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CURRENT HAPPENINGS

FAITHFUL CHRONICLE OF ALL IMPORTANT ITEMS.

CROWD WHITE HOUSE

WATERWAYS MEN URGE THEIR PROJECTS ON TAFT.

Delegates Also Call on Sherman, Speaker Cannon and Senator Fry—Nine-Foot Channel from Pittsburgh to Cairo Proposed.

Assurances that steps of an important character toward the development of a system of waterways improvement in the heart of the country would be taken by the present congress were given by President Taft to delegations which he received in the east room of the White House Thursday afternoon. To perhaps 300 committee men, representing the Ohio Valley Improvement association, the president promised to bring what influence he could in favor of the improvement of the Ohio and later to the committee of 500 at the New Orleans lakes to Gulf Deep Waterway convention he said that "something is doing," and that the interest of those in congress who heretofore have turned a cold shoulder to the entire subject of waterways improvement had been aroused.

Mr. Taft expressed to the Ohio delegation regret that his remarks before the rivers and harbors congress Thursday had cast a "wet blanket" over the convention, and said that he had only intended to help the gathering along by pointing out the practical method of accomplishing the object desired.

The object of the visit of the Ohio valley delegation to the White House was to enlist the president's support for a 9-foot channel from Pittsburgh to Cairo all the year around. Its spokesman was Alexander Dempster, of Pittsburgh. The president's response to those in the delegation was most encouraging.

NEW ATTACK ON DR. COOK.

More Sensational Charges Against Explorer.

Affidavits of two men asserting that Dr. Frederick A. Cook hired them for \$4,000, with promise of an additional bonus of \$500 to one of them, to fabricate astronomical observations and calculations of latitude and longitude for submission to the University of Copenhagen, were published in the New York Times Thursday morning.

The men who say they helped Cook in preparing records of a journey to the north pole—George H. Dunkle, an insurance broker, and Capt. August Wedel Loebe, a seaman—admit that their reason for making the affidavits known to the public was that the explorer only paid them \$250 for their work.

Capt. A. W. Loebe, the master pilot and navigator, whose affidavit states that he had formulated a long series of observations and data for Dr. Frederick A. Cook at Dr. Cook's request since his return from the Arctic region, was published Thursday, talked at his home in Brooklyn concerning the statements made in the affidavit.

"I went to Dr. Cook," said Capt. Loebe, "thinking that I might be of some assistance to him, but I never expected when I approached him to do such extended work as I have done. A short talk with Dr. Cook convinced me that he knew almost nothing about navigation. He was ignorant of some of the essentials of the science."

SHIP BURNS ON LAKE ERIE.

Two Lost, and Fate of Thirteen is Unknown.

Two men lost their lives and the fate of thirteen others is unknown as a result of the burning of the steamer *Clarion* near Point Pelee, in Lake Erie, early Thursday. Six members of the crew were taken from the *Clarion* by the steamer *L. C. Hanna* and taken to Cleveland, O. They were rushed to a train and sent to Buffalo, the headquarters of the Anchor Line company, which owns the *Clarion*.

According to the story of the sailors, all attempted to leave the *Clarion* as soon as it was ascertained that she could not be saved. Capt. E. J. Bell, of Ogdensburg, N. Y., and twelve other members of the crew took to the lifeboat.

The mate was frozen to death. A vain effort was made by the six survivors to enter another lifeboat. One sailor fell overboard and was drowned in his efforts to launch the lifeboat. The men were forced to remain on the *Clarion*.

Staus City Live Stock Market.

Thursday's quotations on the Sioux City live stock market follow: Top hogs, \$5.90. Top hogs, \$5.25.

Cut in Coal Supply.

A \$1,000,000 cut in the appropriations for the supply of coal for the navy was recommended to the house naval affairs committee Thursday in accordance with the general policy of reducing all government expenditures.

Artist Kaulbach Dead.

The death is announced of Hermann Kaulbach, the German artist, at Munich. He was born in that city in 1846.

HELD FOR LARCENY.

Sheldon Indicted by a New York Grand Jury.

George Preston Sheldon, deposed president of the Phoenix Fire Insurance company, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who lies at death's door at his Greenwich, Conn., home, was indicted for larceny in the first degree by the grand jury of New York Wednesday for alleged misappropriation of funds of the company, of which he was the head twenty-two years. At Sheldon was not indicted and probably will not be unless his health improves radically, the text of the indictment was not made public, but an official from the district attorney's office is authority for the statement that the amount which Sheldon is accused of stealing is \$45,000.

According to this official Sheldon, it was testified before the grand jury, used the funds, or credit of the insurance company, in stock market transactions through a New York brokerage firm and pocketed the profits.

In the meantime detectives will be sent to Greenwich to inquire into the condition of the accused man's health. If they find he is too ill for trial no attempt at extradition will be made, but he will be kept under close surveillance. Sheldon is 64 years old and widely known in insurance circles.

DANGER OF MORE RIOTING.

Steel Mill Trouble Assumed Dangerous Phase.

The strike of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers against the American Steel and Tin Plate company, a subsidiary of the United States Steel corporation, which has been in progress during the last five months in the states of Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, is assuming serious proportions.

Developments in the labor dispute Wednesday demonstrate the temper of the participants. A house occupied by non-union men at Struthers, O., was dynamited and seven persons injured; a soldier opened fire on a striker at Bridgeport, O., without effect, however; non-union men were severely beaten at New Castle, Pa., and the authorities at Wheeling, W. Va., and Martins Ferry, O., are preparing for trouble.

KILLED BY SPRING GUN.

Unique Method Used to Murder Former Iowa.

S. A. Ash, a druggist, was shot and killed in his home in a manner which makes the murder unique in the history of Cody, Wyo. By the use of a clothesline attached to an old gun a trap was arranged inside the cabin, such as is sometimes used by trappers to kill bears. A rope was attached to the trigger of the gun and the gun was discharged when Ash opened the door, the charge entering his stomach. He died two hours later. He was born and reared in Storm Lake, Ia.

Big Horn county and the business men of Cody have offered a reward of \$1,000 for the apprehension of the persons responsible for the death of Ash, who was manager of the Western Drug company.

Pullman Rates Lowered.

The Oklahoma corporation commission Sunday ordered a reduction in Pullman sleeping car rates, effective January 1. The berth rate per night is reduced from \$2 to \$1.50, and the seat rate is cut about 40 per cent. The Pullman company has agreed to accept the new schedule.

Search for Missing Man.

The Chicago police were asked Monday to search for Graham C. Stevens, 23 years old, general superintendent of a branch of the Republic Iron and Steel company at Moine, Ill., who left his office November 13, saying that he was going to Chicago.

Give Girl Ice Bath.

The state board of regents started an investigation into the hazing of Miss Mattie Taylor, a student of the Fairmont state normal school at Fairmont, W. Va., who was given an ice bath and painted red, it is alleged, because she rooted for the wrong football team recently.

Disabled Warship Sinks.

The French battleship *Iena*, on which an explosion occurred in 1907, killing eighty and injuring hundreds of others, sank Friday while being towed into port.

Gift for Cancer Inquiry.

George Crocker's gift to Columbia university to be used for the investigation of cancer, of which he died in New York, will amount at least to \$1,500,000, according to the terms of his will.

After January 1, 1910, football is to be barred from the public schools of Greater New York. This was decided by resolution at a meeting of the board of education Wednesday.

Francis J. Berex confirmed the report that he had filed suit in New York against Wm. H. Crocker, of San Francisco, for \$250,000 for alleged libel.

Mrs. Susan Stewart, wife of Paymaster General Stewart, U. S. N., retired, of South Orange, N. J., died in Washington Wednesday at the home of Rear Admiral Andrew Dupuis, where she was visiting.

Thirty-five passengers on a street car were injured, some fatally and few seriously, Wednesday night when the car was struck by an inbound Pennsylvania passenger train at the fourth street crossing in Indianapolis, Ind.

BIG GASOMETER BLOWS UP.

Ten Killed and Many Hurt in Hamburg, Germany.

The explosion of two gas tanks in the so-called "Kleine's Gasbrook" on the Elbe front, in Hamburg, Germany, Tuesday afternoon, was followed by an extensive fire and loss of many lives. The explosion was due to a leak in a new gasometer. Escaping gas entered the retort house where it came in contact with the fire, causing a terrific explosion. A large number of workmen were engaged in rebuilding and enlarging the plant. Twenty-five of the men were employed near the gasometer. They disappeared in a mass of flames which shot up to a great height.

Firemen with apparatus appeared quickly on the scene, but they were unable to approach in large force owing to the isolation of the establishment.

Up to a late hour Tuesday night ten men are reported dead and seventeen missing. It is almost certain that all of these are dead. Forty men were dangerously injured, of whom several cannot recover.

The fire gained rapidly and threatened the old gasometer, containing 50,000 cubic meters. So intense was the heat and so dangerous their position the firemen were compelled to withdraw to a safe distance. A terrific explosion soon occurred and the tower became a mass of flames, which leaped hundreds of feet in the air, sending fragments of glowing coke far and wide over the city and harbor.

After strenuous efforts the fire was got under control and the rescue work was carried on vigorously. There is little hope of finding the bodies of the missing, if they have been killed, as they would undoubtedly have been incinerated.

YOUTHS UNDER ARREST.

Kansas City Police Believe They Have a Holdup Gang.

In the arrest of three youths—aged 17, 19 and 21 years, respectively—at Kansas City, Mo., Tuesday night the police believe they have found the perpetrators of many of the numerous holdups that have taken place there lately.

Two of the boys, Ralph Cline and Louis Dye, were identified by a witness as the men who shot and killed M. A. Spangler November 21. Spangler was killed in his saloon during an attempted holdup. His son, Samuel Spangler, was shot in both arms. The other boy, Harry Shay, was identified as the youth who accompanied Dye and Cline on several holdup expeditions.

FAST TIME ON WHEELS.

Special Train on New York Central in a Record Run.

All eastward records between New York and Chicago on the New York Central railroad for trains carrying passengers were broken Tuesday by the special carrying Samuel Newhouse, of Salt Lake City, to New York on his trip to catch a steamer for Europe, where a brother is dying.

Approximately the train traveled the distance in 17 hours and 46 minutes, as against 18 hours which the Twentieth Century limited makes.

Bought by St. Louis Firm.

At public auction in Austin, Texas, Tuesday the property of the Waters-Pierce oil company was sold to S. W. Korday and associates of St. Louis, Mo. The property of the Security Oil company was bought by John Sealey, of Galveston, for \$55,000, and that of the Navarro Refining company, of Corsicana, was sold also to Sealey for \$750,000.

Burglary at Emerson.

Burglars were abroad in Emerson, Neb., Monday night. They broke into the hardware store of Isenberg & Betcke and the drug store of Beiersdorf Bros. From the hardware store \$200 worth of jewelry was stolen, and from the drug store about \$25 worth of paper.

Taft Re-Elected.

President Taft was re-elected president of the American Red Cross late Tuesday, and presided for a time over the fifth annual meeting of the association held in the memorial hall of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Washington.

Financier's Son Robbed.

William Astor Drayton, son of J. Coleman Drayton, financier, and nephew of Col. John Jacob Astor, was beaten and robbed while returning home from a social affair. He was picked up unconscious by a policeman.

Boy Killed His Brother.

At Lindsay, Kan., Gilbert Lindsay, the 8-year-old son of John Lindsay, was shot and killed by his 13-year-old brother, Lawrence, because he did not get out of bed immediately when called.

The jury in the case of H. Clay Pierce, the oil magnate, charged with false swearing, returned a verdict at Austin, Tex., Tuesday of not guilty.

District Very Low.

Physicians attending former U. S. Senator C. H. Dietrich at Omaha, Neb., reported late Tuesday night that his patient was very low and that his life was despaired of.

Karl Wojciechowski and Adam Piatnacki were arrested and brought to Milwaukee, Wis., Tuesday from Biacy, Mich., by a Milwaukee detective as suspects in the Hattie Zinda murder case.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

News of the Week in Concise Form

BELLEVUE-HASTINGS UNION.

College to Be Moved to Western City by Spring.

At an adjourned session of the Presbyterian synod of Nebraska in Kearney Tuesday for the purpose of revising and acting on a report of the commission appointed to investigate the affairs of the college at Bellevue and Hastings, the following resolution was adopted, which will consolidate the two schools at Hastings:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the synod that Bellevue college and Hastings college be united. That this united college be located at Hastings and shall be known as Bellevue college or such other name as the board of trustees of the two institutions shall determine.

"That the board of trustees of Hastings and Bellevue colleges be authorized and directed as soon as possible to take such action as may be necessary for turning over the property of Bellevue college and the assumption of the debts of Bellevue college by the trustees of Hastings college. It shall also be provided that the work being done at Bellevue college should not be discontinued before the close of the present school year."

VETERINARIAN WILL KILL COWS.

Will Carry Out Duties in Omaha Herd That is Affected.

State Veterinarian Juckness will go to Omaha shortly to kill some tuberculosis cows. Recently Dr. Juckness discovered some 21 cows with tuberculosis in a dairy herd at Omaha. Six of these were sold to the packers and were made into fertilizer. A second visit to the dairy farm showed that the owner was still selling milk from the diseased animals, though a protest was made that the milk was pasteurized. The state veterinarian, however, discovered that the pasteurizing machine was out of fix and had been in process of repair for a week.

BOMB BURLED IN OMAHA.

Explosion Occurs in Rear of a Saloon—Slight Damage Done.

Considerable mystery surrounds an explosion in the rear of Foley & Ryan's saloon in Omaha, which occurred early Monday evening, and the police believe it resulted from a bomb thrown from an upper story. Charles Fox, a shoe salesman in a store located in the Karbach block, was slightly hurt. The police are investigating the explosion, but there is nothing to indicate its origin.

Several windows were shattered, but no other property damage was done.

GOVERNOR CALLS DAHLMAN.

Omaha Mayor and Others Cited Under Proposed Ouster Case.

Gov. Shullenger Saturday evening issued an order citing Mayor Jas. Dahlman and the other members of the Omaha fire and police commission to appear before him December 11 and show cause why Attorney General Thompson should not be directed to begin ouster proceedings in the supreme court under the Sackett law to remove them from office on the charge of non-enforcement of law, particularly the enforcement of laws against gambling and the illegal sale of intoxicating liquors.

Test of Telephone Act.

The county attorney of Madison county has been instructed to begin prosecution against the Adams and Pacific Express companies for refusing to comply with the orders of the railway commission instructing them to install an independent telephone in their office at Norfolk. The case is to test the law.

Hotel Clerks Meet.

The annual convention of the Nebraska and Iowa Hotel Clerks' association was held at the Hotel Loyal in Omaha Monday night. Officers were elected as follows: President, E. W. Sherman of the Honshaw; vice president, P. J. Rubel, of the Paxton; secretary, A. W. Cird, Hotel Reporter; treasurer, Paul Stanton, of the Merchants.

To Inspect Omaha Companies.

Maj. E. H. Phelps, inspector of the National Guard, will be in Omaha December 20-21 to inspect the companies at that place. Adjt. Gen. Hartigan is going to see to it that every company comes up to the standard or be mustered out, so the inspection by Maj. Phelps will be a very thorough one.

Three Years for Robbery.

In the district court at Ponca the jury in the case of Edward Bunze, charged with robbing Adolph Hennig, of Concord, at Emerson last summer, found Bunze guilty, and the motion for a new trial was overruled, and Bunze was sentenced to three years in penitentiary at hard labor.

Stolen Goods Recovered.

The police of Fremont gathered up four men who are believed to be about the cleverest bunch of shoplifters who have operated there for some time. Stolen goods, consisting of women's gloves, mittens, pocketbooks, clothing and other articles were found, most of which were identified by different merchants.

Wagon Traffic Stops at Auburn.

Traffic was almost completely suspended at Auburn last week by storms. The bus and transfer lines kept up the business until Saturday, when they stopped meeting trains. The merchants have stopped all delivery wagons and the coal and feed yards quit delivering feed and fuel.

Object to Dates.

The school board of Fairmont has adopted a resolution taking a positive stand against the dates of the State Teachers' association, because they conflict with school work.

Red-Haired Woman Kills Self.

The lifeless body of Mrs. John Havlock was discovered Friday evening in the barn of her home a few miles southeast of Rushville. She had apparently hanged herself in a fit of temporary insanity.

Nine Carloads of Greeks Have Arrived.

Nine carloads of Greeks have arrived and will make their headquarters in Plattsmouth while laying new heavy steel rails on the Missouri Pacific track from that city to Omaha.

STATE CAPITAL

LINCOLN CHAT.

The state normal board expects to issue diplomas to all the graduates of the two normal schools who are now teaching on certificates issued by the defunct board. The records of the present board show nothing of the graduates turned out last June, as the other board stopped in and issued the diplomas. Should a teacher's certificate be questioned, there would be nothing to show in the records that the certificate or diploma had been issued. The matter was brought to the attention of the board by a graduate who is now in another state. After considering the matter, the board decided to issue new certificates to all the graduates, permitting them to keep the others as a souvenir.

How the various state institutions will be able to get through the next eighteen months without serious deficiencies is a problem that is now worrying the governor. The first semi-annual report of the heads of the institutions, since the new appropriation became available, shows that in practically all of the institutions the expenditures are away beyond the amount that had been set aside for their maintenance for that period of time. The deficiency as far has occurred in the summer months when the coal bills are paid and the added expense of taking care of the institutions through two winters is considered, the deficiency is liable to be large.

Lincoln business men are just now interested in a proposition to advertise the town as a place for investment. A man from the east was there and spoke at the Commercial club and suggested the way to boom the town is to advertise in some national newspaper or publication, spending at least \$1,000 a month. The proposition seems to have met with a very generous indorsement, though the raising of the money has not yet been started. No one has yet suggested sending that \$1,000 a month with the local newspapers, but that probably will be discussed before the money is actually spent.

Walker Smith, corporation clerk in the office of the secretary of state, is busy checking up on the corporations which paid their occupation tax on the last day allowed them by law. As soon as possible he will prepare a list of the delinquent corporations and present them to the governor and they will be proclaimed out of business. Several corporations have telephoned the office of the secretary of state asking if there is some way they can pay up the tax and be reinstated. The answer in all cases has been that it will now be necessary for these corporations to file new articles of incorporation.

The promise of the Burlington to permit anyone to ride on freight trains will not suffice. The Burlington must come before the railway commission December 11 and show cause why it took off of its time table certain freight trains since April, 1909. The commission lately received a letter from General Counsel Kelly advising General Manager Holdrege had issued an order permitting people to ride on freight trains and asking if that would be sufficient to cause a dismissal of the case. He was answered as above set out.

The receipts in the office of the secretary of state for the last six months surpass any former period, so far as anyone around the state house remembers. The total receipts amounted to \$177,001.47. This was divided as follows: Articles of incorporation, \$130,495.32; notary commissions, \$380; motor vehicles, \$4,222.85; brands, \$234; certificates, \$290.15; corporation permits, \$39,160.85; penalties, \$2,910; trade marks, \$6; other sources, \$1.

The state normal board next year probably will print one big catalogue containing the course of study for the normal schools in place of a publication for each school. Next year the board expects to have four normal schools under its control and for that reason the printing bill will amount to considerable. By publishing a course of study for all of them the board expects to cut down its printing bill considerably.

T. J. Tooley, of Anselmo, has been appointed a member of the state normal board to take the place of D. W. Hays, of Alliance, whose term expired last June. The new member is a banker at Anselmo and has represented Clute county in the legislature and has twice been its county superintendent. Mr. Tooley will be eligible to go with the board on its trip to locate the new normal school.

A. V. Johnson, fire warden, has issued his sixth bulletin in his campaign to educate the people of Nebraska not to have fires which destroy business houses, dwellings and other property. His latest bulletin calls attention to the carelessness of people working with stoves and furnaces and the distribution of ashes. He urges these people to be careful and not pile hot ashes next to some place that will catch fire.

The death of Hamburg Belle, 2:04 1/2, the world's fastest trotter, recently occurred at Thomasville, Ga., where the famous mare had been shipped for the winter. Pneumonia attacked her on her journey and she died soon after reaching her destination.

The entire weight of the Yale team, as it seems picked to meet Princeton and Harvard, will be 2,056 pounds, according to official statistics, an average of 182 1/2 pounds per man. The weight of the Yale line from tackle to tackle is 1,020 pounds, an average of 204 pounds per man.

AMERICAN PENSIONS.

The United States takes more liberal care of its soldiers and sailors, their wives, minor children and dependent relatives than does any other country in the world. Up to June 30, 1908, the disbursement for pensions amounted to the great sum of \$3,751,108,810, as follows:

Civil War	\$3,533,593,026
War of the Revolution	70,000,000
(est.)	45,694,065
War of 1812	40,876,879
War of Mexico	23,562,635
War with Spain	12,530,948
Regular establishment	9,355,711
Indian Wars	18,392,946
Unclassified	

Total pension payments \$3,751,108,810

Adding the payments in 1909 fiscal year—about \$150,000,000—and the pay allowances during sickness after discharge and before discharge, it is safe to say that the total disbursements for pensions and care have largely exceeded \$4,000,000,000.

The latest report of the Commission of Pensions (June 30, 1908), shows 951,687 names on the roll, to whom was paid in 1908 fiscal year a total of \$152,959,537. By residence the distribution was:

Number.	Am't paid.
United States	\$152,126,644
Insular possessions	21,420
Foreign countries	5,047
Totals	\$152,959,537

In five States of the Union the annual disbursements for pensions exceed \$10,000,000. These are:

Number.	Rec'd in 1908.
Ohio	\$3,941,155,961,294
Pennsylvania	35,338,142,010,130
New York	31,167,12,905,147
Illinois	66,580,10,997,592
Indiana	58,016,10,291,100

Other States receiving from \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000 a year are: California, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri and Wisconsin.

Pensioners living abroad are scattered over sixty-three countries, but are chiefly (50 and more) resident in Canada (2,651), Germany, Ireland, England, Mexico, Scotland, Australia, Switzerland, France, Norway, Sweden and Cuba.

Foreign-Born Population.

The total number of persons of foreign birth living in the United States in 1900 was 10,400,000, forming 13.7 per cent of the total population, while in 1890 the persons of foreign birth formed 14.8 per cent of the total population; in 1880, 13.3 per cent; in 1870, 14.4 per cent; in 1860, 13.2 per cent, and in 1850, 9.7 per cent.



Four noted thoroughbred stallions have died during the past few weeks in Kentucky, Salvo, Ben Strome, St. Elaise and Sir Dixon.

It is said that Sir Thomas Lipton has at last reached an agreement with the New York Yacht Club regarding the conditions under which another race for America's cup may be sailed in 1911.

The death of Dan Stuart, known to the sporting fraternity as "the square sport," recently occurred in New York. Stuart was 55 years old. He promoted the famous Corbett-Fitzsimmons battle in 1897.

Cather Spencer, who was with the St. Paul club of the American Association the latter part of the season, and who belongs to the Boston Americans, has been traded by Manager Patsy Donovan to the New York Giants.

It is hardly possible that Sam Hildreth will race anywhere this winter, it being his intention to rest up his entire string and have them well prepared for next summer's campaign. He has partially made arrangements to pay a visit to Buenos Ayres for a rest and vacation after his strenuous season.

While the trotting-horse branch of the breeding industry is more than holding its own in this country, it is making tremendous strides in at least three of the European countries, Russia, Austria and Italy, and is attracting increased attention in England, Germany and Belgium.

John Alken, at the wheel of a National "forty," lowered another American track record at the Speedway at Atlanta, Ga. In a furious drive of twenty miles, in every moment of which he was closely pressed, he set a new mark of 16:42-75. This is 6:11:04 better than Barney Oldfield's record at Indianapolis.

The death of Hamburg Belle, 2:04 1/2, the world's fastest trotter, recently occurred at Thomasville, Ga., where the famous mare had been shipped for the winter. Pneumonia attacked her on her journey and she died soon after reaching her destination.

The entire weight of the Yale team, as it seems picked to meet Princeton and Harvard, will be 2,056 pounds, according to official statistics, an average of 182 1/2 pounds per man. The weight of the Yale line from tackle to tackle is 1,020 pounds, an average of 204 pounds per man.