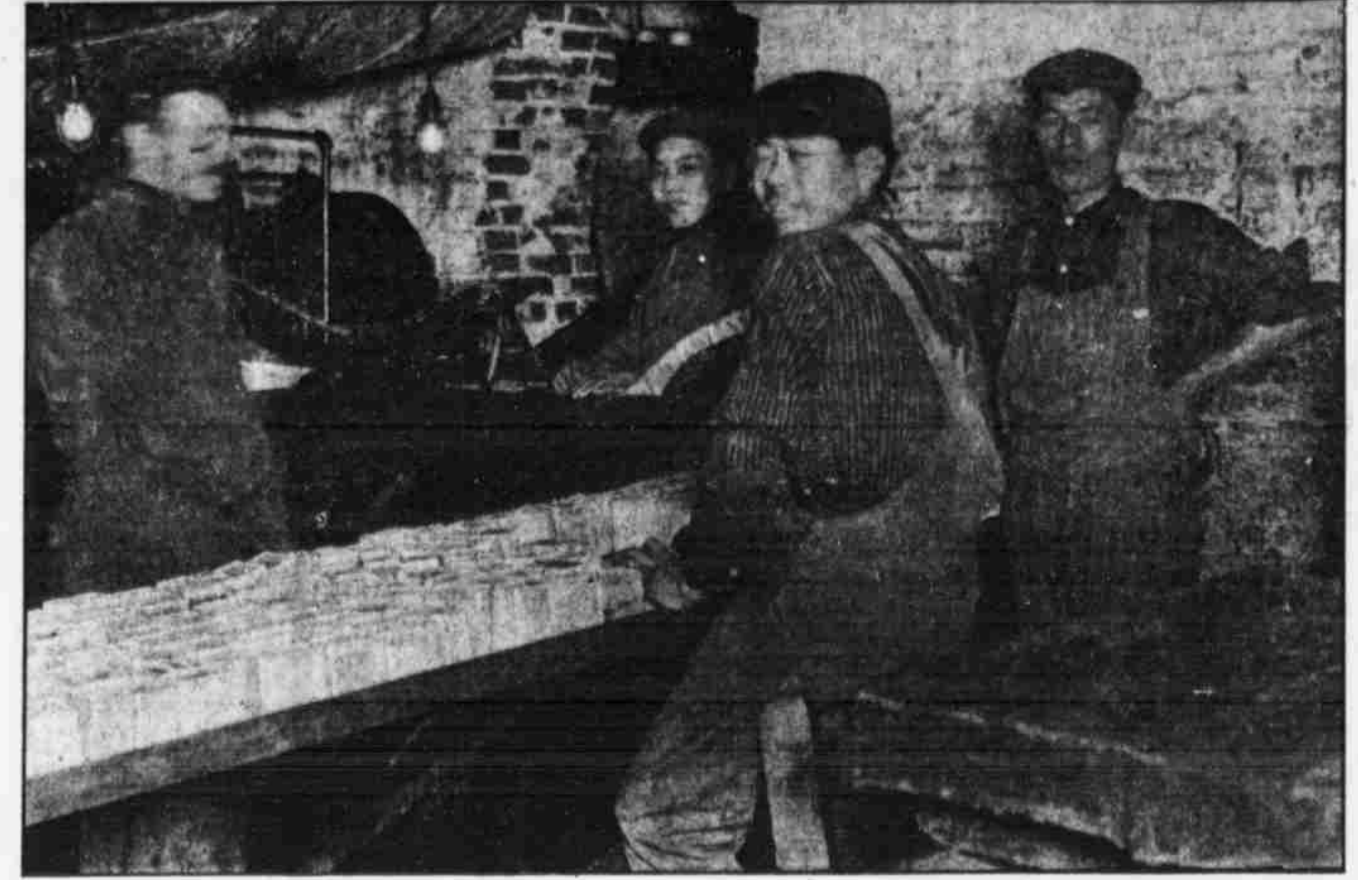


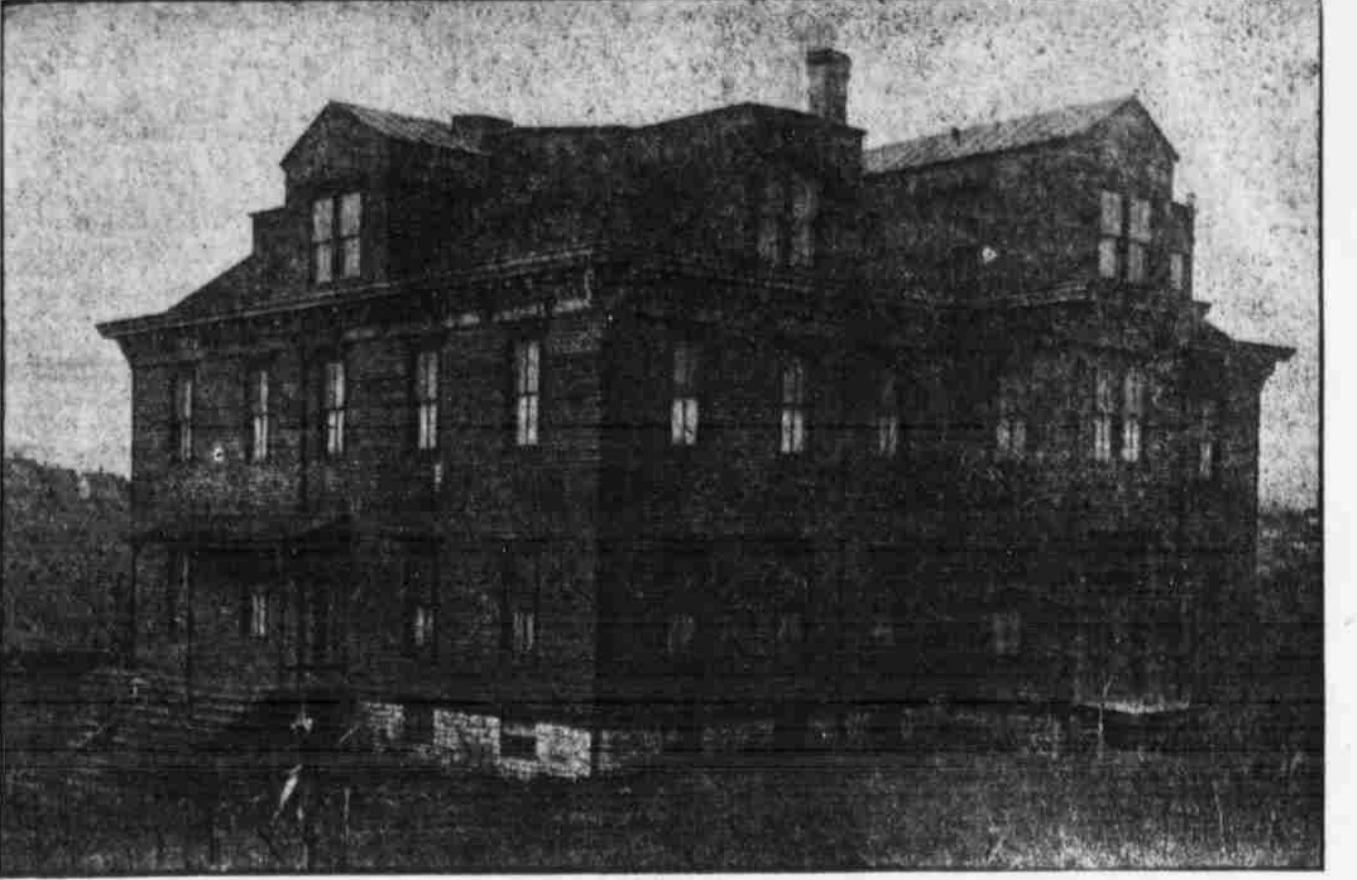
Novel Colony of Japanese Laborers Working in South Omaha



ONE OF THE JAPANESE FOREMEN.—Photo by a Staff Artist.



JAPANESE AT WORK IN THE CANNING DEPARTMENT AT CUDAHY'S.—Photo by a Staff Artist.



"CLUB HOUSE" WHERE MANY OF THE JAPANESE LIVE.—Photo by a Staff Artist.

TO the end of July, 1904, the subjects of the mikado Mutsuhito were seldom seen within the boundary lines of the Magic City. Now not less than 150 Japanese live and work in South Omaha. The packing house strike caused the importation of Japanese from Utah, Colorado and Wyoming. When it became a question of getting laborers Manager Urquhart of the Omaha Packing company contracted with an agent for thirty-five Japs. These were taken into the plant and it was not long before a like number was sent for. Then General Manager Murphy of the Cudahy company decided that he would try some Japanese labor and he sent to the Denver agent of the Japs for help. The re-

sult was that at one time during and after the packing house strike about 50 Japs were employed in the packing houses. Since the strike was declared off the number of Japs have dwindled until now only about 150 remain here.

Housing the Japs.

When the Japs first arrived in South Omaha and went to work in the packing houses they were housed at the Omaha and Cudahy plants. The confinement wore on the little men and on September 19 an effort was made to rent the old Wisconsin house on Twenty-sixth street, just north of N street, for a lodging house for the Japs. The first payment on the rent was made and the Japs started to move in, but the agent returned the rent paid and told the Japs to clear out. So back to the packing houses they went.

At the Cudahy plant about 130 Japanese are now employed and those who desire to live at the plant are given quarters. The Omaha Packing company has only eight or ten of the little yellow men there now.

Make Good Workmen.

In speaking of the Japs yesterday General Manager Murphy of the Cudahy Packing company said: "We have about 130 working

for us now and we find that they are excellent workmen. They are deft and if shown how to do a thing once they do not forget. Most of the Japs here at this plant are employed in the canning room, the tin shop and the box factory. One point in favor of the Japs is that they work all of the time and do not stop to gossip. So far their work is entirely satisfactory. While we are housing some of the Japs here at the plant yet, we are advocating their getting out and seeking other quarters, but there seems to be some feeling against them and they prefer to remain by themselves."

Superintendent Patrick Sheehy of the Cudahy company said in regard to the Japs that they were particularly clean. "We had to put in shower and tub baths for these fellows, and they take a bath every day when they quit work. After their bath they wash their working clothes and the next morning put on another suit, so that they report for work every morning in clean clothes. In washing clothes the Japs lay their working clothes on the floor and after using plenty of soap scrub the garments with a brush, rinse and hang up to dry. As far as their conduct in the plant is concerned, their department is excellent."

Continuing his talk in a general way Superintendent Sheehy spoke of a recent celebration of the Japs. They asked for half a day off and it was granted. A banquet was served in their quarters in honor of the mikado's birthday. "It was a great feast," said Mr. Sheehy. "There was a lot of things to eat that people here know nothing about. And as for speeches, there was lots of talk that nobody but themselves could understand. Even after a celebration lasting twelve hours every Jap in the plant showed up for work the next morning looking as bright as a new pin."

Interpreter Handles Them.

All of the business transactions between the management of the Cudahy plant, officials and the Japs are done through an interpreter, Okijimi by name. This interpreter looks after the men, directs their



THREE OF THE LITTLE FELLOWS IN THEIR WORKING CLOTHES.—Photo by a Staff Artist.

work, collects their wages and acts as a general guardian. Okijimi speaks English quite well, is well educated and is pretty well up to the tricks of the "Melican" man. Three nights in each week Okijimi holds night school in the quarters at the Cudahy plant and teaches his pupils English. It is said that the class is getting along nicely.

To Tomito is another interpreter who is in charge of the so-called club house at the Haskell building, Thirty-seventh and N streets. Some of the Japs thought that by banding themselves together they could enjoy themselves more and subsist at a less

cost than by remaining at Okijimi's place. Tomito cast about for a "club house" and rented the Haskell property, which is better known as the Home of the Good Shepherd. About fifty Japs live and eat there.

Cleanly and Carefully.

The first thing that was done after renting the Haskell house was to give it a thorough scrubbing from top to bottom. Men were detailed to do the cooking and care for the building and rooms. A club fund sum per week is paid by each resident of this house. While rice is the principal food, meats and vegetables are also consumed in moderate quantities.

An inspection of the quarters of the Japs shows that they are fond of liquors of all kinds. At the Tomita house the Japs have in their rooms quantities of liquors from champagne down to beer. Cordials are to be seen in abundance and "bottled in bond" and "bottled in saloon" whiskies are to be seen almost every department. After they have washed their clothes, taken their bath and supped, enjoy native games of chance. They are great gamblers and often remain up until early morning hours playing games of various kinds.

Reserves Go to Fight.

Some of the Japs employed here during the fall belonged to the first reserves of the Japanese army. When the call came for the first reserves about a dozen left South Omaha bound for their native land. Those who remained made a pool and secured quite a sum of money for the men going home to fight for the mikado. There was a great ado when the squad of first reserves left the packing houses and many in the second reserves expressed a desire to go also. All of the Japs now in the city belong to the second reserves of the Japanese army and they do not look for a call to return home, but state that in case a call is made they will respond willingly. Each Jap here has a little money laid away in anticipation of a call and is ready at any time to quit his work in the packing house and start on his long journey across the Pacific to join the army of Japanese now in the field.

The interpreters Tomito and Okijimi have little to say regarding the war except to their own people. They do express the opinion that the Japs will ultimately win.

Odd Things that Happened Last Year

Sentenced by His Uncle.

ON Christmas eve, in Meridian, Miss., Daniel Moore, convicted of manslaughter several months ago, was sentenced to serve twenty-five years in the penitentiary by Judge Cochran, who is an uncle of the convicted man.

In delivering the sentence the aged judge was overcome by emotion, and said that had he listened to the dictates of sympathy or considered the ties of relationship he would let the young man go free, but since the jury had found the man guilty he felt that there was nothing for him to do but to sentence him, although it almost broke his heart to do so.

"I intend to do my duty, God helping me," he said.

Moore killed a friend in a quarrel over a stri.

would consent to the filing of an administrator's account a search of the garret had to be made. They insisted that not all of his money had been accounted for. The attic was ransacked and \$2,800 in gold, silver and bills was brought to light.

During the auditing of the estate Mrs. Umstad said her husband had often told her he had money in an old chest in a closet in a corner of the garret. He often showed her the key, and told her the chest had a peculiar lock; that the key had to be turned to the right three times before it could be unlocked. "Reuben never spent a cent; he didn't have to. He was a very savin' man," she said.

After this attestation of Umstad's frustration the heirs prosecuted the search, which resulted in disclosing the hidden fund.

Life's Little Ironies.

Jermiah Harrigan of Hockessin, Del., escaped the clutches of the hangman after the gallows had been erected upon which he was to die. A few weeks later he died from the effects of a badly frozen foot.

William P. Steele of Princeton, Md., was killed while setting up a monument over his wife's grave. The stone fell upon him, crushing head and chest.

It was suggested to the authorities of Seville, Spain, that the city should do something to help the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The idea was enthusiastically adopted and a monster bull fight held in the organization's behalf.

After fruitlessly wandering over the hills of Utah for years, Patrick Sullivan, an old prospector, died of heart failure upon discovering a rich mine near Park City.

Four Feet Friends.

In the stomach of a steer brought from Nebraska to the Pittsburgh stock yards was found an issue of Mr. Bryan's Commonwealth.

United States Senator Ankeny of Washington state was an invalid in January, all because his pet dog was so glad to see him that he upset the politician in their greeting and the latter broke his arm in the tumble.

A mail train on the Illinois Central road was wrecked in January by striking a cow. The body was hurled against a switch and in some manner opened it, ditching the train.

A pointer dog, sent from St. Paul into North Dakota for hunting training, was frightened by the noise of a mowing machine and ran all the way home to his owner—355 miles.

Chance.

The steamship Alaskan, which reached New York in August from Honolulu, made nearly \$50,000 for its owners by being delayed three days in a storm, during which time the price of sugar, with which the vessel was loaded, rose considerably.

In April last A. J. Gonder, a brakeman employed by the Ontario & Western road, predicted he would meet death while coupling. His prophecy was fact six days later.

A game of seven-up broke an election deadlock in Monongahela, Pa., last February. Clark Boyd, republican, and James Hendrickson, democrat, each re-

ceived 113 votes for register assessor and played cards for a decision. The democrat won.

James A. Jennings, a New York electrician, was run over by a train and killed the morning after he had dreamed that he was dead.

Fiction Overtaken.

Harry Lehr attended a Newport theater one evening in July wearing a bright red tie with his evening clothes.

The Missionary society of the Kenosha (Wis.) Methodist church refused to accept a legacy of \$5,000 because the donor had met his death while attending the theater.

On January 15 a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Leroy of Louisville, Ky., being their fifth boy born on that day of that month since 1800.

Frank Brooking of Macomb, Ill., while looking out a sparrow's nest, found a \$2 bill among the straw. With this as nest money he put back the bird's home and they are again living with him.

The Gentler Sex.

"No mother should be weak enough to allow her baby to scream off the key. She should carry a tuning fork and when the child is about to begin a prolonged howl should give it the proper note." That is the recipe for domestic harmony which Miss Amelia Weed Holbrook gave the Professional Woman's league last June.

The manager of a New York City theater solved the theater hat question in March by posting the following notices: "Ladies will please remove their hats. Old ladies, liable to catch cold, are not bound by this request." All hats came off.

In February Miss Belle Cox of Morris-town, N. J., slipped on the ice and broke her leg. In May she fell from a ladder and broke it again. In July she made a mistake from a car and for the third time broke the same leg.

Curious and Romantic Features at Weddings

Mighty Close Call.

AFTER keeping his head through an exciting chase, Henry H. Lumley lost it at a critical moment and came within an ace of marrying the wrong woman.

He held the hand of the Miss Liberty that he wanted for a sister instead of the hand of the Miss Liberty that he wanted for a wife when the justice began the wedding ceremony. And it was the prompt action of the bride that prevented the catastrophe.

Mr. Lumley's home is in Joliet. He is a business man there, and a prominent one. Miss Harriet B. Liberty is the daughter of a Joliet merchant.

Mr. Lumley and Miss Harriet B. Liberty had been engaged for a year. They left Joliet the other morning Chicago was their destination, and Miss Margaret Liberty, sister of the bride, their only companion. The next train carried a dozen women and friends of the bride and groom.

The young men of Joliet were at the entrance of the Sherman house when the bridal party left.

As the carriage drove down Clark street the dozen friends entered more carriages, and as the bridal party halted at the justice's office the bridegroom looked out and saw his friends. Then began a chase. The bridal carriage dashed down Clark street and the carriages containing the friends followed. The bridal carriage turned into Jackson boulevard and the carriages that followed turned the same way. There was a dash down Michigan avenue, and up Wabash, and down Jackson boulevard and into Adams street.

"What's the use?" queried the excited bridegroom when he saw that he could not get rid of his friends.

"None," answered the bride, and the carriage turned up Clark.

"Maybe we can have the ceremony performed before they catch up," volunteered the sister. They tried. They arrived at Justice Caverly's office. A moment more and they were in his office.

"Hurry it up," said the bridegroom to the justice.

"Before anyone comes," added the bride.

"We want to beat them," volunteered the sister.

"Join hands," he said as he began to read the ceremony.

And the bridegroom, bent only upon beating his friends, caught a woman's hand. And the woman, bent only upon having the ceremony concluded before the arrival of the friends, did not notice.

"Do you take this woman to be your wife?" began the justice.

"The 'yes' was on the bridegroom's lips when he heard a woman shriek. He turned and behind him stood Miss Harriet Liberty the woman that he wanted to marry. And at his side stood Miss Margaret Liberty, the woman that he wanted for a sister.

The delay was fatal. The three carriages and the dozen friends arrived. They witnessed the ceremony and they threw rice.

Perils of Big Feet.

Big toes are usually small factors in most love affairs, but the one that belonged to Miss Adeline Welsh had a large part in shattering the romance of Robert Lucky, who lives in Kentucky, for his clumsiness, which cost the young woman her toe, cost him her heart. And it cost her mother about \$50 recently in settlement of a court case to which this tangled tale of woe was due to a heart and a toe.

It was Adeline's fault, declared the two courts. Her fault cost him dear, for one has only to see the girl to understand that his name belies him. She is tall and very good looking, scarcely 18 years old, and with all the fire and dash that is generally associated with her name.

When Lucky learned that his chances of winning the hand of Miss Welsh had vanished he demanded back the money he had paid a surgeon to repair the damage he had inflicted upon her foot. Not only did he obtain judgment, but the marshal attempted to levy upon the piano at Mrs. Welsh's home and was prevented from carrying out his plan only by the arrival of Mrs. Welsh's attorney.

The case was reopened and after judgment was set in, Lucky was directed to pay the doctor's bill, which Lucky paid originally, she says, over her objections, and the incident is considered closed.

Mrs. Welsh, who is an artist of some repute, comes from Williamson, near Lexington, where her family has long been famed for the beauty of its girls. She is tall, statuesque, of the blonde type, and her daughters—she has two—resemble her greatly. The two girls for several years had been attending school in Kentucky. Last summer Adeline was visiting relatives in Williamson and was ardently courted by Lucky, who is a poet when not running the general store.

One night while at a party Lucky brought the heel of his shoe down on the tender toe. Now this toe had long been a tender point with the young woman and at the moment of contact she promptly fainted. She was taken home and Dr. Bonefleur, the village surgeon, feared that blood poisoning would set in. Lucky was directed and outdressed himself providing for the patient's comfort. When she was able to walk he sent her the latest pair of soft slippers he could find, but at her next demise she found greater pleasure in the partnership of other men.

This hurt Lucky, particularly as he had insisted on meeting the doctor's charges for the amputation of the toe, although Mrs. Welsh had written before Judge Tierney in the Bronx for the physician's bill, plus the cost of the slippers.

Mrs. Welsh failed to answer the summons and the case went to default. When she learned the real meaning of the action, however, she hastened to employ the services of James E. Graybill. She filed before the court a letter from Dr. Bonefleur showing that his charges had been only \$30, instead of the \$50 specified by Lucky. It is thought that the plaintiff had considered the additional \$20 as being in a nature of compensating damages.

Missouri Wedding.

The Booster of Brimmon, Mo., describes the first wedding celebrated in that metropolis as follows: "The first wedding of a Brimmon person in Brimmon occurred Monday evening, when Miss Mary Sajars and John Mack were married at the residence of the bride's parents in North Hannah avenue, Brimmon, at high 7 o'clock. They were married by the beautiful silver d'har ceremony, the preiding officer, Judge Seymour Oyer, instructing the groom to present that much of the fee to the bride. The bride wore a blue dress with skirt of three gorges, tastefully trimmed in brass buttons, and later entertained the company by singing, unaided, that beautiful ballad entitled 'The Boy Who Broke the Sabotage and Got Into the Penitentiary.' The bride has lived here only a short time and has made many friends. The groom is an industrious young man, and the Booster wishes them great happiness. They are visiting at Tindall, but Mr. Mack may join his father-in-law in the blacksmith business here."

Taxing Bachelors.

An old project of taxing bachelors has recently been revived. When the Indiana legislature meets at Indianapolis in January, it will be asked to pass a bill introduced by a Gibson county member levying a tax of 10 cents on every \$100 salary earned by an unmarried bachelor of more than 25 who receives more than \$1,000 annually. It

Dollars and Divorce.

Because her husband acquiesced in everything she suggested and never argued with her, Mrs. Jesse Bryning of Kansas City applied for divorce.

A. W. T. Lawrence, a convict serving in the penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo., cleared \$40,000 by operating in the February cotton market through a broker friend.

While nine grown children were assembled in his home to help celebrate his golden wedding, Christian Tricketts of Louisville entered suit for divorce.

Frank E. Towle of New York City tried to divorce his wife last October because she played so poor a game of poker as to keep him "always in the hole" trying to pay her losses. His application was denied.

Death in Trifles.

Jacob Harlem of Union City, Ind., dreamed one night last January that his father had been killed in a runaway accident. His terror brought on a chill which resulted in death.

An ill fitting shoe, rubbing the heel of

Polished by a Pencil.

Marie Love of Baltimore, the 7-year-old daughter of William Love, died December 28 from blood poisoning caused by the puncture of a lead pencil in her palate.

She was working out an arithmetical problem at her home and, desiring to ask her grandmother to help her, started to run from her room to that of her grandmother. She fell with the pencil in her mouth. The pencil point stuck in her palate and blood streamed from the wound. Her mother, who held the long graphite point of the pencil broke off in the flesh.

The wound would not heal and it grew worse until blood poisoning developed. In less than thirty-six hours after the accident happened the child was dead.

Frecks of Lightning.

Jerry Crandell, who lives near Saratoga,

Jury Service in Hawaii.

Not long since a native of Kail, Hawaii, cheated a neighbor out of a small sum of money. The community was indignant, and determined that the guilty party should be punished. The day of the trial came, the testimony was conclusive, the judge closed his charge, reminding the jury that "it takes nine to convict," for a three-fourths majority was required, instead of a unanimous jury. It was thought that the twelve might decide in the box, but the Hawaiian likes form, and they gravely withdrew to the jury room. They were gone an unreasonable time. At length the judge impatient, sent to find out what in the world was the matter, and discovered this predicament: All twelve were for conviction, and no three could be induced to vote for the defendant.

Youth in Tragedy.

Angered by what he thought an unjust reprimand from his teacher, Walter Dale, a 14-year-old pupil in the Denver schools, in January took a dose of carbonic acid and died in the midst of his companions. When the remains of J. J. Burnside, one of the victims of a snowslide at Alta, Utah, in February, were found it was discovered that death had come not from suffocation or cold, but heat. The man had been pinned against a stove by the rush of snow.

"Hold the line and listen. I'm going to kill Pearl and myself." With this advice before the heirs of Reuben Umstad, who died in Frederick township Pennsylvania,

Attie His Saving Bank.

Before the heirs of Reuben Umstad, who died in Frederick township Pennsylvania,

Class of 1897, Omaha High School.

Reunion held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Morton last Tuesday.



CLASS OF 1897, OMAHA HIGH SCHOOL.—REUNION HELD AT THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. G. T. MORTON LAST TUESDAY.