

MURDOCK DEPARTMENT.

PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE JOURNAL.

Jess Landholm was a visitor in Omaha last Friday afternoon, going up to look after some business matters.

See the ad of E. A. Kroh for seed potatoes treated for disease and guaranteed to be immune in the paper this week.

E. L. Pothast, of Lincoln, was a visitor in Murdock for a number of days during the past week and was assisting in the bank while here.

O. J. Pothast was a visitor in Lincoln last Friday, accompanied by Mrs. Pothast, where they were attending the basketball tournament.

Mrs. Rev. Stauss was brought home Monday from the Lincoln Sanitarium, Mr. Otto Miller going up in his big car and bringing the lady home.

Wade Winkplex and the family were spending last Sunday with relatives in Lincoln, they driving over to the big city in their car for the day.

Henry Heineman has been making some minor repairs on the house of W. T. Weddell, where there was a little damage done to a portion of the roof.

William Foster, of Omaha, was a business visitor in Murdock one day last week and was visiting with some of his former friends, he having lived here about thirty years ago.

The two children of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schmidt are having a siege of whooping cough, but are getting along nicely and it is hoped they will soon be over the malady.

William Gomer, of Crandall, S. D., who has been spending some time here as a guest at the home of Henry Bornemeier, departed for his home in the north in his car on last Friday morning.

Miss Amanda Stroy, who has been in Lincoln for some time and who is at this time taking a course in nursing, was a visitor at home last Sunday, visiting over the week end with the folks.

Insure your crops against the hazards of hail for 3 1/2%. No assessments. Losses paid in cash immediately after proof of loss is furnished.—O. J. Pothast, Murdock, Neb.

The last quarterly meeting will be held at Murdock next Sunday. Presiding Elder Rev. C. Jannen, of Lincoln, will officiate. This is the last meeting in this conference year, which will convene some time in May.

The bank examiner was in Murdock last Friday and after examining the books of the Farmers and Merchants Bank pronounced them an excellent piece of bookkeeping and well worthy of the best banking practice.

There will be a mass meeting of the citizens of Murdock and the school district on Thursday, March 25th, at which time there will be placed in nomination officers for the city as well as members of the board of education.

The village board, at its last meeting found it necessary to raise the rate on current to 12 cents per kilowatt for those who do not pay their bills by the 10th of the month, if paid by the 10th of the month, the 10 cent rate applies.

The girls who comprise the efficient group of operators at the Murdock telephone exchange, are surely pleased with the electric ringer that was installed a short time ago by Lacey McDonald for the use of the exchange in ringing, doing away with the hand ringing.

One of the very pronounced outstanding features of the playing that made it possible for so excellent a record of the Murdock basketball team at the state tournament was the excellent playing done by Carl Baumgartner, and also the excellent support which the entire team gave.

Herman Gakemeier and Gust Gakemeier are expecting soon to go to the farm where they will farm the coming year. They are both excellent farmers and will no doubt make a success of the agricultural question, for they are lusty and love to work, as well as knowing just how it is to be done.

A radio is not in it just now at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Ruetter, for they have a star singer in the person of a little daughter who appeared at their home during the past week and has caused much joy

to every member of the household. The daughter and her mother are both doing nicely.

Stephen P. Lois, who has been with the Ward garage for some time, has been taking some time off, and is fixing up his property in Murdock, trimming the trees, setting all the old dead grass burned and the lots and house cleaned up, so that the spring time will receive a joyous welcome at Steve's place.

Miss Viola Everett was a passenger on Lincoln last Friday and was accompanied by her friend, Miss Jeanette McNeera, of South Bend, they going to visit with friends there and perhaps might shoot and clap their hands for the Murdock basketball team in the final test for the championship Saturday.

Distance lends enchantment to the view; the pasture over the fence or across the creek looks a little greener than the one where we are. So are the winter peepers. William Klyser had a gun that looked fine to Pete McDonald and Pete had one that was just a picture in the eyes of Mr. Klyser and so they exchanged and both were well satisfied with their bargain.

E. W. Thimgan, the implement man, auto dealer and machine operator, has been kept pretty busy of late, hauling stock to market and bringing goods from the metropolis to Murdock. He has disposed of a considerable amount of farm machinery, and under the arrangement of the manufacturers whereby he is able to offer the farmers one dollar in trade on their corn he is selling a lot of farm implements right now.

J. E. McHugh and wife, the former the superintendent of the Murdock Mercantile company, was in Omaha for a number of days during the past week, where they were attending the style show at the Merchants' carnival, getting pointers on all the new things for the coming spring and summer. Mrs. McHugh was also visiting with relatives while in Omaha and was expecting an aunt, Mrs. O'Rourke, to return with her for a visit in Murdock for some time.

M. R. Gordon and A. J. Bauers have been rustling for the Farmers company Omaha and there will be established at Omaha tanks, which will be headquarters for this portion of the county, there being a large number of subscribers at each of the towns of Manley, Elmwood and Murdock. Murdock having about as many as both of the other places. When the station is well established, there will be four trucks running out of Murdock supplying the subscribers with the products of the company.

In the first two games which Murdock played in the tournament at Lincoln, the first one being with the team from Roseland in which Murdock won by a score of 15 to 4, and the second with Gilmer, over which they secured a victory by a score of 17 to 12, advancing to the semi-finals. In the third semi-final game, Murdock won over Broadwater by a score of 11 to 10, which entitled them to enter the finals and combat for the championship of their class at the state tournament Saturday afternoon. Followers of the local team have kept in touch with their progress thru radio announcements from KFAB, and have been highly elated at the successful manner in which they have defeated opponents in the battle for supremacy.

CLOSING GAMBLING CLUBS

New York, March 10.—Rapid fire tactics of the five district attorneys in New York city and Police Commissioner McLaughlin today caused all of the known gambling clubs in Manhattan to announce their retirement.

The drive first became known yesterday when twelve places were announced as under investigation. Each was protected by supreme court injunction preventing police interference.

Ten of these today had quit and the other two promised the district attorney they would close immediately.

The names of the places which have closed will be made public by the district attorney's office announced after the remaining two have signed the "pledge."

Necessity of Maintaining Section Markers

State Law Makes It Matter of Overseers or Commissioners Seeing Markers are Preserved.

With the construction of many miles of new roads all over the state and the widening and shortening of the highways there have been many times that the section line markers which are located along all of the highways have been covered or misplaced in the work and this is made the subject of a circular letter that has been sent out from the office of the attorney general at Lincoln to all of the road authorities over the state, pointing out the law that will govern in cases of this kind.

Under the law it is the duty of the overseer, highway or county commissioners or others under whose charge the work of road construction is carried out, to notify the county surveyor of the fact that the work is being done and in turn it is the duty of the county surveyor to see that the section markers are of a permanent character and replaced promptly when so disturbed.

These markers set by the county surveyor shall be kept at the places set and not disturbed. When it is necessary to remove or destroy them, the surveyor is required to make a re-survey to determine the section lines and corners and the cost of the re-survey is taxable against the party responsible for the destruction of the markers.

FAIRBURY COUPLE 52 YEARS IN TOWN

Fairbury, March 11.—Fifty-two years ago, young Albert Brock and his bride, arrived in the tiny village of Fairbury with all their worldly possessions totaling 10 cents. Mr. Brock married Rebecca Taylor of Centralia, Kan., in 1874. They moved immediately to Fairbury where Mr. Brock had listed first in 1870.

In 1870 the town consisted mainly of the residence of Cepha John Brown, which served as postoffice, dwelling and store. Mrs. Brock says that in 1874 the present site of Fairbury was covered with weeds, and hardly any traces were left out except around the square. One could stand on the corner and count the houses in town.

For 30 years Mr. and Mrs. Brock ran a hotel at Fourth and C streets, which Mr. Brock built in 1877. They have resided in Fairbury continuously, and their son, C. C. Brock, and daughter, Mrs. Etta Brown McEntee, have always lived here.

FIRE SWEEPS THRU LINER

Newport News, Va., March 10.—Fire swept thru the palatial United States liner America today as she lay at her berth at the plant of the Newport News shipbuilding and Dry Dock company. The loss was estimated between \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000, but no loss of life resulted although 236 members of the crew were aboard when the fire started.

The American which registers 21,000 tons, had just been reconitioned through at a cost of approximately half a million dollars and was to have been ordered to the owners tomorrow. She was to have sailed from New York March 24 and 500 passengers already had signed for the trip.

The blaze was discovered about 7:30 a. m. and a few minutes later most of the deck was in flames. Efforts to check the flames were unavailing for several hours.

K. T. BRIDGE FIGHT BEFORE HIGH COURT

Lincoln, Neb., March 12.—One phase of the legal warfare between the King of Trails Bridge company and the Plattsmouth Auto and Wagon Bridge company is now before the supreme court.

The companies own competitive bridge across the Platte river near Plattsmouth. The King of Trails court filed an appeal in the high court today from the refusal of the Cass county district court to enjoin its rival from cutting toll rates below the maximum scale fixed by the same tribunal.

The brief set forth that it was unlawful for the other company to reduce its rates below the schedule fixed by the lower court.

School supplies at lowest prices at the Bates Book Store.

Had First Phone a Half Century Ago

Fifty Years Since Alexander Graham Bell Delivered First Message by Voice Over the Wires.

Boston, March 10.—"Watson, come here! I want you."

It was not Sherlock Holmes speaking, but Alexander Graham Bell delivering the first telephone message ever heard. And he got the right number, partly because there were no others to be had. It was fifty years ago that a patent was granted for the instrument which was looked upon as amusing and interesting, but a "worthless" toy. That original instrument, made in Boston in a dingy electrical shop, now has some 27,000,000 descendants in the world, 17,000,000 of which are connected with virtually every village and hamlet in the United States.

Bell's first message was delivered to Thomas A. Watson, still living in Boston, who at the time was an electrician's apprentice. Watson helped the inventor, who then was a professor at Boston university, build his first telephone. Bell had gone to Canada from Scotland, his native health, as an authority on phonetics. He was invited to Boston to introduce a system of visible speech into the schools for the deaf.

Electricians of the time were trying to develop the telegraph and Bell who was interested, passed many hours in the dingy little electrical shop on Court street where Watson worked. The two became close friends and Watson was taken into the inventor's confidence.

There followed months of toil. There was hope, increasing hope, then failure. Ultimately there was a partial success. It was on June 2, 1875, that Bell made his first fundamental discovery, quite by accident. Watson let a spring slip while the two were adjusting instruments at each end of a copper wire strung between two rooms in the shop. The spring touched the sensitive wire. Bell heard a humming sound, perhaps not unlike those sometimes heard on a stormy night, and he knew success was near.

A few weeks later Bell and Watson moved their apparatus to two rooms on the top floor of an inexpensive boarding house. On March 10, 1876, three days after they had been granted their patent for an "improved telegraph," Watson heard the faint voice of Professor Bell calling him over the wire.

Ties Big Item in Cost of Rail Maintenance

Missouri Pacific Makes Use of 56,000,000 Ties in Replacements Along Their Lines.

St. Louis, March 10.—During the last fifteen years, the Missouri Pacific system lines, including the Gulf Coast Lines and the International Great Northern Railroad, its Texas properties, have used 56,000,000 cross ties in replacing worn out ties, according to figures released from the general offices of the railroad here.

Some idea of the immensity of this may be obtained from statistics showing it would require 82,900 freight cars to transport these ties, that they would make up 1,339 trains of sixty cars each and that their combined length would be 745 miles. The ties contained 2,210,000,000 board feet of lumber enough to construct 147,500 frame residences of six rooms each. This number of homes would comfortably house a city of 750,000 population, or about the size of Boston, Mass. This same quantity of lumber would build a fence thirty feet high, completely around the United States. If laid end to end, these ties would reach three times around the world, or if used in building new railroad, they would be sufficient for a six-track line from New York to San Francisco.

In maintaining safety through sound ties, the Missouri Pacific expends annually \$4,525,000 to replace 3,770,000 ties. This means nearly \$68,000,000 during the last fifteen years.

ARMY BLIMP FALLS INTO SEA WHEN ENGINES FAIL

Norfolk, March 11.—The TA-5, a small training blimp of the United States army, went into the bay here Wednesday afternoon when the engines failed to function. Neither of the two persons in the balloon was injured, according to officials at Langley field.

Crews were sent to the fallen airship immediately and the chances are it will be entirely salvaged, officials said.

The balloon descended, rather than fell, into the water, it was explained.

HALF BILLION GOVERNMENT BOND ISSUE OVERSUBSCRIBED

Washington, March 12.—The \$500,000,000 offering of 20-30 year bonds by the government was oversubscribed by \$100,000,000 it was estimated Thursday night by treasury officials who ordered the subscription books closed.

Satisfactory response also has been made to the treasury's offer to purchase the third Liberty loan bonds direct from holders for retirement March 15.

Prohibition Poll Scares Dry League

Anti-Saloon Leaders to Confer with Coolidge Tomorrow on Trend Toward Beer and Wine

Washington, March 12.—Frightening poll being taken by the Hearst newspapers and the growing agitation in congress for modification of the Volstead act, Anti-Saloon league leaders Thursday arranged for a conference with President Coolidge at the White House on Saturday.

While members of the delegation which called at the White House Thursday to arrange for the president to meet the executive committee of the league refused to disclose the precise nature of the conference, it is known that the dry advocates are greatly disturbed over the trend of public sentiment in favor of beer and wine and are anxious to have the administration take a hand to stem the tide.

The president readily agreed to meet the dry leaders, but it is highly unlikely that he will permit himself to be drawn into any controversy between the wets and drys.

Coolidge Impartial

The president takes the position that as the chief executive of the nation charged with the enforcement of all laws, he will carry out his duties impartially, but does not believe that it is incumbent upon him to enter controversies over the repeal of any laws.

The delegation which called at the White House was composed of William M. Forgrave of Boston, Dr. Arthur J. Barton of Kansas City, and A. H. Briggs of San Francisco.

Meanwhile, the battle between wets and drys in congress continued unabated.

In the senate, the drive of the wets to force public hearings on the various proposals to modify the liquor laws came a step nearer realization when the judiciary committee voted to turn the question over to a subcommittee for decision. Chairman Cummins announced that he would name the subcommittee Friday.

Statements by the executive committee of the Anti-Saloon league that friends of prohibition do not participate in unofficial newspaper polls, were branded as false in the house by Representative Emanuel Celler, democrat, of New York.

Rumble of a Farm Revolt Stirs Solons

Chairman of Corn Belt Committee Declares Republican Party is Looked to for Relief.

Washington, March 12.—Another rumble of threatened political trouble in the corn belt was heard Thursday by the house agricultural committee, which is conducting hearings on a farm relief bill.

William Hirth of Missouri, chairman of the corn belt committee, sent to Washington by midwestern farm organizations, told the committee bluntly that the republican party would be held to account if it failed to enact suitable farm relief legislation.

He added that though the chief responsibility lay with the majority, we "have the right to expect the help of democrats in congress."

He then quoted an extract from the republican platform of 1924, pledging the party to "enactment of measures which will place the agricultural interests on a basis of equality with other industries to insure its prosperity and success."

"Possibly," he continued, "those who wrote this resolution did not expect it to be taken seriously by the farmers—possibly it was intended to be nothing more than political apple sauce—but many millions of farm men and women did take it seriously and voted for Mr. Coolidge and for republican members of congress in the belief that it was a solemn pledge, and that it would be faithfully kept."

Those who regard lightly the recent farm relief conference at Des Moines, he said, "will do so at their peril."

"If we are once more sent away empty-handed," he continued, "or if congress attempts to meet this grave situation with a mere meaningless palliative, then as certain as there is God in heaven, there will be a day of reckoning."

Mr. Hirth left Thursday night for his home in Columbia, Mo., expressing encouragement over the prospect of relief legislation. Others of the middle western delegation will remain indefinitely to present in detail the plan he outlined, which suggests federal insurance of surplus crops, to be paid for by an equalization fee on certain commodities.

SUN'S RAYS ARE HELPFUL

Oil City, Pa., March 11.—The sun today did more than thermite and dynamite to relieve the situation here caused by the huge ice gorge in the Allegheny river. Today was the third day of brilliant sunshine and the effect upon the frozen mass was pronounced, that the menace to Oil City and Franklin remained should a hard rain set in.

Dynamiting and thermiting activities today were confined to an effort to loosen a newly formed gorge a half mile below the southern end of the channel opened up by dynamite. Four 200-pound charges of thermite and almost continuous blasting resulted in moving nearly half of the newly formed pack only to have it form another gorge a short distance below its first position.

PITY THE POOR LETTER "E"

Some one has decided that the letter "E" is the most unfortunate letter in the English alphabet, because it is always out of Cash, forever in Debt, never out of Danger and in Hell all the time.

No little credit is due it, however, in that it is never in War and always in Peace.

And we are deeply indebted to this little letter since it is the beginning of Existence, the commencement of Ease and the end of Trouble.

Without it there would be no Meat, no Life and no Heaven. It is the center of Honesty, and, although it starts off in Error, it ends by making Love perfect.

COLONEL COOLIDGE IS FAILING

Washington, D. C., March 11.—Col. Coolidge, President Coolidge's aged father, ill for the last eight months, is steadily failing at the family home in Plymouth, Vt., according to advice received at the White House Wednesday.

Messages from Dr. Cram, the family physician, and Mrs. Johnson, the nurse, said that Colonel Coolidge's condition began a marked decline about a week ago and that he now possesses less strength than at any time since the emergency operation was performed upon him last June.

Although his health is declining, his condition was said to be not immediately dangerous.

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Edw. W. Thimgan

MURDOCK --:--:-- NEBRASKA

Celebrated Thirtieth Anniversary

On Saturday, March 13th, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schuster celebrated their thirtieth wedding anniversary, with a good deal of pleasure. There were many of their old time friends present to congratulate this excellent couple on their thirtieth wedding anniversary.

They had an elaborate dinner and with their many friends helped enjoy and contributed much to the happy occasion by their presence and good feeling for the host and hostess. Many were the good wishes extended to this happy couple for years more of happy wedded life.

Celebrated Fiftieth Birthday

Mrs. Henry A. Tool and her children prepared a birthday dinner for Mr. Tool, who on Sunday was able to look into the second fifty years of his life. The dinner and a few friends made the event one that will long be remembered by this excellent gentleman, as it was a most pleasant occasion. All present extended to Henry the wish that he might round out the second fifty years in as good condition as he has the past half hundred. Mr. Tool was born in Ackley, Iowa, and came to Murdock about thirty years ago.

CHARGE BARTER OF U. S. JOBS IN SOUTH

Washington, March 10.—The attack begun a week ago by representative Wurzbach (rep. Texas) on the methods of dispensing federal patronage in the house, was widened today to a point where southern democrats in the house flatly charged the barter and sale of offices.

Coincident with the resignation of the agitation in congress R. B. Creager, republican national committee man for Texas, called at the White house to advise President Coolidge to take no notice of complaints against distribution of patronage in Texas.

Representative Busby (dem. Miss.) opened the discussion in the house. Representatives Wilson (Miss.) and Stevenson (S. C.) democrats, wanted information given to the house on a situation described by Mr. Wilson as a "disgrace to decent government."

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