CHINKS ON WATER WAGON

Chinamen Will Board Thirst-Killing Buggy New Lear's Day.

MELICAN MAN ALSO INVITED

Saturday is First of Chinese New Year and it Will Be Celebrated by Rush for the Water Wagon.

"Haplee New Lear," likewise happy day for those who have toppled off the water wagon or dropped the whip and climbed down after it as the great tank passed on.

Promptly at 12:01 Saturday morning the Chinese cart will start from Eleventh and Dodge streets, near the police station, and Omaha Chinamen will welcome all Americans or others who wish to join them in ushering in the year of 14,308.

"It'll be a gland chance to lide for Melicans who rollee from lound wagons," said a Celestial. "Alee may come but them wearing celluloid clellars and lide until 14,309."

Many Americans have slipped from the round top wagons which they caught at midnight January 1 and some of those who announced in the newspapers that they were in comfortable seats, just behind the drivers, were the first to slide off the buggies. But the Chinese have a flat top wagon, and if the crowd is large have promised to use a hayrack or bobsled.

No qualifications will be required, according to Wan Lee Sing, the driver, except that the celluloid collars be left at home. Gradually the Americans who ride with the Chinks will be expected to learn to drink water through their teeth, instead of spraying it between their shoe pegs, as the Chinese laundrymen are required to do.

Only Plan for the Day.

Outside of the preparations for launching the water wagon, the Chinese of Omaha have made little or no preparations for celebrating the day. They have been sending greetings to their friends in the old country, but just what is written on the postal cards, is an unsolved mystery at the postoffice. Wan Lee Sing translates some of the characters to mean "Hoppy Nu Yer," while after an hour's hard work a postal clerk at the office has pulled a penmanship wreck apart, which was deposited on a newly laundried cuff and addressed to China. The clerk is authority for the statement that the greeting sent on the cuff meant "Hippy Year," but no one seems to know what year. Wan Lee Sing thinks it is 14,308, but other Chinks make a string of figures which looks like the total sum of money Lawson has expended telling the "shrimps" about the system.

Mail coming to Omaha Chinamen from the cities within the walls will be delivered—if possible—to the right Chinks, but the mail carriers may be compelled to hand some of the cards with fractured addresses to the first Chinaman they meet, and let him do the rest.

Some of the Omaha Chinamen will turn over a new leaf on Saturday, but the police believe most of them will turn over on their bunks and roll another litter of pills.

STRAWBERRIES FROM FLORIDA

Fruits in Tempting Array Adorn the Grocers' Racks at Present Time.

Strawberries, big, red, luscious strawberries, such as have not been seen since last spring are plentiful in Omaha just now and banked in among quantities of tender green garden stuff, made the grocer's racks look strangely inconsistent with the snow and cold Friday morning. The berries come from Florida, and sell from 45 to 50 cents a quart box and the box really holds a quart, too. The fruit is unusually fine for this time of year and unusually cheap, too—it is also unusually plentiful. A few pineapples are offered this week. They come from Chicago, where they have been in storage, but are nice and sell for 20 cents each. Oranges continue to be plentiful, and sell from 15 to 40 cents a dozen. The best kind of apples are to be had from 40 to 50 cents a peck, but the dealers complain that they are not selling very fast.

New pieplant is among the most tempting offerings just now. The stalks are tender and sweet and there are from three to five in a bunch, which sells for 10 cents. Cauliflower is getting much cheaper, selling from 12½ to 20 cents a head.

Those who care for sweet potatoes had better make the most of their opportunity for another week will exhaust the local market, the dealers claim, and there will be no more in for a while. They are selling now for 5 cents a pound. Irish potatoes are a little bit higher than they were and the best Colorado potatoes sell for $1 a bushel.

All the new vegetables are cheaper, some of them by half, than they were at this time last season and they have never come through in better shape. Everything is abundant, too, excepting tomatoes, which sell at 25 cents a pound and cucumbers, which bring 15 cents each. There has been an unprecedented sale of mushrooms at 60 cents a box.

Eggs ranged from 15 to 40 cents a dozen Friday morning, the 25-cent eggs being the best candled and the 40-cent eggs guaranted not over twenty-four hours old.

Package creamery butter sells from 32 to 35 cents a pound; roll butter from 28 to 30 cents a pound and tub butters from from 26 to 30 cents a pound.

THIEVES HAVE BUSY NIGHT

Attempt to Steal Byron Reed Collection at Public Library.

ENTER BUILDING NEXT TO IT

Money and Personal Articles Are Stolen from Half a Dozen Other Places During the Evening.

An attempt was made Thursday night to rob the valuable Byron Reed collection in the city library building. The burglars pried open the doors of Boyles college, the adjoining building, Eighteenth and Harney streets, made their way to the second floor and attempted to place a ladder across from there to the library building, which is only about ten feet away. The ladder was too short and the attempt was abandoned.

The Byron Reed collection is very valuable, including many rare gold and silver coins, the intrinsic value of which is thousands of dollars. Burglars attempted to rob it a few months ago, but were found by the night watchman. Since then iron doors have been placed on the room where the collection is kept. The windows are not barred.

A thief entered the home of F. A. Squires, 1515 Madison avenue, Thursday night, through the kitchen door and stole an overcoat, watch, meerschaum pipe, fountain pen and two gold rings.

The rear window of Swanson Bros. company, 1112 Howard street, was broken and thieves took $15 worth of cheap jewelry.

While Minnie Beach of 1123 Harney street was gaily dancing in Washington hall a thief took her brown coat and fur collarette from the cloak room.

Bill Gtpero, a Greek, was robbed of $60 at the Oma hotel.

From 514 North Nineteenth street, a pair of pants, a pair of shoes and a bunch of keys disappeared, and a Mexican named Lado is suspected.

LEGAL FIGHT OVER MURRAY

Parents of Nat Brown Sue to Set Aside Quit Claim Deed They Made.

A motion was argued before Judge W. H. Munger in the United States circuit court Friday morning to vacate and set aside a quit claim deed for the Murray hotel property and to restore to the complainants their property rights in the premises.

The action is brought by Moses and Elizabeth Brown, parents of the late Nathaniel Brown, against Mrs. Columbia Brown, widow of Nathaniel Brown. The complainants live in Mitchellville, Ia.

It is claimed in the petition that advantage was taken of the advanced years and illness of the complainants by Mrs. Columbia Brown to secure from them a quit claim to the property interests they held as parents of Nathaniel Brown, who, as owner of the Murray hotel property, died intestate. They further claim that it was represented to them that the property was of no value, when in fact it was worth $100,000. They gave the quit claim deed on that presumption, but have since learned that the property was of great value.

The defense holds that while the property was ostensibly in the name of Nathaniel Brown, it actually belonged to Mrs. Columbia Brown, who had advanced the money to her husband for its purchase, and that the delinquent payments on the property had been made up from the proceeds of the hotel, which was operated and controlled and managed by Mrs. Brown.

Judge Munger has taken the case under advisement.

ENTIRELY UP TO DILLON NOW

Prosecution of Visscher Depends on Disposition of Officer He Shot, Says English.

William Lightfoot Visscher, the Chicago newspaper man, has been charged formally in district court with shooting Policeman Peter H. Dillon, with intent to wound. The information was filed by County Attorney English, Friday morning. After filing the information, County Attorney English said so far as he knew the charge would be prosecuted. This, he said, was up to Mr. Dillon, the prosecuting witness.

Informations were also filed against the following: Charles Ward, breaking and entering; Moses Williams and George Mathews, breaking an entering; James Johnson and Charles Barker, breaking and entering; George Clark, breaking and entering.

CAUSE OF MRS. DUNN'S DEATH

Bright's Disease and Heart Trouble Found by Post-Mortem Examination.

Coroner Davis held a post-mortem examination of the body of Mrs. Julius S. Dunn, the woman found dead Wednesday in the house which she occupied alone at 2921 North Twenty-fourth street. The examination showed she had Bright's disease and heart trouble. Death probably was instantaneous from the latter cause.

The funeral was held at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon from Davis' undertaking rooms, Rev. J. B. Cherry of the Third Presbyterian church officiating. Interment was in Forest Lawn cemetery.

An administrator will be appointed to take charge of the effects, which include $659 cash in the banks.

PRIES LAKE SALOON IN BAD

Falls Under Eye of the Sheriff on Charge of Lifting Lid and Gambling.

As a result of a complaint made Friday Sheriff Brailey is investigating the Pries lake saloon and may order it to close. The complaint was made by Will H. Thompson, an attorney, who represents clients living near the lake. He says the saloon has been open on Sunday and that gambling is allowed in it.

Sheriff Brailey went out to the saloon Friday to investigate the charges. He announced the saloon would have to close Sundays and that gambling would not be tolerated.

NO GUNS FOR MOTORMAN

Man Who Shoots at Barking Dog Loses His Job on Street Car.

"We bought out his interest in the company."

That is the way former Superintendent Tucker would have explained the absence of a certain motorman, who has been missing for the last few days from the Harney street line.

The real reason for the absence of the said motorman is that he tried his marksmanship with a revolver on a dog which was barking at one of the Harney street cars about midnight a few nights ago.

The company does not encourage the men to carry firearms.