

## NEWS OF INTEREST FROM IOWA.

## COUNCIL BLUFFS.

## MINOR MENTION.

Davis sells glass.  
Fine A. B. C. beer, Neumayer's hotel.  
Welshburners at Bixby's. Tel. 185.  
Hudweiser beer, L. Rosenfeld, agent.  
Gravel roofing, A. H. Road, 541 B-way.  
Dr. W. A. Gervais, osteopath, 294 Mer.  
Thorn block, Council Bluffs.

Mrs. J. W. Hick is home from Salt Lake and other western points.  
The place of the frame framing done, Alexander's Art Emporium.  
Miss Claudia Scott is entertaining Miss Grace Russell of Council Bluffs.  
Miss Mary Hughes of Flint, Mich., is visiting friends in this city.

Get your work done at the popular Eagle laundry, 24 Broadway. Phone 127.  
W. C. Estep, undertaker, 25 Pearl street. Telephone: Office, 37; residence, 22.  
Mrs. W. Walters has gone to Chicago, where she will spend the holidays.  
Sheridan coal makes a large flame and clear fire but no smoke, soot or clinkers.  
Fulton & Foley Stone agency are visiting relatives.

Harry Morehouse has gone to Colo., where he will visit for a week or ten days.  
The Misses Rich are entertaining their cousin, Miss Agnes Bradshaw, of Meadville, Pa.

Green G. Bluffs is expected home from Yale today to spend the holidays with his parents.  
James G. Goulden is home from Sioux City to spend Christmas with relatives and friends.

Mrs. A. C. Harding has gone to Nebraska to spend the holidays with relatives and friends.  
Mrs. J. Neumayer and daughter have gone to St. Louis, where they will spend the holidays.

Tom Lacey is entertaining Maurice DeKay, formerly of this city, now located at Rock Island.

Miss Lucy Daley, who has been teaching school in Mineola, Ia., is home to spend the holidays with her family.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Huntington are entertaining their sister, Miss Jennie Huntington of Council Bluffs.

Judge Walter L. Smith and his court reporter, B. O. Brinkman, are home for the Christmas holidays.

P. E. Stuart of the legal firm of Saunders & Stuart is spending Christmas with his parents in Des Moines.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Smith are visiting relatives in New York and expect to be away until the New Year.

Mayor Scott, Deputy of Charles City, Ia., is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. Prouty, of Garner township.

Paul Grout will give a card party Tuesday evening at Wm. C. Franks' home for the members and their friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Treynor and little son of this city are visiting relatives in Chicago for the holidays.

Chief of Police Albro was presented with a handsome silver-mounted pipe yesterday by the members of the Mercantile lodge.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Gilliland of Astoria, Kan., are spending the holiday season with their son, F. L. Gilliland of Council Bluffs.

A young son of H. M. Leeds, 115 Avenue H, while playing with some companions Saturday evening fell and broke his left leg.

Mrs. M. J. Alworth and daughter Jessie left yesterday for a Christmas visit to friends and relatives at Tama and Marshalltown.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor E. Bender are entertaining Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Cuyler and son Ned and Mrs. Nevill C. Lescher of Galesburg, Ill.

Dan Sullivan, who has a brush and comb from Davis drug store on Broadway, has been bound over to the grand jury. He waived his preliminary hearing in the police court.

C. Spruit, formerly of the faculty at the Iowa School for the Deaf at Jacksonville, is home to spend Christmas with his family. The school is expected to receive 2,500 cars of grain this week from the Omaha & Republican railroad.

The system for the Tamen and Peavey elevators at the transfer. In anticipation of this large shipment an extra switching crew has been put on.

F. J. Dederick, a barber who lives in Omaha for robbing the barber shop of an unnamed Crofton, was arrested in this city yesterday afternoon and turned over to the Omaha police, who took him to the police station at Tama and Marshalltown.

The regular meeting of Ivanhoe Home-stead No. 24, Brotherhood of American Yeomen, will be held tonight at 8 o'clock in the Woodman of the World hall. All members are requested to be present. There are several matters of importance to come up for action.

F. E. Morris has heard from his two sons, Ernest and Frank, who recently left home with the avowed intention of going to the Philippines. Frank, the younger of the two, who is only 14 years of age, is now employed on the transfer. Ernest, a messenger, is still in San Francisco, but hopes to be able to join his brother before long.

W. B. Cosma, foreman of the Barber Asphalt company at Detroit, Mich., will be married this afternoon to Miss Ida Smith at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Smith, on Seventh street. The ceremony will be performed by Rev. J. W. Wilson, pastor of the First Congregational church. J. B. Cosma, a prominent attorney at Tama, arrived in the city yesterday to attend his son's wedding.

John King, a familiar spectacle in the police court, is once more behind the bars. Yesterday he entered an express office on Pearl street and stole a small mirror from his pocket, commenced slugging to it. When ordered to leave the place he let loose a volley of profanity and obscenity. He was thrown into the street, where he continued to fill the air with the worst kind of language possible. The hurried-up wagon was called and King hustled to jail. He is thought to be suffering from mental derangement as the result of drink.

A Zentz of Harrison street was injured in a runaway accident on Broadway yesterday morning. The shaft of his wagon broke, frightening his horse, which started off on a gallop west on Broadway. At the corner of Seventh street the wagon was overturned and Zentz thrown against the curb. His head was badly cut and the skin was peeled off his face in places. He was carried into Jones' shop and a physician summoned. After his injuries were dressed he was taken home. The horse kicked itself free from the harness, but was caught before it had gone but a short distance.

N. Y. Plumbing Co., Tel. 250.  
Andrew Hall laid to rest.  
The funeral of the late Andrew Hall was held yesterday morning from the Latter Day Saints' church, the services being conducted by Elder Mark H. Forsyth of Nebraska City. The remains were followed to Walnut Hill cemetery where interment was witnessed by a long cortege of sorrowing friends and relatives. Mr. Hall was born in Belmont, Me., January 4, 1817, and was one of the few remaining pioneer settlers of Polk county.

He leaves eight children—three sons and five daughters. The sons are Arch A. Hall, Duluth, Minn.; William L. Hall, Neosho Falls, Kan.; Frank B. Hall, Council Bluffs; Mrs. Adel Card, teacher in kindergarten, Council Bluffs; Mrs. Clark Ellis, Little Sioux, Ia.; Mrs. C. P. Starrett, St. Joseph, Mo.; Mrs. J. B. Bell, Council Bluffs; Mrs. John Ellis, Little Sioux, Ia. In addition to these there are living thirty-five grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. The following grandsons acted as pallbearers at the funeral: Andrew H. Bell, J. H. Bell, Jr., A. P. Hall, R. Neale Ellis, DeWitt Donaldson and DeSoto Donaldson.

Howell's Anti-"Kaw" cures coughs, colds, croup, whooping cough, etc.

**FARM LOANS**  
Negotiated in Eastern Nebraska and Iowa. S. Cassidy, Jr., 126 Main St., Council Bluffs.

**FIRE INSURANCE POLICIES BOUGHT**  
For Cash or Loaned On.  
E. H. SHAEFF & CO.,  
5 Pearl Street, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

## DIFFERENCES ALL SETTLED

New Motor Company and Bridge and Terminal Company Got Together.

## OPEN BREACH IS NARROWLY AVERTED

Misunderstanding with Regard to Switching Arrangements at East End of Bridge is Satisfactorily Adjusted.

The misunderstanding between the Omaha Bridge and Terminal Railway company and the Omaha, Council Bluffs and Suburban Railway company, which had been existing for several days, was settled amicably yesterday, to the satisfaction of both companies.

The difference between the two companies arose over what at first was considered only a trivial matter, but it seemed that a settlement could not be reached, and for a time it looked as if the friendly relations between the two corporations would be permanently fractured.

The new motor company, as the Omaha, Council Bluffs and Suburban Railway company has become to be commonly called, desired to build two tracks to the approaches at the east end of the Terminal company's bridge, across the Missouri. This had not been expected, neither was it desired by the Terminal company and it so notified Manager Reed of the new motor line.

Manager Reed was intent on building these two tracks, as his arrangements for the running schedule of his trains contemplated a switch at this point and he insisted that in order to carry out an effective train service between this city and Omaha, it was necessary that his line have two tracks to the approaches of the bridge.

An attempt at a compromise failed and it is said that the cordial relations that had hitherto existed between the two companies were on the verge of receiving a knock-out blow. Manager Reed declined to recede from his position and the Terminal company likewise stood its ground, and war seemed imminent. The Terminal company decided to take the initiative in the matter and force the new motor company to come to terms. In order to do this, it placed an empty freight car on the tracks on the east end of the bridge, and the latter company refused to move it one way or the other.

This was an expedient that the motor company had not looked for, the more especially as it prevented it from obtaining any of its material from East Omaha and consequently was exhausted work had to be suspended.

Manager Reed and the officials of the Terminal then got their heads together and a compromise was effected. Yesterday morning the freight car was hauled back across the bridge to the west side of the Big Muddy and the track left clear for the use of the new motor company. What the nature of the settlement arrived at cannot be learned, as the officials of the new motor company on this side of the river decline to discuss the matter beyond admitting that a difference had arisen over the crossing agreements, but that everything was now as peaceful as possible, and the harmonious relations existing between the two companies in the least disturbed.

The new motor company during the last week has been pushing things along rapidly at a lively rate, and the track and overhead wires are now all laid to avenue C. Manager Reed expects, if the weather only keeps favorable, to have the line completed in a very short time, to the Illinois Central's depot at Thirtieth street and Broadway, where a train service between this city and Omaha will be at once inaugurated.

Davis sells paints.

**HANSON CONFESSES HIS SINS.**  
Man Who Stole a Lot of Plunder Owns Up to Theft.

Fred H. Hanson, who broke into and robbed the residence of Albin Street, the musical director, at 744 Mill street Saturday night and who was arrested in Omaha a few hours after the robbery, was brought back to this city yesterday morning. At first Hanson claimed to have purchased the stolen goods that were found on him from a stranger at the Northwestern depot for \$8. Last evening, however, he weakened and after admitting that he committed the burglary, told the officers where most of the stolen property could be recovered. Two overcoats were found hidden back of a cigar store on Broadway, while a bicycle was recovered from a second hand dealer where he had sold it. The shaft of his wagon broke, frightening his horse, which started off on a gallop west on Broadway. At the corner of Seventh street the wagon was overturned and Zentz thrown against the curb. His head was badly cut and the skin was peeled off his face in places. He was carried into Jones' shop and a physician summoned. After his injuries were dressed he was taken home. The horse kicked itself free from the harness, but was caught before it had gone but a short distance.

Hanson carried off enough plunder to nearly fill a wagon and the police were under the impression that he must have had an accomplice, but this he denies. He says he made two trips to the house and hid part of the booty in the back yard while he disposed of some of it. He effected an entrance into the house by a skeleton key.

Before breaking into the house he inquired from a neighbor where the Hesters lived, and was informed that they were away from home and probably would not be home until late. He ransacked the house from top to bottom and carried away a large quantity of jewelry, silverware, a bicycle, gun, two overcoats, hunting suit, mandolin and banjo, pair of opera glasses and several articles of lesser value. How he managed to get away with the plunder without the assistance of an accomplice is puzzling to the police.

Hanson is a cigarmaker by profession, and at times played in the orchestra under Huster. He lives at 829 Eighth avenue.

**Funeral of Lyman L. Spooner.**  
The funeral of the late Lyman L. Spooner was held yesterday afternoon from the family residence at 1224 Broadway, and was attended by a large gathering of the relatives and friends of the deceased and his bequeathed family. The services were conducted by Rev. J. W. Wilson of the Congregational church and the music was rendered by the church choir. Many handsome floral tributes were placed on the casket. The remains were followed to their last resting place in Fairview cemetery by a long cortege. Among those from out of town who were here to attend the funeral were: Mr. and Mrs. Ashton of New York City, Mr. and Mrs. Perry of St. Louis, Mo., J. B. Blair, W. D. Blake, Miss Helen Blake and Mrs. M. Barnes of Avoca, Ia. Mr. Spooner had been a resident of Council Bluffs for more than forty years and at one time was one of the leading business men.

**Vesper Services.**  
The fourth in the series of vesper services at the Congregational church, yesterday, attracted an audience that filled the church. The program given was excellent, an especially pleasant feature being the two violin solos, Hauser's "Andante" and Rubenstein's "Melody in G," by Miss Lena E. Ellsworth of Taber. Mr. Walter E. Young presided at the organ, and rendered in his usual fine style, three solos: "Christmas Song" by Gaillard, was sung with much sympathy by Mrs. W. W. Sherman, Mr. Ned Mitchell

gave "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," by Scott, and Mr. Howard F. Stryker "The Star of Bethlehem," by Adams. The church choir, assisted by Mrs. Sherman and Miss Jessie H. Wallace, rendered two numbers very pleasantly. A short address was made by Rev. J. W. Wilson on "The Gifts That Mean the Most."

**SANTA CLAUS AT THE BLUFFS.**  
Jolly Old Fellow Will Visit the Town and Make Hears Happy.

Then Christmas Home will be one place where Santa Claus today will not forget to visit, and every child in the institution will be remembered with a gift. The chapel will be elaborately decorated to honor the arrival and two large Christmas trees will have their branches laden with toys and presents for the little folks as well as for their teachers and attendants. The exercises in the chapel will commence at 2 o'clock this afternoon and will consist of recitations and songs. Prizes to the exercises a beautiful dinner will be served and the children who know no home except the institution, will have their fill of turkey and all that goes to make up a Christmas spread. Christmas will be observed at St. Bernard's hospital in the same manner as has been the custom for years. High mass will be said at 6 o'clock in the morning and the customary Christmas dinner will be served all the inmates at noon. In the evening there will be a musical entertainment and presents will be distributed from an immense Christmas tree to the patients.

The annual Christmas entertainment provided by the generosity of General Dodge for the children of the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic will be given next Friday night at the Grand Army hall. All old soldiers' children and the veterans themselves and their wives are invited and there will be presents—candy and fruit for all the little ones. The entertainment will consist of music, such as stirs the old soldier's heart, songs and addresses.

Jailer Morgan has arranged to give the prisoners in the county jail a beautiful Christmas dinner today, and his charges will be served with turkey, cranberry sauce, mince pie and other delicacies. Chief of Police Albro will also see to it that the prisoners of the city jail shall not be forgotten and they will also feed on turkey and other good things that go to make up a Christmas dinner.

The leading hotels of the city announce that the Christmas dinner will be served at 1 o'clock today and at some the menu will be quite an elaborate one.

A number of the churches will hold special Christmas services this morning and in some the children this evening will have entertainments, the feature of which will be Christmas trees.

**Funeral of Charles Spies.**  
The funeral of the late Charles Spies, foreman of the Tamen and Peavey elevator, was held yesterday afternoon from the family residence, 336 Twenty-fourth street. There was a very large attendance of relatives and friends and the members of Council Bluffs lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen and Myrtle lodge, Degree of Honor, were present in a body. The casket was carried by four men, the funeral home of the city, and was followed by the many beautiful floral tributes, conspicuous among the number being a handsome set piece from the lodge of which deceased was a valued member. The services were conducted by Rev. W. S. Barnes of the First Presbyterian church. Interment was in Fairview cemetery.

**Today at the Postoffice.**  
The hours at the postoffice today will be as follows: Stamp window, general delivery window and money order division, from 9 a. m. to 12 m.; express window, from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. Carriers will make one delivery in the forenoon, leaving the office about 9 a. m. One business collection will be made in the afternoon, carriers leaving the office at 1 p. m.

**Court Adjourns.**  
AUBURN, Ia., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Judge Macy adjourned district court here yesterday until Wednesday, December 27, leaving unfinished the case of the State against T. J. Stafford, indicted for arson. Two women are indicted with Stafford for complicity in the crime. Saturday morning the judge sentenced Frank Cereonek and Charles Wilder to ninety days in jail for conducting a liquor nuisance, and Charles Jones, day laborer, to thirty days, with content to commit great bodily injury.

**Prosperity for 1900.**  
Indications everywhere point to great prosperity for the coming year. This is an invariable sign of a healthy nation. The success of a country, as well as the success of an individual depends upon health. There can be no health if the stomach is weak. If you have any stomach trouble try Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which cures indigestion, constipation and biliousness. It makes strong, vigorous men and women.

**Minors Can Enlist in Navy.**  
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Deputy Judge Rice of the district court here has decided that minors over 16 do not require the consent of their parents to enlist in the navy and that when enlisted they must serve their term. The decision was made in the case of Edward L. Weller, a 17-year-old boy, who sought his release on a writ of habeas corpus, which was denied.

**FORECAST OF THE WEATHER.**  
Generally Fair with Variable Winds Monday and Tuesday in Nebraska.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Forecast for Monday and Tuesday:  
For Nebraska—Generally fair Monday and Tuesday; variable winds.  
For Iowa and Missouri—Fair; continued cold Monday.  
For South Dakota—Generally fair Monday; colder in western portion Tuesday; variable winds.  
For Kansas—Generally fair Monday and Tuesday; northerly winds becoming variable.

**Local Record.**  
OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 24.—Omaha record of temperature and precipitation, compared with the corresponding day of the past three years:  
1899 1898 1897 1896  
Maximum..... 30 29 27 26  
Minimum..... 15 14 12 11  
Average..... 22 21 19 18  
Precipitation..... .25 .25 .25 .25  
Excess of temperature and precipitation at Omaha for this day and since March 1, 1899:  
Normal for the day, degrees..... 23  
Excess for the day, degrees..... 7  
Accumulated excess for the season, inches..... 4.07  
Normal rainfall for the day, inches..... .01  
Excess for the day, inches..... .01  
Total rainfall since March 1, inches..... 25.91  
Deficiency since March 1, inches..... 4.09  
Deficiency for the season, inches..... 1.98  
Deficiency for the corresponding period, 1897, inches..... 19.21  
T indicates trace of precipitation.  
BLAKE, J. A. WELLS, ST. Local Forecast Office.

**CASTORIA.**  
The Kind You Have Always Bought  
Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Williams*  
CASTORIA.  
The Kind You Have Always Bought  
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CASTORIA.  
The Kind You Have Always Bought  
Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Williams*

**Invest Your Money Safe.**  
Buy a first mortgage netting you 5 per cent interest.  
Buy a farm in Iowa or Nebraska.  
Purchase city property in Omaha or Council Bluffs.  
DAY & HESS, 39 Pearl Street, Council Bluffs.  
have the above investments for sale. Call on or write them.  
ESTABLISHED 1881.

## IOWA SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN

One of the Biggest Political Battles Ever Fought in the Hawkeye State.

## CUMMINS MEN TRYING TO DEFEAT GEAR

Initial Fight is Over the Speakership of the House—Appointment of Judge to Succeed Woolson Cuts Some Figure.

DES MOINES, Dec. 24.—(Special.)—That one of the greatest political battles ever waged in the state is now in progress can be judged from the fact the lobbies have been packed with politicians from every section of the state during the past week. The strife is over the election of a successor to United States Senator John H. Gear, Mr. Gear is a candidate for re-election and is opposed by A. B. Cummins of this city.

The past week has fully developed the fact that the battle raging is simply a contest of the "outs" against the "ins." While the paramount issue is over the election of a United States Senator, yet behind it all one can see the hand of the younger element of the party reaching out for the control of the republican machine.

The fight at the present time is over the control of the organization of the house, W. L. Eaton, the candidate of the Cummins faction, has been in the field for sometime and has conducted an active canvass. Mr. Bowen, who represents the Gear people, has been canvassing in his interest but a short time. The Cummins people forced the speakership contest into the fight and have taken up the cry that a vote for Eaton is a vote for Cummins. That Eaton had a decided advantage over the candidacy of Dr. Bowen a week ago cannot be questioned, and as a matter of fact at the present writing, he appears to be slightly in the lead, but at the same time the gains made by Bowen during the past three or four days have been of such a character as to greatly encourage the Gear forces. The latter have announced that Mr. Bowen at the present has forty-one pledges and that his election is assured. Both sides figure victory and furnish figures to substantiate their statements. Conservative politicians agree that Eaton, at the present time, leads in the race for the speakership.

It is generally agreed about the lobbies that in the event of Eaton being elected for the speakership, Cummins' name will not go before the republican senatorial caucus. On the other hand, if Bowen is defeated, Gear's name will be presented. Gear is far stronger than Bowen.

**Elker Out for Cummins.**  
One of the stirring events of the last week was the announcement of Dr. Elker of Decatur county that he would support both Eaton and Cummins. Dr. Elker has been in the doubt as to whom to support, while, although the Cummins people have claimed him. On Thursday he announced to a number of friends in the lobby of the Savary hotel his determination to support Cummins. He claims the people of the Eighth congressional district favor the election of Cummins to the senate. The forces of the Dr. Elker are being built up, and the capital of the announcement of Elker and as a matter of fact it has proved of some value to their campaign. The Gear men declare Elker has always been in their doubtful list and that for the last two weeks they were confident he would join the Cummins cause.

Elker, son-in-law of Senator Gear, who has been in the city for the last few days conducting the contest in behalf of the senator, stated last evening that the loss of Elker was expected; that Senator Gear had twelve solid votes in the Eighth district that district having so far as that section of the state was concerned.

Although it has not been brought into any prominence, yet the matter of the appointment of a successor to the late Judge Woolson of the federal bench is an important factor in the contest now being waged. The prominent candidates are Judge Towner of Corning and Judge Walter L. Smith of Council Bluffs. The Cummins people, to a man, claim Smith will be appointed. Towner is a strong man and has the backing of the Eighth congressional district. Members of the lower house from that district have been in the city during the last week and have called upon the Gear people in regard to his candidacy. It is believed here that the district, to a vote, will demand the appointment of Towner. Gear sentiment is divided between the two candidates.

Sensor Gear will arrive here from Washington January 2 and take personal charge of his campaign.

**DEATH RECORD.**  
Fremont, Neb., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Thos. Morgan, a well-known farmer residing seven miles south of the city in Saunders county, was found dead in bed this morning. He has been suffering from dropsy for several months, but was able to attend to the business of his farm and was about the house as usual yesterday, going to bed last night feeling as well as he had for some time. When his wife got up this morning she found him dead. His death is thought to be caused by heart failure. Mr. Morgan was about 55 years of age. He was born in Cordova, Ill., and had resided in Saunders county for about twenty years. He was a member of the Masons and Improver order of Red Men fraternities. He leaves a widow but no children.

**News of Death Causes Another.**  
AKRON, O., Dec. 24.—Samuel Wall, a prominent contractor, died shortly after midnight of consumption. The news of his death was carried to Albert H. Wall, his partner in business, who was so affected by it that he was stricken with paralysis and died a few hours later. Barrow was 55 years of age and Wall 57 years of age.

**Old Settler of Johnson County.**  
TRUMBULL, Neb., Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Robert G. Work died very suddenly here today of heart failure. Mr. Work was one of the earliest settlers of Johnson county, having located here over thirty years ago. He was one of the county's most influential and wealthiest men. His age was 71 years. He leaves a widow.

**Farmer Dies of Influenza.**  
HARTINGTON, Neb., Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Gehard Kohls, a wealthy German farmer, residing near St. Helena, and one of the oldest settlers in this county, died last night from injuries received by being thrown from a wagon by a runaway team, while driving home from Hartington on the evening of the 19th.

**Spain's Greatest Need.**  
Mr. A. P. Alvia of Barcelona, Spain, spends his winters at Allen, S. C. Weak nerves had caused severe pain in the back of his head. On using Electric Bitter, America's greatest blood and nerve remedy, all pain soon left him. He says this kind medicine, which cures liver and kidney trouble, purifies the blood, tones up the stomach, strengthens the nerves, puts vim, vigor and new life into every muscle, nerve and organ of the body. If weak, tired or ailing you need it. Every bottle guaranteed; only 50 cents. Sold by Kohn & Co., druggists.

**SHIPPERS TO COMBAT RATES.**  
Movement Started at Chicago to Form National Association of Men Who Pay Freight.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—To combat the late movement of the railroads by which commodity rates were abolished and classification changed in such a manner, it is alleged, that an advance in freight rates of from 10 to 15 per cent has been forced upon shippers, a local association of men who pay freight has been organized.

A circular in which the foregoing is set forth for the attention of the local merchants was issued today by Henry R. Post, Mr. Post declared that the only way for shippers to secure protection against excessive freight tariffs, in the making of which, he declares, the man who pays is not consulted, is to form a national body with state and local branches, working through the state assemblies and the national congress.

Reform in the matter of adjusting claims for damages and the tracing of strayed merchandise, Mr. Post declares, are much needed. The circular requests that shippers respond to the circular in order that the nucleus of an organization may be formed.

**Keokuk & Western Directors.**  
KEOKUK, Dec. 24.—The first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Keokuk & Western railway since the road was purchased by the Burlington was held here today. New directors elected: C. E. Perkins, Keokuk; Frank E. Hunnewell, Boston; James A. Payne, Boston, and W. D. Eaton, Burlington, Ia., to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of Benjamin S. Huntington, son-in-law of Senator Gear, who has been in the city for the last few days conducting the contest in behalf of the senator, stated last evening that the loss of Elker was expected; that Senator Gear had twelve solid votes in the Eighth district that district having so far as that section of the state was concerned.

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CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—To combat the late movement of the railroads by which commodity rates were abolished and classification changed in such a manner, it is alleged, that an advance in freight rates of from 10 to 15 per cent has been forced upon shippers, a local association of men who pay freight has been organized.

A circular in which the foregoing is set forth for the attention of the local merchants was issued today by Henry R. Post, Mr. Post declared that the only way for shippers to secure protection against excessive freight tariffs, in the making of which, he declares, the man who pays is not consulted, is to form a national body with state and local branches, working through the state assemblies and the national congress.

Reform in the matter of adjusting claims for damages and the tracing of strayed merchandise, Mr. Post declares, are much needed. The circular requests that shippers respond to the circular in order that the nucleus of an organization may be formed.

**Keokuk & Western Directors.**  
KEOKUK, Dec. 24.—The first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Keokuk & Western railway since the road was purchased by the Burlington was held here today. New directors elected: C. E. Perkins, Keokuk; Frank E. Hunnewell, Boston; James A. Payne, Boston, and W. D. Eaton, Burlington, Ia., to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of Benjamin S. Huntington, son-in-law of Senator Gear, who has been in the city for the last few days conducting the contest in behalf of the senator, stated last evening that the loss of Elker was expected; that Senator Gear had twelve solid votes in the Eighth district that district having so far as that section of the state was concerned.

Although it has not been brought into any prominence, yet the matter of the appointment of a successor to the late Judge Woolson of the federal bench is an important factor in the contest now being waged. The prominent candidates are Judge Towner of Corning and Judge Walter L. Smith of Council Bluffs. The Cummins people, to a man, claim Smith will be appointed. Towner is a strong man and has the backing of the Eighth congressional district. Members of the lower house from that district have been in the city during the last week and have called upon the Gear people in regard to his candidacy. It is believed here that the district, to a vote, will demand the appointment of Towner. Gear sentiment is divided between the two candidates.

Sensor Gear will arrive here from Washington January 2 and take personal charge of his campaign.

**DEATH RECORD.**  
Fremont, Neb., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Thos