

Western National Fair Association clippings

Section 2, Pages 31 - 60

These clippings from various newspapers relate to the Western National Fair that was held at Bismarck Grove in Douglas County in September 1880. Apparently, this was the first attempt to hold a state fair in Kansas, though there was also a Missouri Valley Fair in Kansas City. At this point in time, Bismarck Grove was owned by the Kansas Pacific Railway Company but they were letting the fair association use it rent free. One clipping includes the charter of the Western National Fair Association and others the minutes of meetings of the Association. Several counties (Anderson, Linn) formed associations to organize their efforts to participate in the fair at Bismarck Grove.

Date: 1879-1880

Callnumber: K 606 W52 Clippings

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 207839

Item Identifier: 207839

www.kansasmemory.org/item/207839

KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Western National Fair Association clippings

31

gaze of this multitude of visitors representing all parts of the Union. No such opportunity has ever been offered us to present the advantages of our county to those seeking homes and profitable investment. Believing that our people realize the importance of this work, we have taken the initiatory steps, and have appointed some committees, a list of which we append. Others will be selected as necessity demands. Many of the individuals in this list we have not been able to see, but we trust all will be kind enough to act. For the present, the cities of Mound City and Pleasanton have been designated as places of deposit for the various articles gathered for exhibition. Other points will also be selected soon and all parties notified.

Persons desiring to communicate with the association should address O. E. Morse, secretary of the Linn County Agricultural and Horticultural Association, Mound City, Linn county, Kansas.

J. B. BROADHEAD,
O. E. MORSE,
J. Q. ADAMS,
W. P. BARNES,
R. W. BLUE,
JOHN MCAULEY,
D. A. CROCKER,
D. GOSS,
M. K. NOLIN,

Directors of the Linn County Agricultural and Horticultural Association.

Township committees: Potosi, D. Goss, J. A. Bacon and D. A. Crocker; Sheridan, John McAuley and M. C. Stark Blue Mound, W. P. Barnes and H. A. B. Cook; Mound City, J. B. Broadhead, R. W. Blue and R. B. Bryan; Paris, J. Q. Adams, J. D. McRae and O. E. Morse; Liberty, M. K. Nolin, A. G. Seaman and J. S. Goodrich;

Western National Fair Association clippings

32

Centerville, Thomas Sproul, D. A. Warren and M. B. Weaver; Stanton, A. W. Burton, H. P. Clay and Charles Campbell; Valley, D. Sibbett, Dr. W. Engle, W. R. Williams and A. W. Hall; Scott, Dr. Dallas, Scott Shattuck and B. Campbell; Lincoln, John Cartmell, S. D. Cady, M. E. Woodward, G. Marion Moore and J. P. Kenea.

Special committees: On timber, A. D. Root, W. Engle and John S. Lane; on honey, James Goss, James Hutchins and William Hutchins; on small fruits, J. H. Stearns, H. A. B. Cook, J. W. Latimer, W. G. Evans and Ed. Billings; on peaches, pears, plums, etc., H. A. B. Cook, D. W. Cozad and S. M. Brice; on apples, Alex. Seaman, L. Bishop, J. W. Latimer, T. G. Mathews and H. A. Strong.

Persons producing anything specially good in either of the above lines should report the same to the proper committee.

Western National Fair Association clippings

*The Salina Herald,
June 26-1880.*

33

The Salina Herald.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1880.

A. G. STACEY, Editor and Publisher.

County Committee for Bismarck Fair.

We republish the various committees in this county, whose duty it is to collect articles for the Bismarck fair. Much has already been done, and we call upon every man in the county to bring forward whatever he may have to make a showing. All samples of wheat, corn, rye, oats, etc., will be given in charge of the committee in each township, who will turn them over to the Bismarck committee.

Bismarck committee—H. L. Jones, A. P. Collins, J. C. Terry, W. R. Geis, M. D. Sampson, Frank Robb.

Finance committee—Oscar Seitz, L. F. Parsons, E. W. Ober, Thomas Anderson, Donald McPhail.

Salina—R. H. Bishop, A. M. Campbell, A. M. Beebe.

New Cambria—Simon Donmeyer, I. H. Wells, William Murphy.

Dayton—J. C. Barrett, Dennis Rierdon, George Dorflinger.

Elm Creek—J. R. Arnold, Isaac A. Burch, William Toll.

Eureka—Johnathan Tinkler, Anson Miller, B. F. Whitehead.

Falun—August Johnson, John Agnew, Olof Forsse.

Greeley—P. McEntree, Henry Rosmond, R. A. Anderson.

Gypsum—J. W. Amos, C. S. Eberhardt, Oscar Tederhen.

Liberty—Samuel Batdorf, B. F. Robinson, Isaac Lester.

Ohio—Ernest Hohnek, A. S. Hall, B. Martin.

Western National Fair Association clippings

34

Concord—S O Hanford.
Smoky Hill—B B Stimmel, G A Carma-
ny, J F Wellington.
Smoky View—Chas. P Gunnerson, Robert
Crawford, C J Rosberg,
Smolan—A K Pierce, William A Max-
well, F O Holmburg.
Solomon—Dr. F A Van Eaton, T H
Strickler, D Reece.
Spring Creek—J M Coombs, C H Titus,
Silas K Seger.
Walnut—A M Farley, A C Wait, Stephen
Shelton.
Washington—Ed. Nelson, Andrew Mar-
tinson, A S Ekland.
Mulberry—C W Givens, trustee.
Any one desiring instructions or informa-
tion, will apply to Wm. B. Fleis, treasurer.

Western National Fair Association clippings

*The Plaindealer,
Sept. 24-1880.*

35

The Plaindealer

GARNETT, KAN., SEP. 24, 1880.

THE BISMARCK FAIR.

**Formal Opening by President Keeney--
Other Addresses by Distinguished
Visitors.**

Correspondence of the Kans. City Journal.

BISMARCK GROVE, Sept. 14.—The full measure of anticipated success is realized to-day. The weather, the exhibits, and the attendance are even more than the enthusiastic managers and friends of the Western National Fair association hoped for.

The great event of interest this morning was the reception of a party of distinguished guests. They were escorted to the fair grounds by a guard of honor detailed from the First regiment of K. V. M., by the mayor and city council of Lawrence and the president and officers of the Fair association. The cavalcade was preceded by the Dispatch brass band of Paola, and one of the most attractive features of the procession was the company of juvenile Zouaves of Ottawa. When the party reached the tabernacle they were escorted to the rostrum, where they were welcomed and introduced to the large audience, after which Col. James F. Keeney delivered the inaugural address. He said:

"I discharge a most agreeable duty as president of the Western National Fair association in extending to you a hearty welcome to the state of Kansas and to this our first annual exhibition. There is hardly a thought in our modern history that has not been stirred by the uncommon history of our new commonwealth, and in looking round upon this concourse of representative visitors, I find men who fought for the imperishable doctrine, boldly asserted and successfully applied on the very soil on which we now stand to-day. There are men here who fought and wrought and wrote for them. Rarely in any annals have such beginnings been carried to such a success in so short a time."

Western National Fair Association clippings

36

Mr. Keeney then contrasted the situation as to population, agriculture, educational advantages, etc., in the state of Kansas, at the present time, with its status one year ago, summing up a marvelous showing of growth in all particulars.

He said: "New England has been called the schoolhouse of the republic. Kansas is almost a graduate of that Eastern republic. We have at once with us the austere and esthetic virtues, the example of genial moderation, temperance and the great influence of our schools and colleges. So with our wonderful richness of agricultural resources, it is not hard to foretell the future greatness of our state."

Judge Usher, as mayor of the city of Lawrence, next extended welcome to the guests of the occasion. He said that pleased as they would doubtless be to see the fine exhibition of our products and our stock, they would note with still greater pleasure that our men, women and children were the handsomest and happiest set of people they would meet in their travels.

Judge Emery, of Lawrence, was then introduced and spoke in behalf of the Lawrence chamber of commerce. "It is hard to realize when the occasion is historic. The great Lincoln's Secretary addressed you was made an honorable Secretary of Interior, and we met in this same record. One year ago another great place and celebrated thought little of it as a historic occasion. We history faster than we live it, and much faster than we appreciate it, and much realize at the time when we participate in an event that that event will soon pass into history, but it is well to note the beginning of things whose future may soon become of large importance. As we are here to-day and witness this, the first exhibition of the Western National fair, let us remember that we will doubtless refer frequently as the years go by, and we shall come to their future exhibitions, to this occasion of to-day. Judging by the advance in population and everything pertaining to civilization in the West, what shall we expect to see on these grounds twenty-five years hence, taking this first display as a starting point?"

Mr. Alexander P. Brown, of Philadelphia, was next introduced, and expressed, in behalf of Col. Forney, his regrets that he could not be present upon this occasion. Mr. Brown expressed his own feelings of satisfaction and delight in the beautiful country and marvelous products of our state. He dwelt especially upon the advanced condition of our educational work and institutions, and upon the great work done for freedom and progress by the state of Kansas.

The band then played a medley of patriotic airs, closing with John Brown. Mayor Usher then introduced the Rev. Dr. Nevin, of Italy. He said:

"I first congratulate all Kansans upon your possession of your educational institutions, your public schools. I see first

Western National Fair Association clippings

37

in your cities and towns, not great buildings belonging to the governors and rulers, not prisons or monuments of military power, but I see that the best buildings you have are your school houses and your university buildings. I next congratulate you that the great corporations which you have among you are not soulless; they are not antagonistic. The great railroad company which had used its means to improve these beautiful grounds and erect these fine buildings were certainly co-operating with and working for the interests of all the people."

Mr. Keeney next read a telegram just received from Hon. Leonard Swett, expressing his great regret on account of inability to be present. The fair association have also received letters of regret from Gen. Grant, Senator Blaine and Col Eorney, who each express a desire to be present at some future exhibition of this Fair association.

The most imposing of all the beautiful and substantial fair buildings is the great main exhibition building. Its west wing is wholly occupied by the Union Pacific display of agricultural, fruit, mineral, geological and every other conceivable product to be found in the West. This department alone contains material sufficient in quantity and quality to detain the visitor for a long time. The fine artistic effect which has been wrought under the superintendence of Mr. J. A. Aglar, of St. Louis, deserves to be noted. The display is not only beautiful but it is also of a character that might seem extravagant. The display has not yet seen the beautiful double archway, covered with wheat and oats, the vases, the baskets, the horns of plenty, etc., that make up the whole display.

At 2 p. m. the music contest began. The following bands competed: Oskaloosa, cornet band, leader, C. H. Needham; Big Springs, cornet band, leader, G. W. Seberance; Dispatch band, Clay Center, leader, George Hapgood; Republican Valley band, Clay Center, leader, L. O. Woods; LeCompton band, leader, R. A. Hampshire; First regiment band, Topeka, leader, J. P. Marshall. The awarding committee was composed of Mrs. Robert L. Hallet, of Wyandott; Mrs. H. A. Lewis, of Topeka; Mr. G. A. Faas, of Lawrence; Prof. F. N. Sofge, of Ottawa, and Mr. C. W. Wilcox, of Lawrence. The first prize was awarded to the First regiment band, of Topeka; second prize, Dispatch band, of Clay Center; third prize, Republican Valley band, also of Clay Center.

The work of the awarding committees will begin to-morrow at 9 a. m. During the forenoon there will be addresses by some of the Col. Forney party, and at 1 o'clock p. m., the grand competitive military drill will begin. Hopeful will trot at 4 p. m. Chariot races daily.

The threatening aspect of the weather on Saturday, the closing day of the Bismark fair, interfered somewhat with the attendance. A large crowd was present, although not so great as on the previous days. ac-

Western National Fair Association clippings

38

According to programme the archery contest took place. Miss Bell Sands carried off the first prize for the ladies and Miss Nita Way the second. W. E. Stanley, of Wichita, won the championship and first prize at the American round. Dr. Patterson, of Lawrence, took second prize at the American round. Prof. E. Martin took first prize and Arthur Way the second at York round. Miss Ida May Arbuckle, of Kansas City, carried off the honors and won the blue ribbon as best piano player. In the military drill contest, company E. of Ottawa, Capt. Boltwood won the first gold prize and company B. of Manhattan, Lieut. Campbell, took the second. Miss Kitty LaMasseney, of Olathe, won the blue ribbon as the best lady rider, and Miss Emma Carmean took the second prize. These two young ladies rode last year at the Kaw Valley fair, and the result was just the reverse, Miss Carmean winning the first and Miss LaMasseney the second premium. Messrs. Bill and Burnham took the first prize on short horns and sweepstakes; C. M. Gifford took the second. A. W. Rawlings, took the first premium on Berkshire hogs. The first premium for the best 100 pounds of flour was a diploma and which was awarded to the Manhattan mills, E. B. Purcell Elevator company, proprietors. One of the most important and interesting features of the day was the grand cattle show. Two hundred and fifty were announced on the programme, but the number actually shown nearly a hundred. The grand procession extended fully two-thirds of the way around the track. The showing was pronounced by prominent cattle judges to be the finest exhibit ever witnessed on the American continent.

Western National Fair Association clippings

39

The Plaiindealer,
Mar. 12 - 1881.

The Plaiindealer.

Bismarck Fair.

Some \$20,000 has been expended this year in improvements and additions to the buildings and grounds. Arrangements have been made to have a grand display of the products of the field, orchard, stable and workshop. \$3,500 in premiums are offered for cattle, \$3,000 for horses, \$2,000 for swine, \$2,000 for sheep, and \$1,000 for poultry and pet stock. The premiums aggregate \$25,000, and the speed ring purses \$10,000, all of which have been guaranteed. Miss Cricket Still, of Kansas, and Miss Ida Levant, of Missouri, will run a twenty-mile equestrian race for a purse of \$10,000 and the championship. There will be balloon ascensions and balloon races, chariot and hurdle races every day. The grounds will be lighted at night by ten powerful electric lights, making the grove as light as day, thus adding a new feature, a night as well as a day exhibition.

Western National Fair Association clippings

40

*The Commonwealth,
Aug. 28 - 1881.*

The Bismarck National Fair.

The Bismarck Fair opens on the fifth and continues until the tenth of September.

\$20,000 have been expended this year in improvements and additions to the buildings and grounds.

Arrangements have been made to have a grand display of the products of the field, orchard, stable and workshop.

\$3,500 in premiums are offered for cattle, \$3,000 for horses, \$2,000 for swine, \$2,000 for sheep, and \$1,000 for poultry and pet stock. These liberal premiums have met with a ready response from exhibitors in all parts of the country and it is believed that the collection will excel anything ever shown in the West.

The exhibition of Herefords, Short-Horns, Polled Angus, Devons, and Jerseys will be the finest collection ever exhibited west of the Mississippi.

The premiums aggregate \$25,000, and the speed ring purses \$10,000, all of which have been guaranteed.

Miss Cricket Still, of Kansas, and Miss Nellie Archer, of Missouri, will run a twenty mile equestrian race for a purse of \$10,000 and the championship.

There will be trotting, running and pacing races, for which the entries already number over seventy-five. The programme for these races is so arranged as

Western National Fair Association clippings

41

to cover the six days of the fair.

There will be balloon ascensions and balloon races, chariot and hurdle races every day.

The grounds will be lighted at night by ten powerful electric lights, making the grove as light as day, thus adding a new feature, a night as well as a day exhibition.

Special trains and reduced railway fare.

Western National Fair Association clippings

42

*Winfield Courier,
Sept. 1-1881.*

The Kansas Girl.

Miss Cricket Still, of Beloit, Kansas, who is to ride in the \$10,000 championship twenty mile running race at the Western National Fair against Miss Ida Levant, of Sedalia, Mo., is in the city with her father. Miss Still is a sprightly looking girl of fifteen years of age. She is a blonde and has bright grey eyes. She was born on the Delaware reservation between Lawrence and Leavenworth. She rode a horse before she was a year old, and can remember riding alone when only four years old. She rode first in public at Leavenworth when she was but seven years old. She is of the most independent disposition, and all her riding has been done under her own guidance, and at her own free will. She has practiced hurdle riding and can ride on either side or straddle or even standing up. She does almost all her riding without a saddle,—with nothing upon the horse but a surcingle she can let herself drop so as to touch the ground and immediately regain her seat. She is a natural equestrian and takes to a horse's back just as naturally as a duck to water. Her weight is just a hundred pounds by the *Journal* office scales and she stands exactly five feet one inch high. She is most perfectly adapted in every way to the task she has undertaken, standing as straight as

Western National Fair Association clippings

43

an arrow, she is broad shouldered and excellently proportioned. Her limbs are large and very muscular and every line of her form indicates strength and toughness in the greatest degree. She is all bone and muscles, and she has not a pound of superfluous flesh. Her back is very broad and its form and perfect curvature denote the greatest degree of strength. She has the greatest degree of physical endurance and possesses perfect confidence in her ability to win the race which in a contest of this kind goes a great ways. The people of Kansas and the whole West are looking toward this race with the greatest of interest, and while she has a worthy adversary, Kansas prayers and Kansas money say, that Cricket Still the plucky Kansas girl will win the race.—*Lawrence Journal*.

Western National Fair Association clippings

44

*The Home Journal,
Sept. 1 - 1881.*

THE HOME JOURNAL-

LAWRENCE, SEPTEMBER 1, 1881.

THE PRESS GUESTS OF THE W. N. F. A.

The newspapers of the State, so far as received speak for the most part in terms of satisfaction of their reception in Lawrence. Unfortunately many of them arrived in the city by the early morning trains, and the hotels being crowded they were obliged to resort to the hotel chairs, or to any open store, office, or restaurant, to obtain needed rest or refreshment. The Fair Association could not provide for a contingency of this kind, and some little inconvenience was consequently experienced. But as soon as the committee of arrangements had located the guests, very pleasant results are at once acknowledged to have followed. The following from the Clay County Dispatch is one of many similar acknowledgements which will probably be published:

The editor acknowledges agreeable courtesies tendered by several of the well known business men of Lawrence during his brief visit to the "Athens of the West," one day last week. To the "most successful dry goods merchant," Mr. L. Bullene, and his happy family he respectfully returns special thanks. Lawrence has a few of the old pioneers left who have stood by her through every change of a most fitful fortune, and Mr. Bullene is one of them. His faith was well founded as is shown by his subsequent successes. He has one

Western National Fair Association clippings

45

of the largest and best paying business houses in the State, and an elegant country residence that has few equals in the west, when viewed from an architectural standpoint, and no superiors when its well earned reputation for genuine courtly hospitality is considered.

The editor of the Beloit Courier says:

Through the courtesy of the press managers of the Western National Fair Association, Mr. C. G. Contant, representative, ourself and wife were quartered with the family of Mr. H. S. Clarke, in their pleasant home, where we were royally entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Clarke and their daughter, Miss Agnes. Mr. Clarke is engaged in the manufacture of woolen fabrics, in one of the large woolen mills in Lawrence; has recently been the Sheriff of Douglas county; is a citizen of distinguished popularity, and a gentleman of genial qualities. We were most fortunate in being thus favored as the guests at such an amiable private home. In the afternoon, we went in carriage provided by the Association, to Bismarck grove some two miles from the city of Lawrence. Here is a place that does the soul of a Kansan good. It is a lovely grove—ample in proportions and covered with fine shady trees. The afternoon was so extremely hot that it was no pleasure to walk about much, so that we were contented to sit on a bench during the afternoon entertainment by Prof. Leslie's mammoth class of singers and list of celebrities. The mistake seemed to us to be in putting the chorus singers all under the tabernacle and the audience outside. It resembled too much the placing of a fellow in a barrel and allowing his voice to escape at the bung-hole. The effect was not so good since the volume of voice was encompassed too much by the building; but the 6,000 voices promised were there and more too. Every attraction promised was given. If it had not been for the oppressive heat the occasion would have been grandly enjoyable.

The Junction City Tribune has its acknowledgements in this form:

Western National Fair Association clippings

46

On last Saturday it was our good fortune to enjoy a carriage ride about the city of Lawrence and to the Bismarck fair grounds, behind a splendid pair of Hamiltonian bays belonging to Mr. C. B. Adams. Mr. Adams is a gentleman of taste and means, and a splendid judge of horses. These bay troppers were raised and trained by himself for his own use.

The editors of the State had accepted a kindly invitation from the Western National Fair Association to be present on the 20th inst., and a number of ladies and gentlemen from different parts of the State were in company during the drive. The chief object of interest at the fair grounds was the speed ring. Miss Cricket Still is just now selecting and training half a dozen horses for her twenty mile race with Ida Levant, of Missouri. We had the pleasure of witnessing her ride around the ring some ten or twelve times. She used three horses, and usually made the half-mile round in less than one minute.

After the riding, we were driven through the city to the University, and enjoyed a splendid view of the surrounding country from the summit of Mt. Oread, on which the University stands.

Lawrence is a finely situated, and well-built city. Most of the business is done on Massachusetts street, and some of the finest residences are on Tennessee street. The principal features of interest are Bismarck Grove, the great mill-dam on the Kansas river, and the University.

Western National Fair Association clippings

*Democratic Standard, 47
Sept. 7-1881.*

DEMOCRATIC STANDARD.

(WEEKLY EDITION)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 1881.
THE BISMARCK FAIR.

Opening Day at Bismarck Grove, In-
dications of Success, a Few
of the Sports Horss.

For several days the Bismarck Fair Grounds have swarmed with busy people, making ready for the fair, but the half was not done, when Monday, the opening day came round, and the Secretary's office has been besieged by the crowd and his score of clerks rushed with work all day.

Of the displays made, the county exhibits, the general miscellaneous display, and the show of fine arts, are especially attractive, but this being such a busy day with exhibitors, it is impossible to view the display with any satisfaction. Of the different departments we will have further to say hereafter.

The first race, for a purse of \$500, three minute class, Kansas horses, best three in five—four entries, Coriander, from Prairie Dell Farm, Topeka; John E. Bear, by R. C. Campbell, Ottawa; Santa Fe, by J. H. Tousy, Holton, and Golden Girl, by Cy. Leland, Troy.

Coriander took the first two heats in 2:40½ and 2:45½, but Golden Girl went to the front on the last three heats and won the race in 2:39½, 2:35½ and 2:24½. Santa Fe was distanced on the 3d heat and John E. Bear on the 4th.

Western National Fair Association clippings

48

The second race, for two-year old colts, for the golden belt, and purse of \$325, with three enteries: St. Lambert, by O. E. Learnard, of Lawrence; Woodbine Boy, by J. Willetts, of Topeka, and Buford, by L. K. Knoble, of Higinville, Ind.; best two in three, was won by St. Lambert, in two heats. Time, 1:18 and 2:07½. Buford and Woodbine Boy were distanced, but Col. Learnard offered to make good to the owners, their share of the purse, \$325.

The following are some of the speed horses now here. We give the numbers on the stalls, so that visitors can easily recognize the horses in going through the stables.

No. 1. Ace of Diamonds, bay gelding, trotter, from Carbon Center, Mo.

2. Sciota, bay mare, trotter, entered for 2:23 race, from Creston, Iowa.

3. Lone Jack, black gelding pacer, time 2:25, Creston, Iowa.

4. Fairmount, bay gelding trotter, 2:30 race, Creston, Iowa.

5. Mattie Graham, bay mare, 2:30 trot, Chicago, Ill.

6. Loafer, roan gelding, 2:33 trot, Creston, Iowa.

8. John E. Bear, black gelding, 3:00 trot, Ottawa, Kas.

11. Red Jacket, sorrel gelding, 2:25 pacer, Ottawa, Kas.

20. Mary H., chestnut mare, running, Monmouth, Ill.

21. Swipes, chestnut stallion, runner, Monmouth, Ill.

24. Mollie Mearle, bay mare, run, tramp.

25. Brenda, chestnut mare, run, tramp.

26. Claudia, bay mare, run, tramp.

23. Monopoly, bay mare, run, tramp.

28. Lady Alice, bay mare, 2:40 trot, Ottawa, Kas.

29. Pedro, bay gelding, 2:25 pacer, Ottawa, Kas.

30. Mollie, brown mare, 2:30 trot, Troy, Kas.

Western National Fair Association clippings

49

31. Golden Girl, bay mare, 3:00 trot, Troy, Kas.
 33. Georgia, brown mare, 2:40 trot, Salina, Kas.
 34. Cork Boy, bay gelding, run, Salina, Kas.
 35. Burnett Boy, sorrel stallion, run, Salina, Kas.
 36. Enoch Arden, brown gelding, 2:25 pacer, Salina, Kas.
 52. Belle, chestnut mare, run, Lawrence, Kas.
 53. Tendorf, bay stallion, 2:40 trot, Chanute, Kas.
 67. Kokomo, bay gelding, 2:40 trot, Beloit, Kas.
 69. Santa Fe, black stallion, 3:00 trot, Holton, Kas.
 70. Jayhawker, sorrel stallion, run, Emporia, Kas.
 72. Flora Golddust, sorrel mare, run, Scottsville, Kas.
 73. Harkaway, sorrel stallion, run, Scottsville, Kas.
 74. Mollie Moore, chestnut mare, run, Minneapolis, Kas.
 The City Band, from Oskaloosa, Kas., with George Parsons, drum major, came in this morning to spend the week.

SECOND DAY.

Tuesday dawned with a heavy wind blowing from the south, carrying dust with it into and over everything; but the people thronged to Bismarck to see the sights, and many more exhibits came in.

THE COUNTY DISPLAYS.

A trip through the building for county displays fills one with pride and satisfaction that he is a resident of Kansas, a commonwealth so rich in everything that is wanted to make life comfortable. That in spite of the severe drouth of the season just passed there is yet enough produce to feed the world. The showing of corn alone here by the several counties would prompt one to think that corn didn't need rain.

Western National Fair Association clippings

50

or that moisture of the earth or atmosphere was necessary to the growth of potatoes, beets, onions, and the host of other roots. The immense water-melons, squashes, and pumpkins, the fine musk-melons, and the luscious nutmeg melons, will prompt even the bigger boys to cry out "Oh, my!"

But to speak of the separate displays. First, on entering the building, our attention is attracted to the fine double arch in grain and grass heads, mounted by the symbolic lyre in evergreen with strings of grain heads, below which is hung an immense bell, made of the same materials as the arches, and again at either side of this we find immense vases holding bouquets of grasses. This display is made by the Union Pacific Railway Company. A fine display of minerals is also made.

At the south corner of the west wing we find Osage county, showing her coal, her rock, etc., and a very profuse collection of fruits, and produce of all kinds.

Johnson county, occupying the west side of the south wing, is also profuse in her display. Fruits, corn, rice corn and vegetables of all descriptions.

Opposite Johnson, we find Saline and Ellis counties, with good exhibits, and Ellis particularly displays some fine geological specimens.

Jefferson county, in the east wing, makes the largest of county exhibits. A monument of apples twelve feet high, trimmed with strings of grapes.

Opposite Osage, in the west wing, we find Ellsworth, Lincoln and Russell counties. The exhibit of these three counties is not extensive, but the quality will rank with any. Crops in the western counties are good for the season, wheat yielding from twelve to twenty-five bushels per acre. In Lincoln county we find some very nice marble, magnesia limestone and oilstone specimens; also coal thirty-two

Western National Fair Association clippings

51

inches thick. Ellsworth and Russell also exhibit their coal, rocks, grains and fruits. Russell sports a very fine sign, with letters in grain heads surmounted with a fighting cock made of like material.

In the north wing we find Douglas and Linn counties. Douglas has a very unique arrangement of her grains, her grasses, etc. She also holds her own for quality of crops, though the yield is rather short. To look at the immense watermelons exhibited it would not appear that Douglas had suffered for rain.

Linn shows as her specialties great blocks of oak, walnut and other timber, white and blue limestone, flag-stone, and coal nearly three feet in thickness. Her fruit and grain compare favorably with any.

THE STABLES.

Many new and excellent stables have been erected since the first Fair was held, and the Association still have men putting up new ones. Nearly all the stalls are full and stock is yet coming in. Appearances indicate a fine showing of swine, cattle and horses. The exhibition of sheep is very fine, though the collections were not as large as they were last year. The showing of swine will doubtless surpass anything yet exhibited in the West. Some very good Berkshires and various other breeds are on the ground.

The cattle exhibits cannot be anything but first-class. Missouri, Illinois and Kansas have each a large representation in this line, and each one is striving to win the blue ribbon.

The showing of the draught horses will come off to-day, and much interest is manifested, as there are numerous competitors.

The stocks of horses that seem to be the favorites in the West are the Clydesdale and the Percheron-Norman. Stock raisers have met with more suc-

Western National Fair Association clippings

52

cess with these breeds than any other, and their popularity is shown by the demand for them.

THE RACES.

The races were advertised to come off at 1 o'clock, sharp, but as is usually the case, something happened to them, so 1 o'clock meant 1:30.

CLASS 2:40.

The purse in this class for trotting was \$500, divided as follows: First money \$250; second, \$125; third, \$75, and fourth \$50.

The following were the entries made:

W. H. Wilson, of Beloit, Kokomo, b. g.

Jones & Howell, Chanute, Ten Doy, b. g.

Donnelly Bros., Lawrence, Elmo Pilot b. s.

Geo. Hutton, Salina, Georgia, b. m.

H. C. Fox, Ottawa, Lady Alice, b. m.

Kokomo..... 1 1 1

Ten Doy..... 3 dis.

Elmo Pilot..... 5 3 4

Georgia..... 2 2 2

Lady Alice..... 4 4 3

Time, 2:33, 2:32½, 2:38½.

CLASS 2:27.

Purse \$600, divided: \$300 to first, \$150 to second, \$90 to third, and \$60 to fourth.

The entries were:

S. A. Bachelor, Chicago, Ill., Mattie Graham, b. m.

B. F. Johnson, Creston, Ia., Fairmount, ch. g.

F. Windish, Troy, Kan., Mollie Bell, br. m.

Mattie Graham..... 2 2 2

Fairmount..... 1 1 1

Mollie Bell..... 3 3 3

Time, 2:30¾, 2:31¾, 2:29¾.

THE RUNNING RACE.

This was a mile and a half dash for a purse of \$250; first money \$125, second \$75, and third \$50.

The entries were made but only two horses ran. George Hakes, of Springfield, Ill., entered Brenda, ch. f.: George Hutton, Salina, Kan., entered Burnet Boy, s. s. Brenda won the race easily

Western National Fair Association clippings

53

in 2:48.

To-day's races will be more interesting than those of yesterday, as some horses will be on the track that are favorites and fast.

NOTES.

Gov. St. John was on the ground yesterday.

The chariot race, one-half mile dash, was made in 1:02.

A couple of pickpockets were taken while plying their little game.

Two confidence men were led off to jail yesterday morning by the police.

The Lawrence orchestra, sixteen pieces, plays from 11 a. m. to 2 p. m. In this orchestra we notice such old musicians as Sam Newhall, Forest Savage, Sam Kimball and others, old time residents here.

One of the heavy doors at the Main building was blown down, knocking down a colored boy, and striking a barrel standing by, which saved the boy from serious injury.

A four-year-old pacing colt, owned by Major Appleton, of Ottawa, and which was harnessed only four weeks since for the first time, was driven over the half mile course in 1:17.

A couple of the light fingered gentry were caught last evening in the act of relieving a lady of her pocket-book containing \$1. In examination it was found that they had various articles upon their persons, such as chains, ear-rings, bracelets and other things of a similar character. They were lodged in the lockup.

Western National Fair Association clippings

54

*The Home Journal,
Oct. 27- 1881.*

THE HOME JOURNAL

LAWRENCE, OCTOBER 27, 1881.

A GOOD MOVE.

Rumor of a Consolidation of the Western National With the State Fair Association.

A rumor was current upon the street yesterday that there was a project of a consolidation of the Western National Fair Association, which has held its fairs at Bismarck, with the Kansas State Fair Association, which achieved such wonderful success at its late fair. A reporter made inquiries among those posted, and obtained the following facts:

Some of the Directors of the National Fair Association desire to effect a consolidation and to this end have consulted with the Directors of the State Fair Association. How much authority to act they may have, could not be learned but it was ascertained that Mr. Kimball, General Passenger Agent of the U. P. road, feels that enough money has been spent in the endeavor to maintain a big fair at Bismarck Grove each year. Mr. Cornell, Assistant General Passenger Agent of the U. P., and Mr. S. T. Smith, Superintendent of the Kansas Division of the U. P. road, favor the investment of more funds and the holding of fairs annually. There is difference of opinion among others who are interested, but the matter must rest very largely with the Railway Company. We presume that Mr. Kimball has the greatest influence in the matter, and there is, therefore, some chance

Western National Fair Association clippings

55

for what would be the best thing the Bismarck Association could do.

The Kansas State Fair Association is a fixture and there is every reason to believe, without boasting, that the next fair will be even a greater success than the first. The State Fair Association would be benefitted by the consolidation of course, and the National Association would realize largely where now they hazard a great deal, with only a fair chance of recoving fair profits from their venture. The consolidation would be a good thing all round, for the fair, for those interested in it and for the State.

The above article from the Commonwealth of yesterday, may be true in part, and has some features of interest to both associations. When it speaks of some of the directors of the National Fair Association as having consulted with the directors of the State Fair Association, with the desire to effect a consolidation of the two, it may state a fact, but so far as the management at this point is concerned, it is understood that the proposition for union came first from directors of the State Association, and has not been considered by the National Fair Association as an executive body. There is but little doubt that the railroad authorities will have as much to say in this matter as either of the associations, and the declaration of Mr. Kimball is not to be taken in any sense as antagonistic to the policy of his confreres of the road. Few will imagine that enough money has not been spent in preparing Bismarck for the maintenance of a great fair each year. The expenditure has given to Kansas one of the finest fair grounds with some of the finest appointments for the purposes of a fair in the United States. The expenditure having been made, there is but little more to do than to give it the business attention belonging to such an enterprise, to make it remunerative in

Western National Fair Association clippings

56

a large degree to the railroad and to the association. To suppose that any amalgamation is to be made, therefore, that looks to the abandonment of the Bismarck Fair Grounds, is not reasonable. If the Kansas State Fair Association will unite with the National Fair Association, in giving a larger range to the possibilities of Bismarck; taking in the west and northwest, south and southwest, and thus consolidating the interests of the two greatest lines of railroad in the State, there can be but little question, as to the general good to result. In this event, the mere name of the association would be of secondary importance, and "the consolidation would be a good thing all round, for the fair, for those interested in it, and for the State."

Western National Fair Association clippings

67

*Delphos Carrier,
Sept. 1-1882.*

DELPHOS CARRIER

W. B. and C. M. DAVIS, EDITORS.

Official Newspaper of Ottawa County

FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 1, 1882.
The President and Kansas.

Mr. E. A. Smith, secretary of the Western National Fair association at Lawrence, is in receipt of a letter from President Chester A. Arthur, in which he states that he will positively visit the Bismarck fair, if he goes west this fall. Since that letter was written Mr. Arthur satisfied his intention of visiting Chicago, the fair at Minneapolis, Minn., and the encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Grand Island, Neb., which takes place early in September. There is every reason to believe, therefore, that the president will visit the Bismarck fair. President Arthur has a warm side for Kansas, for he was a resident here a short time during its early history. He came here when a young man, with the intention of permanently locating in the then wild territory, but the people were too rough and the prospects of the country too unassuring for him, and he returned to his home in New York and is now the highest officer in the land. The president has never seen Kansas since he came here to settle in 1856. What a marvelous change has taken place in the west and the whole country since then. In 1857 there was no railroad west of Jefferson City. To-

Western National Fair Association clippings

58

day there are 400 miles of railroad in Kansas alone. In 1857 the territory of Kansas had a population of less than 50,000; the settlements were confined to counties in the eastern portion; the Indian and buffalo roamed at will over three-fourths of the territory; it was purely problematical whether the soil and climate were adapted to the growth of corn, wheat or fruit, and there were no data upon which to make speculations with certainty as to the future of the embryotic commonwealth. To-day Kansas possesses one million of the most intelligent and enterprising people in the nation. Her thrifty fields this year will produce thirty-five million bushels of wheat, and two hundred million bushels of corn. The buffalo and the Indian have long disappeared, and are supplanted by the church, and the school-house and happy homes.

The president's visit to Kansas will doubtless be one of the happiest events of his life. It is fortunate for him and Kansas that the time he has selected for his visit is when the great Bismarck fair will be in full blast. He will there see the remarkable young state in all its glory. The choicest specimens of all its products, of the animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms, and also those of other western states will there be seen in the most attractive form possible. The grounds of the Western National Fair association at Bismarck Grove are the best for a display of agricultural, horticultural and manufacturing products of any west of the Alleghanies. It is doubtful whether any fair grounds in the United States are superior or even equal to Bismarck for such a purpose. Kansas and the west appreciate these magnificent grounds and are determined to make

Western National Fair Association clippings

59

the Bismarek fair, a Western National fair, in fact.

President Arthur will not only meet the representative men and women of Kansas at Bismarek fair, but he will also be greeted there by people from every western state. He will be heartily welcomed and received there by the enthusiastic, demonstrative and big-hearted people of the new west.

Western National Fair Association clippings

60

*Topeka Daily Capital,
Sept. 20 - 1882.*

**THE TOPEKA DAILY CAPITAL:
SEPTEMBER 20. 1882.
BISMARCK YESTERDAY.**

Second Day in Field and Grove

**The Exhibition Fairly Opened—Favorable
Weather and Increasing Attendance—
Fine Show of Cattle, Etc.**

BISMARCK GROVE, September 19, 1882.—
The shower of Monday evening laid the
dust delightfully, and frightened up the
lawns and grove so that the general aspect
of every thing is affected in a decidedly
favorable manner. The weather continued
somewhat lowering during the morning, and
this together with the regatta on the river
kept some away from the grounds until
afternoon. But as the sky cleared and the
sun came out, although the temperature re-
mained moderate, the number of visitors
increased so that in the later part of the
day there was considerable crowd on the
ground.

The regatta will be found fully reported
in the telegraphic columns.

The cattle department continues to en-
croach on others, the entries considerably
exceeding the number regularly provided
for.

The leading exhibitor is undoubt-
edly J. S. Hawes, of Mt. Pleasant
stock farm, Anderson county. He
shows at his quarters quite a collec-
tion of ribbons and medals won in the east as