

General Nebraska News.

THE STATE AT LARGE.

The St. Paul Milling company's plant at St. Paul has been sold to W. F. Nieman and J. E. Jenkins of Schuyler, who will take possession immediately. They expect to make some extensive improvements and will probably start the mill about November.

The electric railway which is being built between Dakota City and South Sioux City by Captain Talbot is progressing rapidly. About three miles are graded and two miles of rails and ties are down. It is expected to be completed to Dakota City by November 15.

Fred L. Dollard, a 19-year-old convict in the state penitentiary, died of lockjaw, caused by a badly bruised finger. In his death agony Dollard disclosed his true name, he having previously been known as Fred C. Lee. His parents are respectable people of Carbondale, Ill.

Edward Long, the boy who was shot by Joseph Wall, a neighbor boy, was buried in the Catholic cemetery at Albion. The coroner's jury returned a verdict that the shooting was done carelessly, but without malice. It also protested against the practice of young boys carrying and using firearms with consent of parents.

A message from Murray to the police officers of Plattsmouth conveys the news of the shooting there of Mrs. William Brantner and the hired girl by William Brantner. One bullet passed through a hand and one through a leg of his wife and one through the arm of the hired girl. The wounds are not considered dangerous.

Joseph Heytmanek died very suddenly at his home in Dodge. He had been down town and come home a short time before dinner, going upstairs to lie down and rest. When his wife called him there was no answer and on going into his room she found him dead. He was a Bohemian and about 50 years old. His wife and four children survive.

Superintendent Fowler has received from the printer his pamphlets on the consolidation of school districts, the centralization of rural schools and the transportation of pupils at public expense. The pamphlet contains reports from the counties of the state where the consolidation idea has been tried and the reports of trials in other states. Mr. Fowler is a strong advocate of the idea.

The forty-seventh annual meeting of the Nebraska Congregational association closed at Geneva after a three days' session. Distinguished visitors from abroad, who delivered addresses, were Secretaries W. A. Rice of New York, Theodore Clifton of Chicago, Miss M. D. Moffet of Chicago and President Bradley of Iowa college. In addition to these, leading ministers and laymen of the state made addresses.

The state board of equalization met in Lincoln and listened to the arguments of Tax Commissioner Fleming of Omaha and others who contended that corporations should be assessed upon their gross earnings. The board decided that it was not a board at present and could not give any decision as to this or any other question which has been or is to be raised prior to the time of organization on December 15.

The residence of Frank Campbell at Tekamah was destroyed by fire and his 6-months-old child was burned to death. The mother went to a neighbor's for water a few minutes before the fire broke out, leaving the baby alone in the house.

In Pawnee City occurred the fine hog sale of John Blain, one of Nebraska's foremost breeders. The sale consisted of fifty head of hogs, grade and thoroughbred Poland China pigs, which averaged \$44.90 each, or a total of \$2,245. This breaks all previous state records for high sales. Many buyers from abroad attended the sale.

State Oil Inspector Ed Church of Lincoln and Deputy Inspector Barns of Scribner were in Fremont and tested a carload shipment of oil in barrels, sent from St. Paul and received there for distribution to about fifty towns of the state. The oil is supposed to be on the market in competition with the product of the Standard Oil company, and is of a little better quality than most of what that concern sells in Nebraska.

Children are not proper persons to sign a petition or remonstrance against saloon licenses, although they may have estates or inheritance in land in the precinct in which it is desired to locate the saloon. That is what the supreme court says in the case of Thompson against Eagan, from Cedar county.

Governor Mickey left for Fort Riley, accompanied by Commandant Chase of the university. While attending the encampment Governor Mickey will rank as a brigadier general.

NEBRASKA'S SOD SCHOOLS.

Many Have Been Replaced with More Pretentious Buildings.

The rapid decrease in the number of sod school houses is one of the evidences of the advancement in material growth of the public schools of Nebraska. The number of school districts in the state last year was 6,666. Of the 6,813 school houses then in existence, 5,900 were frame, 537 brick, 26 stone, 121 log, three iron and 436 sod. The change in number will not be known until all the counties file reports with the state superintendent. Eighteen counties had one or more log schools and 37 counties had one or more sod schools.

While many people living in the state have never seen a sod house of any kind, the western part of the state, particularly in the grazing region, is dotted with school houses made of sod. The fine school buildings in towns of one thousand or more inhabitants usually attract the favorable attention of visitors to the state. The tourist rarely finds the interior districts where the sod house still reigns supreme. Out of 6,813 school buildings in the state last year, 436 were of sod. The reports that have thus far reached State Superintendent Fowler's office indicate a decrease of at least 100 in this number. Custer county, partly a grazing and partly an agricultural region, comprising territory as large as four ordinary counties and containing 250 school districts, still leads the list in the number of "soddies." Last year it had 99, this year it has only 73. McPherson, purely a grazing region, had a total of six school houses last year, and they were all of the sod variety. It has the same number this year.

VINEGAR MUST BE PURE.

Deputy Food Commissioner Thompson Sends Out Warning.

LINCOLN—To the Wholesalers and Retailers of Vinegar in the State of Nebraska: In view of the fact that the vinegar question of this state is in such a deplorable condition, that there are no rules by which the manufacturers and wholesalers have been labeling their goods, and no conscientious scruples, in a great many cases, for what we have been selling them for, the fact has presented itself to this department that something must be done to check the growing evil of selling these goods for what they are not, and the misbranding of the same.

So we wish to say that from this time on the law must be strictly adhered to. Any vinegar found in the state after November 15 that does not come up to the requirements of the law will be turned down, and the wholesaler, if a resident of this state, will be prosecuted, and if the wholesaler or shipper is not a resident of the state, the retailer will be prosecuted. We wish to state further that simply because some one has guaranteed the vinegars to be up to the standard will not exempt any one from prosecution. The department kindly asks the state press to copy the facts herein, so that the dealers in vinegars may be informed.

Any one desiring the vinegar laws may receive the same upon request to the state food commissioner, Lincoln, Neb. W. F. THOMPSON, Deputy Food Commissioner.

Boy Dragged to Death.

CREIGHTON—The 9-year-old boy of Leslie Letty, Fred Letty, of this place, was killed while herding cattle on the farm of Charleslauch, seven miles northwest of here, being kicked or dragged to death by his horse.

Nebraska Troops for Manila.

FORT CROOK—Two battalions of the Twenty-second infantry, composed of Companies E, F, G, H, I, K, L and M, Colonel Henry Wygant commanding, left for Manila.

Sentence is Reduced.

LINCOLN—The supreme court reduced the sentence of William H. Palmer from seven years in the penitentiary to two years. Palmer was convicted of stealing a stray steer.

Nabbed at Kansas City.

DeForest Hart, a book agent who left Beatrice several months ago after trouble with business men, is under arrest in Kansas City.

Smokeless Powder Burns Gun.

NEBRASKA CITY—John Durham and a companion were out hunting seven miles northwest of the city. Durham was carrying an old muzzle-loading gun, and, running out of black powder, borrowed some smokeless powder from his companion. The first charge exploded the gun and came near killing both himself and his companion. Durham had a thumb blown off and his right arm was badly burned.

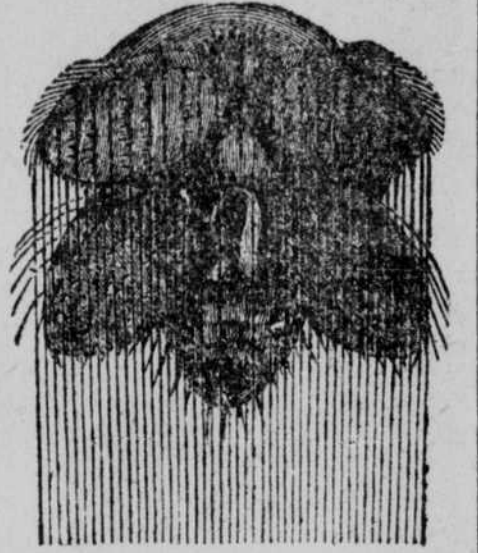
MADE POLICEMAN A VICTIM.

Hypnotist Turned Man of Law Into a Laughing Stock.

An amusing episode, in which the chief figure was a hypnotized policeman, is reported from Bloemfontein, Orange River Colony. A professor of apnotism had taken a vacant shop in which to give demonstrations of his mysterious art, and his stock-in-trade included a bed, upon which reposed a man who was represented to be in a trance. The crowd that assembled on the opening day to view the recumbent figure included a member of the South African constabulary. This person went with a skeptical mind, and, seeing the figure move, he at once denounced the whole business as a fraud. The professor, not a bit disconcerted, engaged him in conversation, and the skeptic was soon keenly interested in the wondrous tales the man of science was relating. Suddenly the policeman fell into the arms of the professor, and went through some very strange antics, one of which was to arrest the professor as a dangerous criminal. When it dawned upon the crowd that the man of law was really hypnotized the joke was greatly relished. After putting his victim through a few more "tricks" for the enjoyment of the other visitors the professor restored him to his senses as quickly as he had hypnotized him. When he realized what had happened, the policeman, looking white and frightened, made a hasty exit, and has since made it a point to keep away from all hypnotists.

Spider as Spinner.

The spider needs no wheel to spin its fairy thread. There are on its body four to six protuberances, perforated



each by minute holes, sometimes as many as a thousand. Through these holes the liquid silk passes from internal reservoirs, and hardens upon contact with the air.

Bees Stung Poultry to Death.

A remarkable case of bees stinging poultry to death was recently reported to the Kent (Eng.) Technical Education Authority. Mr. Charles Waghorn, of Paddock Wood, has a small orchard, in the middle of which are many hives. One day he noticed bees worrying six cockerels in a pen. He liberated the birds, but the bees followed and subsequently attacked nearly all the poultry. Two cockerels were stung to death, and several others suffered so badly from stings that they had to be killed. Many of the birds were blinded by the bees, and their heads were speckled and swollen.

Elms Absorb Much Water.

It has been computed that if the leaves of an elm tree, sixty feet high were spread out on the ground, edge to edge, they would cover five acres of land. These leaves, averaging 7,000,000 to a full-grown tree, will transpire water to the amount of seven tons during the normal summer day. Were it not for the ingathering of the stomata during the night a few elms would soon draw off all the water from a district. As it is every market grower knows what elms are like near fruit or market gardens.

Weather Note.



Very close, with approaching storm.

One Proof of Greatness.

On the continent no man seems to be really famous unless his features appear on a pictorial postcard. A Frenchman who has recently come before the world has received a letter from a person at Geneva asking for permission to reproduce his photograph in this form and offering 10 per cent of the total takings.

Rare Animal Captured.

An animal was captured six days ago in the steam mill works near Leominster, Mass., that is known as a "fisher," an animal of the cat species that lives on fish, frogs, etc., but which is very rarely seen in this part of the country.

A Wise Teacher.

At an examination of applicants as teachers before the Minnesota state board, one of them, when asked what country kangaroo leather came from, answered: "Kangaroo is produced in Kangaroo."

OUR CASTLES IN SPAIN.

Dreamer Drops Into Poetry in Expressing His Longings.

"Young man, build castles in Spain!"—Joseph Cannon. I'd like to be boss of the land of the Joss. The chopsticks, pagodas and rice; With my eyebrows aslant, a beard rather scant. And a cue that would go around twice! 'Twould please me, I own, to sit on a throne. In an ivory palace and see A lot of savants in mysterious pants Get busy knotting to me. I'd like to be shah or maharajah.



The Sultan of Sulu or Guam, Or hold down the job of that haughty His job is, the King of Siam.

In the tropical zone I would fain have my throne. Cared by its languorous breath. To sit there in state with my black-and-tan mate. Would tickle me almost to death.

I also would like to London to hike, As king of the tight little tie. And see New York City throw a double-decked tie. 'Ev'ry time that I tossed it a smile.

All these, it is plain, are but castles in Spain. 'Tis pleasant to build them—but yet, I wish I'd the cheek to ask twenty a week Instead of the twelve that I get!—F. L. Rose, in Chicago Record-Herald.

MOUSE CAUSE OF MUCH TROUBLE.

Little Animal Very Near Precipitating a Tragedy.

Through the vagaries of a pet mouse which had secreted itself beneath the upholstery of a large automobile, Miss Helen Finerty, daughter of Joseph Finerty of New York, who, with several friends, had planned an outing to Ardsley, was frightened into hysterics the other day. Alarmed by her sudden screaming as the little rodent, ambling about the floor of the automobile, began to ascend her ankle, John C. McCafferty, the chauffeur, ran into a fence on the sidewalk and came near going down a cliff. The machine was smashed. Miss Finerty fainted and was taken home. Miss Finerty, however, may be \$100 richer for the accident, for she learned that the mischievous mouse belonged to John J. Dooley, a rich contractor, who is a candidate for Tammany leadership in his district. The mouse has been trained to eat from the hand and to do other tricks. It is the same mouse that a little more than a month ago at a picnic of policemen's wives was used to test the courage of women. Superstitious about his loss, Mr. Dooley offered a reward of \$100 for its recovery.

Ambition.

"Well, my little man," said the great captain of industry, "what do you expect to do when you grow up and inherit your father's wealth? Do you



intend to build colleges or establish libraries?"

"I'm goin' to buy a circus and drive the band wagon myself."

Watch Strangely Recovered.

Charles Ritner of New Britain, Conn., complained to the police Saturday night that a gold watch had been stolen from him. He could not give any details as to the loss of the watch. His daughter informed the chief yesterday morning that the watch had been returned. A man living on Dwight street brought it to the house. He said that his dog found it in the street and brought it to him in his mouth.

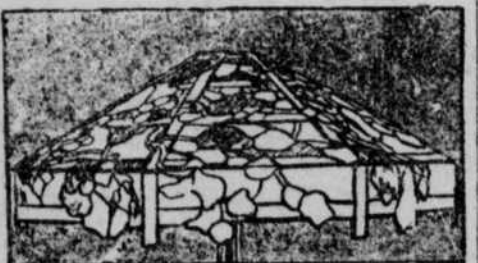
Ancient Family Name.

At the second reunion of the John Taylor family at Hadley, Mass., the information was given forth that the Taylor name runs back to Baron Taillefer, the Norman hero, who lost his life at the battle of Hastings in 1066. Like many other family names it has passed through a series of changes from "Taillefer" to "Taylefer" and at last to "Taylor," with variations of "Taller" and "Tayler."

Must Tie Up Tabbies.

So many rabbits and quail are killed by house cats running loose in the woods that the New Jersey hunters want to have a law passed allowing cats found in the woods to be shot. The present law provides that any person allowing a dog to run wild shall pay a fine of \$20. Cats are said to be more destructive of game than dogs, foxes, minks or hawks.

Lamp Shade in Artistic Glass.



The accompanying illustration shows an artistic lamp shade from the studio of a leading artist in glass working. This lamp shade is of leaded glass in a nasturtium vine design in most beautifully blended and soft coloring.

LIVES IN A TOMB.

John Janson, Civil War Veteran, Has Chosen Queer Abode.

John Janson, a veteran of the civil war, lives in a tomb. The tomb is built in a rocky shelter in the old Jones cemetery, near Reed's Corners, N. Y. For half a century the tomb has been the resting place of Janson's wife. Since 1870 the old man has lived in this place of silence.

It is fitted up in a neat manner, is quite spacious and is divided into two rooms, each 10x12 feet. Janson's wife is buried in a space at the rear which is hermetically sealed. He eats his meals in the front room and sleeps in the back. A skylight furnishes plenty of light for this strange home. At night it is lighted by an oil lamp.

The old man has few callers and spends his days tilling the soil of his small farm nearby. The cemetery has not had an interment in many years. It was laid out by the Hiram Jones family a century ago, and the original owners and their descendants are now under the sod of the cemetery.

Janson claims sole ownership, although he has no legal title to the ground. He is alone in the world, except a distant relative in Denver, who will carry out the eccentric wishes of Janson when the latter dies. The old soldier has requested that at his demise his body be incased in a plain pine box. Before the body is placed in this receptacle the latter is to be partly filled with soft cement. Then a covering of cement goes over the body, entirely covering it. Janson believes that his body will be entirely preserved and at the sound of Gabriel's trumpet he will not have to look around for scattered mortal parts.

An Autumn Joy.



These are the days when the tired man Will carry round his gun That weighs about a ton, And call it fun. To wade through knee deep muck, Beneath a broiling sun, And then just miss his duck.

Had Miraculous Escape.

A horse's mad leap down a bank thirty feet deep, and the miraculous escape from serious injury of both horse and rider, provided a short sensation among the visitors at Scarborough the other day, says an English exchange. A gentleman named Churchill was riding along the esplanade, when the horse bolted, galloped madly down the steep asphalted foot-path known as Birdcage Walk, and, after jumping over a seat and iron railings, leaped down the cliff and landed on an asphalted walk. People rushed to the spot, which is near to the Cliff Bridge entrance, expecting to find both horse and rider killed. Luckily, however, besides being stunned and bruised, the rider was unhurt. He was placed in a cab, but by the time he reached his hotel was able to walk. The horse was little the worse for his mad escapade.

Caught Immense Turtle.

A turtle, which is declared to be the biggest of its kind ever seen, was caught some time ago on the New Jersey coast. Its weight is 1,087 pounds. The length of its shell is 10 feet 3 inches, while its width is 6 feet 7 inches. A dozen men can stand on its back with comfort.

Topsy Turvy.



A severe Scotchman who can easily be made to smile by turning him upside down.

"That Line of Sport."

"I hereby challenge any man in town for a clam-eating contest to decide which is the fastest clam-eater in town. I will make a side bet that I can eat fifty clams quicker than any man in that line of sport. Saturday night I ate two dozen clams in one minute. Challenges to George Kohlmann, 729 Second street."—Baltimore Sun.

His Great Mistake.

The feelings of the automobilist who ran down his host and then told the waiting family that he had torn a wheel from the buggy of a drunken farmer can be better imagined than described.

History of New York City.

A firm has been engaged to compile and print the old English records referring to the history of the city of New York under British rule. The cost will be \$4,611.

VITAL POINT NOT THERE.

Much Information, But Not Just What He Wanted.

New's the time the Bookstore Windows show a most engaging lot Of the "How To" books and essays telling How and How to Not— How to Know the Purple Pansy When You Meet it in the Wood; How to Tell the Poison Toadstool; When It Is or Isn't Good; How to Recognize a Sparrow, Fighting in the Garden Dirt; How to Pick Out Proper Patterns for a Woodland Walking Skirt; How to Feed the Shining Gold Fish; How to Know the Cuckoo's Call; How to Deal With Mr. Burglar When You Meet Him in the Hall; How to Play at Table Tennis; How to Ping and How to Pong; How to do Artistic Fretwork; How to Write a Funny Song; How to Bet on Running Horses, So You'll Surely, Surely Win; How to Walk Home in the Evening After Losing All Your "Tin"; How to Win a Timid Maiden with a Soft, Persuasive Coo; How to Make Her Think She's Got to Leave Her Happy Home for You— Though I've searched the bookshop windows high and low, from morn till night, I have never yet discovered: How to Sell the Stuff I Write.

MANY USES FOR COAL.

Fuel Not the Only Purpose for Which It is Employed.

The jet which jewelers use is nothing but coal of a very compact nature. In a Welsh country town there may be seen a foot-bridge made of coal, originally intended to be only a temporary structure, but found of sufficient strength and firmness to warrant its being used as a permanent footway. At Barcelona, Spain, there was constructed in 1888 a lighthouse of compressed coal blocks. On a portion of the southern English coast, at a small point called Kimeridge, circular shale disks with a square hole (very much like Chinese "cash") have been turned up by the plow. Curious geologists who heard of the disks found that they were nothing but coal money, for it seems that in ancient England, in pre-Roman days, coins or tokens of coal shale were quite common and were perforated in order to be strung together (like Chinese "cash") that they might be more conveniently carried. Not the least curious of the many applications of coal is coal porcelain. Coal flower vases, milk mugs, plates and saucers, book covers, clock frames, wash basins, inkstands, spoons for lace work, candlesticks and scores of other articles are made out of coal at factories in the anthracite region of Pennsylvania.

Knew His Time Had Come.

The East Side teacher was talking glowingly of her work. "Yes, they're rather tough little customers, these schoolboys of mine," she said, "but they're made of the right stuff. I had one boy who was the torment of my life. There was not any mischief under heaven that he did not think of until I told him finally he would be expelled if he misbehaved again. It was not long before he was up to more mischief, and I sternly summoned him to my desk, resolved to rid the school of him. But he pleaded so hard that I let him stay. Again and again that sort of thing happened, and I yielded to his plea for 'annuder chance.'"

"I went to Charley's house last Thursday to remind him that school was to open soon, and I hoped to see him back. I found the little fellow dangerously ill. In fact, there was no hope for his recovery. Nevertheless his mother let me see him and she whispered to me that Charley knew he was going to die. I talked with him a little while, trying to cheer him up by saying that I expected he would be back in school in a couple of weeks. He smiled at me bravely and said: "'No, teacher, I 'spect I don't get annuder chance dis time.' 'And he didn't. The little fellow died the next day.'—New York Press.

The World's Way.

He wrote His soul Into A book: The world Refused To turn And look. He made His faith Into A rhyme, And still The world Could spare No time. But on The day When dumb And dazed, Despair- Condemned, And blind And crazed By means Most weird His life He took, Behold The world Bought out His book. —New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Dust on Electric Wires.

It has been noticed that dust has a tendency to collect on electric light fittings and wires, and on walls and ceilings near them. The cause is believed to be two-fold—partly the influence of air-currents induced by local heating, and partly the electrification of the dust particles, which, when floating in a room, are attracted to the electric conductors on the non-earthed side of an earthed system.