Telephones 618-694.

Christmas Gift Giving.

Bee, Dec. 15, 1901.

Every day's delay now means so much more strain at the end. Only eight more shopping days until Christmas. It has always been our custom to keep open evenings one week before Christmas. This year we will commence Tuesday night and continue until Christmas Eve.

Hints for Christmas Buying Ladies' crocheted wool opera shawls in all white, or white with pink, blue, black or lavender,

at $1.25, $1.50, $1.75 and $3 each; handsome silk head throws in black, cream, pink or blue at $2.25 each.

Infants' flannel and cashmere embroidered sacques at $1.15, $1.50, $2.25, $2.50 and $2.75 each.

Infants' cashmere and silk kimonos at $1.50 each.

Infants' crocheted sacques at 50c, 75c and $1 each.

Infants' crocheted bootees at 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 75c and $1 a pair.

Infants' and children's crocheted bedroom slippers in pink or blue at 50c a pair.

Ladies' and misses' wool knitted skirts in delicate or dark colors, at $1, $1.50, $1.75, $2 and $2.25 each.

Infants' kid moccasins and bootees at 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c and $1 a pair.

Blankets and Comforts—Don't you think a blanket or a comfort would be an acceptable gift these cold days. They never come amiss.

Nice white blankets we have at $2.75, $3.50, $4, $4.25, $4.50, $4.75, $5, $5.25, $5.50, $6, $7, $8, $9, $11.50 up to $22.50 a pair.

Comforters, pure white cotton-filled, soft as down, $1.75, $2, $2.25, $2.50 $2.75, $2.85, $3 each.

Down quilts at $4.35, $6.50.

Wool comforts at $2.50, $3.25, $4, $5.

Merritt's wool comforts at $2.75, $3.75—cheesecloth covered.

Silk Embroidered Flannel Waist Patterns— We have been told time and again that our embroidered flannel waist patterns are the choicest to be found.

For a gift there is nothing more appropriate than one of these exclusive waist patterns at $3, $3.25, $3.50, $3.75, $4, $4.50, $5, $7, $7.50 per pattern.

We also have a lot of silk embroidered waist patterns which we are closing out at greatly reduced prices.

$3.50 waist patterns now $1.50; $4.50 waist patterns now $2.25.

Christmas Stockings—Our holiday goods are now in, including almost every kind of staple and fancy stockings worn.

Cotton, lisle, silk mixed and pure silk. From 50c per pair in fancy lisles to $10 per pair in silk.

Everything new and pretty. They make very useful and serviceable gifts and are sure to please the women.

Two Silk Specials for Christmas— No. 1, handsome black peau de soie. This silk heads the list of beautiful black dress silks,

No mussing, no cutting, rich luster, never sold for less than $1.25, now $1 a yard.

No. 2, Black Taffeta Silk—A most sensible gift indeed. These kind of remembrances will last through weeks and months. A 27-in. wide black taffeta, that has always been called cheap at $1.25 yd., a silk that will wear beautifully and not cut, has a good luster, now $1 a yd. Ask to see these two special numbers in black silks.

New Waist Silks—Many a face can be brightened on Christmas morning at small cost. Nothing more pleasing for Christmas than a new silk waist. The prices run 50c, 75, $1, $1.25, $1.50 a yard.

Outing Gowns—Select a useful gift for your Christmas giving.

Anyone will appreciate one of these warm gowns, especially when the weather is so cold.

Outing gowns at $1—pink and blue stripes, square yoke, high collar, yoke and sleeves trimmed with braid.

At $1.25, of striped outing flannel, square yoke, fancy pointed collar and cuffs finished with braid.

A large assortment of other styles at $1.50, $1.75, $2 and $2.25 each.

Ladies' Aprons—White aprons always make acceptable gifts.

Dainty white Swiss tea aprons, trimmed with embroidery, lace and ribbons, ranging from 60c to $1.50 each.

White lawn aprons, finished with hemstitching, at 25c each.

White lawn aprons, trimmed with hemstitching or tucks and embroidery, at 50c each.

Other prices are 30c, 40c, 60c, 75c, $1 and $1.25 each.

Bretelle aprons range in price from 30c to $1 each.

Pocketbooks—A pocketbook makes a nice present for either lady or gentleman.

For the Ladies—

We have a beautiful assortment of ladies' combination pocketbooks with and without sterling corners, ranging in price from 50c to $6 each.

Chatelaine bags at from 75c to $7 each.

Hand-made, cut steel, beaded bags at $4, $6 and $7 each.

For Men—

We have bill rolls, letter books and coin purses at from 25c to $3 each.

Handkerchiefs—In season and out of season our handkerchief stock presents such elements of attractiveness as are not found anywhere.

Women's full laundered hemstitched linen handkerchiefs, 10c, 15c, 25c, 35c and 50c each.

Women's initial linen handkerchiefs, 25c, or $1.40 a box of six.

Women's all linen embroidered handkerchiefs, 15c, 25c, 50c, 75c, $1.00, $1.25, $1.50 to $5.00 each.

Men's all linen hemstitched handkerchiefs, 15c, 20c, 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c and $1.00 each.

Men's initial all linen handkerchiefs, 25c and 35c, or 3 for $1.

Men's silk handkerchiefs, 50c and 75c each.

Children's linen handkerchiefs, 5c, 15c and 25c each.

Children's initial handkerchiefs, 3 in box, for 25c.

Real Laces—Our line of real duchesse and point laces is the largest and finest shown by any house in the city.

An elegant gift for a lady would be a gift of real lace.

Real Duchesse and Point Lace Collars at $14, $15, $16 to $30 each.

Real Duchesse Lace Handkerchiefs at $1.50, $2, $2.25, $2.50, $3, $3.50 to $10 each.

Real Duchesse and Point Lace Handkerchiefs at $5 to $30 each.

Real Point Lace Handkerchiefs $8 to $12 each.

Real Duchesse and Point Lace Turnover Collars at $1.75, $2.25, $2.50, $3, $3.50 $5 and $6 each.

Hose Supporters—For Christmas giving, in all the pretty colors, in round garters, fancy side elastics,

Foster and Hookon Supporters at 25c, 50c, 75c, $1 and $1.25.

Muffs of Fine Fur—Genuine marten fur muffs at $7.50.

Electric seal muffs, at $3, $3.50, $4.

Alaska seal muffs, $18, $20, $22.

Persian beaver and mink muffs, $12 and $15.

Marten fur storm collars at $15, $18, $22 and $25.

Fur scarfs in all the new and most desirable effects in mink, marten, fox and other stylish furs from $5 to $60.

Astrakhan fur capes, handsomely made of the best fur, guaranteed to wear and give satisfaction, at $25, $30, $35 and $40.

Ladies' cloth capes at $10, $12 and $15.

Men's Goods—What's a good present to give a man? It isn't too early to get it now,

and here are the safest sort of gifts—sure to be appreciated.

An endless variety of neckwear, such as imperials, four-in-hands, ascots and bat wings, at 50c, $1, $1.50 and $2 each.

Suspenders—The very latest styles in plain and fancy webbing pieces from 50c to $4 a pair.

Kid gloves in the newest colorings, the kind that fit, $1, $1.50 and $2 a pair.

Mufflers—We never have had so strong a line as we have this season. The new folded muffler, also the handkerchief style, at 50c, $1, $1.50 and $2 each. Black dress protectors, $3.50 each.

There are many useful articles not mentioned here, such as underwear, half hose, handkerchiefs, shirts, collars and cuffs, which we will be pleased to show you.

Kid Gloves—$1.50 and $2 will buy a beautiful pair of street gloves, just the thing for a Christmas present.

$1.50 and $2.00 Foster Kid Gloves in gray, mode brown, red, black and white.

$1.50 and $2.00 Trefousse kid gloves in mode brown, red, gray, white and black.

Warm kid mittens at 75c, $1.00, $1.50 and $2.00 per pair.

Children's kid mittens, 50c, 75c, 85c and $1.00 per pair.

Children's kid gloves, $1.00 per pair.

Children's wool mittens, 25c, 35c and 40c per pair.

We have a glove certificate that can be filled out for any quantity wanted. Men not knowing what size to get will find this form very convenient.

Lace Decorated Table Doylies— In lace table doylies we are showing one of the best collections ever shown in Omaha.

Of real hand made laces in Cluny, Torchon, Bohemian and Slavin finger bowl and plate doylies in all sizes. Prices from 50c, 75c, $1.00, $1.50, $1.75 and $2.00 each.

Umbrellas—The largest and finest line of holiday umbrellas is here at a great saving in price.

Umbrellas for men and women in over 200 styles of handles. OUR SPECIAL AT $5.00 EACH is made of fine quality taffeta silk, beautiful handles, best frames, values worth up to $10 each. Ask to see them.

Other prices at $1.00, $1.50, $2.00, $3.00 and $4.00 each.

Juvenile umbrellas at $1.00 and $1.50 each.

THOMPSON, BELDEN & CO.

Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, COR. 16TH AND DOUGLAS STS.

14 degrees below zero early this morning. In exposed portions of the town the mercury dropped to 19 below.

GRANT, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—Thirty-two degrees below zero Saturday morning, with three inches of snow on the ground, is the weather record here. All stockmen are feeding and water is scarce.

YORK, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—The cold wave hit York hard. At 6 o'clock this morning it was 14 degrees below zero. No loss of stock is reported and no damage to winter wheat.

WEST POINT, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—The weather for the last thirty-six hours has been intensely cold, the thermometer standing steadily at or a little below zero. This sudden cold snap has caused great inconvenience, people being unprepared for such severe weather. Water pipes and connections are badly demoralized by the intense cold.

FREMONT, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—The mercury this morning reached 20 below zero. At noon it stood at 9 below. Some water pipes are reported bursted, but otherwise no other damage has occurred. At sunrise yesterday the mercury stood at 5 degrees below and did not go above that point during the day. A cold wind has prevailed from the northwest. The icemen say a few days of this weather will make good merchantable ice.

PAPILLION, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—A cold wave struck this vicinity and today witnesses the coldest weather that has been experienced in this county in a number of years. The thermometer at 3 o'clock yesterday was 15 degrees above zero and at 6 o'clock was nearly 8 degrees below. Corn is nearly all husked and winter wheat is doing finely, with prospects of a good crop. Corn yielded an average of thirty-five bushels an acre.

HARVARD, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—The mercury reached 17 degrees below zero last night. The ground is lightly covered with snow.

SHELTON, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—Last night was the coldest this season, the mercury reaching 12 degrees below zero at 7 o'clock this morning.

GIBBON, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—Twenty-one below registers the coldest morning so far this winter. Farm work is well cleared up ready for winter. Several carloads of beets remain to be shipped.

Disfigured Skin

wasted muscles and decaying bones.

What havoc!

Scrofula, let alone, is capable of all that, and more.

It is commonly marked by bunches in the neck, inflammations in the eyes; dyspepsia, catarrh, and general debility.

It is always radically and permanently cured by

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Which expels all humors, cures all eruptions, and builds up the whole system, whether young or old.

Hood's Pills cure liver ills; the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

NINE LIVES LOST IN WYOMING

Sheep Herders Perish in the Blizzard While Looking After Their Flocks.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—A report received from Rock Springs tells of the finding of the bodies of four sheep herders, who perished in the blizzard near Point of Rocks Thursday night. Searchers are looking for the body of another herder in the same vicinity, who is also believed to have lost his life. To date nine lives have been lost in southern Wyoming as a result of the storm. One of the unfortunates was a woman, who wandered out on the plains south of Cheyenne; one was John Garrett of Fort Madison, Ia., who was frozen to death in the railroad yards at Hanna, and the others were sheep herders.

Early this morning temperatures of 25 to 35 below zero were reported from various towns in Wyoming, the cold wave having been general over the state. At 10 o'clock tonight the weather is moderating. No authentic reports of stock losses, other than the killing of many sheep in the railroad cuts near Laramie, have been received. Snowplows are at work on all the districts of the Union Pacific west of Cheyenne, where the snow is drifting badly. Little difficulty is being experienced in keeping the road open, but all trains are running late.

Late reports received from the southern, western and eastern portions of the state show that the weather for the last twenty-four hours has been of unusual severity, the temperature falling to 24 degrees below zero at many places. At Cheyenne the temperature was 22 below at 7 a. m.

Reports from Laramie, Rawlins, Green River, Wheatland and Casper tell of temperatures ranging from 20 to 35 degrees below zero. The weather began to moderate today. Rumors are afloat of heavy losses among sheep in the country between Rawlins and Green River, where it seems the storm was the most severe.

The names of the unfortunate sheepherders who perished in the blizzard near Point of Rock Thursday night have not been learned, but it is believed one of the men was an employe of Tim Kinney of Rock Springs.

IOWA'S COLDEST DECEMBER

Lower Thermometer for the Month Than in Past Fifteen Years.

DES MOINES, Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—The cold snap continues all over Iowa tonight and the weather is the coldest that has been recorded here in any December for fifteen years. The temperature, which was 17 below at 7 o'clock this morning, rose to 3 below today and was back to 7 below at 8 o'clock tonight. The indications are for about 20 below by morning, after which the temperature is expected to rise slowly. The wind has quieted down and the night probably will not cause more suffering than last night. The rivers have frozen over suddenly, but as the ground is frozen but a few inches it is believed the severe weather can last only a few days. There is sufficient snow on the ground for fairly good sledding.

ONAWA, Ia., Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—This morning was the coldest of the season, the government thermometer showing 18 degrees below zero at 8 a. m. Other thermometers on the street were from 20 to 24 degrees below. This is the coldest since January 13, 1899, when it was 21 below.

MINNESOTA HAS THE RECORD

North Star State is Visited by Cold Thirty-Nine Degrees Below Zero.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 14.—The northwestern states during the past twenty-four hours have reported the severest cold wave ever known during the month of December. All stations report record-breaking "lows," ranging from 15 to 39 below. Park Rapids, in northern Minnesota, reported the latter figure. Coming as it did after the mild weather previously experienced the cold was most severely felt, but so far as reported but one person has perished. This was Joseph Sulager, a farmer 65 years old living near St. Cloud, Minn. He was returning from a visit to a neighbor and his sleigh overturned, leaving him senseless upon the prairie. Before assistance could reach him he was frozen to death.

The cold wave was not preceded by a blizzard, the snowfall being very light. Consequently there was only a slight delay in the running of through trains. Altogether the northwest is standing the cold very well and but little serious suffering is reported.

THIRTY-FIVE BELOW ZERO

Lowest Temperature Recorded in Wisconsin, Where Cold Wave is General.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 14.—Wisconsin is wrapped in the severest December cold wave known in many years. The coldest point in the state heard from is Plainfield, which reports 35 degrees below zero. Other points reporting low registrations are Mondovi, 32; Baraboo, 24; LaCrosse, 23; Green Bay, 18; Madison, 16; Oshkosh, 15, and Marinette, 14, all below zero.

At 9 p. m. tonight Milwaukee thermometers registered 10 degrees below, or 1 degree above the lowest point of the day. The figures show a drop in forty-eight hours of 41 degrees.

The total snowfall which ended last night was four inches. Steam railroad trains were a trifle late, but street car traffic was unimpeded, except on one suburban line. One death from the cold has been reported in this state, that of Philip Cornenberg, an inmate of a Milwaukee almshouse. He was found dead this morning in the vicinity of the High school, where it is supposed he was overcome at a time when he was seeking shelter.

Director M. W. Wilson of the local weather bureau expects that the thermometer will show 20 degrees below zero tomorrow.

CLERKS WEAR OVERCOATS

Weather is Severe at Chicago and Three Deaths Are Reported.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—Chicago experienced today and tonight one of the most severe cold snaps on record for the early part of the winter. The weather office predicted early in the day that it would prove the most severe weather that the city has felt for twenty-five years in the month of December, and tonight no flaw can be found in the prediction.

Three deaths were reported to the police during the day as having been caused by the cold. They were:

JOHN GRAMMAR, a teamster.

JOHN HAYES, no occupation, died of exposure.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN, dropped dead at the intersection of Kinsle and Wells streets; death caused by heart failue,r, superinduced by cold.

At daylight this morning the mercury in the weather office stood at 8 below zero and the highest point reached during the day was 6 below at 6 a. m. In the evening the temperature began to fall and at 8 p. m. it was 8 below. The prediction by the weather office was for 15 below zero by Sunday morning, a figure that will mark the coldest in December for a quarter of a century.

The cold weather today proved very hard on the traction companies and many of the street car lines had much difficulty in running cars. The sleet and snow of last night froze on the trolley wires, making it almost impossible in places to move the cars. The elevated roads, all of which operate with the third rail, were in bad shape all morning because of the ice and it was found necessary to send out men to remove all the ice from the third rail before any speed could be made. The ice and snowdrifts also caused delays to the railroads, many trains, especially those from the west, being from thirty minutes to two hours behind time.

In the large down town stores where Christmas shoppers were in force it was found impossible to keep the buildings at a comfortable temperature and the clerks wore cloaks and overcoats as they stood behind the counters.

The cold was accompanied by a gale from the northwest that made the suffering much more severe.

South Dakota Storms.

HURON, S. D., Dec. 14.—(Special.)—A light snowstorm Thursday evening, followed by north wind, sent the temperature to 14 degrees below zero Friday morning, making that the coldest day so far this season.

PEOPLE RUN FROM FLOOD

Railroad is Submerged by Rain, Which Threatens More Damage.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Dec. 14.—The heavy rainstorm is doing great damage along the Northern Central railroad between this city and Elmira, N. Y. The roadbed for several miles is under water. The northbound express, which left this city at 7:10 o'clock last night, ran into the flood near Ralston. The passengers, numbering about thirty-five men, women and children, were removed from the coaches with difficulty. They were taken to Ralston. Heavily laden cars have been left standing upon several bridges to weight them down and prevent the big timbers from being swept from the abutments.

The rain is still falling at 2 o'clock this morning and people were fleeing from Trout Run to high ground to escape the rapidly rising flood.

The water in Lycoming creek is increasing at the rate of seven inches an hour.

ELMIRA, N. Y., Dec. 14.—Reports received from points along all four lines of railroad passing through this city—the Erie, Lackawanna, Northern Central and Lehigh Valley—show that all are suffering from washouts caused by the heavy rainfalls this afternoon and evening. Traffic is almost at a standstill.

It is the heaviest rainfall known here in many years.

FLOOD OF OHIO IS FEARED

Undue Precipitation Swells Southeastern Streams and May Result Disastrously.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 14.—A heavy rain prevailed here from early morning until about 8 o'clock tonight, when it turned into a snowstorm of the blizzard type. At midnight the snowstorm continues and by morning four or five inches are looked for. The mercury is making a rapid fall and the government observer says the thermometer tomorrow will range between zero and 8 degrees above. The rain of today has been general throughout the Monongahela and Allegheny valleys, the average precipitation being 1.55 up to 10 p. m.

Unless the cold wave should check the rise in the rivers, a flood stage is predicted by the weather bureau by Sunday night. Preliminary notices to this effect have been sent to points on the Ohio below here and river men and shippers have been cautioned. At midnight the Ohio river at Davis island dam registered ten feet and is still rising. Nearly 1,000,000 bushels of coal was shipped south today and a like quantity is expected to get away tomorrow.

DISASTROUS IN OKLAHOMA

Blizzard Leaves Want and Suffering in Its Wake in Southwest.

GUTHRIE, Okl., Dec. 14.—The blizzard which has been raging over Oklahoma and Indian Territory since midnight has done great damage to stock in western Oklahoma, where the ranges are unprotected and cattlemen had not anticipated the sudden change. The same is true in all portions of the two territories, but not to such a great degree. The prolonged drouth of the summer injured all stock and its condition was not fit to withstand the fierce northern.

From the Creek and Cherokee nations of Indian Territory are reports of intense suffering among the fullblood Indians, whose crops were ruined by the drouth and who must rely upon appropriations from their legislatures during the winter. Unverified rumors from isolated districts report several deaths among the younger fullbloods.

The blizzard is proving a great hardship to the settlers in the new country, who are living in tents, shacks and sodhouses.

NO RELIEF FROM THE COLD

Kansas Farmers Will Be Heavy Losers as Result of the Blizzard.

TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 14.—Kansas is experiencing no relief from the cold wave that struck the state last night. Lives lost in Kansas, so far as known tonight, number only three. Unauthenticated reports tell of herders on the plains who have not yet returned and they are feared to have perished. The farmers were not prepared for the sudden change in the weather and had no adequate protection for their animals. Much stock has died, though numbers are at this time unobtainable. Scarcity of water is one of the serious things the stock now have to contend with. The water supply has been low all along and the cold makes it more so.

A dispatch from Peabody tonight says the wheat in that district has been killed by the cold, there being no snow. Saline reports that wheat there is in bad condition, but will be saved if the cold abates tonight.

TWO DEATHS FROM THE COLD

Aged Veteran of Soldiers' Home and Rheumatic Woman Are Frozen.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Dec. 14.—Mathias Garthoff, an inmate of the National Soldiers' home, was found frozen to death under the Kansas City Northwestern railway bridge between Leavenworth and the home. It is supposed that he fell from the bridge during the night and was injured. Garthoff was 65 years of age. He was a member of Company C, Seventeenth Missouri infantry.

In another part of the city Mrs. Joseph Duke, aged 50 years, was found in her home frozen to death. Mrs. Duke, who lived alone had been ill with rheumatism. Neighbors found her stretched on the floor, where she had fallen, evidently while attempting to kindle a fire.

FIRST SNOW IN KENTUCKY

Southern State is Given a Fair Share of the Prevailing Cold.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 14.—The thermometer, which registered 15 degrees above zero, fell to 4 above at midnight, and indications are that zero will be reached in a few hours. The cold wave is general throughout this state and in other southern states. At Atlanta, Ga., the temperature dropped 40 degrees between daylight and midnight, when the thermometer registered 24 degrees above zero. In Knoxville, Tenn., there was a drop in temperature of 40 degrees by noon and at midnight the thermometer registered 25 degrees above zero. The first general snow of the season fell throughout Kentucky today.

RAIN CHANGED INTO SNOW

Southern Michigan Gets Its Full Share of the Frosty Weather.

DETROIT, Dec. 14.—After almost two days of continued warm rain the temperature suddenly dropped early to the freezing point and the rain changed to snow. Tonight the thermometer registers 10 below zero in Detroit, with the prospects of going lower before morning. Throughout southern Michigan similar conditions prevail, except in the western part, where zero weather is reported, with a heavy fall of snow.

COLDEST IN NINETEEN YEARS

Mercury at St. Louis Drops Fifty-Four Degrees in Twenty-Four Hours.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 14.—The coldest weather for this time of year in nineteen years was experienced in St. Louis last night and today. The records of the local weather bureau show but two instances of colder weather at this season since the records began in 1871, thirty years ago. In the twenty-four hours beginning at 7 a. m. yesterday and ending at the same hour this morning the mercury fell from 54 above to zero, the greatest drop registered in the city's history, and it hovered about the latter figure all day.

Most of the incoming trains were from ten minutes to four hours late, wires were in trouble, city traffic was impeded and there was great suffering among the poor. Added to the frigidity of the atmosphere was a strong wind traveling at the rate of twenty-six miles an hour, accompanied by hail, rain and snow.

MONTANA CLAIMS THE BANNER

Reports Say Mercury in Places is Forty-Seven Degrees Below Zero.

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 14.—A special from Billings says a cold wave is sweeping eastern Montana. It is reported that two sheep herders were frozen to death last night on the plains south of Billings. It is feared stock will suffer severely as a result of the intense cold. At the Crow agency last night the thermometer registered 32 degrees below, and at other points further east 47 below was reached. Specials from other parts of the state tell of general snow and low temperature.

MERCURY STEADILY FALLING

Frigid Weather Interferes Extensively with All Kinds of Railroad Traffic.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 14.—The temperature here today ranged from 2 to 8 degrees below zero. The present cold weather breaks all weather bureau records for the first half of December. Nearly all trains are from minutes to hours late in arrival. The lowest temperature reported in Kansas was at Emporia, 16 degrees below zero. The temperature here will fall to 10 or 12 below zero before daylight, the weather officer says, and then will rise steadily. At Moberly, Mo., tonight the temperature was 15 below.

LANDSLIDE STOPS TRAFFIC

Precipitation Washes Several Acres of Hillside Down Upon the Tracks.

OIL CITY, Pa., Dec. 14.—One of the most extensive landslides that ever interrupted traffic on the Allegheny Valley railroad occurred about sixteen miles south of this city tonight. Several acres of hillside, washed down by the heavy rains which have fallen all day, completely cover the tracks.

Wind and Snow at Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 14.—The weather bureau reports a drop of forty degrees in temperature, from 65 to 25 from midnight Friday until 7 p. m today. A steady rain fell from midnight Friday until 6 a. m. Saturday. At 7 a. m. today snow began to fall and a high wind has prevailed all day and still prevails tonight, delaying telegraph communication greatly. Train service is not seriously affected.

Heavy Snowstorm.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 14.—The thermometer, which registered 33 degrees above zero at 6 a. m., fell to 9 degrees at 6 p. m., a fall of 24 degrees in twelve hours, and the indications are that zero weather will be reached before morning. A heavy snowstorm this morning slightly delayed railroad trains entering this city, but no serious trouble has been reported.

Michigan Coldest in Years.

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Dec. 14.—Not in years has Michigan experienced such cold weather in December as now prevails here. At 9 o'clock it was 5 below zero and rapidly growing colder.

Victim of Cold in Omaha.

Robert White of Dubuque, Ia., was picked up by the police early this morning in a semi-conscious condition, caused by exposure to the cold. White is about 60 years of age.

Freezes the Mississippi.

BURLINGTON, Ia., Dec. 14.—The mercury sank to 13 degrees below zero here today. The Mississippi river at this point forze over today.

Freezes to Death on Street.

MARSHALL, Mo., Dec. 14.—A blizzard prevails here and the mercury is 18 below zero. Jasper Wall, a negro, froze to death on the street.

FAIR SUNDAY AND MONDAY

Warmer Weather for Nebraska and Iowa is Promised for Tomorrow.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Forecast for Sunday and Monday:

For Nebraska, South Dakota and Kansas—Fair Sunday and Monday; warmer Monday; variable winds.

For Iowa and Missouri—Fair Sunday and Monday; rising temperature Monday; diminishing northwesterly winds.

For Illinois—Fair Sunday and Monday; fresh northwesterly winds.

For North Dakota—Fair and warmer Sunday and Monday; probably snow in northwestern portion Monday; northwesterly winds.

For Wyoming and Colorado—Partly cloudy and warmer Sunday; Monday fair, with warmer in eastern portion; variable winds.

For Montana—Cloudy Sunday, with snow in western portion; warmer in eastern portion; Monday snow, except in southeast portion; variable winds.

For Arizona—Fair and warmer Sunday; Monday fair; variable winds.

Local Record

OFFICE OF THE WEATHER BUREAU, OMAHA, Dec. 14.—Official record of temperature and precipitation compared with the corresponding day of the last three years:

	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.
Maximum temperature	2	32	24	26
Minimum temperature	16	26	12	4
Mean temperature	10	29	18	15
Precipitation	.00	.00	T	.00

Record of temperature and precipitation at Omaha for this day and since March 1, 1901:

Normal temperature	30
Deficiency for the day	39
Total excess since March 1	858
Normal precipitation	.53 inch
Deficiency for the day	.53 inch
Total rainfall since March 1	23.69 inches
Deficiency since March 1	6.01 inches
Excess for cor. period, 1900	.08 inch
Deficiency for cor. period, 1899	3.98 inches

— Below zero.

T indicates trace of precipitation.

L. A. WELSH,
Local Forecast Official.

AGREES ON IRRIGATION BILL

Congressional Committee Decides Upon a Compromise Measure.

HEIMROD SETS A DATE FOR SAILING

New Consul General to Samoa Prepares to Leave Omaha Early in January for His Post.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—(Special Telegram.)—The committee of senators and representatives appointed to urge an irrigation measure for the arid and semi-arid sections of the west completed its work tonight. The committee has been in session all week and the bill agreed upon is a compromise between the Shafroth bill and the Hansbrough-Newlands bill. As prepared it provides that the money received from the sale of public lands shall constitute a reclamation fund for the work of irrigation; also that there shall be examinations and surveys for reservoir sites, together with sites for the division of water and irrigation canals connected therewith. The secretary of the interior is authorized to withdraw from the public entry lands required for irrigation work and public lands irrigated thereby. Upon determination that any project is practicable contracts shall be let for construction, provided the estimates of the engineers show the cost of the enterprise will not exceed $10 an acre.

It is further provided that upon the completion of each project the lands to be irrigated shall be subject to homestead entry upon the condition of reclamation and payment at the time of making the final proof of settlement of $5 an acre, to be converted into the reclamation fund.

Limitations of the Entries.

Each entry is to be limited to eighty acres. The reclamation fund is to be used for the operation and maintenance of the reservoirs until otherwise provided by congress, and the maintenance of the canals is to be turned over to the homesteaders and maintained and operated by them as a corporated body. It is stipulated that if the waters stored are more than sufficient for the public land, or if it is determined that the land in public ownership is better suited for the utilization of waters, or if there is sufficient for both, then the perpetual water rights may be sold for private rights at a price not less than $5 an acre. It is also provided that the rights or property shall be condemned for the construction and irrigation work. The bill contains the following important section:

"Nothing in the act shall be construed as affecting the laws of any state or territory relating to the rights to the appropriation of water or its distribution for irrigation, but the state or territorial laws shall govern and control the appropriation and the distribution of water rendered available by the act."

Heimrod Prepares to Leave.

Consul General George Heimrod, who has been in Washington the last week receiving instructions from the Department of State relative to his new post at Samoa, completed his work today, and left for Omaha this evening. Mr. Heimrod will remain in Omaha until January 4, when he will leave for San Francisco, sailing for his post by the Oceanic line January 16.

Secretary Hitchcock will soon authorize a change in the method of re-leasing the grazing lands on the Indian reservations in South Dakota. The present plan provides for a charge of $1 a head, but under this system it is impossible to keep an accurate account of the number of cattle put out to graze by the lessees and in a number of cases it is charged that lessees have run on to the reservations thousands of cattle in excess of the number named in their contracts. It has been practically decided that a system of charging so much an acre will first be put into effect at the Cheyenne River agency and later at the other agencies in the state. At Cheyenne River a charge of 4 or 5 cents an acre will be exacted. This will mean an increase of about $55,000 for the Indians from this source.

Department Notes.

These rural free delivery routes will be established February 1:

Nebraska—Dakota, Dakota county, additional service; area, thirty square miles; population, 475; Edward J. McKernan, carrier. Juniata, Adams county; area, forty-two square miles; population, 500; Orville Bueler, carrier. Syracuse, Otoe county; area, thirty-eight square miles; population, 500; Oscar V. Van Shentz, carrier.

Iowa—Alburnett, Linn county; area, twenty square miles; population, 505; Otis G. Clark, carrier. Homestead, Iowa county; area, thirty-three square miles; population, 540; Hermann G. Mass, carrier. Lakeview, Sac county; area, forty-nine square miles; population, 500. Malcomb, Poweshiek county; area, thirty-eight square miles; population, 550; George L. Scoville, carrier. Olin, Jones county; area, twenty-five square miles; population, 540; Court M. Miles, carrier.

The American Exchange National bank of New York, Des Moines National of Des Moines and the Continental and National of Chicago were today approved as reserve agents for the Chariton National of Chariton, Ia.

Postmasters appointed: Iowa—Whitesboro, Harrison county, Martin F. Little. South Dakota—Thule, Campbell county, H. F. T. Winterberg.

Miss Mary E. Moyer of Crow Creek, S. D., was appointed laundress at the Indian school at Grace, S. D.

Albert W. Florea of Buffalo, Mo., was appointed industrial teacher at the Winnebago Indian school.

FINAL GRAVE AT THE OLD FORT

Plans Made to Give General Leavenworth Final Burial in Kansas Soil.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 14.—Arrangements have been made to bring the body of General Henry Leavenworth to Fort Leavenworth for final burial. The body is now buried at Delhi, N. Y. It is expected that the body will be brought here in about six weeks. There will be imposing military ceremonies when the body is buried for the last time.

There is talk of erecting a monument to General Leavenworth near that of General Grant in the Fort Leavenworth triangle. General Henry Leavenworth founded Fort Leavenworth by establishing a cantonment on the reservation in 1827. He was a noted soldier of the war of 1812 and Indian fighter.

WHOLE TOWN IN SEVERE PERIL

Feared that Efforts to Control Flames Will Be Futile.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Dec. 14.—Salem, a town of several thousand inhabitants, is burning and probably will be in ruins before morning. Salem is an oil town and the buildings are almost all of frame structure. The telegraph and long-distance telephone stations have burned. The fire started shortly after midnight. Grafton, Clarksburg and this city have sent fire engines and firemen to the scene.