

# NEBRASKA NEWS

WELL KNOWN NEBRASKAN PASSES AWAY.

## HAD BEEN IN POOR HEALTH

Death Came to Him While Surrounded by His Family on Porch of His Omaha Home.

W. A. Paxton, pioneer resident of Omaha, millionaire merchant, cattle man, and identified with many business interests in Nebraska, dropped dead at his home in Omaha.

Mr. Paxton was born in Springfield, Kentucky, seventy years ago. He came to Omaha at the age of twenty and has been identified with the interests of the city ever since.

Mr. Paxton, who has been in poor health for two years past, spent last winter in Texas without gaining any considerable benefit, and his friends have realized for some time past that the end was near. In the evening after a brief automobile ride he was sitting on his porch with Mrs. Paxton and his two nieces, apparently in the best of spirits. He took a package of chewing gum from his pocket and passed it around, remarking "This is on me," and instantly throwing up his hands his head fell gradually forward and in a few seconds he was dead.

Mr. Paxton came to Nebraska in 1857, and was made foreman of the work of building bridges on the government road from Omaha to Fort Kearney by M. J. Ragan, for whom he had worked for several years on his farm in Missouri. In 1867 he secured the contract to build the first ten miles of the Union Pacific west of Julesburg and in the following year he had an army of six thousand men and fifteen hundred teams at work on the construction of the road in Wyoming. In 1869, after his return to Omaha he assisted in the incorporation of the Omaha & Northwestern now a part of the Northwestern system. He has since taken an active part in the manufacturing and commercial life of Omaha.

Mr. Paxton was one of the members of the syndicate which laid and developed South Omaha in 1884. He was one of the founders of the South Omaha union stock yards and was at the time of his death president of that institution. He also held the same position in the Paxton & Gallagher Wholesale Grocery company, the Paxton & Vierling Iron Works and the Omaha Transfer company, besides being a director in several Omaha banks and other corporations.

He is survived by Mrs. Paxton and their son, W. A. Paxton, Jr., a ranchman of Keystone, Neb.

In politics he was an ardent democrat, and was a member of the twenty-fourth Nebraska legislature and of the state senate in the twenty-ninth session.

### Boy's Arm Shot Off.

Eddie, the eleven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Sivey of Tecumseh, was the victim of an accident which cost him an arm. With his uncle, Lute Ward of Marysville, Ohio, who is visiting there, he had gone to Holthus' lake, seven miles southeast of the city, to hunt. Mr. Ward laid a cocked gun on the ground and Eddie picked it up with the muzzle toward him. His left arm was terribly shattered at the elbow and a few shot entered his face and he was powder-burned. The boy was taken to his home in Tecumseh where Drs. G. J. Rubelman and B. F. Gay found it necessary to remove the arm just above the elbow.

### Train Hits a Carriage.

Passenger train No. 6 ran into a team and carriage at a crossing two miles east of Oxford, killing the horses and damaging the vehicle slightly. One of the horses was carried on the pilot almost a mile before the train stopped. When it was backed up to the scene of the accident the driver could not be found, and as the rig was the property of Liveryman McCarl, of Orleans, it was supposed that he had boarded train No. 14 at the junction and returned home. The track in that vicinity is straight and the roadbed level.

### Grand Island Safe Blown.

Burglars wrecked the safe in the Eting Fruit and Candy company's place of business, Grand Island, and got away with \$60 in cash and some checks, which will be worthless to them. The safe is a common size and make. Both the big plate glass windows were blown out and broken into fragments. Nitroglycerin was used with bananas to make the holes airtight. The clock in the office stopped at 4:05 a. m. There is no clue.

## MAN'S BODY FOUND ON TRACK

Greeks Report Discovery of Injured Man at Central City.

The body of James McCurr was found by the crew of Union Pacific train No. 11 about seven miles west of Central City. McCurr has been working on the sewer ditch for a couple of months and is said to live at Greeley Center. He is said to have been drinking. Some of the Greeks at work on the track found him around their cars and fearing he meant mischief put him on a handcar and took him a few miles east and turned him loose. It is thought that he wandered onto the tracks and was struck by a passing train. A deep cut on the man's forehead and the fact that he had been taken away on a handcar by the Greeks led to the suspicion of foul play. Close inquiry by the sheriff and coroner, however, seemed to satisfy them that this was not the case. The action of the Greeks is considered peculiar. McCurr is respectfully connected and during the time he has been at work in Central City has not been known to indulge in liquor.

## HUDSON CAUGHT IN KANSAS.

Desperado Who Shot Sheriff Miner of Johnson County Located.

Sheriff H. U. Miner and Deputy C. W. Woolsey started for Kingsley, Kansas, to bring back Simon Hudson, the desperado who forged checks at Tecumseh and shot the sheriff when he attempted to arrest him. A telegram came from J. A. Sheffer, sheriff at Casper, Wyo., that Hudson was at Kingsley and requesting the officers to come for him. Two hundred dollars reward was offered. County Attorney J. C. Moore went to Lincoln and secured requisition papers.

## Charged With Misuse of Mails.

Abe and Nicholas Riemer, the sons of B. N. Reimer of Jansen, were brought before United States Commissioner J. E. Cobbe of Beatrice and pleaded guilty to the charge of illegally using the mails. They were bound over to the next term of federal court and their bonds were fixed at two hundred dollars. They were able to secure bond. The Reimer boys, it seems, claimed to have purchased jewels of Sears-Roebuck and company, not up to the standard and demanded that their money be refunded, and in several instances were successful in getting it. In reality it is alleged they purchased no jewelry from the company, but secured inferior articles and sent them to the company to secure money back. The case was turned over to the government authorities.

## Boy Drowned at Table Rock.

Leland Wood, the twenty-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Wood, who live three miles south of Table Rock, near the Burlington tracks, was drowned while trying to rescue the stock of a neighbor, just above a large railroad embankment sixteen or eighteen feet high, and which was nearly full. The house of this neighbor was some two hundred yards from the track. With three or four others he was trying to rescue the stock, which was in a stable. He started back to get an ax and went under, his companion narrowly escaping by hanging to a fence. The body was recovered within a short distance of where his father and two other companions saw him go under.

## Boy Has a Narrow Escape.

Eddie Schumacher, son of August Schumacher of Pilger, narrowly escaped death while a local freight was switching. He grabbed on to the ladder of a car and the engine pushed the car past the Nye-Schneider elevator. The space between the elevator and the car is very small, but he would have passed through all right but for a step projecting from the elevator. He was caught between the step and car and about a square foot of skin was scratched off his body. Aside from this he received a gash in the abdomen and his head and legs were badly bruised.

## Stanton to Own Light Plant.

Stanton is to own its own electric light plant. At an election held recently to vote bonds for that purpose the bonds carried by a vote of 133 to 68. The present lighting plant will be taken over by the city, an agreement to that effect having been reached a few weeks ago between the present owners, F. L. Sanders & Co. and the city. In case the bonds were voted. The bonds were opposed by friends of the present owners, who desired that ownership remain where it is. Friends of municipal ownership are viewing the result as decided victory.

## Lost 2,200 Feet of Track.

The Burlington lost 2,200 feet of track between Verdon and Salem, Neb., by the recent flood. It will take several days to repair this break. It is said the Burlington lines in the Wynare division sustained loss by flood during the past week that will reach between \$50,000 and \$75,000.

# CAPITAL CITY CHAT

LABOR COMMISSIONER RYDER ON CHILD LABOR LAW.

## SAYS MEASURE IS SEVERE

Cites Several Cases Where Law Has Worked Serious Inconvenience —Thinks Measure Should Be More Elastic.

Labor Commissioner J. J. Ryder, who is required to keep a list of children to whom employment certificates are issued under the new child labor law, has made some investigation and laid the information received before Governor Sheldon.

"I am of the opinion that there should be some discretion lodged with those whose duty it is to enforce the law," said Mr. Ryder, "and that the law ought to be elastic in its nature. The law does not contain any elastic qualities. It must be enforced to the letter or it will be a law without force and effect. Even if those charged with its enforcement are disposed to be lenient with certain cases, I find that the employers whom it would be a pleasure for boys to work for will not dare run the risk of violating the law and good employers have discharged boys who were supporting families. Employers have taken this action as a result of the advice of their attorneys.

"The case of two boys employed in the offices of a packing house at South Omaha came to my personal attention. Both boys were under fourteen years of age. Each received \$5 a week for his services, which was probably more than they could get in any other employment. One boy carried messages and papers from one office or one desk to another and the other boy attended what was practically an outside door. The firm employing them finally discharged them rather than run the risk of a prosecution for violating the child labor law. Both boys belonged to poor families and their earnings with what the widowed mother in one of the families earned was the sole source of support. One of these families had been receiving aid from the county. Now that the boys have been discharged it is certain that at least one of the families will have to look again to the county for aid and perhaps the boys will be allowed to run the streets during vacation of the public schools.

"A Lincoln boy called on me today to ask about a certificate of employment. He is eleven years of age and he desires to work in a department store in Lincoln as a cash boy. I was obliged to tell him that he could not work in a store. He was to get fifty cents a day for his work.

"In extreme cases, like the South Omaha case, the law appears to work a hardship and some say that it does more harm than good and for that reason those who enforce it ought to have more discretionary power than the law gives. If the law is not enforced it will excite criticism and if it is enforced to the letter I fear that the next legislature will not stop to amend it but repeal it. The intent of the lawmakers was evidently good, but practical men who have looked into its workings have fears that it goes too far. However the law should have a fair test."

No child between fourteen and sixteen years of age shall be employed in stores, places of amusement, hotels, office, manufacturing establishment, passenger or freight elevators, factory or workshop as a messenger or driver, unless the employer has on file an employment certificate presented by the child, showing that the child has completed the eighth grade or its equivalent or is attending night school.

No child under fourteen can be employed while the public schools are in session; or at any time in any theater, concert hall, place of amusement, or where intoxicating liquors are sold, or in any workshop, factory, mercantile institution, store, office, laundry, hotel or manufacturing establishment, bowling alley, freight or passenger elevator, or as a messenger or driver therefor.

No person under the age of sixteen years shall be employed or suffered or permitted to work in any theater, concert hall, or place of amusement, or in any mercantile establishment, or in any mercantile institution, store, office, hotel laundry, manufacturing establishment, packing house, bowling alley, passenger or freight elevator, factory, workshop, beet field, or as a messenger or driver therefor, more than forty-eight hours in any one week, nor more than eight hours in any one day, nor before the hour of 6 o'clock in the morning, nor after the hour of 8 o'clock in the evening.

The child labor law went into effect March 30. It provided that immediately upon its taking effect it should be the duty of the governor to appoint five persons, two at least of whom should be women, who should constitute a board of inspectors to serve without pay. The board has not yet been appointed.

## Will Go to Supreme Court.

Attorney General W. T. Thompson notified A. S. Tibbets, who is a member of the committee appointed by the democratic conference to confer with the attorney general on the question of fusion under the new primary law, that he would not change the opinion given out by him that fusion could not legally be effected under the law for the reason that the name of no candidate could appear on more than one party ballot.

Judge Tibbets reported this to the state chairman, T. S. Allen, and, as agreed at the conference, the matter will be taken up in a friendly suit in the supreme court. The democrats are very positive that fusion cannot be prohibited. It is said that the attorney general is now of the same opinion, but having understood that a friendly suit would be brought to test the law on this point, did not reverse his opinion. The suit will be filed at once and a ruling obtained as quickly as possible, on account of the nearness of the time for candidates to file their petitions.

## Up in the Air.

The board of public lands and buildings opened bids for the proposed \$20,000 cattle barn at the state fair. All bids exceeded the appropriation and Secretary W. R. Mellor has written to members of the state board of agriculture as to whether the board cares to put in enough of its own funds to complete the work. The board of agriculture has spent \$27,000 to its own funds on improvements and has set aside \$5,000 to pay expenses and premiums in the event of a rainy fair week and poor attendance. If the board is willing to use most of this fund the cattle barn can be built. It can not be completed in time for use at the coming fair.

## Fair Appointments.

At a meeting of the state horticultural board at Lincoln the following appointments were announced: Superintendent of hall at the state fair, G. A. Marshall, Arlington; judge of fruit, J. H. Haddock, Omaha; judge of floral exhibit, J. H. Swigart, landscape gardener for the Union Pacific railroad. The members of the board comprise the following officers and directors: Officers: President, Harry S. Harrison, York; first vice-president, Chas. L. Saunders, Omaha; second vice-president, C. H. Green, Fremont; treasurer, Peter Youngers, Geneva; secretary, L. M. Russell, Lincoln. Directors: J. A. Yager, Fremont, W. G. Swan, Tecumseh, A. J. Brown, Geneva.

## Counties Must Show Up.

The state board of assessment has called for the original abstracts of assessments made by the county assessors of Douglas and Lancaster counties. This move is considered necessary before the board considers the question of reinstating values as originally found by County Assessor Miller of Lancaster which were reduced by the county board 20 per cent on personal property, or increasing the values of personal property as reported by County Assessor Reed of Douglas county. The members of the board still say they intend to restore the 20 per cent deducted from personal property by the Lancaster board. What will be done with Douglas county is not made known. County Assessor Miller will probably go before the state board as he has done repeatedly, and protest against the alleged undervaluation of personal property in Douglas. Merchandise in Omaha is said to be notoriously undervalued as compared with the same class of property in Lancaster. Even after the Lancaster board took off 20 per cent, some kinds of personal property is still assessed higher in Lancaster than Douglas.

## Short Line Passenger Rates.

The state railway commission issued an order giving the Union Pacific road permission to grant short line passenger rates to competing points. The Union Pacific has a long line from Lincoln to Omaha and from Lincoln to Kearney, and from Grand Island to Central City and Lincoln, and a short line from Lincoln to Beatrice. If the company sells tickets over the long lines as low as the shortest line road it will be at a rate less than two cents a mile.

## Vouchers Were Filed.

Vouchers from the state university were filed with Secretary of State Junkin for the purpose of aiding him in approving claims for warrants on the state treasury. While the vouchers were reposing in his office, warrants for the same claims were being drawn in the office of Auditor Searle, regardless of the secretary's approval. The courts have required the auditor to draw warrants on university funds.

# AMUCK WITH AN AX

INSANE FARMER KILLS THREE BEFORE HIS OWN DEATH.

## IS SHOT BY HIS NEIGHBOR

No Warning Given of Awful Tragedy, and Three Members of Family Are Slain One After the Other.

Henry Schutcheon, a farmer about fifty years old, living near Nunica, Mich., ran amuck with an axe, killing his invalid son, his wife and her foster father.

Schutcheon was later shot by Henry McClellan, a neighbor whom the crazed murderer had also attacked.

The dead: HENRY SCHUTCHEON, POLLY SCHUTCHEON, his wife, SCHUTCHEON, his eighteen-year-old son.

GEORGE ANNING, Mrs. Schutcheon's foster father.

The Schutcheon farmhouse had apparently always been a happy home except for the cloud which the son's invalidism cast over it.

With no warning, so far as is known, Schutcheon suddenly murderously attacked his son with an axe. He crushed the boy's head frightfully. When his wife interfered he turned on her and pursued the frightened, screaming woman from the house to the road, where he knocked her down with his weapon. He then rushed back to the house and murdered his foster father-in-law.

Next he tried to destroy himself. The maddened man gashed his throat and wrists with a razor and took some Paris green. His wounds did not weaken him and the poison did not take immediate effect. Axe in hand he returned to the road, where he nearly killed his wife a few moments before. The first blow did not kill her and she had been carried into the house of Henry McClellan, nearby. McClellan rushed to another neighbor's for help. When Schutcheon found that his wife was in the McClellan home alive he smashed a window with his axe, jumped through it and again attacked her. This time he crushed her skull. He then left the McClellan home and returned to his house. When Mr. McClellan returned from his search for help the crazed man came out and started over toward him, saying: "I want you, too."

"I will shoot you if you come across the road," replied McClellan, who had armed himself with a shotgun. Despite the warning Schutcheon came across. McClellan thereupon shot him dead.

## WANAMAKER'S STABLES BURN.

Loss of \$100,000 Entailed by Blaze in Big Barn.

The stables on the John Wanamaker estate, Lydenhurst, near Jenkintown, Pa., were destroyed by fire, entailing a loss estimated at \$100,000. Lydenhurst, Mr. Wanamaker's country home, was destroyed by fire February last, causing a loss of nearly \$2,000,000.

At the time of this fire valuable paintings, statues and bric-a-brac were stored in the stables. The paintings had since been removed, but many articles remained.

Flames were discovered, and a fire apparatus from Philadelphia and companies from nearby suburban towns were hurried to the scene, but the fire had made such rapid headway that nothing could be saved. The stables were built when Lydenhurst was erected and were magnificently equipped. Three horses were burned in their stalls and the loss on the building and contents is estimated at \$50,000. The value of articles from Lydenhurst which were in the barn is estimated at \$50,000.

## Two Others Very Low.

The condition of two of the surviving victims of the accident of the Georgia recently, is assuming a serious aspect. Seaman John A. Bush, is worse than at any time since he was taken to the hospital. Seaman Louis Meese had declined considerably. Most of the others injured are believed to be recovering. Two have so far convalesced as to be able to walk about the grounds.

## Small Bank Closed.

The Farmers' National Bank of Boyertown, Pa., was ordered closed by the comptroller of the currency upon a report of National Bank Examiner Bingham showing it to be insolvent. J. W. Scofield, bank examiner, has been appointed receiver. The bank has a capital of \$50,000.