

Historic grape back in Missouri

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The 94-year-old Stark Star grape has survived Prohibition and the decline of the American wine industry to emerge Friday in Louisiana, Mo., at an introductory wine tasting.

Lucian Dressel, the owner of the Mt. Pleasant Winery in Augusta, has produced 180 cases of port wine from the rare Stark Star grape. He discovered the nearly extinct grape on a one-half acre plot in the Missouri Ozarks eight years ago.

A catalogue published by the Stark Bros. Nursery in 1910 described the Stark Star grape as being "the handsomest of all grapes . . . properly grown and ripened, it is an excellent table grape and unexcelled for wine."

According to wine aficionados, the Stark Star port possesses the qualities of an "aged Portuguese port."



Winery owner Dressel with first bottle of new port

Associated Press

Even ice was dangerous in good old days

"T'WAS THE NIGHT before Christmas of 1887, and last minute shoppers were busy. DeNeil & Co., Eighth and Frederick Avenue, offered fur trimmed ladies Newmarkets for \$2. A Newmarket, the dictionary says, was a long close fitting coat originally designed for horseback riding. Louis Hax Furniture was selling new-fangled reclining chairs. Saurman's Studio was selling a dozen cabinet photos for \$2.50.

Dr. W. M. Steiner, who often rode a horse to his office, even after the automobile appeared in large numbers, announced he was an expert in fitting false teeth. Nowland's brick yard was located at 8th and Edmond Streets. "Mixed Pickles," a satirical play, was on the stage at the Tootle Opera House.

Alex Ferrel was fined \$40 for gambling and Jesse Blakely was fined \$1 for selling liquor on Sunday. The Gazette reported Jack Horn had partaken too freely of intoxicants and had fired his revolver into the air, as he observed the coming holiday. He was to spend Christmas Day in the county calaboose.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS had closed for the Christmas holidays on Dec. 23 and would

Timely observations

Frederick W. Slater

Editorial Page Editor



"probably" reopen on the Tuesday after New Year's Day. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Y.M.C.A. was serving a "fine dinner" for 25 cents. Will Knox had won \$100 in the Louisiana State Lottery. A Badger Cab overturned on South Sixth Street and the horse was shot to death — "the usual fate accorded broken-legged horses."

Emery Department Store and some other Downtown stores were offering free bus service from the North, East and South sections of the city to potential customers. "Belle of Bourbon," a sour mash whiskey was offered for sale as "a great appetizer for medical and family use." The absolutely pure whiskey

was guaranteed to cure chills and fever, malaria, consumption, blood poisoning and insomnia.

A. J. AUGUST was given a saddle, a blanket and a bridle by his employees. An obituary noted the death of "an old lady who had reached the 67th year of her life." Large crowds were reported departing from and boarding trains at the depot. The Gazette warned that "any girl who is not hugged tightly on a toboggan slide is in great danger of a fatal accident."

"An old lady in Shelbyville" had been killed and partly eaten by hogs and a man in Southern Missouri had died after being bitten by a dog which had contracted rabies by biting the tongue of a rabid pig. The St. Louis & St. Joseph Railroad announced it had reduced the time on its run from St. Joseph to St. Louis to 11½ hours.

ST. JOSEPH RESIDENTS were warned that ice contained germs which were dangerous to humans. Presumably, the germs could be killed by pouring some of that "Belle of Bourbon" booze over the gummy ice.

Yes, there was a Christmas 100 years ago

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DROP A TEAR for William Padula, who on Christmas Day, 100 years ago advertised in these newspapers that he still had 100 Christmas trees for sale. ... The national origin of many St. Joseph residents in those days was reflected in Samuel Westheimer's advertisement — his store was at 117 South Third Street — offering Ramsey's Scotch Whiskey, Jameson's Irish Whiskey, Dekuyper Gin in bulk and bottles; London Dock Jamaica Rum; Hungarian Tokay Wine, Thee-Star Hennessy Brandy and a wide selection of Rhine wines.

AN EDITORIAL advised: Do not try to drink enough to last all the year because Christmas comes only once a year ... "Peck's Bad Boy" had been presented at Bethany and the reviewer noted it was the "thinnest" thing that had ever struck Bethany ... "Yatsi" was the big name in corsets. An advertisement said the elastic corset yielded to every movement of the body as well as shaping the body along classic lines. The depicted the curvy corset — but not the anticipated contents. Who says sex didn't invade advertising until the 1980s?

A ST. JOSEPH VISITOR, who had made a pilgrimage to the Little Big Horn battle site, said he saw "Sitting Bull and his tribe" dancing with glee around the General George Custer Monument which marked the site where Indians had killed 300 soldiers in 1876 ... The Saxton National Bank, which had two stone lions guarding its entrance, informed the public its deposits now averaged \$1,000,000 a day and said it was capitalized for \$200,000 ... Dr. A.S. Long offered to cure piles at his office on Felix Street.

FRANK ENDEBROCK, at the northwest corner of Third and Felix streets, was manufacturing and selling trunks, valises and all kinds of traveling equipment ... H. M. Garlich advertised that "No housekeeper should

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be without rubber gloves ... The Union Station Hotel was offering a dinner which featured beef, ham, turkey, lamb, lobster, cranberries and buffalo tongue ... It was a time to give gifts to the boss: Employees of R.T. Davis Flour Mill gave their boss a gold cane and he gave each employee "a fine, fat turkey." S. G. Burnes, a flour dealer, was given an "elegant" upholstered easy chair by his workers, members of the Police Department presented Chief of Police Broder with a solid gold badge, and H.C. Fischer's employees gave him a silver porcelain-lined water cooler.

IF YOU WANTED to buy a cane, Good-live's was offering a fine selection of such walking sticks with gold, silver and ivory handles ... Tootle's Opera House was featuring the McCaull Opera Comique Co. which was presenting the "Black Hussar," a military opera with live horses ... Eddie Alben, while hunting near Maryville, was accidentally shot in the knee by his brother and had to have a leg amputated ... Eggs were selling for 15 to 20 cents per dozen and dairy butter for 12 to 15 cents per pound.

A CLASSIFIED AD offered an office boy job for a 14 or 15-year-old boy and noted "German preferred." ... A young man advertised for someone to teach him German. ... The ice at Lake Contrary was reported as

being five inches thick and safe for skating. ... A news story said, "On Christmas eve, the thoroughfares of St. Joseph were thronged with people. Rich and poor alike filled the stores and purchased presents for their friends and kindred ... Merchants on South Eighth Street between Messanie and Locust Streets joined together to install a new-fangled electric light and it was predicted St. Joseph would soon become the best lighted city in the West.

LON HARDMAN, the printer, had a special on calling cards for gentlemen to use on New Year's Day ... There was no news from Savannah because the telegraph wires were still down between St. Joseph and that community ... Residents on North Second Street complained their sidewalks were in bad shape ... Other citizens said garbage was allowed to pile up in downtown alleys ... The first annual Switchmen's Ball was held at the City Hall.

THE LEGISLATURE WAS SLATED to receive a bill establishing a Normal School at Maryville ... Christ Episcopal Church and St. Joseph's Cathedral had special Christmas services but many churches waited until Sunday, the day after the holiday, to conduct combined Christmas-Sunday services ... A reporter said a beggar stood at Seventh and Felix Streets and of 54 persons who passed the corner in a short time, half gave him money. Four hours later, the reporter added, the man was seen, very drunk, on Edmond Street ... The same reporter wrote a "A little girl on Felix Street whined 'My ma is sick. Will you give me a penny? She got dimes. At 10 p.m., I saw her give the money to a great drunken beast in the shape of a man."

AN ENGLISH VISITOR was so entranced by St. Joseph that he said he would bring his family here from Oxford.

6A-205TH 11-13-73

City immortalized in drink?

The Pony Express may lose its place as St. Joseph's No. 1 claim to fame as a new drink has been invented in San Jose, Calif., called "The St. Joe."

Judy Staton Thielke, a former local resident now living near San Jose, brought The Gazette a clipping from last week's San Francisco Chronicle.

Herb Caen, a Chronicle columnist, writes:

"What's new in San Jose, except for all those freeway exits? Not much. Things are so quiet, in fact, that the Chamber of Commerce and the 20-30 Club staged a contest for an official city drink . . . on the theory that drinks like Manhattans and Singapore Slings made those cities famous.

"The winner, called 'The St. Joe,' which could make St. Joseph, Missouri, famous, goes as follows: 3 oz. cream cocktail sherry, ½ teaspoon maraschino cherry juice, dash of bitters, pour over ice and garnish with a cherry . . .

"'The St. Joe' was invented by Brother Norbert Korte, a Jesuit with an excellent Jesuitical sense of humor. Informed that he had won first prize — two nights for two at the MGM Grand in Reno — Brother Norbert twinkled, 'Could you make that four nights for one?'"