

# NEBRASKA NEWS

## MRS. M'COY INSTANTLY KILLED BY TEN-YEAR-OLD BOY.

### WAS SHOOTING AT BIRDS

Accident Occurred While Two Were in Field Together—Mother Arose to Her Feet Just as the Boy Discharged the Revolver.

Mrs. Thomas McCoy, a widow, residing nine miles northeast of Bassett, was accidentally shot and killed by her ten-year-old son Caleb. They were out in the field and the mother was picking greens while the boy was shooting at birds with a revolver. The mother rose to her feet as the boy shot and the ball entered the back of her head, killing her instantly. She leaves a family of five children, the oldest about sixteen years of age.

#### Secretary of State's Fees.

Deputy Secretary Wait, of the secretary of state's office, announced that fees amounting to \$2,728.15 had been taken in during the month of May. During the session of the legislature the promise was made by this office that if some new laws were passed the fees could be increased from \$22,000 for the biennium to \$60,000. The legislature made many of the changes requested, and increased fees generally, but it refused to increase the fee for a notarial commission from \$1 to \$5. It now costs the state fully the price of this commission to issue it. The fees of the secretary of state for May are as follows: Articles of incorporation, \$2,338.90; notarial commission, \$76; motor vehicle fees \$102; marks and brands, \$60; certificates, \$98.65; agents' certificates, \$52.60.

#### Charged With Embezzlement.

A warrant was sworn out in the Gage county court at Beatrice by County Attorney M. W. Terry charging Lawrence McConnell with embezzling the sum of \$102.97 from Black Bros., the Beatrice millers. McConnell was employed as a drayman for H. W. Hill, the transfer man, and Saturday delivered considerable flour for the millers. It is the custom of Black Bros. to collect from a number of their customers on delivery of the goods ordered. In this way McConnell secured the sum above mentioned. He left the city Sunday some time, going to Crete. No trace of him has been found since he left that place. McConnell is the young man who was convicted a few years ago of assaulting a daughter of a Mr. Barnard residing near Filley.

#### Fell on 'Phone Wire.

While a company of home boys were perched at the top of a stairway in the rear of the opera house at Humboldt listening to a musical entertainment the banister gave way and precipitated two of their number, Walter Cooper and Walter Stauffer, to the ground, a distance of some fifteen or twenty feet. Both boys struck some telephone wires in their downward journey, which broke the force of their fall, else they must surely have been injured seriously. As it was, both were severely bruised, but no bones were broken, and each managed to make his way home without assistance.

#### Woman and Child Die.

Recently the dead body of Mrs. E. E. Wheeler, of Strang, was found with an infant, which was also dead. The last time Mrs. Wheeler was seen alive was Thursday evening of last week. Her husband and daughter were visiting at Omaha, and she was seen out attending to the chores. Not being seen since and the stock showing indication of neglect, some of the neighbors went to the house to investigate and found the doors barred. Seeing that something was wrong the house was opened and the dead bodies found on a bed. The sheriff was called and in the absence of the coroner, empanelled a jury and held an inquest. The verdict of the jury was that Mrs. Wheeler died of hemorrhage following child birth.

#### Registration of Motor Vehicles.

The new law that requires owners of motor vehicles to register annually and pay an annual fee of \$1 is not fully understood by many owners. Deputy Secretary of State Wait has interpreted the law as follows: "The new motor vehicle law, which goes into effect July 5, 1907, requires owners of motor vehicles to register the same annually in this department. All who registered one year prior to July 5, 1907, must re-register at once and annually thereafter, and those registering after July 5, 1907, must re-register one year from such date and annually thereafter."

## CITY NEED NOT BUY.

### Decision of Judge W. H. Munger in the Water Works Case.

The city of Omaha does not have to buy the Omaha Water company plant for \$6,263,295.49, the price fixed by the board of appraisers, and that appraisal is invalid—this is the decision of Judge W. H. Munger in the United States circuit court for the district of Nebraska, thus bringing to a culmination the prolonged fight precipitated by the Omaha water board under the provisions of the compulsory water plant ownership law enacted by the legislature in 1903. It leaves the next step to be taken by the water company in the form of an appeal to the circuit court of appeals, and this will be done in due course of time.

Judge Munger's decision is based upon one point in the controversy, namely, that the board of appraisers erred in receiving the books and records of the company for review without submitting the same to the inspection of the city or the water board. C. C. Wright, one of the attorneys for the latter, said he thought the decision could have been based on a number of other points as well.

The decision was the direct result of a suit brought by the Omaha Water company through its president to compel the city of Omaha to buy the plant of the water company on the basis of the terms made by the board of appraisers.

#### Crops Prosperous in Red Willow.

There are great prospects in Red Willow county this summer for wheat and corn. Recent heavy rains have added much to the good feeling in the community.

The city of McCook is booming. The new \$40,000 high school building is progressing nicely, and the first story has proceeded above the basement.

The excavation is done for the Carnegie library at McCook and occupies a beautiful site on Upper Main avenue. Several large business blocks have been built and others are contracted for. Much building is being done throughout the country among the farmers. Conditions generally are favorable. Landseekers are coming in daily, and values are advancing rapidly.

#### Vag's Leg Is Damaged.

At Alliance for the past few days the day and night watchmen have been rounding up the vags and persons without visible means of support. Marshal Laing approached a big, husky colored man and asked him what he was doing there. The colored man replied that it was none of Laing's business. One word led to another until Marshal Laing placed him under arrest and with the help of a bystander started to take him to the city jail. The negro put up a fight and started to run. The marshal called to him to stop and upon his refusal to do so took a shot at him, putting a bullet through the negro's leg.

#### State Debt Decreases.

The semi-annual report of State Auditor Searle shows that the state debt has decreased from \$1,916,671.31, December 1, 1906, to \$1,183,544.82 June 1, a decrease of \$733,051.29. The items of expense during the past six months include many legislative expenditures, but there are yet many buildings to be built and this may increase the state debt during the summer months when tax collections are light. The auditor's report shows that the insurance department of his office received \$100,793.53 in fees during the past six months, one of the largest showings ever made.

#### Addition to Auburn School.

Work has been commenced on the addition to the high school building in Auburn, which will consist of a two-story brick 28 by 26 feet and joining the old building on the west. It will be completed by the opening of the school in September. The addition will cost close to \$3,000. The annex will be fitted up with all modern conveniences for laboratory work, as well as a recitation room. The extra room is badly needed, as the school is crowded.

#### Ex-Governor's Daughter Weds.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Poynter have issued invitations to the wedding of their daughter Mary Josephine to Roy A. Bickford. The ceremony will take place in Lincoln, July 1st, at the First Christian church, and will be followed by a reception at the family home, 349 South Twenty-seventh street. The bride and groom will be at home after September 1 at 325 South Thirteenth street.

#### Death of Frank Vance.

A letter received at Stella from former Missouri Pacific Agent Vance, now located in Texas, tells of the accidental death of his son Frank by being thrown from a horse on which he was riding to town. The deceased was twelve years of age and had his neck broken by the fall.

## HE IS TO BLAME!

