

SERVICES END WITH FIGHT

Prisoners in County Jail Take Offense as Sermon and Hymn.

DEAN FAIR HAS A LIVELY EXPERIENCE

Joe Conrad and Prison Companion Come to Blows Because Former Thinks Hymn is "Some-what Personal."

Dean Campbell Fair of Trinity cathedral will not conduct religious services in the Douglas county jail again for some months. He had an experience there last Sunday afternoon—now made public for the first time—that will linger in his memory with the tenacity of a politician in a civil service job.

There will be no wondering as to the dean's reluctance to continue soul-saving work in the jail when what happened at last Sunday's services became generally known. There was mutiny in the congregation and it ended with a volley of oaths, a punning of faces, a flash of revolvers and a spattering of blood.

As is customary on Sundays, the prisoners were brought together in the lower cage of the west wing of the jail at 1 o'clock to hear the gospel spoken and to sing praises. Dean Fair was there to conduct the services and the congregation was all attention. In fact, there was a little too much attention.

When the good preacher began to discourse upon the punishment that the laws of God and man provide for sinners there was a murmur of dissent, and when he explained that all sinners must be truly penitent to come within the portals of mercy the prisoners began to shift about uneasily.

Dean's Plain Talk. What started the trouble, however, was the dean's suggestion that it would require a pretty thorough immersion in the blood of Immanuel to wash away the sins of his auditors. This suggestion sent most all of the prisoners back to their cells and they refused to come out and hear the sermon through.

Dean Fair, nothing daunted by the desertion of a large part of his congregation, continued to the end of what he had to say and then asked the boys to join in singing a hymn. The dean read two verses, as follows:

There is a fountain filled with blood Drawn from Immanuel's veins, And sinners plunged there need not drown All in their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see That fountain in his day, And there may I, though woe be my lot, Wash all my sins away.

"Now, brothers," said the good minister, "you will please all join in the singing."

The dean and a couple of women mislaid workers began to sing, but they were joined by only one of the prisoners, all the others having declared a boycott on the service. The lone singer in prison garb was John Ellison, and he was roughly jeered by his pals.

On through jeers and out-calls the preacher, the women and the one prisoner gave good voice to the first verse of the hymn. When they reached the first line of the second verse a storm was imminent and it broke before the verse was finished.

The dying thief rejoiced to see That fountain in his day, And there may I, though woe be my lot, Wash all my sins away.

Singer Ellison got no further. Just as he uttered the word "vile" big Joe Conrad, a federal prisoner, though the hymn was getting somewhat personal and he gave Ellison a jolt on the jaw with a heavy right arm swing. Ellison was staggered for a moment and then returned the blow. The two men proceeded to pound each other's face into a pulp, as the women screamed and the dean retreated to the other shaft.

Jailer McClellenehan jumped into the arena with his revolver in hand and used the butt end of it to beat the belligerents into submission to his command for them to take their corners.

Conrad and Ellison were separated, but not until both had spilled considerable blood. They were promptly locked in solitary cells, where they were kept on bread and water until yesterday morning.

Amusements

For the final half week's engagement in Omaha, which began Thursday night, the Ferris Stock company presents "My Jim," a pastoral comedy drama written especially for Mr. Ferris. This was one of the company's first offerings here, having been put on shortly after its summer engagement opened, and proved to be perhaps the most popular of any of the many plays in which it has been seen.

Mr. Ferris has the part of a bashful country lad and keeps his audience in an uproar of laughter with his clever handling of the comic situations and reading of the humorous lines with which the piece is supplied.

The other members of the company have good parts and, altogether, the performance is a worthy one.

At the Saturday matinee each woman will be given a miniature of the company's engagement in the shape of a souvenir photograph of Mr. Ferris.

The final performance of "My Jim" will be given Sunday night.

SCRAMBLE FOR FREE HOMES

Omaha Men Tell of the Great Rush for Government Land in Oklahoma.

"People are rushing into the Indian Territory by the trainload. Thousands of people are registering for land every day and it is impossible to get any sort of accommodations in El Reno or Lawton," said W. S. Mattley of Omaha, who has just returned from a trip through Oklahoma and Indian Territory. "People are sleeping on the platform of the railway station at El Reno."

"Women are rushing into the new country in great numbers and are taking pot luck with the men. Every available foot of space is taken on trains bound for El Reno. I saw people riding on cow-catchers and on the roofs of coaches. Men and women seem to be unafraid of danger or hardship in their mad race for the registration booths.

"Oklahoma has a fine crop of wheat. It was too dry for the hay, and corn will be almost a complete failure, but the wheat makes up for the loss. Nearly four-fifths of the acreage is in wheat. In one place I could see sixteen steam threshers at work. Wheat is bringing 32 cents a bushel there and most of it is being shipped directly to the gulf for export. Some wheat is being bought by Kansas and Missouri stockmen and will be used for cattle feed.

"Eastern Kansas and western Missouri are badly burned out. All crops are a failure and the water supply is so limited that all stock has been shipped out."

Do you doubt Fels-Napha soap, when your grocer offers your money back, if you want it? Fels & Co., makers, Philadelphia.

BIG HARNESS RACE IS OFF

Geers Decides that The Abbott Shall Not Meet Cresco.

TOO MUCH DISABLED BY DISTEMPER

Is Recovering, However, and Will Probably Be Able to Fill Later Engagements—Day's Events at Cleveland.

WILL REMAIN IN OMAHA

General Manderson Says There is No Danger of Army Headquarters Being Taken to Kansas City.

Regarding the recent report from Washington in relation to the efforts of Kansas City to secure the headquarters of the Department of the Missouri, General Manderson, who for many years was at the head of the committee on military affairs

of the United States senate and who was instrumental in securing the location of Fort Crook at the present site, said:

"There is little probability of any change being made in this department, for during my time in the senate the Nebraska delegation in congress was so insistent upon the location of Fort Omaha that they would not leave until they had secured the location of Fort Omaha at the present site and the abandonment of Fort Omaha. At the same time, it was established that it was a question as to whether Omaha would have any of the posts or departmental headquarters. General Sheridan was then in command of the army. Fort Omaha was getting into a dilapidated condition and needed repairs. I had a conference with the general and he said that he would not recommend the expenditure of a dollar on Fort Omaha, as it would soon have to be abandoned; that the reservation for military posts should consist of several hundred acres to give the soldiers an opportunity to target practice with the long range guns, without endangering the lives of citizens. For this reason I started the movement for the location of Fort Crook.

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KAISER AS PEACE MAKER

May Assume the Role to End South African Conflict.

KRUGER IS WILLING AND GERMAN WISH IT

Latter May Be Appeared for the Offense Given by His Too Great Friendliness for Great Britain.

OPPOSE KOCH'S NEW IDEA

Earl Spencer Urges that There is Danger from Cattle with Tuberculosis.

The speaker earnestly trusted the congress would not endorse the view that it was unnecessary to take measures to prevent the transmission of tuberculosis from animals to humans.

Prof. John MacFadyean of the Royal Veterinary college read a paper on tubercle bacilli in milk as a source of tuberculosis in man. He said that until Dr. Koch had declared himself in this connection to the contrary it was supposed to have been fully proved that human and bovine tuberculosis were identical diseases.

Prof. MacFadyean discussed the ground upon which Dr. Koch based his belief, concluding that the view either not well founded or had little bearing upon the question, and he submitted arguments to prove the strongest grounds remained for regarding milk from tuberculous cows as distinctly dangerous to human beings.

Dr. Ravenel of Philadelphia gave an instance of the infection of man from tuberculous cattle, but said he considered such instances to be rare.

James King, a veterinary inspector of London, speaking before the congress, attributed the large increase in the imported meat to the rigid inspection of home killed cattle and said a meat salesman assured him that the losses from condemned carcasses were so great that the British dealers were forced to buy imported meat.

Mr. King discredited the view of Dr. Koch's belief in the nontransmission of bovine tuberculosis to man, and urged the adoption of stringent measures in this respect, to insure the healthfulness of imported carcasses. He also urged a government compensation for cattle destroyed under the order in order thoroughly to stamp out tuberculosis from British herds, where, he declared, it was alarmingly prevalent.

King Edward received the foreign delegates to the British Congress on Tuberculosis at Marlborough house this afternoon. His majesty briefly expressed his keen interest in the congress and his hopes of fruitful results therefrom.

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ILLINOIS CENTRAL'S PLANS

It is Pushing Consolidation Scheme with View to Getting More Northern Traffic.

ST. PAUL, Minn., July 25.—The Pioneer Press tomorrow will say: Private advices received yesterday by a St. Paul man from reliable New York sources are to the effect that the frequently reported consolidation of the Minneapolis & St. Louis and the Illinois Central with the Illinois Central is actually under way and in prospect of early culmination.

The plan is for the transfer of the Iowa Central to the Minneapolis & St. Louis upon a basis of an exchange of one share of Minneapolis & St. Louis common for two shares of Iowa Central, consolidating the two lines and paving the way for the transfer of the Minneapolis & St. Louis to the Illinois Central by a similar exchange, yet to be agreed upon.

The Illinois Central made a tender several months ago for the control of the Minneapolis & St. Louis line, but the negotiations resulted in an ultimatum from the interests that own the road, which also control the Iowa Central, that both roads must be taken in or neither could be secured.

The Illinois Central is now negotiating on that basis. Their absorption will give the Illinois Central a direct line between Chicago and St. Paul, another between St. Paul and Omaha and will place it in a position of gain in the traffic of immigrants from the Great Northern and Northern Pacific.

Freight Rates Disrupted. Western freight rates have gone to pieces again. St. Paul is the center of the disturbance and from it the commodity that is most seriously affected. It was discovered that the ferry routes across Lake Michigan were getting all the St. Paul-Chicago business. The all-rail lines decided to protect themselves and slashed the rates to meet the competition.

The Chicago Great Western road may complete its lines into Omaha and Sioux City before the close of the present year. Surveys have been finished and construction work will be begun at once. The Omaha extension leaves the main line at Somers and passes through Webster, Calhoun, Carroll, Shelby and Pottawattamie counties and through the towns of Somers, Lohrville, Manning, Sublet, Harlan and Council Bluffs. The Sioux City extension will pass through Webster, Calhoun, Sac, Ida and Woodbury counties, striking the towns of Somers, Rockwell City, Sac City, Ida Grove, Atton and Holly Springs.

At the same time several hundred thousands of dollars were expended in the development of the government corral from a place of tumbled-down shacks to a modern supply depot. In the first bill which was introduced for the erection of the new post-office and custom house building, it was provided that the old building should be set aside to the War department as headquarters for this department. Now that the War department has all of its investments here I do not think it probable that there will be any removal.

"This attempt is but a revival of former efforts on the part of Kansas City. They failed before and their efforts only brought to public attention the advantages of Omaha as a place for the headquarters. At different times General Sherman, General Sheridan and General Crook and other commanders of the army and of the department have expressed their opinion on this subject, and it has invariably been that Omaha was the proper place for the headquarters. These officers have referred to the geographical location and to the railroad facilities as being better suited to the use of the department than those of any other city within its borders. With these opinions in the minds of officers I do not think a change will be made."

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