

## CURRENT HAPPENINGS

### FAITHFUL CHRONICLE OF ALL IMPORTANT ITEMS.

#### IN JAIL AS BURGLAR

#### WIFE OF MILWAUKEE MILLIONAIRE CONFESSES GUILT.

**As Poor Girl She Wed Man of Wealth, and Lawyer Says New Life Completely Turned Her Head—Has Operated Extensively in Chicago.**

In a remarkable confession to the Chicago police Wednesday night Mrs. Charles J. Romadka, of Milwaukee, wife of a millionaire manufacturer, admitted that she was responsible for a series of burglaries and petty thefts that has baffled the authorities for weeks. Mrs. Romadka's confession was the latest development after her arrest for a robbery committed at the home of C. F. Beck, when jewelry valued at more than \$1,000 was stolen. She implicated in her confession a negro, Albert Jones, and a man known as Ralph Smith. The former is under arrest and the police are searching for the latter.

In her confession Mrs. Romadka says that her first theft was committed in April of this year. "I saw an advertisement in a paper," she said, "for a trained nurse. I went to the home of Mrs. David Pfalser, 4514 Forestville avenue, and secured the place. I stayed there about a day and a half, stealing a diamond ring, a diamond bracelet and a silver card case."

After detailing several similar experiences she said she had worked in several different places for families in this capacity. She walked in where she found a window open and located a diamond ring in a wealthy home in Chicago.

#### FIRE CAUSES A BIG PANIC.

#### Hundreds of Lives Are in Peril in New York.

Hundreds of lives were endangered, 1,000 persons thrown into a panic, 125 of the cars used on several cross town lines destroyed, and a property loss to the extent of \$400,000 was caused by a fire in the Fourteenth street car barns in New York early Wednesday. Three hundred and fifty horses were taken out in safety. As a result of the burning of the cars service on all the cross town lines was greatly hampered.

The fire gained great headway before it was discovered, and when the firemen arrived the walls separating the big structure from the adjoining tenement houses were smoking hot. Instantly the word was given to clear the tenements and the occupants poured into the streets in a panic. From that time on the police were busy attempting to control the frenzied hundreds, most of whom were foreigners, while the firemen were fighting the fire which was gaining headway with startling rapidity. It was not until several priests attired in all their robes appeared on the scene and walked through the surging crowd, imploring the people to calm themselves, that anything like order was restored.

Firemen working on the fourth floor of the car barn barely escaped when the floor above them came down with a crash. A few minutes later the Fourteenth street wall of the building collapsed. From that time it was merely a question of drowning out the flames in the barn and several adjoining tenements which had caught fire.

#### Dies on Sleeping Car.

Rev. Marcellus Blair, of Eldorado, Kan., was found dead in his sleeping car berth soon after the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern train arrived in Cincinnati from the east Wednesday morning. Death was due to heart trouble.

#### Rockefeller at Relative's Funeral.

It is stated that John D. Rockefeller paid another unexpected visit to Cleveland Wednesday to attend the funeral of his niece, Miss Laura R. Rudd. Mr. Rockefeller is said to have returned east immediately after the funeral service.

#### Northern Pacific Dividend.

The directors of the Northern Pacific Railroad company Tuesday declared the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent.

#### May Sapp Murder Case.

The coroner's jury is still investigating the death of May Sapp, a farmer's daughter, who was found in her father's yard at Moran, Kan., on the night of Sept. 27, with her throat cut.

#### Sioux City Live Stock Market.

Wednesday's quotations on the Sioux City live stock market follow: Hogs, \$5.50 @ 6.90. Top hogs, \$6.25.

#### Mrs. J. C. Breckenridge Dead.

Mrs. John C. Breckenridge, widow of the late John C. Breckenridge, of Louisville, Ky., a candidate for president against Abraham Lincoln, died Wednesday in New York.

#### Buys Railroad Ties in Hawaii.

The Santa Fe Railroad company has contracted for \$2,500,000 worth of Hawaii railroad ties to be delivered from Hawaii during the next five years.

#### VICTORY FOR PEACE.

#### Anglo-American Plan Adopted by Hague Committee.

The approval at Monday evening's session by the committee on arbitration of the Anglo-American project for obligatory arbitration is regarded as a great victory, especially for the United States.

The first proposition on this subject was presented to the conference on July 8 by the American delegation and Joseph H. Choate.

The project was approved by a majority greater than was hoped for.

It is essentially American, and its basis, the enunciation of compulsory arbitration, was taken bodily from the American proposition. The vote Monday was 31 yeas and 9 nays. The countries in opposition were Germany, Austria-Hungary, Switzerland, Belgium, Roumania, Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria and Montenegro.

Another great success for America was the unanimity with which the countries of the American continent stood firmly at the side of the United States.

There was a long debate on the article referring to other cases to be submitted to arbitration, and it was decided to vote on each of these separately.

During the recess the chairman, M. Bourgeois, asked Joseph H. Choate and Gen. Horace Porter to meet him before the reassembling of the committee to discuss the whole subject.

President Neldoff has approved the draft of the final act of the conference in which President Roosevelt's name is to be first mentioned as promoter of the conference. M. Neldoff will propose cabling to the president of the United States appreciation of his efforts in behalf of peace.

#### DELAY FOR INSURANCE MEN.

Temporary Postponement of Trials is Granted by Supreme Court.

The trial of five former life insurance company officials indicted as the result of the recent insurance investigation was temporarily postponed when the cases were called in the supreme court of New York Monday.

Motion for dismissal was made and will be argued next week.

The counsel for John Hegeman, president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company, asked a delay of two or three weeks. The district attorney opposed the granting of the request and the case was set down for next week.

When the case of George W. Perkins, former vice president of the New York Life, was called the plea of insanity which had been entered was withdrawn and a motion made that the pending indictment be dismissed. Arguments on the motion will be heard on Oct. 16, as also will the arguments on a similar motion made in behalf of Charles S. Fairchild, a former officer of the New York Life.

Walter R. Gillette, former vice president of the Mutual Life Insurance company, pleaded not guilty to the charge of perjury and the hearing of his case was set for Oct. 17.

#### HARRIMAN GETS BUSY.

Several Surveying Parties Rushed Into Southeastern Oregon.

It is reported that three surveying parties have been rushed into southeastern Oregon. The parties also says that surveying parties from both the Union Pacific and Denver and Rio Grande lines are being poured into northwestern Colorado, locating routes parallel to that of the Moffat road, which is building through that country into eastern Utah.

It is deduced from that that the Harriman system and the Gould road purpose to put up a stubborn fight against the Moffat road in northwestern Colorado and by appropriating all available routes that the Harriman system is endeavoring to keep competitive roads out of southeastern Oregon. The Mt. Hood railway, now constructing an electric line between Portland and Mt. Hood, is presumed to be the western terminus of a new trans-continental line, to be composed of the Salt Lake, Moffat and Rock Island systems.

#### KITE SENT UP 23,000 FEET.

Said to Be Greatest Altitude Ever Reached in This Country.

The greatest altitude ever reached by a kite in this country, according to Prof. Henry, of the weather bureau at Washington, D. C., was that recorded at the Mt. Weather station, in Virginia, when an altitude of slightly more than 23,000 feet was attained.

At this height a temperature of 5 degrees below zero, Fahrenheit, was recorded. It is Prof. Henry's belief that the kite will yet attain a higher flight. The Mt. Weather bureau has been conducting experiments in kite flying with a view to determining the weather conditions at various altitudes. For instance, a temperature of 40 degrees was recorded at the top of the mountains at a height of 1,000 feet, while at a height of 2,000 feet the temperature was 3 degrees warmer.

#### Smallpox at University.

The university hospital of the University of Pennsylvania has been quarantined because it was discovered that Henry Yankton, a patient, had developed smallpox.

#### Street Car Employees Meet.

About 300 delegates to the tenth biennial convention of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America met in convention at New Orleans Monday.

#### TRUST SECRETS OUT.

#### Case Against Oil Trust Conclusive, Says Prosecutor.

From statements culled from ledgers and books found in the offices of the Standard Oil company Frank B. Kellogg, counsel for the United States government, succeeded in placing on Tuesday's record of federal proceedings against the company the processes and stages through which the combine passed in its changes from the Old Standard Oil trust to the present Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. Out of the maze of figures developed from the company's books and from testimony given by Clarence G. Fay, assistant auditor of the Standard Oil company, called as a witness Tuesday, the government's counsel says he believes he proved the federal allegation that the Standard is an illegal corporation, and by devious devices has maintained its entity, and that it is under the same ownership as when it was formed.

Mr. Kellogg says he is of the opinion that notwithstanding the government was unable to discover the transfer books and stock ledgers of the liquidating trustees the evidence adduced Tuesday shows that the so-called oil trust only affected to dissolve under the order of the Ohio courts in 1892, and that its direction is still held by those who had to do with the formation of the Standard Oil trust.

#### SHE HAS HER GRAVE DUG.

Wisconsin Woman Makes All Preparations for Death.

Mrs. John Matzke, of Eau Claire, Wis., has just completed her funeral shroud and her husband, with his own hands, has dug her grave in Forest Hill cemetery. Mr. Matzke is a wealthy old resident and the proprietor of Matzke's hall.

Mrs. Matzke has been in poor health for six months and visits to other sections have failed to give her any relief. She then decided she would make preparations for the time when she was to leave all things earthly. She began working, making her burial shroud and last week completed it.

After urging her husband some time he finally consented to accede to her wishes and dig her grave in Forest Hill cemetery. The grave has been walled up and is covered so as not to be visible. The style of casket has also been decided upon and the stone upon which an inscription is to be carved has also been selected.

Mrs. Matzke speaks very calmly and in a business-like manner of the arrangements and says that in her native home in Austria such were not uncommon.

#### CORRUPTION IN BOSTON.

Grand Jury Will Investigate Statements Made by Senator Lodge.

As a result of statements concerning corruption alleged to exist in the Boston city government, made by United States senator Henry C. Lodge at the Republican state convention Saturday, the senator, at the instance of District Attorney Morgan, will appear before the grand jury and tell what he knows of the situation at the city hall. He was directed to appear at the county court house next Monday. In his speech Saturday Senator Lodge said: "The government of the city of Boston had sunk to a point of degradation unknown in the annals of the city.

"The air is heavy with stories of corruption at the city hall, of offices sold, of percentages taken, of pay rolls loaded, of loans made to sportsmen in idleness, of widespread frauds at the ballot box, which should be rigidly investigated and brought to the light of day."

#### To Regulate Railroads.

Gov. B. B. Comer announced that the Alabama legislature would be convened in extra session Nov. 7. The call will embrace nothing of importance except further regulations of the railroads, said Gov. Comer.

#### New Lumber Concern to Open.

A new enterprise, which has a substantial capital and first class business ability back of it, is the Smith-Minor Lumber company, which was recently incorporated and which will enter into the lumber business in Bemidji on an extensive scale.

#### Cruisers Off for Target Practice.

The armored cruisers Charleston and St. Louis, with torpedo boat destroyers Perry and Trenchard, sailed from San Francisco Tuesday for Magdalena bay via Santa Barbara.

#### Hayti's President Critically Ill.

Gen. Nord Alexis, president of the republic of Hayti, is so dangerously ill at Puerto Prince that his life is despaired of, according to private advices received.

#### Admits He Murdered Child.

Joseph Woods, aged 16 years, who was arrested on suspicion in connection with the murder of 9-year-old Ethel Nevins, of Camden, N. J., made a confession in which he admits having murdered the child.

#### Dies at Age of 117.

Joseph Guettieres, aged 117, died Tuesday at Yaleta, a few miles below El Paso, Tex. He drank whisky up to 70, when he found it "was not good for man." Deceased was never married.

#### Rebels Beaten in Ecuador.

A large band of Ecuadorian rebels has been defeated by a detachment of Peruvian police near the city of Puzra, Peru.

## Nebraska State News

#### FATHER FINDS MISSING GIRL.

#### Yankton Child Elopel with Married Man.

Little Clara Bails, the Yankton, S. D., school girl who fell in love with W. D. Williams, a married railroad brakeman, so desperately that she was willing to give her parents the pain of mourning her as dead that she might go with him, was the happiest girl in the world when her father clasped her in his arms and promised to take her home.

Not until Clara's father, E. L. Bails, arrived in Omaha did the full story of the little girl's elopement become known. The plot revealed is amazing in its cleverness. The child left home Sept. 18 with her younger sister. In the way to school Clara feigned sickness and said she would return home. A few minutes later she had joined Williams and with him was on her way to Omaha. A note addressed "Dear Papa and Mamma" was found in her school books which reads: "I'm leaving school to go to the river. I intend to drown myself and hope my body will never be found. Mamma has made me work too hard at home. I can't stand it longer. Goodbye. Clara."

#### WOMAN LAWYER TOO THIRTY.

#### Julia St. Cyr Accused of Taking Illegal Fees.

Judge T. C. Mungenet at Omaha overruled a motion to quash the indictment against Julia St. Cyr, a Winnebago Indian, who is credited with being the only Indian woman lawyer in the country. She is charged with taking an exorbitant fee for securing a pension for an old Indian squaw. She is said to have taken \$355 as a fee for securing back pension amounting to \$1500. The motion to quash was based on the ground that more than one offense was charged in the indictment, in which it was set forth that she demanded, received and retained the excessive fee complained of. A jury was impaneled and the case proceeded to trial on its merits. Julia St. Cyr, although never admitted to the bar, has studied law, and her ability alone is sufficient to entitle her to be an arbitrator among them, and in many cases her judgment is considered final.

#### SUICIDE DUE TO JEALOUSY.

#### Admirer of His Bride Followed Pair to Omaha.

Herbert G. Cushing, soldier in the Spanish-American war, committed suicide because of jealousy over the relations of his wife, formerly Mrs. Wallace Clark, of Sioux City, and a printer who followed her to Omaha, and was jailed by the police of Omaha as a "plain drunk."

#### DATE FOR SHUMWAY TRIAL.

Nov. 6 Alleged Slaying of Mrs. Martin to Face Jury.

Judge Neilgar at Beatrice fixed Nov. 6 as the date for trying Robert Mead Shumway, the alleged slayer of Mrs. Sarah Martin, of Adams. The court appointed R. W. Sabin as Shumway's counsel, as defendant filed in the county court an affidavit to the effect that he was without means with which to employ an attorney. Sheriff Shields of Lincoln will serve a copy of the information filed against Shumway.

#### HALF OF OXFORD BLOCK BURNS.

#### Fire Loss in West Nebraska City Will Aggregate Hundred Thousand.

A half block in the center part of Oxford burned recently, resulting in a loss of \$100,000, in part covered by insurance.

The fire started in the office of Dr. Coe over the drug store of Lance Cooper. It spread with rapidity, having a good headway before being discovered. Aid was asked of the fire departments at McCook and Holdrege, but the fire was under control before the firemen at either place were ready for the trip.

#### Settling Up Race War.

Tommy Gill, one of the central part of the race war on Broad street at Fremont, was arraigned in justice court recently on the charge of shooting a man, C. Brooks, with intent to wound. A plea of guilty of assault was accepted and he was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and costs.

#### Bryan Starts Tour.

William J. Bryan left recently for a speaking tour of the south and east which will occupy most of the month. Mr. Bryan addressed a Y. M. C. A. gathering at St. Louis, and from St. Louis he went to Kentucky, where he will aid the Democrats in their state campaign.

#### Golden Wedding Observed.

W. R. Smith and wife, of Valentine, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at their home with their six children. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were married in Keokuk, Ia., Oct. 2, 1857. Being of a roving disposition, Mr. Smith and his wife lived in many communities.

#### Sheldon Inheritance Tax.

The new law in regard to inheritance tax is being enforced in Cass county and the treasurer proposes to see that all taxes due are paid. The last payment was from the estate of Lawrence Sheldon, father of Gov. Sheldon, and the Otse county treasurer is ahead \$128.62.

#### Beaver City Adds One Grade.

The board of education of Beaver City has added the third teacher to the high school. Beaver City now has twelve grades and a good equipment of apparatus. Prof. W. T. Davis has done much to prepare the school to do normal training.

#### Baptists Gather at Hastings.

The preliminary sessions of the eighth state convention were held at Lincoln. The board of managers of the Young People's union met in conference.

#### MOHLER ON TIME OF TRAINS.

#### Union Pacific General Manager Writes Railroad Board.

The railroad commission has received a letter from General Manager Mohler, of the Union Pacific, in which he says the station agents of his line should notify the public of the time of trains. He says there is no excuse if this is not accurately done, as in each station is a blackboard for this purpose and it should be so used.

The board wrote to Mr. Mohler after receiving complaint from Nebraska traveling men that station agents frequently made misstatements of the time of trains, causing them much loss of time and often needless financial loss. It was stated the agents would not notify the public of the lateness of trains or would frequently give wrong information. Often trains would be delayed when all the information given out by the station agent was that they were but a few minutes late.

As for the lateness of trains in starting, Mr. Mohler said this was necessitated by reason of late through trains, local trains waiting for east and west connections. He promised to look into the manner in which station agents are giving out information, but did not see how the matter could be remedied.

#### FIRE AT LINCOLN SCHOOL.

#### Union College Suffers Loss of Over Fifteen Thousand.

Fire destroyed the boiler house, power plant and heating plant of Union college at College View, a substantial loss to the institution, which has a private plant, the entire town and all the college buildings were soon plunged in darkness.

Firemen battled with the flames, and in spite of a serious handicap, prevented the destruction of the main building. The loss is estimated at the way from \$15,000 to \$20,000. Some of the machinery may be rescued from the wreck while the handsome brick boiler house is a total loss.

About 600 students attend Union college. It is one of the most important Adventist colleges in the middle west.

#### REPORTS ON STATE LANDS.

#### Almost Two Million Acres, All of Which is Under Lease.

Land Commissioner Eaton has compiled a report on the educational lands of the state. On 25,659.95 acres appraised the county appraisers placed a valuation of \$235,586.59. This was increased by the state board to \$416,584.69, an increase of \$180,998.10. On December 1, 1907, the state had on hand 1,842,402 under lease. Dec. 1, 1906, there was due the state on sale contracts \$258,742.17. After Jan. 1, 1908, the principal on contracts will draw 5 per cent interest instead of 6 per cent.

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#### MAGILL TRIAL OPENED.

#### Clinton (Ill.) Bank Official and Wife Face Murder Charge.

Fred H. Magill, a former banker of Clinton, Ill., and his child wife, Faye Graham Magill, were placed on trial at Decatur, Ill., on the charge of murdering Mrs. Magill, first wife of the accused man. Eight witnesses were summoned by the state and forty by the defense.

#### MAGILL TRIAL OPENED.

#### Clinton (Ill.) Bank Official and Wife Face Murder Charge.

Magill's first wife was found dead in her home May 30, 1907. The coroner's verdict was "death due to heart disease, superinduced by chloroform." A number of letters were found purporting to have been written by Mrs. Magill, and these were so unusual that a question was raised as to their authorship. State's Attorney Miller announced his belief that a suicide never would take the time or the pains to write so many letters, or to recommend to her husband to marry a rival, Faye Graham. The suicide theory was accepted, however, and the case would have been forgotten but for the fact that Magill and Faye Graham were mar-

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#### WORK AT PANAMA.

#### Big Ditch May Be Dug Earlier Than Scheduled Date.

Official figures from Panama show that the work on the canal is being pushed with considerable rapidity. While the total amount of digging on the Culebra cut was 183,000 cubic yards in 1904, 914,000 in 1905, and 2,363,000 in 1906, it was 4,985,000 in 1907 for the seven months which expired with August. Thus more work was