

## CONCERNING KANSAS.

## NOTES.

H. Mehl, of Leavenworth, and C. Lawrence, of Wichita, were appointed members of the state board of pharmacy.

Topeka is to entertain the Kansas Republican league April 5. That will be a gala day for Hoch's political friends.

Allen Sells, one of the original Sells brothers of circus fame, died in Topeka last week. He was proprietor of the Chesterfield hotel.

In Enterprise the women have nominated a city ticket composed of candidates of their own sex, and they are making a red hot campaign without a platform.

Some boys found what they think is a robbers cave near Winfield. That is probably where Ed Greer used to make and store his dynamite, while he was earning a nomination for congress.

Walter N. Allen, who was selected by the governor several weeks ago to succeed H. B. Kelley on the State board of charities, will take charge of the office April 1. At the same time H. M. Hinshaw, a popular railroad conductor from Emporia, will succeed W. T. Yoe on the same board.

Another gersnium has been added to the Legate-Lease-Corning-Smith group. It is H. L. Pattee the quack doctor who has closed an engagement with the Midway Plaisance fake and is in Topeka as numerous as of old. He is going to teach the governor how to govern.

The Irrigation Farmer means well in publishing the following: "Alfalfa is fast becoming one of the staple products of the plains. It not only makes the finest forage for stock but is very profitable in seed production. This last year alfalfa seed has been extremely high. Many farmers in western Kansas have realized from \$25 to \$40 an acre for the seed from their alfalfa fields and have received from two to four tons of hay per acre besides, and where the land has been irrigated, from four to seven tons of hay per acre. Nine tons per acre is not an unusual yield where the crop is well set and irrigated."

## The Soldiers' Home.

On last Saturday the board of managers of the State soldiers' home, at Dodge City, notified commandant C. H. Moody of his removal from office. They also ordered the vacancy filled by Quartermaster Reid, of the same institution. The board consists of L. VanVooris, J. H. Stewart and G. Bohrer. What their reason was for making the change will probably be learned when the governor comes to investigate and decide whether he should approve of it.

A few days ago a report was circulated charging that Joseph Weil, a son-in-law of Commandant Moody had sold diseased beef to the institution. Governor Lewelling began an investigation of the matter at once and deputized Charles A. Taylor to assist. Mr. Taylor visited the home and reported that on a very careful investigation he failed to find any truth in the charge. On the contrary the members of the home voluntarily made the following statement:

WHEREAS, It has been a matter of newspaper notoriety that unwholesome and damaged meat has been issued to the old soldiers and their families at this home, and

WHEREAS, It has been charged by said newspaper that Captain Charles H. Moody, the commandant, and other officers of this institution were aware of the fact, and

WHEREAS, It has cost great distrust and

unjust criticism upon such officers. We, the undersigned, ex soldiers and members of said home, take this means, knowing and desiring that it shall receive the widest circulation, to refute such charges and hereby certify that there has never been any unwholesome or damaged meat issued to the members of this home by any of its officers, and we know that the table of the officers of this institution is furnished from the same beef and issued on the same days as to other members of the home.

This statement was certified to before a notary public by 64 of the 66 male members of the home. Afterward Mr. Taylor told the members that if they had not signed it with a full understanding of its purport they were at liberty to withdraw their names from it, but none of them did so. Weil is to answer to the charge in a justice court on the 29th. From all this it would appear that the board had some other grievance against the commandant than the diseased beef matter, or else they are acting without just cause.

## Those Political Sermons.

The sermons on "Christian Socialism," in which Rev. C. M. Sheldon, pastor of the Central Congregational church of this city, advocates public ownership and control of public utilities, as well as other Populist doctrines, are making him famous at home and abroad. Of late the church building has proven too small for the congregations, but that does not discourage Mr. Sheldon. Progress assembly, Knights of Labor, at Junction City, adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we, the members of Progress assembly, No. 2671, Knights of Labor, note with pleasure the announcement that a series of sermons on social problems is being delivered by Rev. C. M. Sheldon of the Central Congregational church, Topeka, Kansas, in which, judging from the printed report we have seen of the first of the series, bold and advanced ground is taken for the cause of labor and the betterment of the social condition of the human race.

Resolved, That we congratulate Mr. Sheldon upon his able, dignified and truthful presentation of the important subject of Christian socialism and the need of the application of its principles as a remedy for wrongs now suffered by humanity.

Resolved, That we commend the example of Brother Sheldon in thus preaching the essential paramount doctrine of the brotherhood of man as one worthy of general emulation by the clergy of all denominations.

## The Boards of Regents.

A news item in last week's issue, regarding the appointment of C. B. Hoffman, was supplemented with comments which might be construed by new readers as an injustice to Governor Lewelling and others of his appointees. The writer, to emphatically express the idea that the governor has departed from the policy of former governors, that of choosing unfit and incompetent men to govern the educational institutions, used Mr. Hoffman as an example, and failed to state that other good selections had been made by Governor Lewelling for the different boards of regents, the University of Kansas, the State Agricultural college, and the State Normal school. They, however, were mentioned at the time of their appointment, John Madden, Harrison Kelly and Senator Rodgers having been spoken of as especially good selections.

## Frank R. Forrest's Dates.

Allen county, Moran, March 29.  
Allen county, Elmore, March 29.  
Allen county, Humboldt, March 30.  
Allen county, Iola, March 31.  
Anderson county, April 2 to 7.  
Miami county, April 9 to 14.  
Riley county, April 16 to 22.

## FIELD NOTES.

An "Advocate" Traveler Finds Some Earnest People in Western Kansas.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—Perhaps some of your readers would be interested in the trip through the state that is being made by President Hanna of the State Alliance, Alonzo Wardall, of the National Alliance and the representative of this paper. I will not take time to speak of all of the meetings, farther than to say that we had good meetings at El Dorado, Winfield and Wellington, where we found many active Alliancemen and Populists by the thousands. At each of these meetings we failed to hear of a single man who has been with us but what is still as sound in the faith as the rock of Gibraltar.

At Anthony, Wichita, Newton and Hutchinson our audiences kept growing larger and more enthusiastic. Of course we had read in some g. o. p. paper that the Alliance was dead in these counties, but could your readers have looked into the faces of these earnest Alliance men they would see there written a stronger determination than ever to stand together and work for the betterment of their fellowmen.

Owing to a lack of due notice we did not have as large a crowd as we had anticipated at Kingman, but had a good meeting nevertheless. Here we found some of the most active and efficient county officers in the state; they are "hummers" from away back. After spending several hours with them we could readily see how it was that Kingman county each year gave an increased vote for the People's party. It seems to have been, and is, the ambition of each of them to see that his Populist successor gets a larger majority than he had.

I wish to speak more especially of our meetings at Pratt, St. John and Larned, for they were immense. On arriving at Pratt we were met by the committee and taken to a good Populist hotel to stay over night. The next morning about 10 o'clock we saw the farmers' wagons coming into town, and we soon learned that this was to be a feast day, for the farmers wives were bringing in well-filled baskets. By 1 o'clock the Knights of Labor hall was filled with the honest yeomanry of the county, and O, how we did enjoy the feast that was spread before us. It reminded us of the Alliance picnic of 1890. Here we found the women taking an active part in the Alliance, some of them driving eighteen and twenty miles by themselves so as to attend this meeting. The after-dinner speeches were well received. You can depend on Pratt county standing by the Alliance and reform.

We drove across from Pratt to St. John, Stafford county, and here, too, we were royally entertained. Long before 1:30 p. m., the time set for the meeting, the court room was filled by an eager, anxious crowd. Before the meeting was half over many people had to go away because they could not find room. Mr. Hanna and Mr. Wardall talked until almost 5 o'clock, and when "the ADVOCATE" arose to make an announcement for the paper, the crowd called for a speech. When he said, "It is too late; you people have to go home and milk the cows and do the chores," some of the good Alliance sisters spoke up and said, "You never mind about the cows and chores, we will attend to them," while others said, "The cows can wait, we want to hear you speak." The fellow who thinks the Alliance is dead in Stafford county is a "little off;" and the reform movement is on the gain there, too. Why, the clerk of the district court in that county is, I do believe, doing the best

political missionary work of any official in Kansas. Some other county official would do well to imitate him.

I see I will not have space to write of the other meetings in this issue, but will speak of Larned, which was the last meeting we had, and other meetings next week. The local papers in each county we were in did all they could to make our meetings a success, and your representative is under personal obligations to the editor for courtesies shown.

O. W. HENDER.

## Same Joe Smith.

The papers of the state are just now full of the name of Joe Smith and some charges he is making against Gov. Lewelling and his compatriots in the state house, and while it is all very interesting reading the papers seem to be taking Smith up and accepting all that he says as true without a moment's inquiry into his personality or reputation. The Chronicle hasn't a word to offer in defense of Lewelling or his associates; all the stories Smith tells may be true for aught that we know or care, but we know Smith and, like most people who are acquainted with him we will require the strongest kind of documentary evidence before we would believe any statement that he might make, no matter under what circumstances.

Joe Smith is not unknown to fame in Abilene, where he has appeared two or three times as counsel for misguided people who thought he was a lawyer. His peculiar personal appearance will recall him to any one who ever saw him once. In appearance his face is so like that of a native of the fiery kingdom, that it was Colonel Stambaugh, we believe, who referred to him as "Chinaman Smith" at a time when Smith was defending a Hope man who was on trial for prize fighting several years ago. He was slouchy in appearance, his linen was conspicuous for its soiled condition and his heavy, sensual looking face, smooth shaven as a priest, gave him the look of a libertine.

Smith played star engagements at Emporia, Council Grove and elsewhere and has himself been under charge of criminal actions, but the nature of his offense is not recalled fully. It was, however, a money transaction of some sort in which he fell from grace and was threatened with disbarment. Smith is a professional deadbeat, if his reputation does not belie him, a perfect shyster in law and about as familiar with that honorable profession as a mule.

As we before remarked, we do not know what are in the charges he makes against Lewelling, but, knowing Smith, we are inclined to give the governor the benefit of the doubt and believe he is honored by Smith's antagonism.—Abilene Chronicle, (republican.)

## Alliance Meetings.

W. S. Hanna, President of the State Alliance, Alonzo Wardall of the National Alliance and O. W. Hendee, representing the ADVOCATE, will fill the following dates:

March 27, Smith county, Smith Center.  
" 28, Phillips county, Phillipsburg.  
" 29, Norton county, Norton.  
" 30, Decatur county, Oberlin.  
" 31, Thomas county, Colby.  
April, 2, Sheridan county, Hoxie.  
" 3, Graham county, Hill City.  
" 4, Rooks county, Plainville.  
" 5, Lincoln county, Lincoln.  
" 7, Mitchell county, Beloit.  
" 9, Osborne county, Osborne.

The ADVOCATE is desirous of doubling its circulation in each county of the state, and asks its readers to attend the meeting in their county and co-operate with our agent in securing new subscribers. With a little effort on the part of each reader he can secure three or more names before he attends the meeting, and then hand the same to Mr. Hendee.