

NEBRASKA NEWS

SEVERAL TOWNS ARE VISITED BY THE FIRE FIEND.

EXETER THE LATEST VICTIM

Axtell Swept By Flames for Second Time and Loses Many Business Houses—Gilead Also Has a Blaze.

Exeter is the latest Nebraska city to be visited by a destructive fire. One of the costliest conflagrations in the history of the town broke out early in the morning and was not checked till several hours of strenuous work by the fire department. The blaze originated in the meat market of A. Radford, in the rear of the Union block. It consumed the produce store and then attacked the larger block, the first floor of which was occupied by the hardware and furniture store of W. F. Dickinson. Part of the basement contained a pool hall owned by J. W. Glenn, while the top floor was used as an opera house and by the Odd Fellows and other lodges. The building and contents were entirely destroyed. Mr. Dickinson carried a stock valued at about \$8,000 with \$5,000 insurance.

After consuming the Union Block the fire ate its way south. The damage was as follows: Ed Eaton's pool hall, except the tables; the postoffice, with part of the furniture and fixtures; Jake Becker's saloon, except part of the stock; M. C. Eberstein's confectionery store, with part of the stock; A. Radford's grocery, H. T. Wilson shoe store, most of the stock saved.

The fire was checked at the shoe store, which was wrecked by the fighters. No wind prevailed, and the fire was confined to one side of the street. The Bell Telephone company lost about a block of cables and wires. Most of the burned buildings and stocks were insured. Exeter has at present no waterworks, but a system has been provided for and will be installed soon.

Second Fire at Axtell

Another disastrous fire, the second within two weeks, swept the business section of Axtell, and the entire west side of the main street is in ruins. On the morning of August 5, the east lower half of Reed street was destroyed by fire, involving a loss of about \$50,000 and this last fire will probably exceed this figure in loss of property.

Disastrous Fire at Gilead.

One-third of the village of Gilead, over the line in Thayer county, was destroyed by fire at an early hour. The fire was discovered in the rear of Mrs. Rich's millinery store at 3:30 and had gained considerable headway at that time. It spread rapidly to the adjoining building which was occupied by the Gilead State bank, the cashier, Frank Nelson, living in the rear. J. M. Meyer's restaurant was next fired and the meat market owned by the same man was consumed.

CAR KILLS A SMALL GIRL.

Six-year-old Child Run Over By an Omaha Motor.

Milina Kelsner, six years old, 1724 South Thirteenth street was instantly killed by a north bound Farnam car at Tenth and Lincoln avenue. She was the daughter of Abraham Kelsner who conducts a second hand store at 1724 South Tenth street. With her sister, Anna, who was only two years older, she was sent on an errand about 8:30 and on returning they were about a block from the store, where their mother was waiting for them, and started across the street just as a car came by. The older girl cautioned her sister not to try to pass in front of it, but she laughed and ran ahead. She was carried thirty feet after being struck and the body was frightfully mangled.

Last Homestead in Merrick.

What is believed to be the last homestead in Merrick county has been filed on by Lee E. Nichols of Palmer. It consists of seventy acres in a narrow strip of this county running up between Nance and Howard counties, north of the Loup river. This same piece of property was filed on once before, but it was abandoned before the holder had resided on it the necessary length of time.

Dies on Day of Father's Funeral.

John Brt, a Bohemian farmer living east of Crete died after a siege of asthma. His death came while his father was being buried. The latter was 97 years old at the time of his death. The younger man was a member of the Bohemian lodges of M. W. A. and Z. C. B. J. of Crete.

GOVERNOR PLANS BIG TRIP.

To Go With Governors and President to Memphis.

Governor Sheldon is soon to take a trip with other western governors which in importance will exceed any journey he has taken since he became governor of Nebraska. He will go to Keokuk, Ia., to help entertain President Roosevelt, accompany his party to St. Louis where the president is to speak October 2. At St. Louis the governors will be the guests of the business men's league and after viewing the Veiled Prophet parade on the streets and attending a grand ball at night, will go with President Roosevelt down the Mississippi river to Memphis to attend a deep water convention.

MISSOURI PACIFIC TRACK BAD

Railroad Commissioners Find Road bed in Very Bad Shape.

Sunburned and travel stained the three railroad commissioners returned to Lincoln from a tour of inspection along the tracks of the Missouri Pacific railroad. Commissioners Winnett and Williams wore out a pair of shoes. The shoes belonged to Mr. Winnett. Mr. Williams made a record-breaking effort while walking a seven mile course between Auburn and Howe. Mr. Clarke held on for dear life to the back end of a caboose all the way from Omaha to Kansas City. The commissioners will issue an order requiring either a lessening of speed, the repair of tracks or preventing the use of heavy rolling stock.

Governor's Appointments.

Governor Sheldon has about completed his list of appointments by designating Dan Hoyt commandant of the soldiers' and sailors' home at Grand Island. The change will take place some time in September. Mr. Hoyt is now one of the deputy oil inspectors and lives at York. J. W. Bowen is the adjutant at the home. No intimation as to whether or not a change will be made in that office has been given by the governor. W. A. Asquith is the present commandant. Notice has been given Dr. Johnson of the institute for feeble-minded youth at Beatrice that his successor will be chosen and ready to relieve him of duty September 1. Professor Sherman, of Columbus, has been named to succeed Superintendent Hayward at the Kearney Industrial school.

Governor Turns It Down.

"I am not in sympathy with the movement therein proposed," wrote Governor Sheldon in reply to a letter received from St. Louis asking him to appoint delegates to a convention which is to propose amendments to the federal constitution on the question of federal jurisdiction and states' rights. He does not believe the people of Nebraska are worrying about any conflict between the states and federal government at this time. He thinks the rights of states have been pretty well defined. He also remembers the Colorado convention which was called evidently for the purpose of denouncing President Roosevelt's policy and the present laws relating to the disposition of public lands.

Death Sentence Suspended.

The death sentence of Harrison Clarke, the Omaha murderer, was suspended by Chief Justice Sedgwick until the next meeting of the court in September or until further orders of the court. Judge J. B. Strode of Lincoln appeared for the condemned man and showed the chief justice that the court must first give his client a hearing on a motion for a rehearing before the case is finally disposed of and the judgment executed. The attorney general did not resist the plea for a stay of execution but acquiesced in the statement of Judge Strode. The death sentence was to have been carried out August 30 according to the former order of the supreme court.

No Contract for Building.

The board of public lands and buildings has fully decided to buy material for the addition to the home of the friendless and for interior changes necessary to set off the orthopedic hospital from the home for the friendless, providing the state finds that dealers in material will sell to the state. If wholesalers sell to the state it is understood that a certain percentage of the profit will go to local dealers. Much old material on hand can be used in making the change. All lump sum bids were rejected as being too high and the work may be given to a contractor for a percentage of the total cost of labor and material.

Pleased With Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Edwards arrived in Hastings from their home at Versailles, Ky., and will make an extended visit at the home of Mrs. Edwards' sister, Mrs. T. J. Steele. This is Mr. Edwards' first visit to this state and he expresses himself as very much pleased with Nebraska.

"COME OFF THE PERCH."



Uncle Sam—"Hi, there; do you realize that in order to repair that wire one or the other of you must come down?"

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

There Will Be no Change in His Policies.

Criminals, Rich and Poor, Will Continue To Be Prosecuted—Honest Corporations Protected.

Provincetown, Massachusetts.—The laying of the cornerstone of the Cape Cod Pilgrims memorial monument Tuesday gave President Roosevelt his first opportunity of the summer to break silence upon public questions, and the 49 minutes' speech which he delivered from a platform on top of Town Hill, was one of vigor and directness upon matters of national importance. The feature of his address was his advocacy of a national incorporation law and his stand in relation to violators of the law, especially corporations. With emphasis he declared that the administration would not waver in its determination "to punish certain malefactors of great wealth," continuing he said:

"There will be no change in the policy we have steadily pursued, no let up in effort to secure the honest observance of the law, for I regard this contest as one to determine who shall rule this government, the people through their governmental agents, or a few ruthless and determined men whose wealth makes them particularly formidable because they hide behind the breastworks of corporate organization."

"I wish there to be no mistake on this point. It is idle to ask me not to prosecute criminals, rich or poor. But I desire no less emphatically to have it understood that we have undertaken and will undertake no action of a vindictive type and above all and no action which shall inflict great or unmerited suffering upon the public as a whole. Our purpose is to act with the minimum of harshness compatible with obtaining our ends. In the man of great wealth who has earned his wealth honestly and used it wisely we recognize a good citizen worthy of all praise and respect. Business can only be done under modern conditions through corporations and our purpose is to heartily favor the corporations that do well. The administration appreciates that liberal but honest profit for legitimate promoters and generous dividends for capital employed either in founding or continuing an honest business venture, are the factors necessary for successful corporate activity, and therefore for generally prosperous business conditions.

"All these are compatible with fair dealing as between man and man, and rigid obedience to the law. Our aim is to help every honest man, every honest corporation, and policy means in its ultimate analysis a healthy and prosperous expansion of business activities, of honest business men and honest corporations."

Mail Bags Stolen.

Lincoln, Nebraska.—A high official in the mail service of the United States admitted Tuesday that three bags of registered mail had been stolen from a Burlington car between Denver, and Oxford, Neb. The sacks contained \$250,000 in money and valuable papers and the theft has caused a sensation.

Postmaster of House Dies.

Washington, D. C.—A telegram from Delaware, O., reports the death there Wednesday of Postmaster McElroy of the national house of representatives. He was 75 years old and had been ill for several months with an affection of the heart.

A MOVE FOR TWO-CENT FARES.

Attorney for Kansas Railroad Commission Will Bring the Subject Before the Board.

Topeka, Kan.—Frank Grattan, attorney for the state board of railroad commissioners, Friday announced in a signed statement that he will at once file a complaint with the board for an order that the railroads establish a flat two-cent passenger fare in Kansas. The complaint will probably be filed Saturday.

Mr. Grattan indorses Governor Hich's message. He thinks that if the board makes an order and the roads do not obey, the governor should convene the legislature in special session, so that Kansas can get the benefit of a two-cent fare while litigation is on. After the complaint is filed notice will be served upon all of the defendant railroad companies, who are given ten days in which to answer. The date of hearing is then set, and ten more days' notice given, which will make the hearing probably twenty days from Saturday. The board will then, if the evidence warrants it, make an order.

Mr. Grattan's action stops all special talk for at least a month or more. All of the railroad commissioners are at their homes and Secretary Shiner will not talk.

Cortelyou's New Plan.

New York.—Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou announced Friday a new plan of depositing government funds in New York, Boston and other cities to afford relief to the money market in approaching crop movement period. Secretary Cortelyou will commence next week, place each week at such points in the country as he shall designate, government funds to such an amount as he deems sufficient to prevent an acute monetary stringency and possible panic when the demand for money is greatest at the height of the crop moving period.

They Slaughtered the Moors.

Paris, France.—Vice Admiral Philibert commanding the French naval forces off Casa Blanca, telegraphs that while the Moors were advancing on the French camp near Casa Blanca Wednesday, under cover of a fog, the fog lifted and permitted the French batteries ashore and afloat to shell the Moors with deadly effect. At two o'clock Wednesday afternoon Gen. Drude had moved forward his field guns to a ridge, situated about four miles from the camp, whence he shelled the Moors, who were then in full flight eastward.

More Kansas Cattle Diseases.

Topeka, Kansas.—An outbreak of the "foot and mouth disease" is reported from Langley, Ellsworth county. The sheriff of that county called the live stock sanitary commissioner by Telephone Tuesday and said that a veterinarian had made an examination of the cattle in a pasture, and pronounced their ailment foot and mouth disease. One cow died while the sheriff was in the pasture. The cattle have been quarantined and it is not probable that the disease will spread.

Fined for Giving Rebate.

Minneapolis, Minn.—A fine of \$20,000 was imposed upon the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railway company and its former general freight agent, Hiram M. Pierce, ordered to pay a \$2,000 fine by Judge Page Morris in the United States district court Friday. The Omaha road, conjointly with the former general freight agent, was convicted in the same court, April 11, of granting rebates to the Spencer Grain company.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CRUSADE

Attorney General of Kansas in Conference with County Attorneys.

A Movement All Along the Line to Be Started Against Law Breakers of the State.

Topeka, Kansas.—Different methods of driving the joints, trusts and breweries out of business were discussed at the meeting of the county attorneys here Thursday. The county attorneys were called to Topeka by Fred S. Jackson, attorney general, to talk about law enforcement. Fifty-three of them came, and a dozen or so sent deputies.

The meetings are being held in the supreme court room and everything was secret. There was a guard at the door, all the ventilators and windows were closed and every man who went into the room was subjected to a rigid examination.

This conference grew out of the action of the attorneys for the brewery companies who held meetings, and each one decided to take up a certain line of legal procedure to bother the state officers. That looked like a good scheme to the attorney general who decided that it would keep a whole lot of corporation attorneys busy if each county attorney started some sort of move against the law breakers. That is what this meeting is for. Some of the county attorneys will begin work on criminal proceedings, others will have injunction, others quo warranto and others will have some other kind of actions against the lawbreakers, and all will be booming at the same time.

Not all the attorneys will be given assignments. Some of them will devote their time to the prohibitory law, others to trusts. The attorneys will camp on the trail of the law breakers.

The meeting was to get at the best plans for proceeding. Every feature of possible law breaking was taken up.

Cavalry Horses Scarce.

Washington, D. C.—Gen. A. W. Greely, who, during the past year commanded the northern division of the army, takes the position in his annual report that during the past ten years the remounts for the army have gradually deteriorated in quality, but have steadily increased in price, and that the question of remount supplies for cavalry and field artillery will soon become a source of embarrassment to the service.

Reform in Kansas Assessments.

Topeka, Kansas.—The state tax commission adopted its first innovation in assessment methods Tuesday when it was decided that real estate should be assessed at its full cash value. A circular letter was sent to the county clerks notifying them of this change. It will not become effective, however, until March of next year, as the assessments for this year have already been made.

Harvester Company Ouster Suit.

Atchison, Kansas.—The first action of the state in its suit to try to oust the International Harvester company from doing business in the state on the grounds that it is a trust and not licensed to do business in the state was started here Monday, but ended in a failure. After examining three witnesses, the attorney general dismissed the investigation as far as Atchison is concerned.

Protest Quickly Heeded.

Lincoln, Neb.—In just 30 minutes after Secretary Whitten of the Commercial club had filed a protest with the state railway commissioner against an advance from 25 cents to 40 cents in minimum charge on small shipments on the Burlington railroad, he was informed by Secretary Perkins of the commission that the rates had been put back.

An \$8,000,000 Deficiency Legal.

Washington, D. C.—Acting Secretary of War Oliver has decided that the president is authorized to grant the request of the Isthmian canal commission for permission to create a deficiency of \$8,000,000 to meet the requirements of the engineer department for an enlarged scale of operations.

May Form Insurance Society.

Washington, D. C.—For the purpose of securing cheaper life insurance a movement has been started among the 40,000 government employees in Washington to organize an association known as the Government Employees' Mutual Relief association.

Two Missouri Girls Killed.

Trenton, Mo.—The eastbound Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Golden State limited train struck and killed two girls, the daughters of Charles Speck, a farmer, two miles south of Spikard Friday. The children were three and five years old.