

CURRENT HAPPENINGS

FAITHFUL CHRONICLE OF ALL IMPORTANT ITEMS.

MT. ETNA IS ACTIVE

SICILIAN RESIDENTS IN FEAR OF LOSING LIVES.

Flow of Melted Rock Starts in Several Streams and Unites in One Great Mass Twenty Feet High--New Craters Are Opened.

Mt. Etna, whose eruptions in the past have wrought great destruction, is again in a violent state of activity. The pronounced movement within the crater began Wednesday evening, steadily increasing in volume and Thursday night the gravest fears were entertained as to the results if the eruption continues in its present violent form. From Catania a correspondent reported in the direction of the mountain. Beyond the village of Macalucia, twelve miles in a direct line from the crater, a thick curtain of smoke was encountered which entirely concealed Etna.

At Nicolosi, ten miles from the crater, the entire population had gathered in the square to watch the volcano, which appeared as a black phantom above. Now and then it was illuminated with flashes of light, appearing almost red. Higher up the rain of cinders became thicker and extended a deep roaring was heard and detonations like the sound of artillery followed one another in quick succession, while the earth shook under foot.

The meteorological station on the mountain side has been destroyed and the village of Borrello is in serious danger.

The populace, terror stricken, are flying from their homes. The earth shocks have reached about fifty in number, but there is a continuous vibration and trembling for many miles around. Everywhere the villagers are carrying images in procession and imploring mercy.

Twelve new craters have been opened.

DISPUTE TO BE ARBITRATED.

Agreement Reached Between Firemen and Western Railroads.

Terms of agreement in the federal mediation of the controversy between the 27,000 firemen on western railroads and the railroad managers were reached at an early hour Thursday morning. The demands of the firemen for a 12 1/2 per cent increase in pay will be arbitrated under the terms of the Erdman act. Any fireman temporarily promoted to be an engineer, after having held the position for sixty days, establishes his seniority and must not be reduced, irrespective of which union he is a member. The agreement in all except the wage question was a compromise by both sides. On the wage question both sides agreed to abide by the decision of the arbitration board, which is to be selected later. The terms were agreed to by W. C. Nison, general manager of the St. Louis and San Francisco railroad, on behalf of the managers' committee, and by W. S. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers.

FLAMES CHECKED IN TIME.

Excelsior Springs, Mo., Threatened with Destruction by Fire.

Fire threatened for a time Wednesday to destroy Excelsior Springs, Mo., the watering place. The flames were checked after thirteen small houses, a bath house and a plumbing shop had been destroyed, however. The loss is estimated at \$75,000.

The fire started in a bath house. The flames were carried by a stiff wind into a section of small residences. They burned so readily that the fire department feared it would be unable to check the blaze, and a call for help was sent to Kansas City. A company of firemen with several pieces of apparatus went to the spring on a special train. By the time they arrived the local firemen had extinguished the blaze.

Murdered by His Wife.

Joshua Gilbert was shot and killed by his wife during a quarrel at their home at Oklahoma City, Okla., Wednesday night. Gilbert and his wife became estranged two months ago, when he left home. He returned Wednesday night to effect a reconciliation, a quarrel ensued which resulted in the shooting.

Sloux City Live Stock Market.

Thursday's quotations on the Sloux City live stock market follow: Top hogs, \$7.80. Top hogs, \$10.85.

Fifteen Are Drowned.

The Norwegian freight steamer Dixie, bound from a Scotland port, capsized in the mouth of the Elbe during a severe storm Thursday. The crew of fifteen persons was drowned.

Venezuela to Celebrate.

President Gomez has issued a decree fixing the period between April, 1910, and July, 1911, for the celebration of the centennial of the independence of Venezuela.

NINE MORE CONFESS GUILT.

Penitents Given "Immunity Bath" at Pittsburg.

Nine more former members of councils before the district attorney at Pittsburg, Pa., Tuesday confessed their guilt in accepting money for their votes while members of the municipal bodies, and before Judge H. S. Frazer received their immunity baths in the way of suspended sentence.

When the grand jury adjourned for the day just before 5 o'clock it had returned no indictments, although it had listened for hours to developments in the bribery scandal even more sensational than developments Monday. Men admitted selling their honor for from \$50 upward.

John P. Klein was before the grand jury the greater part of the day and continued his narrative of councilmanic graft. Klein recounted some of his experiences in handing out the money to the councilmen.

"There was one fellow," he said, "who was a daisy--a regular alylock for the dough. In the South Seventh business district I handed him \$81. He looked at me for a minute and then yelled like a stuck pig for the extra 10 cents--you know \$81.10 was the standard price at that deal. Well, he got the 10 cents all right."

District Attorney Blake, as soon as the councilmen bribe takers have been rounded up, will go after the bribe givers. They are said to be bank officials of institutions whose names have never hitherto been breathed in connection with the graft probe of the last two years.

ASKS OUR RECOGNITION.

Madrid Guarantees Safety of Americans in Nicaragua.

President Madrid, of Nicaragua, has offered to give the United States every guarantee demanded for the safety of American lives and interests in that country in return for a formal recognition of the legality of the government.

Senor Corea, who represents Madrid in Washington, has been in communication with the state department on this subject and Tuesday had a long talk with Assistant Secretary Wilson. He told Mr. Wilson that England, France and other European nations already have extended such recognition, while Mexico has refrained from doing so out of consideration for the United States, being willing to await the action of this country. It appears, however, that the obstacle in the way is the insistence of the state department that the last trace of disorder must disappear in Nicaragua before recognition is extended.

HOUSE BLOWN TO PIECES.

Missouri Miner Killed and His Family Seriously Injured.

Edward Venson, a miner, was instantly killed, his wife and her mother, Mrs. Ellen Allen, were fatally injured, and his two children, 3 and 5 years of age, respectively, were seriously injured Tuesday night when a dynamite magazine at the Red Dog mine near Webb City, Mo., exploded. John Baldwin, engineer at a nearby power plant, was seriously hurt. The house in which Venson lived was destroyed.

The magazine was covered by ten feet of crushed rock and bowlders. It contained two tons of dynamite. Exploding it tore the little three-room house in which Venson and his family lived into fragments. Venson's mutilated body was hurled 100 yards. His wife and her mother were thrown over a nearby mine derrick.

Passes Pension Bill.

The French senate by a vote of 280 to 3, passed the workmen's pension bill. This marks the end of a legislative struggle extending over four years and of political agitation in France reaching back to 1882.

Attack Two Women.

The anti-American sentiment at Bogota, Colombia, continues to find expression in rioting. Monday two English girls, who were mistaken for Americans, were mobbed and beaten.

Long Hatpin Is Cast Out.

It is now a misdemeanor for any woman to wear a long hatpin in public places in Chicago. Any woman caught wearing one is liable to arrest and a fine of \$50.

Weston Ten Days Ahead.

Edward Payson Weston, the pedestrian, left Topeka, Kan., Tuesday morning, nearly ten days ahead of his schedule.

Explosion Igites Laboratory.

The Kent chemical laboratory of the University of Chicago, caught fire Tuesday following an explosion of a gas pipe in front of the building. The damage is estimated at \$10,000.

Gillette Sent to Prison.

Stephen Austin Gillette, of Pittsburg, Pa., just confessed drug store bandit, was sentenced to an indeterminate term of from two to ten years in the western penitentiary.

BATTLE ON A TRAIN.

Three Men Slain and Others Hurt on B. and O.

An exciting battle, in which three men were killed and several injured, occurred on a northbound Baltimore and Ohio train Wednesday. The fight began at Newark, Del., and ended in Wilmington, Del.

J. H. Bethea, of Dillon, S. C., who had been drinking heavily, had quarreled with Samuel Williams, the porter, and shot him through the heart, killing him instantly. Conductor O. E. Wellman remonstrated with Bethea, who, without a word, shot Wellman through the heart, and the conductor fell dead in his tracks.

The murderer then stood off the passengers until the train reached Wilmington. When it came to the station a hurry call was sent to the police station, and a squad of patrolmen, reinforced by park guards and a posse of citizens and trainmen, ran to the scene.

The police called upon Bethea to surrender. As an answer he opened fire at the police and the crowd from an automatic revolver.

As Bethea emptied his revolver, Police Captain Evans fired a load of shot into his face. Notwithstanding this injury he kept on blazing away. Patrolman Doughman opened fire with a pistol and struck Bethea in the right arm. The desperado tried to fire again, but the police closed in, and as they took hold of him he fell dead in the arms of a patrolman.

WILL TAKE A LONG REST.

Man Who Was Assaulted by Cudaby Goes on Vacation.

Jerre F. Lillis, president of the Western Exchange bank, of Kansas City, Mo., who was assaulted by John P. Cudaby, the millionaire clubman, three weeks ago, left Wednesday on an indefinite vacation, but his destination is known only by his relatives and business associates.

SEARCH FOR LOST CHILD.

Fire Alarm is Sounded at North Platte--Lad Found at Dawn.

Mrs. Dennis Breen, who resides some distance north of North Platte, visited her father, Mr. Elias, Saturday, accompanied by her 4-year-old son, who stayed away about 7 o'clock. After searching several hours the parents of the child became desperate, and shortly after midnight a fire alarm was sounded to call the department to search for the child. More than one hundred men began the search which lasted from midnight until dawn. About 6 o'clock Sunday morning the child was found by a searcher on horseback. The lad had strayed eastward toward the junction of North and South Platte rivers, and when found was about two miles from the city. The night was not cold and the child suffered but little from exposure.

KILLED WHILE HUNTING.

Ed Von Trott, of Omaha, Accidentally Shot Near Tekamah.

Ed Von Trott, an employe of the Driebus Candy company, of Omaha, was accidentally shot and killed near Tekamah Sunday. He, with two companions, went to Tekamah Saturday to spend a few days hunting. Sunday morning they were in their boats on a lake near the Missouri river when Von Trott's boat capsized, and in grabbing his gun it was discharged, causing almost instant death. The county coroner went to the scene of the accident, but did not deem an inquest necessary. Mr. Von Trott was a single man, aged 25 years.

Wheat Has Suffered.

Farmers are of the opinion that wheat has suffered badly by the alternate freezing and thawing of the last winter. Some claim that 75 per cent of it is ruined completely. Others believe that the damage will not be over 25 per cent.

Court House Bonds Voted Down.

The vote for a \$100,000 court house to be erected in Lexington was short by 75. The third election will be held soon, as the county commissioners are anxious to replace the old and small court house by a larger structure.

Fate of Boy Convict.

Gov. Shallenberger has been asked to pardon 15-year-old Andrew Krupka of Cheyenne county, who is serving a sentence of ten years in the penitentiary for shooting his stepfather.

To Hold Examinations.

Eighth grade examinations will be held in the office of the county superintendent at West Point and in the high schools at Bancroft, Wisner and Beemer March 25 and 26, April 21 and 22 and May 12 and 13.

Farm Mortgages Filled.

The total number of farm mortgages filed in the clerk's office at West Point during the past month was 52, amounting to \$217,290, during the time 29 being released, aggregating \$56,663.

Editor Is Arrested.

Charles Welch, of Hartington, editor of the Cedar County Wrecker, was placed under arrest for giving Judge Guy T. Graves a little advice in regard to discharging of his duties as district judge.

Davis Wins in Debate.

Clarence Davis, of Beaver City, won the debate in the contest for south-western Nebraska and will represent that district in the state contest to be held in Lincoln May 13.

To Vote on License Question.

A hot campaign is being waged in Elm Creek on the question of license or no license. The election takes place April 5.

Bandits Kill Four Passengers.

Twenty bandits who had been plundering on the Russian frontier recently attacked a country house on the estate of Roman Ir Wiza, killed the owner, his sister and two men servants and then sacked the place.

Oldest Mason Dead.

James Bellows McGrover, believed to be the oldest Free Mason in the world, died at his home in Newport, N. H., Wednesday, aged 108 years.

Nebraska State News

News of the Week In Concise Form

COIN TEST SUCCESSFUL.

Farmers Bring Grain to Peru Agricultural Department.

The co-operative seed corn test, inaugurated by Prof. C. R. Weeks, of the agricultural department of the Peru normal, is proving to be a success. The agriculturists building is crowded every Saturday afternoon when the test boxes are opened showing the farmers the test on their corn which they then pick out from the sack according to the results of the test. Each farmer is permitted to bring in one bushel to be tested and is given a written record of how each of four kernels on each ear grew, using the words "strong," "weak," "dead."

The poorest corn tested thus far germinated 56 per cent, while the best grew 90 per cent. The corn that tests in the 80 per cent and 90 per cent was husked early and well husked. Corn husked after the first real cold spell last fall, tests anywhere from 30 to 50 per cent good. All ears were thrown out in which one kernel did not grow or two kernels grew weakly.

TAKES PART OF SOLDIERS.

Resolution is Adopted to Allow Veterans Use of Chapel.

The frequent complaints of the members of the soldiers' home at Grand Island against the treatment accorded them by Commander Ell Barnes was the subject of discussion by the board of public lands and buildings Thursday afternoon. The latest action of the commander was to prohibit the soldiers from using the chapel for their meetings and Thursday the board was informed that Mr. Barnes refused to permit them to use the chapel in which to practice for their Easter day exercises.

As a result of this last complaint the board adopted the following resolution: Whereas, the board of public lands and buildings has on numerous occasions received communications from the inmates of the soldiers' home at Grand Island, Neb., complaining that they were deprived of the use of the chapel building for the holding of meetings that were in no way detrimental to the interests or good government of the home, and

Whereas, the board of public lands and buildings is desirous of furnishing for the inmates of said home everything in its power that will add to the comfort and amusement of said inmates, believing that they are justly entitled to all that the state of Nebraska can extend to them, and believing further,

That the chapel building was erected for the sole purpose of furnishing a place of public gathering for the members of the home and that the expenses of heating and lighting said building are no insignificant as not to receive any consideration whatever; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the board of public lands and buildings, that the commandant be and is hereby instructed to allow the said chapel building to be used by the inmates of the home for all gatherings of whatsoever kind that are not detrimental to the good government of the institution.

LISTEN TO MEN WHO WEST EAST

Full Explanation Given of Requirements of Government.

The Omaha Indian tribe met in a large council meeting recently at the Mathey Tyndall lodge, near the agency. The attendance was large and thoroughly representative. The desire to know all of the efforts and accomplishments of the Indian delegation was very deep and sincere. Speeches were made by Daniel Webster, Hiram Chase, Simeon Hallowell, Edward Beau, Thomas McCauley and a number of others. A very full speech was made by Frank La Flesche of the Indian office, explaining in detail the rules and regulations of the Indian office.

BURGLARS ARE BUSY.

Entry Forced Into Establishment of W. D. Haller at Blair.

Burglars were in for a wholesale business in Blair at an early hour Thursday morning. They broke into the drug store of W. D. Haller by breaking a heavy glass door and took about \$110 from the safe, and also broke into the cash register, they did not take any of the jewelry from the safe. They gained an entrance into the basement of the Farnam & Samson drug store of the Blair shoe store, but did not get into the store room of either building. They also got into the notion store of Mr. Jacobson and got some small goods.

There is no clue to the parties, but it is generally credited to home talent.

Campen Gets Job.

The city council of Seward has awarded the preliminary engineering work for putting in George L. Campen, of Omaha. Test wells will also be bored in South Seward before fully deciding to connect up the wells in West Seward.

Pastor Presented with Purse.

Sunday afternoon the congregation of the Swedish Lutheran Bethany church, two miles east of Axtell, surprised their pastor, Rev. C. A. Lonquist, by presenting him with a cash donation of several hundred dollars.

High Wages to Farm Hands.

Owing to scarcity of farm hands York county farmers are advertising for hands, offering higher wages than usually paid clerks or bookkeepers.

CANNON OUT OF POWER BUT IS STILL SPEAKER

Insurgents and Democrats Remove Him from Rules Committee, 191 to 155.

HE RETAINS SPEAKER'S CHAIR

Resolution to Oust Him as Presiding Officer Is Voted Down by Large Majority.

Washington correspondence:

Shorn of his power by a combination of the Democrats and Republican Insurgents, Joseph Gurney Cannon is now merely the presiding officer of the national House of Representatives.

The House Saturday afternoon adopted a resolution amending the rules so as to provide for the election of a committee on rules by the House itself, the committee to consist of ten members and the speaker being ineligible to serve thereon.

The full text of the resolution as passed by the House is as follows:

"Resolved, That the rules of the House of Representatives be amended as follows:

"1. In Rule 10, Paragraph 1, strike out the words 'on rules, to consist of five members.'

"2. Add new paragraph to Rule 10 as follows:

"Paragraph V. There shall be a committee on rules elected by the House consisting of ten members, six of whom shall be members of the majority party and four of whom shall be members of the minority party. The speaker shall not be a member of the committee and the committee shall elect its own chairman from its own members.

"Resolved further, That within ten days after the adoption of this resolution there shall be an election of this committee, and immediately upon its election the present committee on rules shall be dissolved."

By a vote of 155 to 191 the House then defeated a resolution declaring the office of speaker vacated and providing for the immediate election of a successor to Cannon. Nine insurgents voted with the Democrats in support of this resolution.

At noon Friday the tense situation existing never would have been suspected from the appearance on the floor of the House. Apparently it was



much more serene than it had been at any time since the condition developed. The insurgent Republicans were in conference and the regular Republicans were contending that the result of the meeting would be a compromise.

While the conference was on, the House practically was in recess. The Speaker kept some one in the chair, but he wandered around the corridors of the building apparently quite unconcerned as to the ultimate effect of the strife on his own fortunes. The members were good-natured and generally discussed the situation in a friendly manner.

It was a memorable fight which daylight found still in progress in the House. A stubborn filibuster on the part of Speaker Cannon and the House organization and equally relentless attack on the part of the "allies"--these were the distinguishing features in the hottest fight that has yet been made to overthrow the present control of the House. It was extraordinary in many ways. For instance, the odd spectacle was presented of the House, preponderantly Republican, ordering the arrest of the absentees of that party on the motion of a Democrat carried by Democratic votes.

Then, too, it is not often that a filibuster is carried on by the regular House organization, virtually led by the Speaker, supposedly in full control of the House machinery, to prevent consideration of a resolution designed to overthrow that organization, make the rules and reorganize radically the committee, the tenure of whose chairmanship is supposed to be the chief asset in the Speaker's wealth of power.

It is many years, old observers say--in fact, no precise parallel has been suggested--since the House remained actually in session all night, and that after an all-day session.

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



1624--England declared war against Spain.

1682--Duke of York made fresh grant of East Jersey to William Penn and his associates.

1759--Russia and Sweden signed a treaty guaranteeing the neutrality of the Baltic.

1762--First meeting held in second Faneuil Hall, Boston, rebuilt after its destruction by fire.

1764--British Parliament imposed new and heavy duties on merchandise imported by the American colonies.

1776--Engagement between the British and Americans at Hutchinson's island, Georgia.

1786--Spaniards took Mobile from the British.

1792--French National convention abolished imprisonment for debt.

1796--Napoleon Bonaparte married to Josephine Beauharnais.

1797--Albany became the capital of the State of New York.

1801--British defeated the French at battle of Aboukir, Egypt.

1809--William Easton of Massachusetts became Secretary of War.

1813--Delaware River blockaded by British ships.

1825--Henry Clay of Kentucky became Secretary of State.

1826--Dom Pedro, Emperor of Brazil, became King of Portugal.

1837--The Bank of British North America opened its doors at Montreal. The Portsmouth, said to be the first steam vessel built in Massachusetts, launched at Salem.

1848--People of Wisconsin ratified the State constitution.

1850--Daniel Webster delivered his last great speech in the United States Senate.

1851--Sir Alexander Bannerman became Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island.

1855--Nassau hall, Princeton College, destroyed by fire. First steam fire engine exhibited in Baltimore.

1856--President Polk of Nicaragua declared war against Costa Rica.

1862--Gen. McClellan assumed command of the Army of the Potomac. Fremont that of the Mountain Department, and Halleck that of the Mississippi. Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimack in Hampton Roads. Three days' battle at Pea Ridge, Ark., ended in victory for the Federals. Gen. McClellan crossed the Potomac.

1863--Marriage of Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and Princess Alexandra of Denmark.

1864--Fort De Russy, on the Red River, captured by the Federals.

1865--The Dominion Confederation scheme rejected by New Brunswick. Three days' battle of Wilcox's Bridge ended in victory for the Confederates.

1866--The great Peace convention met in Boston. First national encampment of the G. A. R. assembled at Independence, Mo.

1874--David Kalakaua chosen king of Hawaii.

1878--Henri Gustave Joly formed a Liberal cabinet for the Province of Quebec.

1879--Sir John A. Macdonald introduced his national tariff policy for Canada.

1888--Sir Richard Cartwright introduced in the Dominion Parliament a resolution urging the free exchange of manufactured and natural products between Canada and the United States.

1892--British and French governments agreed to arbitrate the dispute over the Newfoundland fisheries.

1893--Great earthquake at Kuchan, Persia, 12,000 deaths reported.

1894--A provincial plebiscite in Nova Scotia showed an overwhelming sentiment in favor of prohibition.

1895--Belgian and French ministers expelled from Venezuela.

1907--South Dakota Legislature passed a bill prohibiting railroad passage. The Roblin government sustained in the Provincial elections in Manitoba.

1909--The Italian general elections resulted in a victory for the ministers. Congress of the United States convened in special session. Supreme Court of Missouri confirmed the decree ousting the Standard Oil Company from that State.

Car Strikes in Other Cities.

The electric street car men of Trenton, N. J., following the example of their fellow-workmen in Philadelphia, struck in a body upon refusal of the company to even reply to their written demand for a 33-cent-an-hour wage, a ten-hour day and arbitration of matters in dispute by a board of which the union should be represented.

Americans Too Luxurious.

One of the latest explanations of the high cost of living was made by President Hamilton, of Tufts College, before the Massachusetts Teachers' Association. In no other country in the world, he said, is there the same demand and the same luxuries of life in every class of society as characterizes the American nation, none where "the laboring class demands so much." He says this class of people want the same comforts and superfluities which characterize the ways of life of the very wealthy.