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CURRENT HAPPENINGS

FAITHFUL CHRONICLE OF ALL IMPORTANT ITEMS.

"LEAN" YEAR COMING

JAMES J. HILL HAS SMALL HOPE OF 1908.

Railroad Magnate Fears Thousands of Men May Be Out of Work Next Year—His Roads Not to Undertake Any New Enterprises.

James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railroad company, who has returned from St. Paul, expressed the conviction Thursday that the tide of prosperity is turning and that there are indications of a significant recession in business. As Mr. Hill phrased it, "The sails of prosperity are being reefed. The year 1908 may be a hard year and many thousands of men may then be out of work."

"General policies of retrenchment are under way," said Mr. Hill. "Less money is to be spent on new works. The effect of this movement is being felt at present in the falling off of orders. The beginning of this movement is very evident in Chicago."

"While I would scarcely call it a cessation in business it is more of a drawing in. The railroads in general are curtailing their expenditures and giving fewer orders. On our lines we will finish the work we have under way and that is all."

"This movement toward economy is scarcely perceptible, but it should be sufficient to relieve the strain from congested business. In a way it is a good thing. It is better so as the curtailment is gradual. Otherwise, there might be a sudden slump with serious results."

"The first tendency is toward the curtailment of luxuries. Then there will be a falling off in manufactured articles. This will continue during the coming months. But so far as concerns the future the year 1908 may be a hard one and then many men may be out of employment."

WARSHIP SINKS STEAMER.

American Ship Rammed by French Cruiser at New Orleans.

In hazy weather the French cruiser Kiebert Wednesday night rammed and sank the American freight steamer Hugoma in the Mississippi river, just off the center of the city of New Orleans. Capt. Lewis of the Hugoma, said that seven coal passers and firemen of his vessel, mostly Japanese, had been drowned. The Kiebert, just arriving from Havana, was rounding a sharp turn and the Hugoma, drifting with the six-mile eddy current, turned directly into the cruiser's path. Capt. Lewis of the Hugoma, says that his signal was mistaken by the warship. The latter struck the freight ship amidships on the port side, nearly cutting her in two, and in five minutes the Hugoma plunged to the bottom in more than 100 feet of water.

SHOT TO DEATH IN OFFICE.

Sensational Tragedy Occurs in Chicago.

Louis Fisher, of Chicago, one of the proprietors of the Harrison Art company, was shot to death in his office Thursday. A fashionably dressed woman who entered Fisher's office and quarreled with Fisher was found in the room after the shooting. She was arrested, but refused to give her name.

The woman was later identified as Mrs. Flora McDonald, wife of Michael McDonald, a former prominent Democratic politician and millionaire.

Shortly after the identification of Mrs. McDonald, the man who was killed was identified as Webster S. Guerin. He also used the name of Fisher.

Ten Wounded in Color Rush.

Ten students were injured, three of them badly, in a color rush on the campus of Illinois Wesleyan university at Bloomington, Ill. William T. Alexander suffered a broken shoulder and bruises, and Frank Sawyer had an eye injured, and Frank Sawyer had an eye injured, and Frank Sawyer had an eye injured.

John Camp, of Havana, Ill., who stabbed James Allen, a saloonkeeper, at Bath, in September, 1905, while defending his wife from an attack, was acquitted of murder Thursday.

Prohibits Exclusive Contracts.

The Kansas house Thursday passed the bill already passed by the senate prohibiting the making of exclusive contracts.

Slous City Live Stock Market.

Thursday's quotations on the Sioux City livestock market follow: Top beefs, \$5.40. Top hogs, \$6.90.

Causes Wreck; Now Insane.

W. J. Dougherty, a train dispatcher for the Northwestern road, whose error is blamed for a collision last week, resulting in three deaths, near Ashland, Wis., is insane in a hospital at Ironwood.

Children Die from Eating Hog Liver. A 3-year-old son and a 5-year-old daughter of Fred Fenner, a farmer living two miles south of Hillsboro, O., died of ptomaine poisoning from eating hog liver.

NEW CRISIS IN CUBA.

Due to Dissensions Between Rival Liberal Factions.

A crisis as a result of the recent dissensions between rival factions in the liberal party in Cuba, led by Alfredo Zayas and Jose Miguel Gomez, is indicated by the action of Senator Garmet, vice president of the national liberal assembly, in directing the secretary of the national convention to summon that body in extraordinary session. This step is taken in compliance with a petition signed by twelve delegates to the convention, all of whom are followers of Jose Miguel Gomez.

The signers declare the organization of a committee to revise the laws of Cuba to be unconstitutional. This committee was recently appointed by Gov. Magoon, and they proclaim it as the urgent duty of liberal to demand the incorporation of their doctrines in the new legislation.

Zayas' followers declare they are indifferent to this new movement and assert Senator Garmet is legally incompetent to convoke the convention. The signers declare the organization of a committee to revise the laws of Cuba to be unconstitutional. This committee was recently appointed by Gov. Magoon, and they proclaim it as the urgent duty of liberal to demand the incorporation of their doctrines in the new legislation.

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TRIPP COUNTY BILL SAVED.

Senate Provides for Opening South Dakota Lands.

South Dakota's delegation at Washington has somewhat forgotten its jealousy in satisfaction at the passage by the senate Tuesday night of the bill opening the Tripp county lands of the Rosebud. The only amendment which changed the bill from the form in which it passed the house, where it was introduced by Representative Burke, is the addition of \$15,000 to defray the expense of allotment of certain portions of the land to the Indians. Although the bill is now a law it is doubtful if the interior department will be able to make arrangements for the opening before 1908.

The conferees of the house and senate on the Indian bill have agreed upon all South Dakota items as they were passed by the senate.

WON BRIDE IN OVERALLS.

Westinghouse in Father's Shop When Flawless First Saw Him.

Miss Violet, daughter of Sir Thomas and Lady Brocklebank, of London, whose engagement to George Westinghouse, Jr., of Pittsburgh, is announced, first saw young Westinghouse in his overalls and greasy jumper at work in his father's shop, and, not knowing his name, she asked him some questions. Young Westinghouse showed her all she wanted to know and she departed, thanking him, even hesitating whether or not she offer him a tip.

A year later, on one of his trips to Europe, young Westinghouse met formally the young woman who will soon be his wife. She almost fainted when she recognized in young Westinghouse the heir to \$50,000,000, the same young man to whom she had talked so freely as a workman.

Places Big Order for Rails.

The Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railway company has placed an order with the United States Steel corporation for 40,000 tons of steel rails. The delivery of the rails will begin in March. It is expected the rails will be laid and the track in operation before the end of the year. The company has also placed orders for 1,100,000 ties.

Higgins Left Big Fortune.

The will of former Gov. Frank Wayland Higgins, of Olean, N. Y., disposes of an estate valued at between \$14,000,000 and \$16,000,000. Trusts are created for the benefit of the wife and children of the testator and Mrs. Higgins is made the sole residuary legatee.

Cot. Irons to Succeed Pershing.

Lieut. Col. James A. Irons, Fourteenth infantry, has been selected as military attaché of the American embassy at Tokio, to succeed Capt. John J. Pershing, promoted to be brigadier general and now commanding Fort McKinley, Manila.

Votes Anti-Pass Bill.

The lower house of the Nevada legislature Wednesday attempted to pass the anti-railroad pass resolution over the governor's veto, but the speaker refused to put the motion.

Must Allow Boys to Climb.

The Georgia state supreme court in a decision rendered Tuesday, holds that small boys have an inalienable right to climb trees.

Orders All Cows Inspected.

The city board of health of Terre Haute, Ind., has ordered the inspection of every cow contributing to the milk supply of the city, because the food inspector says tuberculosis is present in dairies.

Lost \$1,000 Worth of Brains.

A jury gave George A. Bevens, of Cleveland, O., who claimed that he had lost a spoonful of brains in an accident at the Central high school annex, a judgment for \$1,000.

GREAT NORTHERN INDICTED.

Alleged Rebates on Sugar to Sioux City.

The federal grand jury at New York Tuesday indicted the Great Northern Railway company on charges that in 1904 it paid \$10,000 in rebates on sugar shipments to Lowell M. Palmer, traffic agent of the American Sugar Refining company. A second count of the same indictment charges that \$4,554 additional rebates were paid to Mr. Palmer by various railroads in conjunction with the Great Northern. The indictment charges that the Great Northern Railway company effected freight combinations with the Lehigh Valley, the New York Central and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroads, the through route of the last named road, the Great Northern Steamship company and the Great Northern Railway company, whereby sugar was transported from New York city and Boston to Sioux City, Ia., at less than the published tariff rates.

The latter, the indictment charges, was 52 cents per 100 pounds, but through an agreement alleged to have been made by Alonzo W. Lake and A. W. Steele as agents of the Great Northern company and Lowell M. Palmer as agent of the American Sugar Refining company, it is charged that the sugar refining company was granted a through rate on sugar between the points named of 33 cents per 100. It is understood that the general counsel of the Great Northern have been notified of the indictment and will within a few days present themselves for pleading.

It is reported still more indictments will follow.

MEXICAN MINE HORROR.

Hundred Lives Are Believed to Have Been Lost.

It is now believed 100 lives were lost in the explosion Monday night in the mine belonging to the Mexican Coal and Coke company at Las Esperanzas, Mexico. Forty-three bodies have been removed. Many of the men killed were Japanese.

The explosion occurred shortly after the night shift had commenced work. It is thought to have been caused by gas which ignited from a defective lamp carried by one of the miners.

Las Esperanzas is a town of about 5,000 inhabitants and is made up almost entirely of employees of the coal mines. It is situated about 75 miles from Eagle Pass, Tex. Conditions are in such a state that reliable information as to the dead is not at present available.

The dispatcher's office at Monclova reports that a special train with physicians and medical supplies was sent to the scene, but there is little hope that many have escaped alive.

TO USE LESS-AMERICAN MEAT.

British Hopes to Get Large Supplies from Colonies.

The British war office is taking steps to ascertain the possibility of obtaining for the British army larger supplies of canned meats from Australia and New Zealand, so that the contracts with the American packers may be reduced in the near future.

When the government was questioned in the house of commons Tuesday afternoon as to whether the colonies could not be given the first chance to obtain the next contracts Mr. Buchanan, financial secretary of the war office, said that in anticipation of an increased demand and in view of the stories regarding American canned meats last summer, as well as the government's desire for a wider area for supply, a representative had been sent to Australia and New Zealand to report on the methods of packing houses there and the capacity of those colonies to furnish canned meat.

Seek High Rolling on Liquor.

To carry to the supreme court a recent decision by Judge S. S. Artman holding the licensing of saloons illegal, charges of maintaining a public nuisance have been preferred against Francis Long, a saloonkeeper at Leavenworth, Ind. The state prohibition organization is back of the move. Chairman Newlin states that means will not be lacking to fight to a finish.

Street Railway Sold Under Hammer.

The Henderson Street Railway company was sold Monday at public sale under an order of the court, to satisfy the claims of creditors. C. A. Hinch president of the Fifth National bank of Cincinnati, representing the bondholders, bought the company's interests for \$30,000.

Lays Error to Druggists.

Mrs. Cella Kohen, of Chicago, has filed suit for \$500 damages in the Superior court against the Public Drug company, alleging injuries suffered by her 6-year-old daughter, Henrietta, from carbolic acid said to have been put into medicine by mistake at the Public Drug store last December.

Mgr. Santander Dead.

Madrid: Mgr. Santander, formerly bishop of Havana, died Thursday of paralysis. He was 71 years of age and resigned his bishopric in 1899 when Cuba was lost to Spain.

South Bend Y. W. C. A. Given Home.

Mr. and Mrs. George Wyman, of South Bend, Ind., have presented to the Young Women's Christian association a deed to the new Y. W. C. A. home now being erected. The property is worth \$75,000.

Athletes Diphtheria Victims.

Coach Justus M. Lindgren, of the football team, his wife, and Catcher Ganning of the varsity baseball team, at Champaign, Ill., are victims of diphtheria at the home of Lindgren.

Nebraska State News

BUTGLAR ALARM SAVES BANK.

Gones Ring When Robbers Knock Dial from Safe and They Run.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to rob the Farmers State bank of Central City at an early hour Tuesday morning.

About 1:15 the night watchman was held up by two masked men. He was told to come with them and make no disturbance and they would not harm him. Arriving at the bank, the door of which had been previously opened by one of the men, the robbers entered. The watchman was taken to the bank parlor, blindfolded and securely bound, hands and feet to a chair. The robbers then proceeded to gain entrance to the vault with a sledge hammer and they knocked the dial off the door.

The bank is protected by an American bank protection burglar alarm. When the dial was broken connection was made and the alarms turned loose. The burglars lost no time in getting away.

There were four in the party. They stole a handcar and headed for Grand Island. Near Chapman the car was ditched.

The alarm aroused parties sleeping near the bank, who got busy with the telephone. When the bank officials arrived they found the night watchman securely bound. The burglars' departure was so sudden that they left their tools.

Evidently the burglars were not aware of the fact that the bank was provided with a burglar alarm or they expected to cut the connections.

The Knights of Pythias were celebrating their anniversary, but three doors away and had left their hall less than thirty minutes before the attempted burglary. In fact, the cashier of the bank, who was on his way home from the lodge rooms, met the two men who held up the night watchman on the corner but a few minutes before the holdup.

There is no question but what the alarm saved the bank.

CEMENT FACTORY FOR PERU.

Prof. Duncanson Thinks Prof. Barbour Has Estimated Correctly.

At his recent visit, Prof. E. H. Barbour, of the state university, suggested that the shale overlying the coal vein at the Peru mine could be used together with the limestone bed to the westward for the purpose of making a fine quality of cement. He said that the coal would furnish all the fuel needed. Following his suggestions a company of local capitalists has been temporarily organized to look into the possibility of establishing such a factory, and steps are being taken which will insure the establishment of the factory in case the materials at hand prove all that is reported by the state geologist. Prof. Duncanson, who accompanied Prof. Barbour, thinks Prof. Barbour has been very conservative in his estimates of the local resources in the vicinity of the mine.

HORSE'S LEG IN PLASTER CAST.

Enlist Surgeon Attempts to Save Animal Maimed in Ruinway.

A team driven by Harry Schroeder, of near Eustis, became unmanageable Sunday night and after a run of a quarter of a mile crashed into the rear of a spring wagon in which there were four children and a barred of salt. Nobody was injured beyond a shaking up.

One of the horses sustained a broken leg. The owner of the team, Clyde Klingman, secured the services of Dr. Weidenmeyer, physician and surgeon, who reduced the fracture and encased the leg in a plaster of paris cast. The injured leg is protected by an iron brace. The outcome of the operation is being watched with interest, as Mr. Klingman is the first person in this section to try to save a horse in this manner.

FAMILIES RETURN TO THEIR HOMES ON SOUTH SIDE A SECOND TIME.

The ice is now out of the Platte river and the water has gone out of the south part of Fremont, leaving only a few pools in low places. Families have gone back to their homes a second time and are again busy cleaning up. The flood last week, according to old timers, almost equaled that of 1881. Measures will undoubtedly be taken to prevent any further flooding of the south side, either by erecting a strong dike along the south bank of the river or by diverting the channel to the south of Murphy and Hawthorne islands.

U. S. vs. James Clifton.

There is a case at Osceola on the federal court docket entitled the United States against James Clifton. Mr. Clifton lives in Platte precinct in Polk county, and it is alleged that he sent a postal card through the mail that had words written on it that were contrary to law. Witnesses were examined as to Clifton's character, and it was shown so good that it is thought Uncle Sam can be knocked out easily.

No Conversion in Three Weeks.

Three weeks' revival meetings at the First Christian church of Platte Hill, closed Sunday evening without a single conversion having been made.

Big Prices for Fancy Hogs.

Several hog sales were held in different parts of Clay county last week and large prices were paid. At one sale, a sow brought \$1,500. At another sale the prices averaged a little over \$50. At another \$75.

Nebraska Shifts Burden.

The senate recently adopted a joint memorial to congress in favor of an amendment to the constitution permitting women to vote. The vote on adoption was a tie, 16 to 16. Lieut. Gov. Hopewell deciding in its favor.

Merchants Set Convention.

At a meeting of the executive board in Omaha the annual convention of the Nebraska State Retail Merchants' association was set for March 6 and 7. The place will be in Lincoln.

CHIEF OF POLICE FILED.

Omaha Bunch Left Large Sums to Public Institutions.

The will of the late Chief John A. Creighton was filed for probate Monday afternoon.

It makes specific bequests of \$1,150,000, of which \$250,000 goes to relatives and his housekeeper, and \$900,000 goes to educational and benevolent institutions, the Creighton university leading with \$300,000.

but all that is left over, estimated to be upwards of \$5,000,000, is to be distributed among the beneficiaries specifically named in the will in the same proportion that their shares bear to the whole amount. Thus it is estimated each one will receive four or five times as much as specifically named.

The following institutions besides Creighton university are given the amounts named as relative shares in the residue of the estate:

Creighton Memorial (St. Joseph's) hospital, \$200,000; Little Sisters of the Poor, \$50,000; Working Girls' home, \$50,000; Sisters of Good Shepherd, \$50,000; Sisters of Poor Clare, \$50,000.

HART INSURANCE HELD VALID.

Jury Gives Verdict for Children of Men Killed in Wyoming.

The jury in the district court at Fremont in the case of Hart against the Supreme Tent of the Maizebears brought in a verdict for the plaintiffs recently for \$2,000 and interest. Appeal will be taken to the supreme court. Plaintiffs are the two children of William F. Hart, deceased, who was shot and almost instantly killed by Geo. Hovee, a 16-year-old boy at Douglas, Wyo., July 2 last. Hart roomed at the Hovee house and had fired two shots at the boy's mother, both taking effect, when the boy came into the room and shot him. The defense was that his death was caused by his being engaged in violating the law of the land and that his certificate of insurance was therefore void. The case was submitted to the jury on this proposition alone and their finding was for the plaintiffs.

COLORED MEN START TROUBLE.

Attend Mask Ball and Disturbance Starts When They Unmask.

At a masquerade ball given by the citizens of Hyannis two colored men, Frank Shepard and Sam Minns, cooks themselves, did their worst in the neighborhood, and danced with the elite of the city until a late hour, when at one of the saloons they unmasked and by so doing nearly participated a small race riot. The colored men came out victorious, however, for with the aid of their reliable razors they have as yet resisted all attempts to arrest them. The citizens are determined, also, and they expect to arrest them on the charge of disturbing the peace. The colored men stood well in the community until this act.

PLATTE RIVER BREAKS DIKE.

Part of the City of Fremont is Again Under Water.

Despite the work of 300 men all night the Platte river broke through the dike at Fremont again Monday morning and South Fremont was flooded with from three to five feet of water. Many families were again driven from their homes. The Burlington track was overflowed and the road is again out of business. At 11 o'clock the water was up to the Union Pacific track through the city. A relief fund for sufferers has been started. The Union Pacific dynamite gang has been turned over to the city to break the gorge, and blasting is in progress.

THREE YOUNG MEN AND A GIRL.

Small Theatrical Company Taken Into Custody at Virginia.

The Hall-Booth-Rankin theatrical company played a brief engagement at Virginia, because of the interference of Sheriff Trude, who went there to see Miss Peabody, a girl who left Beatrice with the company without her parents' consent. All the members of the company, comprising three young men and Miss Peabody, were brought to Beatrice by the officer. The girl was sent to her home at Oniowa and the boys were released after paying the costs in the case.

FARMERS LEAVE HOMES.

The Lowlands Near Newcastle, Are Under Water.

The ice gorge near Vermilion is within sight of Newcastle, and many people have gathered on the bluff to watch the movement of the high water. Newcastle is on an elevation, like nearly all the other towns in that vicinity, and there is no reason to fear the high water. Farmers on the lowlands in the vicinity of Newcastle, however, have been leaving their homes in order not to be caught by the rush of the water.

Youngers Held for Assault.

Geo. Younger, who is charged with assault on Myrtle Furlong, a 15-year-old white girl at Lincoln, was bound for four months, awaiting W. H. Lyon, of Lyons, who is interested with other Lyons parties in erecting a large saw mill.

Beatrice Debaters Win.

The Beatrice High school debaters won from the Humboldt High school recently in the debate over the annexation of Cuba.

Death of Pioneer Nebraskan.

Maj. C. W. Pierce, of Lincoln, one of the framers of the Nebraska constitution and a pioneer lawmaker, died Sunday at Hastings, Pla., where he had gone for his health. He was a member of congress from the Fourth Alabama district in the late 60s.

Anti-Tipping Bill.

The senate, in committee of the whole, recommended for passage a drastic "anti-tipping" bill. It is directed against waiters, porters and similar employees, and provides a fine

Nebraska Legislature

Routine Proceedings of Senate.

The senate spent most of the Wednesday morning session in committee of the whole considering bills. Action was taken on the following:

By Wilsey of Frontier—To enable cemetery associations to acquire land by condemnation proceedings. Indefinitely postponed.

By Whitte—To regulate the driving of traction engines over the public roads. Recommended for passage.

The committee on judiciary reported favorably bills introduced by Aldrich relating to county attorneys, after substituting practically a new bill for it.

Under the head of bills on third reading, the senate passed S. F. 101, by Patrick, requiring licensing boards to revoke licenses of saloonkeepers who violate the law relating to the selling of liquors. Thomas of Douglas cast the only vote against the bill.

At the afternoon session Wednesday the senate passed H. R. 89, a bill prohibiting the sale at any time of game and fish protected by the game laws. There was no opposition to the bill.

The senate then went into committee of the whole and acted on the following bills:

By Thomas—To allow street railway companies to buy and sell interurban securities and to operate, purchase and lease interurban lines; for passage.

By Clarke—Abolishing capital punishment; indefinitely postponed.

Clarke's bill caused a heated discussion over the question of capital punishment. Clarke, Randall, Burns and Sackett speaking for the bill, and King, Epperson, Aldrich and Patrick against it. The vote was overwhelming in favor of indefinitely postponing the bill.

House Puts in a Busy Session.

The house Wednesday voted on the following bills on final passage:

By McMullen of Gage—Establishing a bacteriological laboratory under the direction of the state board of health to be maintained at the state university; killed.

By Henry—Providing a way for women suffrage; killed.

The speaker appointed the following committee to investigate the feasibility of a binding time plant at the state penitentiary: Quackenbush, Jenkinson, Eller and Stoll.

In committee of the whole the following bills were passed on:

By Davis, of Cass—Taxing mortgages; recommended for passage.

By Davis of Howard—Levying special voting tax of \$3; recommended for passage.

By Eller of Washington—Defining embezzlement of funds of fraternal companies and prescribing punishment; recommended for passage.

By Leader of Douglas—Two platoons for Omaha fire department; recommended for passage.

By Eller of Washington—Providing for redemption of real estate sold under tax sale; recommended for passage.

By Brown of Sherman—Two-column ballot; recommended for passage.

By McMullen of Gage—Open meetings of board of agents; recommended for passage.

By E. P. Brown of Lancaster—Taxpayer may appeal from excessive levy without having appeared before the board; recommended for passage.

By Baker of York—Real estate tax, as become a lien on the property Nov. 1; recommended for passage.

The following bills were introduced: By committee on corporations—To prevent corporations from watering stock.

By Cune of Saunders—Permitting the parole of dipsoniac patients.

By Cune of Saunders—Making it a criminal offense to sell, give or furnish intoxicating liquors or narcotic drugs to any person under sentence as a dipsoniac; recommended for passage.

By Neff of Franklin by request—Making juvenile court law apply to all children under 16, whether inmates of institutions or not.

By committee on judiciary—The uniform divorce law, indorsed by the national congress on divorce.

By Armstrong of Nemaha—To repeal maximum freight rates law.

By Eller of Washington—To license itinerant vendors of drugs, medicines, etc.

By Killen of Gage—Salaries of county officers.

By Rhystone of Lancaster—Soldiers' relief commission shall receive expenses in addition to salary.

By Doran of Garfield—To repeal present certification law and reinstate old law repealed two years ago.

By Davis of Cass—To regulate stallion service and the registration of such animals.

To Make