to Lebanon that night where he was safely lodged in jail. The mob was intent on wreaking summary vengeance and had the prisoner remained in town longer it is very probable that the next morning would have dawned upon his lifeless body dangling from a near by tree.

The excitement having somewhat subsided he was taken back to Dixon Sunday to see what further confession if any he would make.

After his return he confessed to killing Smith for his money and property and claimed the deed was done while in the woods looking at some timber. A broad axe was the weapon used and he was struck in the back of the head as he looked up at a tree he was conducted to by Elias. The blow produced instant death. He was covered up in the leaves until dark when his body was placed upon a horse and carried to the place where it was found. He further stated that two young men by the name of Newberry were with him and helped to commit the crime. They were arrested but as no evidence, except that of Elias Smith, could be found against them they were released. Elias was brought to Waynesville Monday evening and lodged in jail to await his trial at Circuit Court, during which time he will have plenty of opportunity to brood over his misdeeds and consider the awfulness of his crime.

The remains of the murdered man were sent back to his home in Atchison County for burial. The father of the murderer lives near Mossy springs in this county and is a good law-abiding citizen. He has our sympathy.

SCHLICHT—Joe Engel and Frank Hasenauer are taking in the fair this week, and, oh, how the Budweiser will suffer.

GOLDEN CENTER—The Center is on the boom. Walter Roth has caught thirty-nine possums this fall. If anyone has caught more we want to hear from them. Prospecting for mineral, oil, and gas will soon commence in the Center and as there are good prospects we predict the Center will soon be classed with Jasper county.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

Marshal Wayne Wyrick has had a crew of hands working on the streets for the

last week.

Pulaski County Democrat November 25

MOAB—Boys get your bells ready for Will Ichord has bought his household and kitchen furniture.

SCHLICHT—Some prospectors for mineral are engaged in surveying in Moccasin Bend at present. We hope these hills will turn out O. K. A jolly party of eight are at Forest Lodge, drinking Magnesia waters and taking in our mountain air. They are from Lemps Brewery. Dr. Abecken accompanies them for fear of snake bites.

DIXON—The American T. & T. Co., with about 65 employees and the R. R. Extra gang with a like number have camped here for the past two weeks. The former are putting up poles and wires for the American Telegraph and Telephone Company extending their line of 10 wires west and the latter are putting in the Wye just east of town.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

If you have a cord of wood you want to pay on your subscription we will gladly accept it, if not a dollar will do equally as well.

GASCONADE—The river is clear now and the sportsmen are quite busy gigging with lucrative results.

Pulaski County Democrat December 2

DIXON—the Telephone Company has moved their camps to Hancock. The entire corps of teachers of the Dixon school spent the last three days of last week at the St. Louis World's Fair. An automobile occupied by a man and woman passed through here last Sunday. It was quite an attraction. A very unfortunate accident happened here last Sunday afternoon, which resulted in the loss of a human life. About 2 o'clock, as Frisco passenger No. 2 was pulling into the station, a man coming into town from the same direction, stepped onto the main track to avoid a freight train that was on the siding. The passenger was rounding a curve and the engineer could not see far enough ahead to discover the man in time to stop his train, nor even to give a signal. The man was struck while the train was running about 10 miles an hour and his head was crushed and he was bruised about the body. He remained conscious long enough to give his name and the names of some of his relatives and their residences...He was widower fifty-two years old and had but one child living, a son about twenty-five years old. He appeared to be leading the life of a tramp and no money nor valuables was found on his person.

BAILEY—There will also be a box supper at the school house the same night of the literary and if the weather is favorable a good turnout is expected. The question for discussion at our next literary will be Resolved: That the right of suffrage be extended to the ladies.

Local Riff-Raff

News reached this office this week of the death of Sam Wilson, who was generally known as the lone train robber. He was released from the penitentiary about a month ago, having completed three fourths of a fifteen year sentence. He was killed by a train in Arkansas but we failed to learn the particulars of the case. His family lives near Lebanon, Mo. [Ed.Note: *The irony is that Wilson was a convicted train robber.*]

Pulaski County Democrat December 9

CROCKER—The Telephone Company has been doing some work here this week. Our school is moving along nicely with an average attendance of about 86 pupils. The boy with gun and dog is now in his element hunting the cotton tail.

DIXON—Some traveling photographers were here Tuesday and made pictures of most of our business houses. The Frisco is cutting down its force of employees. All the operators at the small stations have been taken off and the operator allowed here has been "cut out."

Pulaski County Democrat December 16

SCHLICHT—Hogs are dying by the dozen in this neighborhood. A. Peterson lost over thirty head. Remember that when there is a good acorn crop the cholera is sure to come. The Schlicht Milling Company has built a concrete office and substituted steam heat for an old wood stove. Surely, our young generation is improving on new fangled things.

To Our Readers.

The year is drawing to a close and with the first of the New Year we have heavy obligations to meet. Now is a splendid time to settle your indebtedness and start in with the year. We will need every cent we can possibly raise soon and kindly ask all who owe us on subscription or any other account to please call and settle same as soon as possible. We have often called on our readers and they have as often come to our relief in a manner that has been very satisfactory to us. Now will you please do so again. We have many outstanding accounts that are small and do not amount to much to any one individual, but to us when put together they are quite a sum. We hope our friends will

respond to our request as soon as possible, as we need the money, else we would not ask for it.

GOLDEN CENTER—Hogs are dying with the swine plague.

LOCAL RIFF-RAFF

The bank will move into its new building in a few days and will have one of the neatest and most substantial bank buildings in the country. The second story is divided into office buildings and G. M. Reed already occupies one of them with his abstract business. He has the neatest office in town.

Pulaski County Democrat December 23

SCHLICHT—We are informed that the Company which holds all the railroad land in Pulaski county will have it on the market soon but will ask eastern prices for it. Success to the county. There is nothing like old Pulaski County on the map of the United States for health and happiness.

CROCKER—Howard Crawford has just returned from a visit to St. Louis where he procured a stave mill, which will be set up and operated in Crocker soon after the first of the year.

Pulaski County Democrat December 30

The Newberrys Released

The preliminary trial of George and Andy Newberry and Mrs. Sarah Smith for complicity in the murder of James Smith was commenced here last Thursday and continued until in the night Friday. About forty witnesses were examined and all reasonable means resorted to prove these parties connected with the crime but after hearing all the evidence the Prosecuting Attorney decided there was not sufficient grounds for holding the defendants and they were all dismissed at this request. The costs of the trial will be considerable and will be a great hardship on those having it to pay. The people of the community in which the crime was committed are determined that the guilty parties shall be punished and will work to that end, however, we do not believe that one of them would seek to secure the conviction of an innocent party if they knew it.

Elias Smith, the self-confessed murderer, is still in jail and from accounts seems to be very unconcerned about his fate.

[Ed. Note: *This will continue to be a big story through April of 1905.*]