

FIREMEN BATTLE FLAMES IN COLD

Omaha Merchants Express Company's Headquarters Almost Complete Loss.

ALL COVERED BY INSURANCE

With a temperature that made fire fighting extremely difficult, the department battled all morning with a fire that all but destroyed the big three-story brick headquarters of the Omaha Merchants Express and Transfer company at 802 South Fourteenth street.

The fire, whose origin has not been determined, rapidly swept through the big building but not so fast as to prevent the employees from leading every horse safely from the structure. Not an animal was killed or burned. Owing to the extreme cold it was some little time before the water from the mains was turned on, and by the time the towers were pouring streams through the windows, the fire had secured a good head. Chief Salter's men worked like heroes, the icy rains concealing on their clothing until they resembled icicles. As fast as water from the towers struck the structure it would congeal into ice and after the general alarm had been answered the efforts of the department were exerted in containing the fire to the building.

All the equipment of Omaha proper was called into play, and shortly before noon Chief Salter announced he had the fire under control. Started on Third Floor. The fire in some manner started on the third floor, where feed, hay and grain are stored, 30 tons having just been added to the winter supply Thursday. The second floor was given over to the horses and harness and the main floor to the office, wagons and equipment. Harry Conners barman, discovered the fire at 9:30, and after giving the alarm notified the rest of the occupants, who removed the live horses in the building at once. Ordinarily 200 head are housed, but fortunately they were on the street and will be given quarters in nearby barns of other concerns.

Threatened Box Factory. The Eggers-O'Flynn company, whose box factory adjoins the Merchants structure on the west, was threatened by the fire, and from its windows firemen poured streams of water on its blazing neighbor. Despite their efforts, windows and walls cracked with the heat, but the plant did not catch. Fifteen streams of water and five towers were employed in the battle with the fire, and the Eggers-O'Flynn plant was all that delayed the efforts of the firemen after they had got into action. One hundred girls, who are employed in the Eggers-O'Flynn company plant, left the building for nearby offices, and men were stationed in every room to watch for the first flame that might invade. The Eggers-O'Flynn plant is equipped with the automatic sprinkler system, and not a deal of worry was evidenced by the officials, although every precaution was taken.

Fireman Overcome. Gilbert McMurray, 2234 Chicago street, pipeman with hose company No. 5, Eighth and Pierce streets, was overcome by smoke and was brought to police headquarters for attention. Assistant Fire Chief Dineen froze his ears and was attended by police surgeons. The Merchants building is owned by Edward Reed, East Herricker and Mrs. Carl Woodward, and was built twenty-five years ago at a cost of \$40,000. It is insured for \$2,000, the contents being covered by insurance of \$7,500. The fire was decidedly the most spectacular since the burning of the Board of Trade building at Sixteenth and Franklin streets, on February 15, 1915, and notwithstanding the fact that the temperature hovered well below the zero mark, a crowd of several thousand people watched the efforts of the men.

Fearful for Men. City Commissioner W. S. Jardine, who is president of the transfer company, watched the fire for a few minutes when it was at its very height and then returned to a meeting of the council. "I would a thousand times rather see a man burn to the ground than have a single man or horse a victim," he asserted. George P. West, secretary of the council, stated that business would be conducted the same as usual for the time being from the branch at 102 South Fourth street. G. W. Johnson, treasurer, and other officials assisted Mr. West in settling affairs to the present condition.

CROSSMAN MAY FILE FOR CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT

John H. Grossman is being prominently mentioned among his democratic friends as a possible candidate for his party's nomination for the office of clerk of the district court. He has not yet decided to file, but is considering the matter.

STATE FARMERS UNION HOLDS CONVENTION HERE

The State Farmers' union is to hold its convention in Omaha this year. The convention last year was held at Grand Island. The executive committee is to fix the dates soon.

New Books

History and Biography.
LINCOLN AND EPISODES OF THE CIVIL WAR. By William E. Dozier. G. P. Putnam's Sons, \$1.50 net.
Records by means of his diary the author's experiences on the field during the Civil War, narrates his experiences and observations in Washington during his service there as provost marshal in 1862, and gives an account, written with inside knowledge of the famous conspiracy trials in that city in 1865, in which he was one of the lawyers for the defense.

MY CHILDHOOD. By Maxim Gorky. The Century company, 50c.
Tells the story of the life of the famous Russian novelist from his earliest recollection to the age of 17, when his grandfather threw him out of the house and told him he must shift for himself. Presents a succession of vivid scenes of Russian life and character.

A SHORT HISTORY OF JAPAN. By Ernest Wilson Clement. The University of Chicago Press, \$1.00 net.
A bird's-eye view of the history of Japan and an outline of how both old Japan and new Japan were constructed and evolved. To those desiring an epitome, a general idea of what has happened during the long course of the history of Japan, old and new, and who have not the time or inclination to go into the details of such history, this book is especially helpful.

ISABEL OF CASTILE AND THE MAKING OF THE SPANISH NATION. 1487-1504. By Irene L. P. Putnam's Sons, \$2.50 net, 425 pages.
The story of a great woman and a great ruler and the history of a nation in the making. Isabel opened her eyes on a world where her country stood accredited the prey or mockery of strong neighbors; and, when she closed them in death, it represented, in union with Aragon, the predominant voice in the councils of Europe.

SOURCE PROBLEMS IN ENGLISH HISTORY. By Albert B. White and Wallace Notestein. Harper & Brothers, \$1.50.
Another of Harper's parallel source problem books. Among its strong points may be mentioned the stress laid upon the development of the English government; the connection between English institutions and those of New England brought out; and the connection between the present and the past well brought out. A valuable aid to the teaching of English history in secondary schools or in elementary college classes.

THE STORY OF WELLESLEY. By Florence Converse. Little, Brown & Co.
The story of the Wellesley her daughters and lovers know so well, the Wellesley of serious purpose, consecrated to noble ideals of Christian scholarship, is delightfully told. Those interested in the history and development of the higher institutions of learning in the United States will find this a most helpful book.

ACRES OF DIAMONDS AND THEIR DISCOVERY. By H. Conwell, author of Acres of Diamonds, and Robert Shackleton, author of his life and achievements. Harper & Bros., \$1 net.
In many ways this is the most remarkable book ever published. It tells the strange story of a lecture delivered more than 5,000 times and of a fortune of \$4,000,000 made from this talk. Moreover, the history of the man who did all this (he is still doing it) and of many, many more astounding things he has accomplished. A wonderful book—a miracle come true!

THE NEUTRALITY OF THE UNITED STATES IN RELATION TO THE BRITISH AND GERMAN EMPIRES. By J. Shield Nicholson, LL. D. New York, the Macmillan company, 30 cents.
In this pamphlet the author shows that the interests of the United States are bound up with the maintenance of the British empire against German aggression. A comparison of British with German interests, and an invitation to the United States to choose between the two pictures.

War and Warring Nations. FURNISHING MEMBERS. By Postmaster Bigelow, G. P. Putnam's Sons, \$1.50 net.
Mr. Bigelow passed some years of his

Ouch! Lumbago! Rub Pains From Sore, Lame Back

Rub Backache away with small trial bottle of old "St. Jacob's Oil."

Back hurt you? Can't straighten up without feeling sudden pains, sharp aches and twinges? Now, listen! That's lumbago, sciatica or maybe from a strain, and you'll get relief the moment you rub your back with soothing, penetrating "St. Jacob's Oil." Nothing else takes out soreness, lameness and stiffness so quickly. You simply rub it on your back and out comes the pain. It is harmless and doesn't burn the skin. Limber up! Don't suffer! Get a small trial bottle of old, honest "St. Jacob's Oil" from any drug store, and after using it just once, you'll forget that you ever had backache, lumbago or sciatica, because your back will never hurt or cause any more misery. It never disappoints and has been recommended for 90 years.—Advertisement.

boyhood in Prussia, and in later years made various sojourns in Germany. At the time of his school days, his father, the late John Bigelow, was minister to France. Through the father's friends among Berlin court officials, young Bigelow had the opportunity of associating as play-fellow with the present emperor. Mr. Bigelow's narrative is dramatic, spirited, humorous, and shows a full knowledge, with an unusual freedom from prejudice.

Philosophy and Religion.
DAILY LIFE PSYCHOLOGY. By A. A. Lindsay, M. D. Detroit, A. A. Lindsay Publishing company, \$1.
Daily life psychology is a masterful treatment of the subject by the author. This is one of the long list of books on psychology that Mr. Lindsay has given to the world.

OVER THERE. By Arnold Bennett. New York: George H. Doran company, \$1.25 net.
A vivid series of word pictures of broken Belgium and bleeding France. Artistic photography of the highest order. Beautifully illustrated with drawings by Walter Hule. Mr. Bennett has been at the very heart of the debated front, and with marvelous observation in getting the very heart of the Five Towns life, he has seen the realism of war, the ways and thoughts of the men who fight, and has set them down in this book, which quivers with real life.

THE ETHICS OF CONFUCIUS. Arranged with running commentary. Miles Menander Dawson, New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, \$1.50 net.
The author has given us everything con-

cerning ethics and statescraft contained in the Confucian classics which is likely to interest occidental readers, omitting nothing of importance. The passages quoted, arranged by topics, in accordance with a scheme laid down as that of Confucius himself, in The Great Learning, are connected by a running narrative, showing briefly the relationship of one passage with the other, stating from what book taken and by whom enunciated, and most sparingly accompanied by quotations from other moralists, ancient and modern.

THE METHODIST YEAR BOOK 1916. GIVE S. Baker, editor, New York, The Methodist Book Concern, 20 cents, net.
The editor of the Year Book brings his annual contribution to the interests of the Methodist Episcopal church. It is the result of much painstaking work and care. Those interested in Methodism will find in this book all the information concerning this great church and its workings needed in compact form.

Miscellaneous.
MUSHROOM GROWING. By B. M. Duggan. Orange Judd company, New York.
A complete textbook on mushroom culture and spawn making. A valuable guide for those growing mushrooms for the home or commercially. A book well written and treating the subject in a scientific manner.

MAKING THE MOVIES. By Ernest A. Dench. The Macmillan company, New York, illustrated, \$1.25.
The author fully explains all the different steps from the first rehearsing of a photo play to the filming, and there

is also much lively discussion of moving picture topics. Not only will the book be of interest to the vast audience of people who enjoy the moving picture, but it will be found invaluable to scenario writers, and all others who contribute in any way to the actual making of the movies.

THE CHRISTIAN YEAR KALENDAR (Episcopal). The Church Kalendar Co., 1 Madison Avenue, New York City, 75 cents net, \$7.50 a dozen.
A beautiful calendar (Episcopal), setting forth the holy seasons and days, and sequences of the sacred year in an attractive and intelligible form, and enables those who honor it with their patronage to understand the ways and methods of their mother, the church, and they would not be likely to do without its modest help. Members will find the Kalendar indispensable.

SAFETY FIRST FOR CHILDREN. New York: Safety First Federation of America, 25 cents.
Safety first ideas in primer for children. An interesting story with powerful object lesson of caution to young citizens. A book all parents should place in the hands of their children.

SWEET CORN. By Albert E. Worthington. Orange Judd company, New York.
In this book the author has given us detailed information regarding the culture of sweet corn. The principles and practices are set forth in such a manner that the home gardener can obtain, in Part 1, definite information. In Part 2, the subject is handled from the

commercial end, applicable to the market growers in large cities and the shippers of sweet corn at more distant points. Part III, is given over entirely to the raising of corn for canning, and to the process of canning.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PANAMA CANAL. By William L. Hubert and John F. Stevens. New York: D. Appleton & Co., \$2.00 net.
An authoritative story of the planning and building of the canal, told in non-technical language, for the benefit of the general public, by two engineers who speak from actual experience of the entire work on the canal. The book is illustrated with a number of outlines, photographs and maps, so that the reader may have a clear idea of the actual work done.

MEMORIAL PROGRAM FOR JOHN POWER SATURDAY
A memorial program for the late John Powers is to be held Saturday evening at 8 o'clock by the Jacksonian club at their headquarters in the City National Bank building. The speakers are to be Ed P. Smith, R. L. Metcalfe and Colonel C. G. Cunningham.

SNOW CLEARED AND PONDS ARE READY FOR SKATERS

Commissioner Hummel reports his men have cleared all of the public skating places except Carter lake, which is being attended to as fast as the work can be done.

GRADE GRADUATES ARE TO MEET THE PRINCIPALS

Eighty B pupils of the public schools who expect to enter the three high schools at the beginning of the second semester are requested to report at their respective high schools on next Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock for information and advice. Parents are invited to accompany their children.
South Side eighth B graduates will hold a joint commencement program at South High school on Thursday, January 27.

GRAIN PRICES DOWN IN SPITE OF LIGHT RECEIPTS

Bad roads and continued cold weather kept Omaha grain receipts down again, there being but twenty-three cars of wheat, forty-seven of corn, and eight of oats on the market. Prices on wheat and corn were off 2 and on corn 1 cent per bushel.
Wheat sold at \$1.00 1/4; corn, 90 to 95; and oats 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 cents per bushel.

PROBATION POLICEMEN ARE NOW REGULAR COPS

Having satisfactorily served six months on probation, the following policemen were confirmed by the city council, upon recommendation of Chief Dunn: George Goss, Alex. McCleughan, Francis M. Dalton, Andrew Malolepezy, George H. Thomas, Nels J. Holland, Olof V. Thestrup, John W. Shean, James Acton, Arthur English and Edward S. Goralski.

See Our Windows **BRANDEIS STORES** Alterations Made Free

Suits and O'coats

A Sale of Bigger Assortments, Newer Styles, Newer Fabrics

These are not job lots, not picked-overs or leftovers from former seasons, but all new goods from such representative makers as Hirsh-Wickwire, Society Brand, Schloss Bros., "L" System, Sophomore, L. Abt & Sons, names which you know as well as we do.

Not in many moons have suits and overcoats of these well known makes so combined equal high values with the popular price of \$15. It is truly a remarkable event. The savings are very definite. We hope to serve Omaha men just a little better than ever before.

Reductions are Plainly Stated Below. Read Them---Then Come Saturday

\$15

\$22.50 to \$35.00 VALUES

Fur Lined Overcoats at Reduced Prices	\$27.00 Scotch Tweed Suits . . . \$15.00	\$30.00 Fur Collar Overcoats . . \$15.00
\$25.00 Values	\$30.00 Worsted Dress Suits . . . \$15.00	\$28.00 Silk Trimmed Overcoats . \$15.00
\$19.50	\$28.00 Silk Mixed Suits \$15.00	\$25.00 D. B. Fitted Overcoats . . \$15.00
\$35.00 Values	\$30.00 Fine Homespun Suits . . \$15.00	\$35 Ulster and Box Ulster O'coat, \$15.00
\$21.50	\$27.00 Heather Mixture Suits . . \$15.00	\$30 Chesterfield Dress O'coats . \$15.00
	\$28.00 Pencil Stripe Suits \$15.00	\$30.00 Full Dress Suits \$15.00
	\$30.00 Unfinished Worsted Suits . \$15.00	\$22.50 Tuxedo Suits \$15.00
	\$30.00 Clip Chinchilla Coats . . \$15.00	\$25.00 Blue Serge Suits \$15.00

Fur Lined Overcoats \$50.00 Values \$31.50 \$75.00 Values \$51.50

Annual Mid-Winter Clearing of Men's Furnishings

Drop into this section of the Men's Store for a while Saturday and save real cash on all sorts of furnishings, every-day utility and for dress. Every single item in this ad is a corking good bargain. There is a wide choice of the most desirable merchandise and is offered Saturday at clearing sale prices.

Men's Negligee and Golf Shirts
Neat patterns, soft laundered cuffs. Regular values to \$1.25, special, Saturday, 60c

Men's Shirts
Madras, percales and flannels. Worth to \$1.00, Special 45c

Men's Wool Mufflers
Regular values to 75c, at 25c

Men's Lisle Hose
In tan, black, gray and navy. Worth 15c, special, pair 9c

Men's Bath and Lounging Robes
Made of terry and blanket cloth. Regular \$5.00 values, \$1.95 and \$2.45

Men's Pure Silk Thread Hose
Plain and fancy colored. Regular 50c values 25c

Semi-Annual Clearing Manhattan and other High Grade Shirts

All \$1.50 Manhattan and Emery Shirts, madras and percale \$1.15

All \$2.50 and \$3.00 Manhattan and Emery Shirts, madras and satin striped, at \$1.95

All \$2.00 Manhattan and Emery Shirts, corded madras \$1.55

All \$3.50 to \$4.50 Manhattan and Emery Shirts, silk and linen, sale price, each \$2.85

Auto and Driving Gloves
15 Dozen Men's Wool and Fur Lined Auto and Driving Gloves and Mittens, worth to \$3.00, special, pair . . . \$1.95

Men's Golf Gloves
Regular values to 50c, at 25c

Men's Dress and Street Gloves
Slightly soiled from handling. Values to \$1, at 59c

Dress and Street Gloves
1,800 Pair of Men's Fine Dress and Street Gloves, made of fine quality kid and cape leather. Worth to \$1.50; special, the pair 95c

Ice Tools

AGENTS FOR **GIFFORD WOOD CO.'S Celebrated ICE TOOLS---Complete Stock**

Send for 1915-16 Catalogue

James Morton & Son Co., 1511-13 DODGE STREET "THE HARDWARE PEOPLE"