REV. JOHNSON WRITES ON COUNTY OPTION

As Applied to Van Buren and Eaton Counties and Brought Out by Investigation.

Tells of Various Phases of Question, Differences of Opinion that Prevail, General Sentiment as Found in Districts.

The investigation of conditions in Vanburen county, relative to the efficacy of the present liquor law, was begun by the editor of the Press Gazette and myself on Tuesday evening, Jan. 28th. It covered the succeeding two days, the third being spent in Eaton county. In giving the results of our inquiry it is understood that the same facts are in the possession of both the editor and myself, and in the event of any prejudicial coloring the two accounts will act as checks upon each other. What follows is not the report of a temperance enthusiast nor the testimony of a brewery emissary. It is the dispassionate statement of facts as nearly as the author can make it so. When the whole report has been given, or very soon thereafter, I shall give to the readers of this paper my conclusions, and my position in the matter of proposed local option prohibition for Oakland county. In the meantime, the simple facts of the investigation in these two counties are now put before you.

We arrived in Lawton Saturday via Michigan Central from Kalamazoo, at about eight o'clock. On the train we had been entertained by a lot of drunks who got off at Berlamont. The conductor said there were a good many such jovial spirits traveling with him from Kalamazoo, fellows who went there for the purpose of getting "loaded." Kalamazoo, of course, being outside the county, has had a wet dispensation.

When we reached the hotel, Mr. Coleman was told in response to his inquiry that he could obtain some beer at a drug store. We went to a certain drug store and without any difficulty obtained a bottle of beer. The clerk offered to allow drinking the liquor in his place saying, that they sold lots of liquor in that way. There was no doubt about it, judging from the odor of the surroundings, and the conversation of the clerk himself, which was, a fair execution of the works. In language punctuated with profanity and obscenity he told us his hatred of the prohibition system in vogue, and declared that much more liquor was drunk than before the county adopted the system. His sales as recorded averaged about 12 or 14 a day; he said he used about three gallons of liquor per week. The book seemed to be carefully kept, a copy of the week's sales being sent every Monday, in accordance with law, to the prosecuting attorney at Paw Paw. This particular clerk had been in South Haven only eight months and claimed that he had seen more drunks since his coming to South Haven than he had seen in the city where he had previously resided, a place with 6,000 or 7,000 inhabitants and its share of saloons. He also said that another drug store in town had sold enough liquor on the morning of Fourth of July to fill a whole book, which would be over 2,000 sales. We later discovered that this was a lie. However, it is reported, on good authority, that something of the sort did happen years ago. The clerk said that the druggists were not bothered much by the officers, that the prosecutor and sheriff were good to them. He believed in running a wide open for, said he, "If they want us they can get us any day." He also stated that he sold more liquor than anything else.

We were told in the hotel that one person picked up as many as 200 empty bottles in one day during the summer, that the town was swarming with its bottle business than it would be with its saloons, and that the officers never bothered the business a great deal. It was claimed that the city would vote wet anytime, but the prohibitionists could not be overbalanced.

A little while after our arrival a business man told us that he had seen more drunks in South Haven during six years than he had seen during a similar time in Chicago.

We entered another drug store, and asking if we could get anything to drink, were told that there was a tank of Water handy. The druggist said he would sell liquor for medicinal purposes. He carried a fine stock for sale. His book, which we inspected, contained about 12 or 15 sales per day. He very forcibly declared himself on the prohibition system—said it was a "damn farce, that it protected drunkards more than people, made liars of people, required a lot of red tape," and could not control the sale of liquor. He said there were some real druggists in town (including himself) who were supposed and some keepers of "boozo joints," that there were "druggists in cities of liquor shipped to the town, though there was very little drunkenness in evidence, the only one being taken care of; said that the reform element consisted of the ministers and the moderate drinkers; and said finally, in response to inquiry, that the nearness of Detroit would cripple the law if enacted for Oakland county.

A saloon druggist interviewed was apparently indifferent, sold the liquor with no reluctance, made them sign a record in his book or on a slip to be transferred to his book, and would say little except that people were divided on the subject in question. His book showed about the same number of sales as the others.

Another store visited gave about the same results, selling the liquor without reluctance. All these druggists had reason to believe that the liquor was not wanted for a legal purpose.

This finished the evening's work. We were impressed in spite of the strange tale we had heard, with the quietness of the streets and the absence of disorder could anywhere be found. The hotel also was very orderly.

In the morning we visited a druggist who was reputed to obey the law. He said he liquors and apparently few drugs, not carrying much in the drug line. He also, in elegant, emphatic language, condemned the prohibitory law. He said the druggists sold great quantities of liquor, though he was alone on the premises he thought, was allowed. He complained that the people would not stand by the honest druggist, and supported his claim by a reference to a man who came to the city and established an elegant drug store, selling out to do a legal business. This man, our informant said, was unable to make good with the trade. We know nothing more about the case. The drug store having a reputation, as nearly as we could learn, for selling the most liquor, we visited it in turn and the clerk immediately the defensive very offensively. He wished to inform us that some other things besides "boozo" were sold in his store. His record was not large—about like the others. He declined to give the sale of liquor recorded in any of these places, although many druggists were told about them.

A business man in high standing told us that business was good—no difference between wet and dry regimes in that particular. He said a big bottle business was done by the stores supposed to be selling drugs, and that the officers would not pay any of them for evidence.

About this time we interviewed a man who comes in touch with all business and social circles and seemed to be well informed on some of the conditions at least, and his statements were interesting in view of what we had heard. He said that local option prohibition brought a decided benefit, occasioned less drunkenness, there being almost none in winter time. The petition to return the old saloon system, he said, originated with a brewery agent, and was pushed by the whiskey crowd. There was a strong sentiment against it and between seven and eight hundred names were on the petition when the "dead ones" were struck off. The vote was very small, on the part of the temperance crowd, because they were not united and the liquor people spent a lot of money in the campaign. (That means, presumably, the brewers). The prosecutor was very aggressive, very performant said, and the city administration did little to control the strong business. However, he said, a blind tiger had been put out of business by the officers. The local option law, he explained further, was not a saloon law, but a business men's association had been organized in Hartford to help perpetuate the present option. A canvass of the South Haven business men made in 1906 showed 30 firms out of 50 desiring the saloons, 20 being committal and three opposed to the prohibition. Before the saloons were expelled, our friend said, there had been a saloon almost at every second door on the main street. The prosecutor he considered not as efficient as might be expected of him, but said the people did not support him well. A good deal of perjury was practised to thwart his prosecutions. "The judge," he said, was a good strong official—he was formerly a prosecutor—and a strong local option man. Further, we were told that two "shyster" laws are got most of the whiskey cases. Anti-prohibition sentiment, the gentleman told us, was very strong in South Haven.

We were next introduced to a very prominent governmental official, who was an old resident. We needed scarcely to get near him to hear his tirade against the prohibitory law. He seemed thoroughly informed, except that he had not been in some of the places we had found. "Of course," said he, "we're better off with our local option law. How could it be otherwise? There are 51 saloons in Berrien county now, 49 drug stores. In Van Buren we have only 29 drug stores and no saloons. He said there was very little liquor sold in drug stores in South Haven, except to the initiated—that is, the regular customers. "Beers is good, our young people are protected from evil influence, the population of the county increased 40 per cent during the first 10 years of prohibition, we have hardly any drunks—we won't stand for 'em," and with an accompaniment of variegated English, that neither the bible nor the dictionary could indorse, our informant concluded. We asked him how it was we had heard such a tale of woe from those who sold the stuff and were connected with the whiskey crowd. "Why, d——n it," he exclaimed, "those whiskey men will lie till they'd raise a blister on a griddle." He had a striking bit of argument to the effect: If you get saloons, you keep all the drug stores; if you don't get the saloons, you've only got the drug stores. Which is better?

A leading business man with large financial interests was interviewed and he joined in the present prohibition system strongly. He reiterated the effect of the preceding, and what had already been heard, acknowledged that the system was not perfect, but expressed great pleasure with its accomplishments.

A real estate man and an insurance man were warmly defended the existing regime. The former handles resort property. The latter said his business would be greatly injured if we had saloons, he explained. "It's a question of business with me. The class of people that comes to this resort is greatly influenced by the character of the saloons they would bring."

The other gentleman said his business was not affected either way, but he believed the same way on the question for moral reasons. The increased safety to boys, the diminished amount of treating, the security of drunkards, these were his grounds for the position he assumed.

A man in position to know, informed us that not much liquor came into the town by express. He said also that the prohibition of saloons killed one hotel proposition, while other interested people were willing to come only on condition that there should be no saloons in the town.

A business man stood behind one of the best conducted hotels in the state and his business was much better under prohibition. "Collections," he said, "are almost cash, and balances is better." He added that the brewers are spending tens of dollars to get back saloons in the county again. Va do so, manifestly meant injury to the town. As an instance of the effect, he said had decreased in size under the old system, while the Hayes House had increased under prohibition.

I called up by phone a man vitally connected with the educational work of the city, and he said his opinion based on personal observation given to the boys, was all in favor of prohibition under the present system. Finding it necessary to patronize a barber about this time, I had more prohibition talk put in my head than father on my face. There was so much boss roughness and carousing, he said, that there was no question about the result.

Before leaving the city we made a canvass of the business men as far as possible, and found them equally divided on the matter of the desirability of a return to the saloon system. The better class of business men favored the present system.

We held an interview in the hotel with a merchant from Hartford, one of the smaller towns in the county, which is the instance of the liquor with Berrien. The latter town has saloons and is said to be the best town, or seemingly, in Hartford than in Watervliet for the drew trade from within two miles of the city. He said he sold he would take the dry town every time for business reasons. Collections are good, he said, "and the amount of drunkenness in this town is much less than where saloons are doing business."

We went directly from South Haven to Paw Paw, and on the way heard some conversation by traveling men on business conditions. It seemed that the towns of Van Buren county were doing their share of business with Benton Harbor was dead. I heard the same remark from one of the men regarding St. Joseph. The later spoke flatteringly of some of Van Buren's "bustling towns."

On our arrival at the hotel we were filled with sombre accounts of the ruin that prohibitory regulations had brought upon the town. More liquor was sold than saloons ever sold, there was more drunkenness, a large bottle business, and a great deal of liquor was shipped in, in quantity, for individual use. The sale was accomplished through the agents of brewing companies. The liquor was shipped into the county was not worth a dollar—all though it could be had in the store. The little boys picked up empty bottles by the bushel and many learned to drink by tasting the residue found in them. The back room of the hotel, we was told, were often strewn with bottles that had been discarded when they became empty and their owners fled. Men drank in sheds, alleys, anywhere. The reader is left, precisely as we were, to conclude how much truth our faithy there is in all this. Presumably there is much of truth. A prominent business man interviewed in the hotel lobby, second day, was pleasant did one or two others. However, it seemed understood that the drug stores who sold liquors had caused bantling beer. We were told at the hotel that the bottled beer was worse than the old saloons, individuals was drunk at home—the bottles did most the work in evidence. Where then the beer bottles came from is of course unexplained.

We interviewed the county officers and, to a man, they favor local option prohibition strongly. The criminal records show a remarkable advantage over Kalamazoo county. In 1907 Vanburen had 20 cases of "drunk and disorderly," and Kalamazoo had 665. Of course Kalamazoo county has a large city, and is about three-sevenths larger than Van Buren. Allegan county statistics were not at hand but two years ago, we learned, the drunk and disorderly list was greater than that of Van Buren's. Our informant in these matters was the man best qualified to speak in questions of statistics. "I am a local option man," he declared without a moment's hesitation. "For business reasons, moral and legal." The evidence he gave was very emphatic: "The public don't agitate for saloons at all; the agitation comes from men in other lines of the liquor business and men paid by the liquor interests. Their propaganda is made on the 'still-hunt.' There are now fewer drug stores in Van Buren county than there were when the county had saloons, notwithstanding the increased population. Four of them have disappeared within the past four years. There are now 28 liquor selling drug stores in the county. Our South Haven enthusiast was not up to the time, he said, when he claimed 40 per cent less liquor is now consumed in the county than five years ago. The first year or two of local option prohibition there is necessarily a fight on. It takes a little time to learn it. People say on election night, 'we've won,' and they lie down to pleasant dreams.

For a time the night be as many as five saloons in the city of Hartford. Oakland should go dry, but they will soon dwindle. People may go to Detroit for a little while, on their larks, but the novelty will soon wear off.

"Sometimes," said this prominent official, "I get tired of our local option system, but when I've been away from outside the county, and get back, I'm all cured."

He further told us that the people do, after all, support a good administration for the office. The Democrats elected a officer in Van Buren county, since the war, was made prosecutor, after 6 lax administration by a republican official.

The prosecutor, our informant said, were good business towns, drawing trade from all the surrounding country.

It may here be explained that the law provides that the sale of liquor by druggists, requires not only that the record be exact, but that the sales be made in good faith. The druggist must believe that the purchaser is truthful in stating the purpose for which liquor is to be put. Many times, there are conditions, such as a request from a regular customer, which tend to make the druggist believe otherwise, but he is bound by the letter. This we learned is, contrary to general opinion, an established fact. We had been, in the courts' opinion, unduly emphasized by some druggists. Hence druggists know that they stand in danger of conviction on the amount of sales, if good faith. We asked one druggist in Paw Paw what he would do if the law did not allow him to write the names of purchasers as required, supposing he sold one man forty times a day. "You just try it and see how they'll do to you," he replied. "We've got a legal right to sell liquor and we like, but it isn't safe to do it. They get after us so hard that the only way is to stick to the right."

He said he had quit selling beer altogether. This man is the only druggist we found in the county who claimed to believe the present law diminishes the sale of liquor. He said he favored it for that reason.

We found the druggists in Paw Paw who handle liquor. The other druggist claimed the local option system had caused more liquor to be sold than saloons would dispense, enlarged on the evils of the bottle business, and the demoralization of small boys. He spoke of the "good faith" principle, and said he sold no beer except as an accommodation to regular customers. He modestly affirmed that he had sold 20 cases from one company last summer. Much liquor, he said, was sold by "boot-legger," men who buy the stuff and peddle it on the quiet among their customers. He said the drug stores are financially weak, because druggists are afraid.

A prominent official, with office in the business section, told us that there was no question about the diminution in drunks. He said, however, that "I will deny the benefits of the present law."

The village, he said, goes wet with its crowd of laborers—there is no factory class over-represented in the city—its hold up the dry majority.

"If we had saloons for twelve months," this gentleman declared, "the county would remain dry. There are very few drunks in evidence. The greatest evil in the village is a local option man. The hotel proprietor and other men want saloons sell liquor. The druggists want them because they would sell just as much and would be modified from the prohibitive. They sell a good deal of liquor. The rural population is strongly people desiring to be liberated from the temptation of saloons keep the county dry by their votes."

A merchant, interviewed about this time, said he had not believed liquor would be dispensed by saloons, that there were lots of drunks, and displayed of bottles were picked up. He was a little surprised in so saying that he still favored the present system. He said it was less bumming than there would be with saloons in the town.

Two men closely associated with the educational work in the county told us that the effect of the local option prohibition as against saloons in the city of Paw Paw, was thought to be above the average. Certainly the streets were quiet, and at night they seemed to be as orderly as in the best hall of a fashionable residence. One gentleman said that the city would be better without the bottle business and with saloons. He said the bottle business was nothing in place to go. It was not possible to regulate it, and was demoralizing. A young fellow in the hotel said it was a blanked bad system—he couldn't get liquor. He said he had tried and there was no chance. He said he had formerly used to run a dray, and knew about the large amounts of liquor brought into the town. He hinted the local option system. Several other men in the same accosted us to the same effect.

We obtained some statistics on the drug sales which had been made for general interest. There were, during the week previous to our visit, 1631 sales of liquor for "medicinal" purposes in the county. They ran from 229 per week in one store in Hartford to 1 per week in one of the South Haven stores.

A school man, one of those mentioned above, said that he had taught in a town in Van Buren county, of 1100 inhabitants, for three years, during which time the amount of drunkenness and disorder that could be seen in a certain town in the county, of about 3000 population, had only 300 population, and with two saloons and two drug stores. It is not out of place to publish the name of the first mentioned town, which is Decatur. Our informant said that he had been arrested for taking a basket of bottled beer from the railway station to Decatur and "boot-legging" it there. Such occurrences, on Saturdays in particular, cause some disorder. The village is in Cass county.

This teacher said, what we heard repeated not infrequently, that inasmuch as there are officers to enforce the law, it did not seem necessary for private citizens to concern themselves about the matter. He did not feel it to interfere personally, though he could see no harm in occasional "bumming." He said that before the local option law was taken advantage of to prohibit saloons, there were night or two fights in Decatur, and women were afraid to go on the streets at night.

While we talked with this gentleman a man entered the room who was well known to the teacher and to others. He confirmed the story about empty bottles being picked up by the bushel. He had dozen bottles could be found about the court-house every half day. However, he said, there were not nearly so many found there now, and that drunkenness was not in evidence. In the spring, when the snow melted, this man said, you might see a wheelbarrow loaded with empty bottle being taken by boys to the drug stores for the pay. Great quantities were drunk, he thought, than saloons would sell, but just as much drunkenness more stuff was brought in from outside for retail delivery than was sold in the saloons. He said he was strongly favored local option restrictions, and concluded with:

"If you get it in your county," he said, "you will never be sorry."

The paper statistics, as compared with Oakland, quite strongly favor Van Buren. Great strength was made to us that the temperance people, who voted for the present law, stay at home and don't know what is going on. Some influential business men said, they desired to vote, but the county might as well, or better, have saloons. A great thorn in their side was the fact that the county makes no money out of the drug trade in liquor. Paw Paw village is heavily bonded and taxes are high.

Of all the stories about the importation of liquor, we interviewed men who knew, we found out that comparatively little is brought into Paw Paw, either by freight or express. The sale of liquor is more strongly in favor of the present system.

We arrived in Charlotte on Friday morning and spent the day among the business men. A man in the hotel said there was no saloon in the city with a bar—Charlotte has between 4,000 and 5,000 inhabitants. Personally, he believed, there was more liquor sold now than when the town had saloons, but that the law was not generally enforced when the local option system was in vogue.

"It might have been made a success," said he, "if it had been enforced."

The druggists we interviewed in Charlotte gave the usual account of local option as the hotel people did.

"Local option," said the first, "is a d—— bad thing; it demoralizes the drug business. One man tried to obey the law and had to give up his store. The drug stores don't sell as much liquor under the prohibition law as the saloons, but the country boys fare worse at the hands of the drug stores than at the saloons. Business suffers when the saloons were gone. Farmers did not come to town as much—more mail-order business. Were there more drug stores? No, except during the periods of dry rule. During the first "dry" season two saloons started drug stores. They were not allowed to continue long."

We learned from another druggist that the two men above mentioned were arrested, convicted, and forced out of the business. He said less liquor was drunk then than now. There are at present seven or eight saloons and seven drug stores in Charlotte.

"Four drug stores now," he declared, are doing a legitimate business. The local option prohibitory system, he said, did not injure business, this was the man who, we had just been told, was forced out of business), but it did demoralize the drug trade, and corrupt the dealers. He had left the town on account of it.

"The first six months," he went on, "after the town went dry, the law worked pretty well. Then some of the druggists became active. If there had been no druggists attempt at enforcing the law, all would have been good. No, I would not vote for prohibition if the vote were taken. Though I would not work hard against it."

The druggist said the reputable druggists could not come to an agreement on the sale of liquor, he seemed to think they were not reliable enough, but admitted, that in a town where he was in business, about a few years ago, the druggists had an agreement and kept it.

A real estate man told us people turned down the local option system because they did not enjoy having their names on a record book.

A man, formerly in a financial circle, claimed he was utterly disappointed with that "kind of prohibition. Many cases were brought against druggists, but witnesses could not be found. Much drunkenness prevailed, and just as much liquor was sold. The druggists of Charlotte had been personally corrupted. Another man in similar position said the druggists who are selling liquor excessively always did that even before the saloons were first abolished. There was as much liquor sold in Charlotte, and as much drunkenness, but he would rather bribe a boy in a local option town."

The total liquor license in the town is $1,000—$500 state license, $500 city license, and $25 federal license. The saloon keepers are selling beer. Some must go out of business. The saloonists have no redress. The druggists ramp up pretty well with the average. Business is not affected by the change from wet to dry or vice versa.

This is what he told us. A former official of the county explained to us that the local option prohibitory law had not been given a fair trial. There were "lots of Democrats willing to see dry." and in two years going back to wet. The reform movement had diminished the consumption of liquor and the amount of drunkenness. There had been no "bum" treating, and the druggists during its operation, and before, had complied. These cases and detectives were used to gather evidence.

Two county officials interviewed gave conflicting statements. One said there were no saloons, the other said there were saloons; the other said "the law stands." The latter said the county would be likely to go dry if a vote was taken now. He said, however, that the county had tried to enforce a drug law and was turned down by the courts. The former gentleman said there were 12 or 14 drug stores under the local option system which, he said, was well enforced. The latter said it was apparently false. He said the system was not enforced unjustly and not duly supported.

The pauper statistics are very low for the county, and the wealth of the city of magnitude is found in the farming interests, not in large factory class in Charlotte. The large number of saloons as large as Oakland county, and the non-existence of saloons does not seem to effect the pauper statistics favorably. The man from whom the figures were obtained was the prohibition of saloons in the county.

"The employers," he said, "think they prefer to have a few saloons. There are not so many die drunkards. Men who have worked for these places are gone. The officers have never really tried to enforce the law. Prosecutor was not one good prosecutor who worked hard under the law. He was not a success. He assisted by a good sheriff. If the officials were all like them, the attempt would be successful."

This virtually is the end of our inquiry. We found no Democratic county where that the ministers favored local option prohibition. We did not find it necessary to interview them. Even though a clergyman myself, I did not feel called upon to visit the ministers of in Eaton counties. I made but one Spotted Cow, 6 yrs. "due in Sept. exception to each county, and that Holstein Cow, 5 years old, giving milk was convenient to call, but failed Guernsey Cow, 5 years old, giving milk to find the gentlemen.

My conclusions and deductions will be published later.

Very truly,

F. E. JOHNSON.

Holly firemen are getting ready for their annual ball.

Put Your Money In a New Country

The Pacific Coast extension of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway now under construction, opens to the settler thousands of acres of excellent agricultural land. The new country in Adams, Hettinger, and Bowman Counties, North Dakota, and Butte County, South Dakota, is now reached by the new track. The soil is a dark loam with clay subsoil, and produces in abundance wheat, oats, barley, spelt, flax, corn and potatoes. The land is well adapted to farming, good water is found at a depth of from twenty to fifty feet, and the climate of this country is underlaid with lignite coal that outcrops along the streams, and in most cases can be had for the digging.

The climate is healthful, the air is dry and invigorating, and the percentage of sunshiny days is high. Outdoor work can be done almost every day in the year. Rainfall is amply sufficient to raise the crops. Regular mail service has been established, the roads are good, rural telephone lines traverse the country, and automobiles are in common use. The deeded land in this district sells for from $10 to $18 per acre. There are many instances this year where the crop equaled in value the cost of the land.

In Butte County, South Dakota, there is considerable government land open for homestead entry. Government land offices are maintained at Lemmon, Hettinger and Bowman, where filings and final proofs may be made. All of these towns are on the new line of the

Chicago Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway

In Montana, the new railroad traverses good farming land. It has been demonstrated that big crops of grain may be raised. Along the Yellowstone and Musselshell rivers, the water is used for irrigation, and phenomenal yields of alfalfa, sugar beets, and grain are always certain. In the Judith Basin near Lewistown, Montana, is one of the most remarkable sections to be found on the new line. Under natural rainfall, the famous bench lands produced this year an average of 35 bushels of hard wheat to the acre, and the price was 94 cents per bushel. The basin contains about 1500 square miles and is sparsely settled. Some government land still remains open for settlement. A government land office is maintained at Lewistown. In Fergus County, outside the Judith Basin, is one of the greatest stock countries in the world, and good ranches can be purchased at a reasonable figure.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Co. has established an immigration department for the purpose of assisting in the settlement and development of the new lands now being opened.

Pamphlets descriptive of its resources will be forwarded free on request

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AUCTION

Having rented his farm for a term of years, the undersigned will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, on the premises situated 2½ miles west of Woodward Avenue, corner 10-mile road and town line between Royal Oak and Southfield—3 miles west of Royal Oak and 5 miles south of Birmingham,

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

At 9 o'clock a. m. sharp, the following described property:

Span Grey Horses, weight 2,700 lbs.
Black Mare, weight 1,175 lbs.
Black Mare, weight 1,400 lbs.
Bay Horse, weight 1,400 lbs.
Holstein Cow, Calf by side Buzz Saw
Grey Cow, 6 years old, new milch
Holstein Cow, 6 years old, new milch
White Cow, 6 years old, new milch
White Cow, 5 years old, new milch
Brindle Cow, 5 years old, new milch
Grey Cow, 8 years old, new milch
Grey Cow, 5 years old, new milch
Red Cow, 7 years old, new milch
Holstein Cow, 4 yrs, milk, due May 1
Roan Cow, 5 yrs, gv'g milk, due May 1
Black Cow, 10 yrs, giv. milk, due Aug. 1
Roan Cow, 5 yrs, gv'g milk, due in Aug.
Holstein Cow, 5 years old, giving milk
Roan Cow, 5 years old, giving milk
Grey Cow, 6 years old, new milch
Holstein Cow, 4 years old, due Mar. 10
Jersey Cow, 6 years old, due March 5
Black Cow, 8 years old, due in March
Black Calf, farrow 15 Good Shoats
Thoroughbred Yorkshire Brood Sow registered 3 Young Brood Sows
Good McCormick Grain Binder
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New 75-bu Worcester-Kemp Manure Spreader 7 Ft-tooth Lever Drags
Good 8-foot Steel Roller Lawn Mower
Two-horse Iron Age Riding Cultivator
Two-horse Western Walking Cultivator
Syracuse Spring-tooth Harrows
2 Oliver Plows, No. 98 Tank Heater
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M. H. BLUNT, Auctioneer.

Stop That Cold

To check early colds or Grippe with "Preventics" is quite sure to prevent pneumonia. To stop a cold with Preventics is safer than to let it run and be likely to run into pneumonia. The same Preventics will cure even a deeply seated cold, but it is better to stop the disease stage—they break, or loosen up the cold, so it can be coughed out easier. That's why they are called Preventics.

Preventics are little cold cures. They are tasty, non-poisonous, nothing sickening. Nice for the children. Preventics are sold by all druggists, 25 cents. If you don't find them effective, they will cheerfully, if you choose, if you tache all over, think or feel miserable, Preventics are laxative, they regulate your usual sickness. And don't forget your child. If they have cold symptoms, night or day, Herein probably lies Preventics' greatest value. Sold in boxes for the pocket, also in 25c boxes of 48 Preventics. Insist on your druggists giving you Preventics.

Preventics

CHARLES J. SHAIN

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—Probate of Will.

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate office in the City of Pontiac, in said county on the 13th day of February, A. D. 1908. Present, Hon. Joseph S. Stockwell, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the estate of

ALBERT TROLLOPE, Deceased.

John V. Trollope having filed in said Court a certain instrument purpoting to be the last will and testament of said deceased, now on file in said Court, be admitted to probate, and that the administration of said Estate be granted to Oliver J. Trollope, the executor named in said will, or to some other suitable person.

It is ordered that the 9th day of March, A. D. 1908, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition, It is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in THE BIRMINGHAM EXAMINER, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

JOSEPH S. STOCKWELL,
Judge of Probate.

(A true copy.)
ROSS STOCKWELL, Probate Clerk. 14feb-4wsr

R. A. WHITEHEAD

Attorney for Mortgagee, Birmingham, Mich.

MORTGAGE SALE.

Default having been made for more than thirty days in the conditions of a mortgage made by Frank Neff and Elizabeth Neff, mortgagors, to Alameron Whitehead and George H. Mitchell, a copartnership, mortgagees, dated the 16th day of Birmingham, Oakland county, Michigan, under the firm name and style of R. A. Whitehead, the 1st day of April, A. D. 1903, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, upon the 7th day of April, A. D. 1903, in Liber 161 of Mortgages, on page 169, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice the sum of Five Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-eight Cents ($5,228.28), principal and interest, and an attorney fee of Twenty Dollars ($20) as provided for in the said mortgage, and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity has been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof—now, therefore, notice is hereby given of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and the statute in such cases made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises hereinafter described, or so much thereof as may be necessary to satisfy said amount due, and the interest and costs of the sale, together with the said attorney's fee, at public auction, at the highest bidder, at the easterly entrance to the Court House in the City of Pontiac, Michigan, (the place where the circuit court for the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, of the 18th day of October, 1904, is holden) on Saturday, at 2 o'clock p. m. of the day of March, A. D. 1908, at one o'clock in the afternoon, of the said day, the premises in said mortgage described in said mortgage substantially as follows: The east one-half (½) of the northwest quarter (¼) of section eleven (11), town two (2) north, range ten (10) east, in Michigan.

Dated December 13th, 1907.

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL,
MORTGAGEES.

R. A. WHITEHEAD, Attorney for Mortgagees,
Birmingham, Michigan. 14dec-8mwr

HOMER H. COLVIN

Attorney for Mortgagee, Pontiac, Michigan.

MORTGAGE SALE.

Default having been made in the conditions of payment in a certain mortgage made by Clarkson F. Verdon and wife to Sarah J. Nicholson, dated October 17, A. D. 1904, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Oakland county, Michigan, of the 19th day of October, 1904, in Liber 157 of Mortgages, on pages 39 and 40, on which said mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice the sum of two hundred nineteen and 86-100 dollars ($219.86) and the attorney fee of thirty-five dollars authorized by statute and provided for in said mortgage, and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity has been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said mortgage, now, therefore, notice is hereby given that by virtue of a clause in said mortgage contained, that the mortgagee may at the option of payment of interest on the day upon which the principal sum of said mortgage is payable, if unpaid and in arrears for thirty days, that from thenceforth the whole principal sum of said mortgage be and become due immediately, and the mortgagee may at the option of payment of more than thirty days, and that the said mortgagee claims said option and hereby elects to declare, and hereby does declare the whole principal sum of said mortgage to be now due, amounting in all to the sum of twenty-eight hundred fifty-two and 86-100 dollars, exclusive of said attorney fee, by virtue of the power of sale in said mortgage, and by virtue of the statutes in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on Saturday, the 18th day of April, A. D. 1908, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, at the front, or Sawtaw-Street, entrance to the Court House, in the City of Pontiac, Oakland County, Michigan (the place where the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, is holden) the land described in said mortgage, viz: The southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section sixteen, in town two north, range ten east, in Oakland county, State of Michigan.—Dated Pontiac, Michigan, February 13th, 1908.

SARAH J. NICHOLSON, Mortgagee.
HOMER H. COLVIN, Attorney for Mortgagee, Business address: Pontiac, Michigan. 24jan-17mp

AUCTION SALE

The undersigned will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, on the premises known as the DEAN FARM, 2 miles west and 5 miles south of Birmingham, in Southfield, on

Thursday, March 12

At 9 o'clock a. m. sharp, the following described property:

Herd of 37 Registered Jerseys

Jersey Cow, 12 years old Weeder
2 Jersey Cows, 2 years old, giving milk
2 Jersey Cows, 4 years old, due in April
Jersey Cow, 12 years old, new milch
Jersey Cow, 9 years old, due in April
2 Jersey Cows, 11 yrs old, giving milk
Jersey Cow, 6 years old, due in April
2 Jersey Cows, 6 yrs old, giving milk
3 Jersey Cows, 3 years old, fresh
Jersey Cow, 2 years old, giving milk
Jersey Cow, 2 years old, due in April
Jersey Cow, 7 years old, giving milk
Jersey Cow, 5 years old Set Bobs
Jersey Cow, 7 years old, fresh
Jersey Cow, 8 years old, giving milk
Jersey Cow, 10 years old, fresh
Jersey Cow, " " giving milk
3 Heifers, 2 years old, due in April
Heifer, 1 year old Wagon and Box
5 Heifer Calves Single Buggy
Bull, 5 years old Set Light Bobs
Bull, 6 months old Gasoline Engine

Bull Calf Tongueless Disc Harrow
Span Bay Mares, weight 2,800 pounds
Grey Mare, 7 years old, weight 1,400
Driving Mare, 8 years old, weight 1,000
Bay Colt, 7 years old in May, " 1,200
Grey Colt, " " June, " 1,200
40 Thoroughbred Plymouth Rock Hens
McCormick Mower, 5-ft cut 2 Pulleys
Hay Rake, 12-ft 2 Two-seated Buggies
McCormick Corn Harvester—new
Superior Grain Drill—new 2 Cars
Dakey Corn Planter Oliver Plow—98
2 Two-horse American Cultivators
Spring-tooth Harrow Set Trucks
2 sets Iron Drags 150 feet Hay Rope
Blizzard Ensilage Cutter, No. 14 Blower
American Manure Spreader
2 sets Double Harness Hay Tedder
Set Hatch Scales 6 Horse Blankets
LeLand Separator 5 Low Blankets
About 50 bushels Potatoes Creamery
About 100 bushels Corn Ice Box
About 75 bushels Oats Tank Heater
Quantity Clover Hay Sprayer
and other articles too numerous to mention

CHARLES DEAN, Prop.

M. H. BLUNT, Auctioneer.

National Hotel

Birmingham, Mich.

ANDREW ANDERSON, Prop.

Plenty of good rooms for the traveling public. Good tables for all.

CIGARS and TOBACCOS

Pine Pool and Billiard Tables.
Everything orderly and first-class.
Satisfaction guaranteed.

ANDREW ANDERSON.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

In the matter of the estate of Edward L. Beardsley, deceased. We, the undersigned, having been appointed by the Honorable Joseph S. Stockwell, Judge of Probate in and for the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, Commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims against said estate, and four months from the 13th day of February, A. D. 1908, having been allowed by said Judge of Probate for creditors to present their claims against said estate, in which to present them to us for examination and adjustment, Notice is hereby given that we will meet on the 27th day of March, 1908, and on the 27th day of May, 1908, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of each day, at the Exchange Bank, in the Village of Birmingham, in said county, for the purpose of receiving and adjusting said claims.

W. THREADGOLD,
D. M. JOHNSTON,
Commissioners.

31jan-4wsb