

WHAT AN OREGONIAN SEES
IN KANSAS.

(Continued)

"Sunny Kansas" has proved no misnomer since we have been within the confines of the Sunflower state. For five weeks there has been scarcely a day that has not been bright and sunny, though tempered often with the breath of Jack Frost, the effect being heightened by the intensive characteristics of the Kansas zephyr. The writer was a member of an outdoor picnic party which made a trip to Rockefeller's famous ranch twelve or fourteen miles distant, on a balmy day in the middle of December, and played in a game of baseball on Christmas day. In short the weather has been equal to a rich autumn day in Oregon or a winter one in Southern California, and we've been led to wonder where the Kansas blizzard comes in. But the stress which the natives place upon the continued fine weather leads us to suspect that as usual it is "unusual" and we are accordingly prepared for a change at the drop of the hat. For Kansas is nothing if not sudden and what happens, happens thoroughly.

We have been further fortified for the inevitable by the sage and opportune advice offered as follows the other day by a Kansas editor, under the caption, "Just Enjoy it While it Lasts."

"Maybe this fine weather will last until this gets into type. It may last for several weeks yet. If it does, just enjoy it and be thankful, but don't get chummy and go blowing round about the Italian climate of Kansas and predict that we are not going to have any winter to speak of. Several times we have grown a little chummy ourselves and written articles booming the glorious climate of Kansas. We have told of the trees blooming in winter the same as in the spring tra la, and of the birds singing their merry roundels and skipping joyously from bough to bough. Generally after we have laid ourselves out on an article of that kind it has proceeded to turn cold enough to freeze the ears of a wooden Indian and often the cold wave came whooping along before our editorial got into type. On account of these eccentricities of the weather our reputation as a weather prophet has been materially damaged. We have therefore come to speak of the weather with caution and to refrain from making any predictions in regard to future temperature. The correct idea is to enjoy each fine day while it lasts and let the future weather take care of itself."

Indeed an old resident remarked to the writer that Kansans don't have to leave the state for a change of climate as they are often treated to all the different varieties of atmospheric conditions and that within twenty-four hours! And with this admonition continually in mind we have not wandered far from the shelter of the storm cellar or "fraid hole" as they are commonly known.

We have been here long enough to cultivate deep respect for the Kansas zephyr. We bow deferentially in its presence, with hat often removed—as a matter of necessity. It can hit a fellow in more places from more different directions at the same time than any breeze we ever bucked up against. But as in other things, familiarity seems to breed a certain degree of contempt with the old timers who seem to think nothing of driving a dozen or more miles to market in the teeth of a lusty wind.

Our observations in this, a prohibition state, have strengthened us in the conviction that whatever of Temperance legislation may be enjoyed, eternal vigilance is the price of bona fide prohibition. It is a strange condition, but one that has ever existed, that the man with the thirst and the accompanying disregard for law will make his home in a temperance law abiding community and will persist in setting at naught the expressed desire of its people. Such is the condition which has to be met all over Kansas. Wet goods are smuggled in and by various methods find their way to the consumer. It is a queer condition which exists, whereby liq-

uors are sold with immunity on trains running through the state. The stuff is sold when the train is in motion only and there seems to be no statute to cover the case, though it is understood one is being prepared to present at the next session of the legislature. As it is now worked a man boards the train, rides to the next station and returns with his liquid refreshments. Even the quiet Quaker village of Haviland is not free from the invader, but the fact that something like two hundred dollars was deposited in the local bank the other day as a fund to back the prosecution of whiskey cases, shows the temper of the community. And perhaps after all the need of such vigilance is more a blessing than a curse. It develops and sustains civic virtue in a neighborhood and calls for a good quality of backbone.

It is a little hard for an Oregonian to adjust himself to conditions in a country where the sun comes up out of the ground and goes back into the same and where, like "Ole Yonson's" well known jump, a fellow has to look twice before his eye reaches the horizon; where, in place of bringing in a load of wood, the stove is replenished with a basket of corn cobs or a bucket of coal; where the water is underground, and away down too, and the consumer, both man and beast, is dependent upon the ubiquitous windmill, sly and peculiar, the ways of which are often past finding out; where the traveler finds his way impeded by sand instead of mud; where the busy hum of the power corn sheller is heard throughout the winter, etc., etc. But this country of ours is nothing if not one of contrasts, and in place of finding fault with new conditions, one is rather inspired with renewed pride in the great country which can boast of so many great commonwealths each with its own peculiar advantages.

The soil of some of the farms in this section reminds one of the sand hills lining the beach, but out of the sand come the crops which have made Kansas famous. In one short afternoon recently, two men, with the nominal assistance of the writer, very nominal indeed, dug the holes and set the posts for a mile and a half of fence, which fact will give an idea as to soil conditions here, if a suspicion of the writer's veracity be not entertained.

As to Kansas people we have found them the very soul of hospitality. There is a free, open hearted, open handed greeting for the stranger who soon ceases to be a stranger. The mingling of both young and old is free, hearty, sincere, society being largely unconventional and adorned with few unnecessary frills. The farther society leans towards the conventional, the more does it become narrow, unreal and insincere—a mask in fact. All stand on the same level here and every man is rated on his own merits.

Kansas, a good republican state, is strongly behind the administration and especially as regards his policy against race suicide. Of all their far famed crops, the harvest of none shows better returns than that of the children, and Kansans point to none with greater pride. At the union Thanksgiving service held here, a man arose, and after bitterly deploring the fact that in many sections of the country the housewife comes to the door with a poodle dog in her arms instead of a baby as of yore, returned thanks for the Kansas babies and encouraged his hearers to do their duty. Another example of the Kansas spirit.

With its rolling prairies and hard dry roads, this is a great country for driving. And everybody rides! To walk is utterly unthought of. A man will get on a horse, ride a half mile and back to his pasture for a driving animal and hitch up to his buggy to ride a quarter of a mile. Fact! The writer has seen just two pedestrians on the road and that was in the edge of town. If a man wants to attract attention let him walk—for he will walk alone. "Barefoot trudging at his side" is obsolete here, with apologies to the memory of the Quaker bard.

The people ride in buggies—not carriages and every member of the household owns his own rig.

When a fair sized family starts out to church on Sunday a tenderfoot would be inclined to pull out to one side to allow a funeral procession to pass—except for one thing, and that is the rate of speed, which is anything but funeral. For one driver to attempt to pass another is but a signal for a race and away they go. It may be a race home from church, which serves only to whet the appetite for the Sunday dinner. And this little recreation is not confined wholly to the younger generation either. All of which serves to remind us that we are living in a fast age, the moral to be applied in these parts being that he who would keep abreast, or better, a little ahead of the other fellows, must ride behind the best horseflesh.

W. C. W.

Haviland, Kansas, 1-11-06.

Real Estate Transfers.

Reported by the Yamhill County Abstract Company, McMinnville.

Sarah E Smith to Herbert Smith et al 710 acs in sec 4 and 5 t 2 s r 4 \$3000.

F J Stewart and wf to Leander Lady 18 acs in J Woods pre-emption clm t 5 s r 7 \$200.

J Hepp and wf to T H Parrish and wf 49½ acs in J Parrish d l c t 3 s r 2 \$1750.

Lizzie York to Will Hutchins 5.50 acs in D M Jesse d l c t 4 s r 4 \$40.

Will Hutchins and wf to Geo. Thompson 3 acs in D M Jesse d l c t 4 s r 4 \$30.

H Z Foster and wf to F J Stewart ½ ac in L B Frazier d l c t 5 s r 7 \$1.

P E Murphy and wf to Sarah A Murphy 320 acs in sec 13 and 14 in t 3 s r 5 w \$1.

Rose Lawn Cemetery assn. to E D Ryner lt 4 Rose Lawn cem \$20.

Francis Hauswirth to J M Ruggles lts 1 and 2 blk 8 Hauswirth 2nd add North Yamhill \$75.

Francis Hauswirth to J M Ruggles lts 7 and 8 blk 4 Hauswirth 2nd add to North Yamhill \$75.

B A Town and wf to A W Lambert lt 5 pt lts 1 and 2 blk 12 H & L add Newberg \$2500.

Geo Braithwaite and wf to Geo W Smith ½ ac in Oak Fruit farm near Dayton \$130.

G Braithwaite and wf to Albert Detmering 1.80 acs in Oak Fruit Farm near Dayton \$3.

G. Braithwaite and wf to L Wambsgans 9.30 acs in Oak Fruit Farm near Dayton \$10.70.

Harry Dupey and wf to J H Olds lt 3 blk 13 Lafayette \$50.

Oscar O. Parrett and wf to Mary Parrett 26 acres in Richard Miller claim t 5 s r 5 \$1500.

O D Taylor by sheriff to W H Wilson 7.36 acs in Samuel Cozine d l c t 4 s r 4 \$736.

B C Leland and wf to J D & H E Gordon 157½ rds in Seawood Fulquarts d l c t 3 s r 3 \$98.44.

W Tyler Smith and wf to W G Wiesels 2 3 6 and 7 blk 3 Willamina \$200.

J W Brooks to J A Dickey 13.43 acs in W D Clark d l c t 3 s r 4 \$1050.

Sarah E Stevens and hus to Bertha S Morris 153.20 acs in sec 3 t 2 s r 4 \$10.

Ollie J Purdy and hus to Arthur E Switzer 20 acs in sec 36 t 3 s r 2 \$800.



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