

## Dwight Star and Herald

ESTABLISHED 1867.

Published Weekly at Dwight, Illinois.

WM. G. DUSTIN, Editor.  
ALLAN S. HOLBROOK, Publisher

Entered at the Postoffice, Dwight, Ill., as second-class mail matter, under act of Congress, July 16th, 1894.

Subscription Rates.  
(Strictly in Advance.)  
One Year ..... \$1.50  
Six Months ..... .75  
Three Months ..... .50

Advertising Rates made known upon application at the business office at Dwight, Illinois.

The Chicago Tribune is still flopping around like a hen with her head cut off. It doesn't seem to know where it's at and no one cares.

There are several candidates for U. S. senator at Springfield who are afraid the friends of Wm. Lorimer will not vote for them, and about one who is afraid they will.

It is proposed to hustle the changes in the tariff and have it done with and the readjustment made. This is a good plan. An extra session of congress is called for April.

The Hearst papers seem to be against the present national democratic administration, for some reason or other. Probably Mr. Wilson is pleased. The Hearst papers stand about the same with the democratic party as the Chicago Tribune does with the republican party.

It is quite noticeable that one Roger Sullivan always lands on his feet. In Washington Roger's marching club was right up in front, and the Harrison-Hearst club, both from Chicago, came along about dark when two-thirds of the crowd had left.

It is said that one Patrick Lucey, former mayor of Streator, and now attorney-general, has taken it upon himself to not only be attorney general, but to be supreme court also, and declare all laws which interfere with the boys getting a job to be unconstitutional. Pat is a pippin and will be popular with the push.

Secretary of State Wm. J. Bryan seems to fit in the office he has been appointed to. He is a lovable man, but firm in some of his convictions and weak in others, and whether he will stay fit or not is another question. If the President and Mr. Bryan do clash it will be noticeable to most

of the people on earth. Mr. Bryan spoke before the Illinois legislature Tuesday.

Hon. Paul Selby, probably the oldest newspaper man in Illinois, died at his home in Chicago Wednesday. He presided at the Illinois Republican Newspaper Men's Convention in 1854, which really placed Abraham Lincoln in the running for President. The deceased was a lovable man and will be greatly missed by his many friends in Illinois and the nation.

President Wilson evidently meant what he said when he intimated that all appointments should go through the heads of departments, as he has already sent some of the senators to the chiefs to make their recommendations. That will work for awhile but senators and congressmen are just as firm in their convictions as any one and they believe in seeing the President when they want anything. If the new President can unload all the office seekers and their backers he will accomplish something never done before.

If you like the old town best, tell 'em so. If you'd have her lead the rest, help her grow. When there's anything to do let the fellows count on you; you'll feel bully when you're through, don't you know? If you want to make a hit, get a name! If the other fellow's it, who's to blame? Spend your money in the town where you pull the sheekles down; give the mail concerns a frown—that's the game! If you're used to giving knocks, change your style! Throw bouquets instead of rocks for awhile. Let the other fellow roast; shun him as you would a ghost, meet his hammer with a boast and a smile. When a stranger from afar comes along tell him who and what we are, good and strong! Needn't flatter, never bluff, tell the truth, for that's enough; join the boosters—they're the stuff!—Ex.

Woodrow Wilson, the twenty-eighth president of the United States, is 56 years of age, five years older than President Taft when the latter took the oath of office. William Henry Harrison was the oldest man ever elected president. He was past 68 years when he took the oath of office, and died a month after his inauguration. Grover Cleveland was the youngest president the country has ever had. He was but 47 in 1885 when he was first inaugurated. Of our twenty-eight presidents, six served eight full years—Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, U. S. Grant, and Grover Cleveland.

During the history of the country the following presidents died before the expiration of their term: W. H. Harrison, Zachary Taylor, Abraham Lincoln, James A. Garfield and William McKinley, and of this number Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley died by the hands of assassins.

The eastern magazines are discussing the question, "When is a man at his best?" That all depends on what he is trying to do. The ancients had a maxim, "Old men for council, young men for war." Alexander led the right wing of the Macedonian phalanx at eighteen. Caesar at forty lamented that he had no chance. Von Moltke at seventy planned the Franco-German war that ended at Sedan. Marlborough achieved no distinction until he was sixty, but Napoleon was commander of the army in Italy at twenty-three. At eighty-three, Ben Franklin brought the discordant colonies together and settled the basis of future congresses by making the senate the representative of states and the house of representatives of population. Some men arrive at maturity early and fade early. Some continue to the last, like Von Humboldt, who was still a student after he had passed his ninetieth year.

### COMING GREAT MEN.

"The Oklahoma boy of 13 who raised 102 bushels of corn on one acre, at a cost of \$14.50, including \$5 for rent, sold his crop for \$206," says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

"It is in demand for seed at a special price, and it is to be remarked that he paid \$4 a bushel for the seed he used himself. Another Oklahoma boy, aged 15, raised 6,000 pounds of cotton on two acres and sold it for \$260. The seed brought \$200 more, making \$460 as the cash return from the two acres. It is no surprise to hear that 4,000 boys and girls in Oklahoma have entered the corn and cotton contest begun a few years ago in the enterprising and vigorous young state. Those productions have already put it among the foremost. A special effort is needed to give intensive farming a start. An acre set apart for an ambitious and earnest youth may seem a side issue, but in demonstration of possibilities is of great value.

"Many a farmer plods along with much land; but poor cultivation on his hands. Few have realized how much even one acre signifies. In the suburbs of Paris there are single acres that rent for \$1,000 a year. The soil is utilized all the time and every square foot kept under the highest possible culture. Otherwise it would not be a profitable way to employ

time and so much capital. On the basis of the Oklahoma boy's experiment, the corn crop of this country could be increased from three billion bushels to fifteen billions. The cotton test implies a like chance in that crop. It is said with truth that more workers are needed on the farms. A higher ratio of yield is also something to be diligently, confidently worked for. The cost of living can certainly be influenced in this way, and to the advantage of both consumers and producers."

And now it is gratifying to note that the boy champion corn raisers are to be the guests of the President and to sit down at his table in the white house. The president will, no doubt, tell them—which is a fact—that the boys that can make champion corn raising records will be recognized as the coming great men of the country, because, as a result of their work, they are going to be the ones who will reduce the high cost of living.

### A WARNING.

"The people of Illinois should not look to Oregon for an example of the initiative and referendum. They really should look to Oregon for a warning."

This is the message of a Portland, Ore., lawyer delivered in Chicago.

"In Oregon," he said, "it isn't a question of how to dispose of the initiative and referendum. It is a question of how to live with it. The constitutionality of the proposition as in vogue out there has never been fully established. Take the case of the Pacific States Telegraph and Telephone company versus the State of Oregon. This was a case in which the constitutionality of the initiative was disputed, and the question was fought in the courts for two weeks. Finally it was taken to the Supreme Court of the United States, and that tribunal has left it to Congress to decide. It looks very much as if Congress will admit that the initiative and referendum is constitutional, as it has admitted states whose statutes are similar to those of Oregon.

"In all states laws of a reformatory nature are abused at first. The initiative and referendum was passed in Oregon in 1902, and, though it can never be any worse than boss rule, it is nothing more than rule by the minority. Any demagogue by diligence may force on the ballot anything he pleases, whether it is sound or not. At present there are twenty or thirty measures to be voted on that are perplexing to the voters.

"With each proposed bill to be voted on with the initiative there are

pamphlets containing arguments for and against for the perusal of the voter. The people fail to read these, however. In this way they are called upon to pass laws which are very perplexing and upon which they are not sufficiently well posted or competent to judge.

"Another objection to the initiative is that it is too easy to put into motion a proposed law. In Oregon men are employed to procure signatures to the petitions to have the bill placed on the ballot. These signatures should be received at courthouses.

"Then in voting upon the measure the minority rules. Under the rule a decision is made by the majority, voting, not by a majority of the voters. In this way a voter who fails to cast his ballot silently favors the proposition. The doubtful voter either votes no or shirks the problem.

"It is almost a hopeless task to limit the initiative in Oregon, but it must be done. It was not intended for routine work, but for solving the big problems. No measure should be taken up by the people until the legislature had refused to act.

"The initiative as practiced in Oregon usurps the function of the legislature. It was designed originally to supplement the legislature, but it has superseded it. There has been plenty of legislation under the initiative, but none of it is vital. The people can bring up measures at election, after election, no matter how often they have been defeated. One or two elections should elapse before the same question should be submitted.

"The referendum is even more dangerous because it is a direct check on existing legislation and very detrimental."

The attorney cited a case involving the referendum in which the state university was deprived of its appropriations for one and a half years.

And yet democrats would make this one proposed amendment to the constitution the principal business of the present session of the general assembly to the exclusion of several other more important matters.

Of all the propositions for altering the construction now under public consideration, this initiative and referendum is the least important and may well be, as pointed out, even seriously detrimental.

### Piano Contest Notice.

Only fifteen more days before the close of the Great Piano Contest. Contestants, get busy among your friends; sell as many coupon books as possible and boost your standing. Contest closes at noon Wednesday, April 9th. C. M. Baker & Son—Adv.

### THAT REMINDS US

That the paving man is with us again and soon the streets will be loaded up with trucks for the summer.

That some of our enterprising citizens are working on their lawns, and trimming the trees, and cleaning up.

That things seem to be all quiet on Boiler avenue again.

That the fire ladders worked hard, but they were short of much needed water.

That those people who live on streets to be paved should enter a protest on having brick piled up close to the concrete sidewalks while the ground is soft. The walks on Franklin street where this was done are in many places lowered a little on the outside. If you don't believe it, take a walk up there and see for yourself. It's enough to spoil lawns, let alone sidewalks, and someone should be responsible for the injury.

## Clean Your Carpets

Don't send your rugs and carpets to the cleaners; don't pay a man to beat them. Save them! It's hard wear and tear—use the money to pay for a



DUNTLEY Pneumatic Sweeper

IT'S A HIGHLY EFFICIENT suction sweeper and revolving brush sweeper, all in one. Gets five to six times as much dust as old style carpet sweepers. Runs just as easy. Does the work of a \$125 vacuum cleaner and more. Not only gets all the dust out of the body of rug or carpet, but picks up pins, threads, lint, etc. No electric power needed. Save your strength and keep your house thoroughly clean all the year long. Send me your name so I can arrange to give you a

Free Demonstration in your home

C. M. BAKER & SON Agents

# A Rare Bargain

¶ I have for sale a fine seven room house with furnace, electric lights, good basement, etc., and four lots, well located on the east side of town.

¶ The owner of this property has made arrangements that make it necessary for him to dispose of it at once.

¶ It is for sale at a price far below the market value and any person who is seeking a home or investment will do well to investigate this.

# FRANK L. SMITH, Land Man

"If You Deal With Me You Get Results"

TELEPHONE NO. 8

Law, Loans, Lands and Insurance

DWIGHT, ILLINOIS