

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Colonel Bryan denies the report that he called upon David Hill and offered to support him for the presidency in 1904.

The Railway Steel Spring company, with an authorized capital of \$20,000,000, was incorporated at Trenton, N. J.

"Lucky" Baldwin, the famous horseman, is seriously ill with pneumonia on his ranch at Santa Ana, Cal. He is 77 years old.

Word was received at St. Paul of the death of J. H. Van Sant at LeClaire, Ia., father of Governor Van Sant. He was 93 years old.

John Beemer, a wealthy farmer and stockman, was murdered and his body thrown on the Burlington tracks twelve miles south of St. Joseph, Mo.

John Redell, who has for five years been at the head of the fire department of Omaha, was formally dismissed from the service on the 21st.

The supreme court of Illinois handed down an opinion that a magnetic healer is a physician and not a trained nurse and is entitled to a license.

The American Glass Twine company has declared a dividend of 1 1/4 on the stock payable April 1. This is the first dividend declared by this company.

The French chamber of deputies has adopted by a vote of 553 to 2, a motion approved by the government in favor of the principle of the reduction of military service to two years.

It is believed Captain Walker Grindle and crew of three men were drowned in the sinking of the bark Litchens Brothers near New York city during the recent storms.

Albert O. Klein of Chicago, a student in the University of Michigan, committed suicide by taking prussic acid. Klein left a note saying his life was a failure, but giving no reason why.

President Hickey of the American Association of Base Ball Clubs announced that the playing season will open April 23 and close September 22, the schedule calling for 140 games.

Secretary Shaw asks the complaining women of New York to suggest some scheme whereby the law to prevent smuggling may be enforced without so much annoyance to passengers.

Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Green of Cedar Rapids, Ia., has been chosen as the orator at the grave of Washington in April by the Sons of the American Revolution at the society's triennial meeting.

Ell Starr, a well known contributor to newspapers and periodicals, is dead at Fishkill, New York. She was for three years editor of Frank Leslie's Young Folks, and contributed to Judge and Life.

It is reported in shipping circles at Liverpool that the combined international Leyland lines have secured control of the Dominion, the Boston & Dominion and the Canadian lines of steamers.

Sir William McDonald, the donor of the gift of \$25,000 for the establishment of an agricultural college at Guelph, in Ontario, has already disbursed vast fortunes for philanthropic ends in Canada.

Henry T. Oxnard president of the American Beet Sugar association, says that he is receiving many letters from leading citizens of Grand Island asking that a beet sugar factory at that place be put in operation this year.

Surgeon General Sternberg has received a private letter from Colonel L. M. Maus, commissioner of public health at Manila, in which he says sickness among soldiers in the Philippines appears to be decreasing and that there are no longer any complaints in regard to proper care of patients.

State Bank Examiner Kidd of Wisconsin died on the 26th.

The striking freshmen medics at the Iowa State university have returned to their duties. The three members expelled by the faculty have been readmitted and the trouble is over.

Justice Gray of the United States supreme court, recently stricken with paralysis, is improving.

Three men were captured at King City, Mo., who are believed to be of the gang of counterfeiters that have so long been "working" Iowa.

The \$100,000 Arecibo municipal loan for San Juan has been awarded to J. M. C. Eballos & Co. of New York.

Senator Lodge introduced a bill creating the bureau of drainage, irrigation and highways in the department of agriculture.

A snow slide completely destroyed the big mill of the Black Tail Mining company at Libby, Mont.

Lieutenant Edwin R. Stuart of the corps of engineers, on duty at West Point, carries off the honors this year of the military service institution.

IS WITH COLOMBIA

THE TRANSFER OF PANAMA CANAL COMPANY RIGHTS.

WHAT RETIRING MINISTER SAYS

His Opinion is that Colombia Gave the Right of Initiating Negotiations to the Company, but Never Assented to Closing of the Deal.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—Dr. Silva, the retiring minister from Colombia, at Washington, yesterday authorized the following statement:

"The Pan-American Canal company, through Mr. Lampre, its secretary general, and others, was informed some time ago that it could close no deal involving the transfer of its rights to any nation without first obtaining the assent of the Colombian government, the grantor of its concession. This matter was made very clear. The Colombian government gave the company the right to initiate negotiations looking to a transfer of its rights to a nation, but never to finally close such a deal.

"I cannot comprehend why a situation, which had been made so clearly to the company, should have caused such a flurry of excitement among its shareholders when presented to them in the form of an official cablegram, unless they had construed the notification to mean that the Colombian government was not yet prepared with its terms of transfer to the government of the United States."

PARIS, March 3. The official Panama Canal company is still without any explanation of the dispatch from the government of Colombia announcing that the company would not be allowed to transfer its concession to another nation without the assent of Colombia to a modification of the stipulations of articles xxi and xxii of the company's agreement with Colombia, and a cable message will be sent to Colombia, asking for an elucidation of the matter.

The hope is expressed that the difficulty will be arranged and in the meanwhile the company will maintain its offer to sell its property to the United States and will continue the negotiations on the subject. It is not considered probable here that Colombia will oppose the sale of the canal property to the United States, after giving its assent at the opening of the negotiations and confirmation of its approval of the negotiations having been received in a letter from Senor Silva, the Colombian minister at Washington, to Admiral Walker January 11.

In view of this letter it is considered that Colombia is offering affront to the United States by now opposing the transfer.

The company's officials are disgusted at the anti-American nonsense expressed at last Friday's meetings of the shareholders, and explain that the speakers were a noisy few who regularly create trouble, who only hold a very small number of shares.

Anarchy in Parts of Turkey. VIENNA, March 3.—The Politische Correspondenz reports alarming conditions in Albania, European Turkey. A formidable force of rebels is said to be besieging the port of Avalona, which is cut off from the outside world.

According to the Politische Correspondenz, twenty-six Albanian towns have agreed to declare their independence of Turkish rule by refusing to pay any more taxes. Anarchy prevails in Elbarkan and Tierna districts, according to the reports, where the insurgents have compelled the authorities to open the jails and release the prisoners.

Superintendent Ellsworth Resigns. LINCOLN, Neb., March 3.—Superintendent of Grounds and Buildings Ellsworth will soon resign his position with the University of Nebraska to accept a position as superintendent of maintenance and construction at the University of Iowa.

Held for Illegal Fishing. GLENWOOD, Ia., March 3.—Two fishermen, Harker and Burt, were arrested by deputy game wardens at White Cloud for illicit fishing. The men are charged with fishing with a seine under the ice in Nesting river.

Deny Rumor of Rhodes' Death. LONDON, March 3.—The officials of the British South Africa company, of which Cecil Rhodes is managing director, deny the report circulated in the United States by a news agency of the death of Mr. Rhodes.

Coinage for the Month. WASHINGTON, March 3.—The monthly coinage statement issued by the director of the mint shows that the total February coinage was \$9,621,341.

Francis Warner Dead. WILLMETTE, Ill., March 3.—Francis Warner, special agent of the American Express company, died here of paralysis, aged 83. Mr. Warner was one of the pioneers of Illinois.

FLOOD FOLLOWS FIRE.

Water Submerges Flame-Swept Sections of Paterson, New Jersey.

PATERSON, N. J., March 3.—This city, so recently swept by fire, is now overwhelmed by flood. Three weeks ago the greater part of the business section was burned out and today the quarter occupied by the houses of the poorer classes is inundated.

Hundreds of families have been made homeless by the overflow of the Passaic river and the country for miles around the city is under water. So far but one death has been reported. The great peril now is that the Spruce street railway may overflow, in which event a great loss of property in the manufacturing districts is sure to ensue.

The railway supplies water power for most of the mills along the water front. At this point the city authorities have placed expert engineers, who are instructed to touch off a blast of dynamite, which will open a new channel for the immense volume of water held there and by diverting to the bed of the river in a new direction the authorities hope to save a great deal of valuable property.

In a cliff about seventy feet below the Spruce street bridge the experts have placed mines of dynamite, which, if it is found necessary, will be exploded.

PRESIDENT WISHES TO GO.

Wants to Visit Charleston and Will Consult with Committee.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—President Roosevelt has an appointment for tomorrow with a committee of Charleston citizens who are coming here to urge him to visit the exposition. At that time the expectation is that a final determination will be reached by the president as to whether he will go to Charleston or not.

He is anxious to do this and has not abandoned his intention to do so, which was only prevented by the illness of his son. He will probably consult the Charleston committee regarding the effect of the Tillman dinner invitation episode and then decide whether he will carry out his cherished wish.

UTAH WANTS PART OF ARIZONA.

Irrigation Convention Petitions Congress for Territory.

SALT LAKE, Utah, March 3.—The irrigators of this state, who have been in session here for the last three days, adjourned tonight. The most important work accomplished by the convention was the organization of a permanent irrigation association of the state. Today a memorial was passed asking that congress cede to the state all the remaining arid lands within Utah for the purpose of perfecting and extending the irrigation systems.

Resolutions were adopted approving the Newlands bill, as amended by Congressman Sutherland of Utah, and asking the congress to cede to Utah that portion of Arizona lying between the Colorado river and the Utah border.

Reports to British Differ. LONDON, March 3.—An apparently incomplete list of the casualties sustained by the British when the Boers attacked and captured the convoy of a train of empty wagons at Vondopon, southwest of Kierksdorp, February 24, published Saturday evening, says five officers and forty-five men were killed and six officers and 116 men were wounded.

A report from Lord Kitchener made public last week says that sixteen officers and 451 men of the British forces were taken prisoners during this engagement. Of these one officer and 105 men were released. Two British guns were also captured with the convoy.

Force of Strikers Grows. NEW YORK, March 3.—The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers took public cognizance Saturday of the strike of the linemen by issuing a notice from Newark, N. J. The notice says the brotherhood had called out the linemen employed by the New York & New Jersey, the New York and the American Telephone and Telegraph companies, these companies controlling the telephone interests in New Jersey and Greater New York. The statement is made that 450 men are out and the companies are trying to import men from other places.

Murder in Banner County. KIMBALL, Neb., March 3.—Word was received here that an old woman named Bloom, twenty miles north, in Banner county, was murdered at her home. No motive is assigned for the deed and no arrests have been made, as no one is suspected.

Looking for a Coal Mine. JACKSON, Neb., March 3.—A mining expert from Des Moines has arrived at Jackson, Neb., and gone to the wells north of town. He began to sink a shaft on the farm of C. H. Goodfellow to determine whether there is a coal supply that will justify opening up a mine. This farm is a portion of the 1,000 acres of land leased by the Sioux Beet Syrup and Preserving company for prospecting for coal mines.

THE CROP OF WINTER WHEAT.

Indications that it is in Unusually Good Condition.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 3.—Director Loveland of the United States weather station says the reports he has received during the past few weeks indicate that the crop of winter wheat now in the ground is in an unusually good condition.

"My advices are contrary to the reports printed in some newspapers that wheat suffered greatly in the last prolonged cold period," said he. "For the purpose of ascertaining the condition of the growing plant I asked our correspondents in various parts of the state to take up pieces of the ground containing wheat and put them under shelter. The result was that in nearly every instance the plant began to grow rapidly, showing that scarcely no damage had been sustained.

"The winter wheat fields were generally well covered with snow during the first twenty days of the month," continued Mr. Loveland. "The snow melted slowly during the last ten days and the ground is now practically free from snow in all sections. No conditions unfavorable for wheat developed during the month and the crop continues generally in good condition. Some slight damage was done by the dry weather early in the season and on high land, where the snow was blown off. But this applies to only a small part of the acreage."

Questioned regarding the effect of the change in the weather which took place recently, Mr. Loveland said: "Such furies will not damage wheat unless accompanied by sleet. At this season of the year we are bound to have freezing and thawing alternately, but unless the weather is extremely cold no damage will result. A slight freeze, even if the ground is moist, will do no harm. So far as I can tell from the present indications, there is no prospect of a sleet storm."

A FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

Held Under the Auspices of the State University.

FULLERTON, Neb., March 3.—The institute held here under the auspices of the State university closed after a most interesting series of meetings. There was an average attendance of 200 people and fully 400 persons jammed the court room at the stereopticon lecture on "The State Farm," given by Mr. Forell, chairman of the board of regents.

Mr. Greeley of South Dakota and Mrs. Laws of Minnesota gave interesting talks on western agriculturists and housekeeping. Messrs. Hull, Stilson and Bremer, all practical farmers and stock raisers in the state, lectured on alfalfa, pork growing and the value of shredded fodder and gave many invaluable facts in regard to these subjects.

It was the first institute ever held in this rich and fertile county. On this account farmers were at first indifferent and a little inclined to be suspicious and hostile, which the splendid practical results have entirely changed, and the demand is almost unanimous for another institute next year. A local organization was effected to push the matter.

NEBRASKAN SHOTS A WOMAN.

And Afterward Puts a Bullet Through His Own Heart.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., March 3.—Frank Burianek, a saloon keeper, shot Daisy Carpenter in his place in this city, and then shot himself through the heart. The woman will die.

After a family quarrel he left Nebraska for South Africa, fell off a train while passing through Leavenworth, and has since been in business here.

Several days ago he received a letter from his wife, saying she was coming. He made the threat at the time that he would kill both his wife and himself if she appeared.

Lack of Clothing an Excuse.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 3.—State Superintendent of Instruction Fowler has decided that a lack of clothes is a valid excuse for a pupil's non-attendance at school. He remarks, however, that patched clothing is not sufficient to excuse the pupil; there must be an absolute lack of necessary clothing to keep the scholar warm.

Guarding the Court House.

CREIGHTON, Neb., March 1.—Threats have been made that as soon as completed the new court house at Center, the new county seat, would be burned. The Knox county commissioners have placed a close watch on the building.

Mrs. Conner Badly Scalded.

REYNOLDS, Neb., March 1.—J. T. Conner arrived in town, en route to Atwood, Kan. Mrs. Conner, while preparing coffee for dinner, was seriously scalded.

Free from Smallpox.

AURORA, Neb., March 1.—The rumor has gone abroad that Aurora was a hot-bed of smallpox. People from Iowa and Illinois have written to friends here that such a rumor is current in their localities and desire to know the facts, and even the state press has imbibed the idea that all who did not have the disease were suffering with vaccinated arms. There is not a case of smallpox in the city at present.

THE FEMALE LABOR LAW.

An Appeal to the Supreme from the Lower Court.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 1.—William Wenham, proprietor of the Nonpareil steam laundry of Omaha, has appealed to the supreme court from a decision against him by Judge Baker, assessing a generous fine for alleged violation of the female labor law. It was charged that Wenham employed women more than eight hours a day, contrary to the provisions of the statute. A brief was filed with Attorney General Prout today by Wenham's attorneys in which it is argued that the law is unconstitutional for the following reasons:

First—That it is in violation of that provision of the constitution which provides that no one shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process. It is argued from this basis that to prevent the women from contracting to work for more than eight hours a day is depriving them of the liberty guaranteed by the constitution; and that to prevent the owner of the laundry from employing women in this way causes a loss to his property, preventing him from getting out of it what is constitutionally his.

Second—That the title of the act is not broad enough to cover its provisions.

SUICIDE AT TECUMSEH.

Charles Shull Sends a Bullet Into His Brain.

TECUMSEH, Neb., March 1.—Charles Shull, a prominent citizen of this place, committed suicide by firing a bullet from a rusty revolver into his brain. No cause is as yet assigned for his self-destruction.

He retired early in the evening, but subsequently arose about 11 o'clock, and dressing, started down town. Approaching the court house, and in the open space just to the north of the north entrance, he suddenly stopped, drew forth a rusty revolver, and taking deliberate aim, pulled the trigger, which sent the bullet plunging into his brain, causing almost instant death.

The deceased was a member of several local lodges and stood high in the estimation of the people. He leaves a considerable amount of life insurance, besides some real and personal property. There is a general demand for an inquest, but it is not probable that one will be held.

His Money Restored to Him.

HEBRON, Neb., March 1.—About a month ago L. E. Holmes of Chester lost on the streets of Hebron a wallet containing \$269 in bills and a draft on the Chester bank for \$210-\$470 in all. Every effort was made to locate the money, and a liberal reward was offered, but no response came, and it was believed the unfortunate loser had parted permanently with his possessions. But strange to say, the other day, nearly a month after the occurrence of the incident, which had been forgotten, the wallet was dropped into the postoffice box, with no address, but the ownership was quickly established by means of the name on the bank deposit check. The money was all there, and it is believed that a disturbing conscience caused the return of property which had been jealously guarded in secret for several weeks. The incident has caused considerable local comment.

Woman Awarded Damages.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., March 1.—The jury in the case of Mrs. Rena Nesbitt vs. John Mattes and some other saloon keepers, after being out thirty hours, brought in a verdict for \$400. The plaintiff sued these men for \$10,000 on the charge of selling her husband liquor and causing him to become a drunkard and to neglect his business.

Serve Notice on Saloons.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., March 1.—The members of the W. C. T. U. have served written notices on all of the saloon keepers of this city to take down all of the screens in front of their bars and the front doors and to fully comply with the Slocum law.

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Why Easter is a "Movable" Feast.

During all of March the sun is coming farther north. About the twentieth it shines directly on the equator, and the day is just as long as the night. The time of the old Jewish Passover, and hence of our Easter, depends on this date. This latter always comes on the Sunday following the first full moon after the sun crosses the line. This accounts for its being so "movable" a feast.—March Ladies' Home Journal.

DEFIANCE STARCH

should be in every household, none so good, besides 4 oz. more for 10 cents than any other brand of cold water starch.

Skyscraper List Scaled Down.

A Chicago alderman who has counted them, says there are three buildings and no more in his city that are seventeen or more stories in height. One of the three is the Masonic temple. Of sixteen-story buildings there are in the city seven, of fifteen-story three, of fourteen-story six, and of thirteen-story seven buildings. A renewed attempt is being made to prohibit the exceeding of the present limit of height in future building operations.

Worked His Way Up.

Judge Alfred Stecker, justice of the supreme court of the state of New York, was born a poor lad on the East Side, his father having died when he was five years old. He secured work in a law office, where he made his start, and when still a mere boy became president of the Literary society of the Cooper Union and in its debates broadened his education.

Silly Sully.

Sully Prudhomme of the French academy is going to turn the \$200,000 Nobel prize, which he has just received, into a fund for the anonymous publication of poems by young poets who cannot find a publisher. The Societe des Gens de Lettres will have to pick out the poems.



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