

# THE NORFOLK WEEKLY NEWS-JOURNAL.

NORFOLK, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1906.

## FREIGHT DEPOT BURNED

**BONESTEEL STRUCTURE IS DESTROYED WITH CONTENTS.**

**NO CLUE TO ORIGIN OF FIRE**

Chicago & Northwestern Suffers a Loss of \$20,000 to \$25,000 on Building and Contents—Was Separate From the Passenger Station.

Bonesteel, S. D., Dec. 20.—Special to The News: The freight depot of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad at this place burned to the ground at 3:30 this morning. How the fire originated none at this time seems to know.

Inquiry at Northwestern agents in this city failed to develop further particulars of the fire than contained in the telegram, railroad reports being lacking in information as to how the fire originated.

The freight depot was separate from the passenger depot at Bonesteel and was a first class building of its kind. It was filled with an abundance of merchandise, which was also destroyed. The estimated loss on building is \$20,000 to \$25,000, while the freight stored in the building would probably reach a value of \$20,000 to \$25,000.

**BARN AND CATTLE SHEDS BURN**

**Farmer Near Creighton Loses by Fire Started by Lantern.**

Creighton, Neb., Dec. 20.—Special to The News: The large barn and cattle sheds of Frank Van Houten, living seven miles southwest of Winnetoon, were totally destroyed by fire last night about 7 o'clock.

The fire originated from the explosion of a lantern which had been hung over the manger in one of the stalls. In reaching for hay a horse knocked it down, which exploded as it struck. The flames ran through the loose hay like a whirlwind, and although Mr. Van Houten was present he was unable to stop the spread of the fire. After consuming the barn the flames communicated to the large cattle sheds adjoining, which were destroyed.

Mr. Van Houten succeeded in getting all his live stock out of the way of harm, but his machinery, harness and many other farm appliances were consumed.

**"TOM THE PEEPER" ROUTED.**

**Campaign at Bonesteel Ends in Disaster to Stranger.**

Sioux Falls, S. D., Dec. 20.—The authorities of Bonesteel adopted drastic measures in ridding the community of a "Tom the Peeper," who for a period of about two weeks annoyed the women of Bonesteel.

Numerous complaints were made to the authorities of the antics of the peeper, whose operations were carried on during the day as well as in the evening. The rascal also made a practice of endeavoring to force his way into some of the homes which he visited, terrifying the women and children and arousing the anger of the men of the households when they returned home and heard of the unwelcome visits of the stranger.

Just who he was no one seemed to know. But, like the famous pitcher, he went to the well once too often. When the man came to grief he was hanging about the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Gibbs. He put in his appearance while Mr. Gibbs was absent and attempted to force his way into the house, but this effort was frustrated and Mrs. Gibbs sent word to her husband of the presence of the peeper.

Gibbs hurried home and quietly approached the house. In the darkness he soon was able to distinguish the form of the stranger near one of the windows. Gibbs was upon the peeper before the latter was aware of his presence, and the stranger was struck a vicious blow before he took to his heels and made his escape. Gibbs fired several shots after the fugitive, but failed to hit his man.

Officer Taylor soon appeared upon the scene and the search for the peeper was commenced. The search resulted in the discovery of the fugitive in one of the railroad bunk cars at the Bonesteel depot. He was placed under arrest and taken before Judge Biggers, who ordered him to depart from Bonesteel on the first outgoing train or he would suffer the consequences. He promptly obeyed the instructions. The man was found to be an Austrian, who had been employed with the steel gang on the new extension of the Chicago and Northwestern railroad westward from Bonesteel.

**STILL SHROUDED IN MYSTERY.**

**Believed That the Herrick Grader Attempted Suicide.**

Herrick, S. D., Dec. 20.—Mystery still surrounds the case of the grader found Sunday morning at the railroad camp in this place, with his throat cut and weak from the loss of blood. Attorney VanMeter and Marshal Tucker were appointed by States Attorney Backus to ferret out the real cause of the man's condition if possible. Mr. VanMeter took the deposition of the injured man, which was in substance as follows: He said he was 38 years of age, single, a Swede, came from Chicago, had a union card, arrived at Herrick Saturday night, slept in car

with comrades, arose at 6 Sunday morning, and crossed the track, was assaulted by a tall man, light coat, wore a cap, too dark to further describe, was cut on throat with razor, not robbed; assailant ran; he bled freely, returned to car, and crawled into bunk, did not awake anyone, because he was a stranger. Was found at 6:30, weak from loss of blood, had been drinking in Chicago several days, did not attempt suicide.

Other witnesses were examined carefully and the general trend of testimony seemed to indicate an attempted suicide, though little evidence was discovered.

The patient was removed to Herrick, where he is improving rapidly, and doubtless will recover.

## JAP FLEET WON'T STOP

**NOT SEND NAVAL SQUAD TO SAN FRANCISCO.**

**AFRAID OF BEING BLOWN UP**

**Fear of Something Like the Maine Disaster, Owing to California's Hostility, is Given as the Reason—Little Men Have Nerve.**

Honolulu, Dec. 20.—The Japanese consul says that the visiting squadron which will arrive in Honolulu in February, will not proceed to San Francisco, as originally intended, because a repetition of the Maine disaster is feared, owing to the alleged overwrought condition of American feeling.

**PROVING UP ON ROSEBUD.**

**About a Million Dollars Has Been Paid Into Office.**

Mitchell, S. D., Dec. 20.—The proving up on claims and the filing of homesteads on the Rosebud reservation is bringing in a large revenue, which passes through the local land office. The settlers are proving up rapidly on their claims, and the sales that follow are quite numerous. The Rosebud was opened to settlers but two years ago last August. That all those who drew prizes did not file on their land is shown by the fact that there are still about 75,000 acres of land on the reservation which has not been filed on. This is located mostly in the north part of Gregory county and the land is good only for grazing purposes. Sales of land are being made with great rapidity, and one of the high sales of recent date was a quarter section of Fred Huston, who sold his land near Burke for \$6,000, with less than \$500 improvements on it.

The receipts from the land in the way of fees for proving up and for homestead filings, as given out by the local land office, show that from January 1, 1906, to September 1, the receipts amounted to about \$327,000, and from December 1 to December 16, the receipts were \$55,000.

Since the lands were opened to settlement two years ago the general land department at Washington has received about \$1,000,000. Taking out the fees of the department there is about \$800,000 left which is set aside as allotment for the Indians, and this is being distributed among them at stated intervals.

**TAKES ISSUE WITH METCALF**

**'Frisco School Board Says Secretary Made Misstatements.**

San Francisco, Dec. 20.—According to an interview given to the press by Secretary Leffingwell of the board of education, Secretary Metcalf made some erroneous statements in his report on the Japanese question.

Mr. Leffingwell said: "The report made by Secretary Metcalf, as exploited before congress, contains many assertions and inferences which are surprising, to say the least, since they are in error, and are therefore unfair, as they are applied to the members of the board of education. When Secretary Metcalf reached this city on his mission for President Roosevelt and the object of his visit was made known, the board of education did all in its power to equip him with the facts surrounding the new order made in regard to the schooling of Japanese pupils. When Secretary Metcalf asserts that the Japanese and Korean Exclusion league directed the board of education to enter the ruling concerning the Japanese pupils, he utters that which we say is an error. The members of the board of education were specially careful to explain the origin of the matter to Secretary Metcalf. The board acted upon its own initiative and merely proceeded to enforce a state law."

**TRAINMEN DEMAND INCREASE**

**Freight Brakemen and Conductors Also Want Eight-Hour Day.**

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Demands for a wage increase of 15 per cent and an eight-hour day for brakemen and conductors on all through freight trains will be filed today with managers of all railway systems in the west. The demands covered 45,000 men, on forty-seven systems, and the increase asked for amounts to approximately \$8,000,000 a year. The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors are acting in conjunction in the matter.

## TAKES UP CAR QUESTION

**THE PRESIDENT HOLDS A CONFERENCE ON THE SITUATION.**

**ATTEMPT TO DEVISE A REMEDY**

Senator Hansbrough is Asked to Frame a Law That Will Prevent Return of Such Evils—The Senator Has a Bill to Cover the Trouble.

Washington, Dec. 20.—That President Roosevelt has taken a determined interest with a view to finding legislative remedy for the car shortage in the northwest, which now threatens the people with freezing and starvation, because the railroads are unable to transport fuel and food to them, was indicated by a conference at the white house today.

The president sent for Senator Hansbrough and asked him whether the actual danger of suffering is as great as has been reported by press dispatches and telegrams from individuals. The North Dakota senator reported that from dispatches he had received, the statement of conditions in his state, Minnesota and South Dakota, has not been exaggerated.

The president promised to give the question his personal attention, with a view to alleviating any immediate suffering, and said he desired Senator Hansbrough to devote time and thought to some legislative remedy, in order to avoid recurrences of present conditions.

**Hansbrough Has a Bill.**

The plan Senator Hansbrough has in mind is the passage of a law which would compel the railroads to anticipate extraordinary movements of fuel, grain, or other commodities and to prepare to take care of such shipments when they are offered. It has been suggested that the interstate commerce commission could investigate probable excessive offerings for shipment of commodities of all kinds and compel the railroads to furnish the transportation. It is believed by Senator Hansbrough that, if a law of this character were passed, the railroads would be able to contract for the use of equipment from roads in the south or other parts of the country, when the demand for rolling stock is not great during the winter or the crop moving seasons. The North Dakota senator will endeavor to perfect a measure of some character calculated to reach the evil which annually results in immense financial loss to the farmer because of not being able to market his crop and actual suffering in winter by reason of not being able to get fuel.

**CASE IN COURT FOURTEEN YEARS**

**Omaha Attorneys Seek to Recover Fees From Creighton Estate.**

Lincoln, Dec. 20.—A case which has been before the courts for fourteen years, is now before the supreme court for rehearing. It is that in which ex-Attorney General Smyth and General Cowin of Omaha seek to recover about \$7,000 for attorneys' fees from the estate of Joseph Creighton. The attorneys were retained by Bishop Scannell of Omaha to secure the probating of the will of Mr. Creighton when his daughter tried to break it. The question which the court must decide is whether Bishop Scannell will have to pay the full fees or whether all of the devisees will be required to pay the fees, the will being sustained and declared valid. The ravages of the Missouri river have caused the estate to depreciate greatly in value during the time that the case has been in the courts, and the attorneys say that about all they will get out of it will be the settlement of an interesting point of law.

**NIGHTMARE BREAKS BOY'S ARM**

**Battle With Mince Pie Animal Results in Serious Injury to College Youth.**

Sioux City, Ia., Dec. 20.—After a fierce battle with the nightmare Emmet Calley, a Morningside college student, awoke to find his arm broken. Calley is fond of mince pie. His mother sent him a number from the farm, and after eating heartily last night Calley fell asleep in a window seat. Immediately the animal appeared, tramping Calley under his cruel hoofs and kicking him viciously. The student awoke with a cry of pain and found his arm hanging helplessly at his side. It is supposed he got his arm twisted under him in the awful effort to escape the nightmare.

**FRENCH OFFICER DEGRADED.**

**Captain Suffers for Refusing to Help Take Church Inventory.**

Lille, France, Dec. 20.—A court-martial here tried and degraded Captain Magnies for refusing to obey orders in connection with taking the inventory of the chapel of St. John. Magnies before the court said: "I am a Christian and I prefer to be shot rather than commit a sacrilege. No one has the right to make me renounce the vows I took at my first communion."

**Farmer Operates on His Own.**

Burlington, Ia., Dec. 20.—J. W. Trautman, a wealthy farmer living near Mediapolis, was arrested charged with conducting an illicit still. He confessed.

**Hoskins Postmaster Married.**

Hoskins, Neb., Dec. 20.—Special to The News: Frank Benser, the popular postmaster of this place, was married last evening to Miss Ida Moretz. Both these young people are popular in this community and the well wishes of all go with them through life.

**Elevator at Herrick.**

Herrick, S. D., Dec. 20.—Nye-Schnelder-Fowler company are erecting a large elevator at Herrick, S. D., and purchased their first carload of wheat yesterday. Ivan Salmers, formerly of Norfolk, is the manager.

## COLD COMFORT FOR EDITORS

**WANT THE RATE LAW AMENDED TO ALLOW TRANSPORTATION.**

**RECEIVE SCANT ENCOURAGEMENT**

The House Committee Shows Opposition to Their Transportation Request, Believing They Should Live up to What They Have Been Advocating

Washington, Dec. 20.—W. R. Hodges, president of the Minnesota Editorial association, and a member of the executive committee of the National Editorial association, was one of a delegation which appeared before the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce on behalf of an amendment to the railway rate law, allowing newspaper publishers to receive compensation from the railroad companies in the form of transportation. B. B. Herbert, formerly of Red Wing, Minn., was also heard. The publishers did not receive encouragement from the committee and, in answer to an argument in favor of transportation contracts to newspaper publishers, the statement was made that it would establish a precedent which would lead to discrimination, on the very thing which the press of the country charged up against the railroads for years.

**MAIL ORDER HOUSE FILES SUIT**

**Seeks to Restrain South Dakota Retailers From Fighting Its Business.**

Sioux Falls, S. D., Dec. 20.—A test case was instituted in the United States court by Montgomery Ward & Co. of Chicago, who seek an injunction restraining the South Dakota Retail Merchants' and Hardware Dealers' association from continuing warfare on the plaintiff company. The plaintiff asserts that the defendant declared a boycott and prevents the plaintiff company from purchasing necessary goods from manufacturers, jobbers and wholesalers. A hearing on the application for an injunction was fixed for Jan. 3.

**MADAME GOULD VICTORIOUS**

**Former Countess Defeats Creditors in Suit Over Count's Debts.**

Paris, Dec. 20.—Madame Gould, former Countess de Castellane, has been victorious in the suits brought by creditors and money lenders against her with the object of making her jointly responsible with the count for the latter's debts. Thirteen of the fifteen cases were dismissed by the court with costs against the plaintiffs.

Only in the cases of two art dealers did the court express the opinion that Mme. Gould should be held responsible, as the objects purchased in these instances for the most part are still in her possession. There are still three cases to be passed upon. In dismissing the thirteen suits the court held that the plaintiffs had failed to prove that the debts were contracted for the common benefit of the count and countess. The latter, the court declared, had more than fulfilled the obligations under her marriage contract. During her wedded life she had retained nothing for herself, her entire revenue being collected by her husband and employed according to his own admission, either for the household expenses or for the payment of his personal debts.

**OFFICIALS DISREGARD LAW**

**Charge Made by Senators Against Secretaries Hitchcock and Wilson.**

Washington, Dec. 20.—Admitting that they had not authority of law for the withdrawal from allotment of nearly 4,000,000 acres of land belonging to the five civilized tribes in the Indian territory for the purpose of creating a forest reservation, two members of the president's cabinet—Secretaries Hitchcock and Wilson—endeavored to justify their course by stating they had the best interest of the Indian at heart.

The explanation was made before a select senate committee, which is investigating affairs in relation to the property rights of the five tribes, but the committee declined to accept it, and Senators Clark of Wyoming, Teller, Long and Brandegee declared that the interior department had suspended a statute of the United States without authority and it was the duty of Secretary Hitchcock to immediately cancel his order withdrawing the land from allotment. The same senators said to Secretary Wilson and Chief Forester Pinchot that it was their duty to withdraw their request to the secretary of the interior for a suspension of the allotments.

## MESSAGE ON NEGRO EDICT

**PRESIDENT ANSWERS SENATE'S RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY.**

**WOULD DO SAME THING AGAIN**

**Calls It Blackest Crime in Annals of the Army and is Sorry Guilty Could Not Be Detected and Punished With Death.**

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Roosevelt's message dealing with his action in dismissing from the army the negro troops of the three companies of the Twenty-fifth infantry furnished the one topic of interest in the senate's session. A lively debate followed the reading of the message as to what would be done with it. Foraker wanted it sent to the military committee, with instructions to make further investigation should the committee deem it necessary. He said that in reality much that appeared to be testimony was really not testimony, as much of it was not under oath. On objection from Senator Clay, the senate postponed action.

The president, after describing at length the "shooting up" of the town of Brownsville, said in part:

"A blacker crime never stained the annals of our army. It has been supplemented by another, only less black, in the shape of a successful conspiracy of silence for the purpose of shielding those who took part in the original conspiracy of murder. Some of the non-commissioned officers and many of the men of the three companies in question have banded together in a conspiracy to protect the assassins and would-be assassins who have disgraced their uniform by the conduct above related. Many of these non-commissioned officers and men must have known, and all of them may have known, circumstances which would have led to the conviction of those engaged in the murderous assault. They have stolidly and as one man broken their oaths of enlistment and refused to help discover the criminals.

**Not as a Punishment.**

"People have spoken as if this discharge from the service was a punishment. I deny emphatically that such is the case, because as punishment it is utterly inadequate. The punishment meted for mutineers and murderers such as those guilty of the Brownsville assault is death, and a punishment only less severe ought to be meted out to those who have aided and abetted mutiny and murder and treason by refusing to help in their detection. I would that it were possible for me to have punished the guilty men. I regret most keenly that I have not been able to do so.

"Be it remembered always that these men were in the service of the United States, under contracts of enlistment, which by their terms and by statute were terminable by my direction as commander-in-chief of the army. It was my clear duty to terminate those contracts when the public interest demanded it, and it would have been a betrayal of the public interest on my part not to terminate the contracts which were keeping in the service of the United States a body of mutineers and murderers.

"Any assertion that these men were dealt with harshly because they were colored men is utterly without foundation. Officers or enlisted men, white men or colored men, who were guilty of such conduct, would have been treated in precisely the same way; for there can be nothing more important than for the United States army, in all its membership, to understand that its arms cannot be turned with impunity against the peace and order of the civil community.

**His Efforts for the Negro.**

"So far as was in my power, I have sought to secure for the colored people all their rights under the law. I have done all I could to secure them equal school training when young, equal opportunity to earn their livelihood, and achieve their happiness when old. I have striven to break up peonage, because I would hold myself unfit to be president if I did not feel the same revolt at wrong done a colored man as I feel at wrong done a white man. I have condemned in unstinted terms the crime of lynching perpetrated by white men, and I should take instant advantage of any opportunity whereby I could bring to justice a mob of lynchers. In precisely the same spirit I have now acted with reference to these colored men who have been guilty of a black and dastardly crime. In one policy, as in the other, I do not claim as a favor, but I challenge as a right, the support of every citizen of this country, whatever his color, provided only he has in him the spirit of genuine and far-sighted patriotism."

**Dairymen Confer With Wilson.**

Washington, Dec. 20.—A delegation of dairymen, headed by George L. McKay, professor of dairying at the Iowa state college at Ames, and F. A. Leighton of Des Moines, had a brief conference with Secretary Wilson concerning the standards of butter which are to be fixed by the regulations of the agricultural department under authority of the pure food law. They gave their views as to the amount of fats, water and other ingredients butter should contain. The secretary informed them the matter would receive careful consideration.

## THE CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

**Temperature for Twenty-four Hours. Forecast for Nebraska.**

Conditions of the weather as recorded for the twenty-four hours ending at 8 a. m. today:

Maximum . . . . . 37  
Minimum . . . . . 17  
Average . . . . . 27  
Barometer . . . . . 29.74

Chicago, Dec. 20.—The bulletin issued by the Chicago station of the United States weather bureau gives the forecast for Nebraska as follows:

Fair tonight and Friday, except rain or snow west portion. Cooler tonight.

## RIVER BOAT BLOWS UP

**STEAMER W. T. SCOVIL DESTROYED BY EXPLOSION.**

**AT LEAST 16 PERSONS KILLED**

**Of a Passenger and Crew List of Fifty About Half Are Missing—Many of the Dead Are Negroes—Disaster Occurs Near Vicksburg, Miss.**

Vicksburg, Miss., Dec. 20.—One of the most disastrous accidents in the history of the Mississippi river occurred at 11 a. m. when the steamer W. T. Scovill, plying in the Vicksburg and Davis Bend trade, was destroyed by an explosion. Owing to the large number of negroes on board, it is impossible to ascertain the exact number of dead and injured, but officers of the boat, who arrived here, stated that not less than sixteen were killed. They say a like number were injured.

The white dead are as follows: Captain John Quackenbush, master of the boat; Clerk Wade Quackenbush, Lavelle Yerger, cottonseed salesman; Clerk Joseph Smith.

Of a passenger and crew list of fifty, about half are missing. The negro dead and a number of injured were cared for at the place of the accident. Five negroes were brought to Vicksburg on the steamer Senator Cordill, with the white dead and injured.

The accident occurred at Gold Dust landing, about seventeen miles south of this city. The boat was on the landing, taking on freight, when suddenly an explosion occurred. Many of the timbers of the boat were thrown hundreds of yards. The boat was so badly damaged that she began to sink immediately. When the Cordill left here she was listing heavily and her cargo of 1,000 bales of cottonseed and eighty-five bales of cotton will be lost.

**FATAL EXPLOSION OF FIREWORKS**

**One Fireman Killed and Three Others Fatally Burned at Savannah.**

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 20.—By the explosion of dynamite in the fireworks factory of Joseph Carbo and John Niva, Italians, at 531 Anderson street, fireman Ealy was burned to death, Assistant Fire Chief George Munro and fireman Jerry O'Leary and Edward Daley were seriously and possibly fatally burned. The proprietors were painfully burned and a boy was struck in the face by flying debris and severely hurt.

Carbo and Niva were counting torpedoes they had manufactured. One torpedo dropped and caused the explosion of the rest.

**FOUR PERSONS DIE IN FIRE.**

**Another Fatally Burned in Small Blaze at Buffalo.**

Buffalo, Dec. 20.—Four persons were killed and one was fatally burned in a small fire in the Zenobia apartment house, on Prospect avenue, at the corner of West Huron street. Other occupants of the place had narrow escapes, half a dozen being rescued by the firemen.

The dead are: F. M. Lambrecht and wife, Ruth Crumlish and Mrs. J. J. Fischer of New York. The building was flatiron shaped and had narrow, winding hallways, in which the victims, confused by the flames and smoke, lost their way and were overcome.

**PURE FOOD LAW UNDER FIRE**

**Assertion Made That It Shuts Outside Wholesalers Out of Iowa.**

Des Moines, Dec. 20.—An effort will be made to have the pure food law repealed at the next session of the legislature, or at least to have it radically amended. It is asserted by agents of grocery houses outside the state that the operation of the law is such as to force the grocery retailer to buy all his goods from an Iowa wholesaler. The law provides that a grocer can require of a wholesaler, inside the state, a written guarantee that the goods are according to the pure food law and holding the wholesaler liable to all fines and penalties that may be visited on the retailer if they are not. This provision can be made to apply only to Iowa wholesalers, and hence the tendency of the Iowa retailer to buy of the Iowa wholesaler. It is believed by some that the Iowa law and similar laws from other states is responsible for the fact that Sears-Roebuck & Co. of Chicago, a mail order house, has announced that it will go out of the grocery business Jan. 1.