

NEBRASKA

There is a shortness of harvest hands in several localities.

Wheat is turning out well in Fillmore county, some farmers claiming a better yield than last year.

The date has been fixed for the meeting of the Women's State Federation of Clubs to be held at York October 10, 11 and 12.

The new Danish Lutheran church, six miles south of Fremont, in Saunders county, was dedicated last Sunday.

Miss Stella Sisson of Brown county, the young woman who was bitten by a rattlesnake on the 23rd of June, died last week.

During a storm E. P. Stringfield, a prominent farmer five miles southwest of Stella, was pumping water when a bolt of lightning struck the windmill tower.

Mrs. Sophia Lebland of Fremont, administratrix of the estate of Wilhelm Lehman, has sued John Swanke, Herman Jahn and George Dietz for \$85,000 damages.

Hastings reports that the year's sugar beet crop promises to be unusually heavy and according to some who are engaged in their culture, the yield will surpass that of any previous year.

William Burrow, a young man residing a few miles south of Elk Creek, was arrested for breaking the quarantine regulations established there some two weeks ago against persons entering the town that have had exposure to the smallpox.

J. W. Van Arsdol, a farmer living near Horace, was instantly killed by his team running away.

A petition is being circulated at Wyome asking the governor to have battery A. N. G. go into camp in that city in August, during which time the interstate reunion will be held.

The mortgage record of Cuming county for the month of June shows: Eighteen farm mortgages filed, aggregating \$39,212, and thirty released, amounting to \$46,343.20.

The business men of Hastings held a meeting recently and decided to have a street fair some time during the latter part of September.

Miss Valentine of Falls City, a girl of fourteen, was taken to the girls' industrial home at Geneva by Sheriff Tinker on a finding of the probate court that she was incorrigible.

John Snyder and John Bentz of Hastings were badly scalded with boiling grease while fixing a fat kettle at Blake's slaughter house.

William Smith, aged 17 years, was drowned while bathing in the lagoon, near Baneroff. After a two hours search the body was found.

Bethazer Greener, a farmer living three miles south of Juniata, was found dead, lying with a short distance from his house, with almost his entire head blown off.

Henry Bartenbach of Grand Island discovered the presence of a burglar in the store of his father.

The board of regents of the Nebraska state university will hold a special meeting about the middle of this month, called for the purpose of taking final action regarding the construction of the farm building and other improvements.

John Philpot of Humboldt was severely burned about the face while assisting in setting off the fireworks. The accident was the result of a premature explosion of a fountain piece, which became ignited from sparks which he placed.

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EVANS IS DISTASTEFUL

Grand Army Men Find Fault With the Pension Commissioner.

DISPLEASED WITH TREATMENT.

Senator Hayward Takes the Matter Up and Will Endeavor to See that Their Wrongs are Redressed—Old Soldiers on the War Path.

Lincoln dispatch: The following communication, received in Lincoln by Hon. H. C. Russell, chairman of the committee on pensions, of the Nebraska department of the Grand Army of the Republic, from Senator M. L. Hayward will be of interest to all Nebraska veterans who have had any dealings with the United States pension office during the last few years.

NEBRASKA CITY, July 7.—General H. C. Russell, Chairman of the Committee on Pensions of the Department of Nebraska Grand Army of the Republic.—Dear Sir: Yours of the 5th inst. in regard to Commissioner Evans and his treatment of pension claims is at hand.

During a storm E. P. Stringfield, a prominent farmer five miles southwest of Stella, was pumping water when a bolt of lightning struck the windmill tower. It knocked Mr. Stringfield several feet on the ground and when he regained consciousness he found his right hand somewhat burned.

Mrs. Sophia Lebland of Fremont, administratrix of the estate of Wilhelm Lehman, has sued John Swanke, Herman Jahn and George Dietz for \$85,000 damages. She claims they are responsible for the death of her son, Wilhelm Lehman, who was run over last January by Schwanke.

Hastings reports that the year's sugar beet crop promises to be unusually heavy and according to some who are engaged in their culture, the yield will surpass that of any previous year, both in quantity and quality. There are two hundred acres of land around Hastings planted to beets this year, which will bring to those raising them close to \$11,000.

William Burrow, a young man residing a few miles south of Elk Creek, was arrested for breaking the quarantine regulations established there some two weeks ago against persons entering the town that have had exposure to the smallpox. Mr. Burrow was taken before Esquire Merwina's court, where he pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$10 and costs.

J. W. Van Arsdol, a farmer living near Horace, was instantly killed by his team running away. He was delivering a load of hogs to his neighbor when the engine of the wagon came out, letting the hogs fall under the team, frightening them. The horses ran away, throwing him out and running the wagon over him. He leaves a wife and four small children.

A petition is being circulated at Wyome asking the governor to have battery A. N. G. go into camp in that city in August, during which time the interstate reunion will be held. This is done in order that the boys may receive pay from the state for the time they are in camp, and as it has been customary for them to go into camp once a year, at the state's expense, it is believed the request will be granted.

The mortgage record of Cuming county for the month of June shows: Eighteen farm mortgages filed, aggregating \$39,212, and thirty released, amounting to \$46,343.20. Town and city mortgages filed, two, aggregating \$1,950, and four released, amounting to \$1,346. Of chattel mortgages there were filed sixty-eight, aggregating \$63,667.59, and released during the same period, 100, aggregating \$63,512.52.

The business men of Hastings held a meeting recently and decided to have a street fair some time during the latter part of September. There will be \$6,000 in cash prizes hung up in order that they may be plenty of amusements for the daily program. The prizes offered will be for firemen's tournament, shooting tournament, horse races, base ball, foot ball, bicycle races, band contest, traveling men's cake walk, stock exhibit, agricultural exhibit, etc.

Miss Valentine of Falls City, a girl of fourteen, was taken to the girls' industrial home at Geneva by Sheriff Tinker on a finding of the probate court that she was incorrigible. She and some of her associates attending the public school, have been meeting bad characters. It is thought that this will result in parents looking more closely to the conduct and whereabouts of their daughters as there was quite a clique of high school girls who have been forming dangerous acquaintances.

John Snyder and John Bentz of Hastings were badly scalded with boiling grease while fixing a fat kettle at Blake's slaughter house. Both boys were immediately under the kettle, when the whole bottom fell out and they were completely drenched with boiling grease. A large tank of water was standing near by and fortunately both boys had enough presence of mind to jump into the water. They were badly scalded about the head, face and hands. Young Bentz is in the worst condition and it is feared he will lose his eyesight.

William Smith, aged 17 years, was drowned while bathing in the lagoon, near Baneroff. After a two hours search the body was found.

Bethazer Greener, a farmer living three miles south of Juniata, was found dead, lying with a short distance from his house, with almost his entire head blown off. About 5 o'clock in the morning Mr. Greener got up and taking his shotgun with him started toward the pasture, where it is thought he intended shooting some skunks, but on reaching the barb-wire fence he must have slipped and fallen in such a way as to accidentally discharge the gun in his face.

Nebraska G. A. R. Matters.

Department Commander Evans of the Grand Army of the Republic has issued the following general orders under current date:

1. The following appointments of my official staff are hereby announced: Assistant adjutant general, Winslow H. Barger, Hebron; assistant quartermaster general, William C. Elder, North Platte; judge advocate general, W. R. Burton, Hastings; inspector general, John Skirving, O'Neill, and John Keith, Sutherland, chief of staff; special aide in charge of transportation, A. Traynor, Omaha.

In accordance with a resolution passed at the last encampment the following comrades will constitute the reunion committee: H. C. Russell, C. E. Adams, John H. McClay and James D. Gage, Legislative committee is named as follows: General John M. Thayer, I. D. Evans and J. H. Culver, Executive committee, C. of A., S. T. Caldwell, L. J. Horton, William Gifford, The following named comrades are appointed aides-de-camp on the commander's staff and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: G. H. Blakeslee, Post No. 112; George Cunningham, Post No. 25; David Morgan, Post No. 91; W. H. Smith, Post 19; W. L. Hylar, Post No. 63; I. G. Hickman, Post No. 206; P. O. Avery, Post No. 95; John Lett, Post No. 32; J. H. Treshner, Post No. 45; Seth F. Stiles, Post No. 4; Louis Kelly, Post No. 258; George W. Martin, Post No. 147; W. D. Pruitt, Post No. 120; T. F. Powers, Post No. 227; H. C. Matran, Post No. 109; L. M. Scotchro, Post No. 25.

2. The twenty-first annual reunion of the soldiers and sailors of Nebraska, under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic, will be held at Camp Otis, in the city of Lincoln, on September 11 to 16 inclusive.

3. The city of Lincoln has done much for the comfort and entertainment of the Grand Army. This year of great events promises the most successful reunion in the history of the department. The reunion committee is doing all that can be done. Ample shelter, both buildings and tents, wood for cooking, straw for beds and hay for teams to accommodate everybody will be provided. The Spanish-American soldiers will be given a day on the program. A special invitation is hereby extended to share with us a week of pleasure and profit in our camp at our capital city. A full program will be published in a later order.

4. All official communications should be addressed to Winslow H. Barger, assistant adjutant general, Lincoln, Neb.

5. All business with the assistant quartermaster general should be addressed to W. C. Elder, North Platte, Neb.

Guard Against Smallpox.

The following order has been promulgated by the state board of health and sent to all known local boards in Nebraska:

To Local Health Boards and Physicians of Nebraska: All cases of smallpox arising in this state shall hereafter be promptly reported to the secretary of the state board of health, with statement of surrounding conditions. Following this first report, weekly reports of all new cases and deaths must be returned. Where the origin of the infection can be ascertained, it must be stated.

B. F. CRUMMER, M. D., Secretary, Omaha, Neb.

By order of the State Board of Health. Dr. Crummer, referring to the above order, said: "The continued appearance of smallpox at different points in the state, the most serious outbreak being at Table Rock, has given rise to some apprehension for the future. It is especially important that the infection should be kept out of the state institutions, for it is well known that when a penitentiary or any place similarly crowded becomes infected with the disease, it is almost impossible to get rid of it without burning the premises down. While the legislature, in the face of this threatening condition, refused to enact the proposed sanitary bill, or to make the needed appropriation for its enforcement, it has been found that our emergency bill, passed to meet the expense of the board last winter, inadvertently conferred upon us certain powers, which the governor and other state officers now wish the medical board to use to the best possible effect. In assisting local boards to stamp out this unwelcome visitor, the first and most important step is that a prompt report be made by the board when a case occurs in any community, and I hope that the physicians of this state will support our board in this work."

All members of the local boards and practicing physicians in Nebraska, who may see this order will kindly consider it as an official notice without writing for a personal letter."

Nebraska in Brief.

John Philpot of Humboldt was severely burned about the face while assisting in setting off the fireworks. The accident was the result of a premature explosion of a fountain piece, which became ignited from sparks which he placed. The powder flashed up in his face and for a time it was feared that he would lose his eyesight. An examination showed that the injuries were all external in character and not necessarily dangerous.

Harry Anderson of Lime Grove, near Hartington, was accidentally shot by a target gun, the ball entering his breast. The shooting occurred at St. James during the celebration.

The board of regents of the Nebraska state university will hold a special meeting about the middle of this month, called for the purpose of taking final action regarding the construction of the farm building and other improvements and at the same meeting the question of the election of a successor to Chancellor MacLean will be taken up.

In the course of a week the state department expects to receive by mail the full reports of all that has been accomplished at The Hague conference. This will include the formal draft of the treaties and protocols which the United States government is expected to accept.

FARMER KILLS HIS WIFE

The Awful Deed of a Nebraskan in Stanton County.

SUICIDE FOLLOWS THE FIRST CRIME

Frank Lepley, a Bohemian, Aged 60, Is the Chief Actor—Beats Out the Blood of His Better Half With a Hammer and Frightfully Mutilates Her Body.

STANTON, Neb., July 13.—(Special to the Omaha Bee.)—Word reached here today of a horrible murder, coupled with suicide, in Ramshorn precinct. The crime was committed last evening, the principal actor in the tragedy being Frank Lepley, a Bohemian farmer, 60 years of age.

It transpires that early in the evening Lepley took a hammer and attacked his wife fiercely, beating out her brains and leaving the body in a fearfully mutilated condition. The head was beaten almost to a jelly and the floor and walls of the room were covered with the unfortunate woman's blood, showing that a dreadful struggle for life had occurred. The woman must have made a brave fight for existence, as the furniture of the room was strewn all about. The skull was crushed in several places and the face so badly disfigured that it was nearly impossible to recognize the victim.

An 8-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Lepley was in the room when the attack was made upon his mother. At first he had pleaded with his father to spare his mother's life, but when the man turned on him and threatened to kill him as soon as he had finished the woman the boy rushed in terror from the house. He ran as fast as his limbs could carry him to the nearest neighbor, four miles away, and gave the alarm.

As soon as possible a party was organized and went to the rescue, but arrived too late to be of any assistance, for both the woman and her brutal husband were dead. The body of the murderer was found about 300 feet from the house, lying on the ground, face downward. The features were distorted, but no sign of violence was found on the body.

The conclusion is that after Lepley killed his wife he ended his own miserable existence by taking poison. When discovered the body was arrayed in its best clothes, as though the suicide was a deliberate affair. He had evidently killed his wife and then dressed himself for the departure into the other world. The body was yet warm when found and efforts were made to resuscitate the man, but it was too late to be of any effect.

On entering the house a horrible sight met the eyes of the party. In the kitchen in a great pool of her own blood lay the corpse of the victim of her husband's fury mutilated almost beyond recognition, while everything in the room was spattered with the life fluid. She must have made a hard struggle for life and if the truth could be known it would make a tale that would cause the blood to run cold with horror.

A thorough search of the premises revealed a sum of money amounting to \$350 hidden away in a bureau drawer, while on a table in the sitting room was found a note from Lepley in which he requested his friends to give him a fine funeral and erect a monument over his grave. He also wrote that he wanted some one to have his property, but did not designate anyone as a beneficiary. The writer continued that he was tired of living and had decided to put an end to his existence and that of the rest of the family. This indicates that he intended to kill the boy after he had finished his wife. He said that nobody was to blame.

No cause, unless it was sudden mental aberration, is known for the crime, as Lepley and his wife are reputed to have lived happily together.

The coroner held an inquest today and returned a verdict to the effect that Lepley killed his wife with a hammer and committed suicide by taking poison.

The Lepleys leave a married daughter and a son grown to manhood. The latter was away from home at the time of the tragedy.

CHANG'S IN THE LAW ITSELF.

Pension Committee of Grand Army of the Republic Find No Fault.

WASHINGTON, July 13.—The pension committee of the Grand Army of the Republic which is here inquiring into pension measures and their administration at the invitation of Commissioner Evans practically closed its work today. Members of the committee decline to discuss the results of their labors, but it is understood no substantial foundation has been found for the allegations against the work of the bureau and whatever is recommended probably will be as to changes in the law itself. The committee with Commissioner Evans had an interview with Secretary Hitchcock this afternoon, at which the pension system was discussed. The committee probably will leave tomorrow, and present its report at the annual Grand Army of the Republic encampment at Philadelphia in September.

Investigating Special Industries.

WASHINGTON, July 13.—The first of the subcommittees sent out by the industrial commission to investigate special industries began its inquiry into the mining interest in Denver yesterday. The second will take up the manufacturers' interests in Boston next Monday. The committee on manufacturing while in Boston will give special attention to textiles and after its work is finished there will go to New York, where the immigration problem will be taken up.

Willard E. Baker, the Boston Absonder, who escaped from a pair of Boston detectives just as they were leaving San Francisco for Boston, was discovered and caught by the local police in a down-town lodging house.

A special from Dennison, Tex., says: The Houston & Texas Central officials state that the road between Calvert and Herne will have to be virtually rebuilt, owing to the flood and that the cost will not be less than \$500,000.

The News Briefly Told.

Wednesday. Brigadier General A. B. Carey, paymaster general of the army, will be retired today, having reached the age of 64 years. He will be succeeded as paymaster general by General Alfred E. Bates, recently military attaché of United States embassy at London.

Le Soir declares that on July 15, following the national fête and General Jamont, commander in chief and vice president of the supreme council of war, will be replaced by General Brugere, who was last week appointed military governor of Paris in succession to General Zurlinden, removed.

The navy department has dispatched to Admiral Dewey the medal awarded him by act of congress to commemorate the battle of Manila bay. The admiral's medal is identical with those sent to each man in the fleet, with the exception that his own name is engraved upon the edge.

Ambassador von Holleben of Germany has made his farewell call on Secretary Hay and will leave here on Thursday for New York, whence he takes the steamer for home. In New York he will confer with Herr Munim, who is to be German chargé d'affaires this summer during the ambassador's absence.

The war department has let the contract for repairing and fitting the transport Thomas to the Camps company, Philadelphia, at \$239,500. Major J. M. Carson, jr., of the quartermaster's department, will have charge of the Thomas during the refitting and also upon its voyage by way of the Suez canal to Manila.

Charges have been filed against Indian Agent John E. Jayhugh of the White Rock Indian agency, in Nevada, alleging among other things arbitrary administration. These charges are the outcome of a dispute as to the management of the agency school and have already caused two investigations by order of the Washington authorities.

The Delagoa bay award will be made in October. Charles Mall, Belgian consul at New York, is dead. The transport Logan will be refitted for Manila service.

The cruiser Raleigh will have repairs made costing \$245,000. Archbishop Ireland will sail from Liverpool for New York July 12. M. J. O'Brien has been elected president of the Southern Express company.

The Venezuelan commission has brought the chronological review up to 1841. Ambassador Porter at Paris tendered a banquet to the members of the Venezuelan commission.

Lieutenant Frank C. Bolles, Sixth Infantry, is assigned as aide on General Wheeler's staff at San Francisco. If Senator Fairbanks does not find a suitable solution of the Alaska boundary controversy, the joint high commission will not meet in August.

Fressenden & Nachbour, New York dry goods agents, have gone into bankruptcy. Debts, \$64,044; no assets. Bids have been opened at Washington for the overhauling of the transport Thomas for the Manila trade.

The whaling barks California and C. W. Morgan have reported from Hako, Japan, announcing a good catch. The proposed glove combination, with a capital of \$15,000,000 which the American Trust company of Chicago is said to be interested in forming, is likely to fall through as the result of a meeting of manufacturers who supply the jobbing trade of the country.

Lieutenant Colonel Plummer, who was appointed on the 12th, has been assigned to the Thirty-fifth infantry. He will recruit and organize this regiment at Vancouver, Wash., and command it until it arrives at Manila. This is the regiment to which Colonel Kobbe has been assigned.

The Turkish legation gave out the following: "The Turkish legation declares, in reply to the dispatch of yesterday concerning alleged disturbances in the Asiatic provinces of Van, that according to a report recently received from the governor general of this province perfect order and tranquillity prevail in those regions."

All soldiers in the Philippines who enlisted between April 21 and October 26, 1898, whether volunteers or regulars, have been ordered home as soon as transportation could be furnished.

Minister Jackson reports to the state department that the North German Gazette has made a semi-official denial of the press report that the German government intends to annex Bear Island near Spitzbergen.

Cable advices from Lisbon say the Portuguese house of peers has ratified the commercial convention between Portugal and the United States. This is the convention concluded in Washington some time ago.

A delegation of prominent citizens of Peoria, Ill., called at the White House and presented to the president an invitation to visit Peoria during his western trip in October next and take part in the ceremonies incident to the dedication of a new soldiers' monument in that city. The president accepted the invitation.

A dispatch from Rome says the German steamer Reichstag has sailed from Naples with 11,000 rifles, war material and 500 mules for the Transvaal.

Willard E. Baker, the Boston absconder, who escaped from a pair of Boston detectives just as they were leaving San Francisco for Boston, was discovered and caught by the local police in a down-town lodging house.

A special from Dennison, Tex., says: The Houston & Texas Central officials state that the road between Calvert and Herne will have to be virtually rebuilt, owing to the flood and that the cost will not be less than \$500,000.

Advises from Dawson say that the steamer Rebert Kerr left there June 30, with over \$3,000,000 worth of gold dust for St. Michaels. Lieutenant Lawson N. Fuller, ordnance bureau, U. S. A., has been ordered to the Philippines as chief ordnance officer in the field of the army operating there.

George W. Julian, the famous abolitionist, died at his home in Irvington, Indiana. He served several terms in congress. In May, 1885, he served as surveyor general of New Mexico. Four new cases of yellow fever, all in the city of Santiago, were officially reported. Two deaths were reported. No official report was received from Boniato camp, but it is known that the situation there is serious.

Admiral Cervera and the other commanders of the Spanish fleet destroyed in the battle of Santiago, whose conduct has been the subject of inquiry by special court-martial, were acquitted and formally liberated. Word comes from Dawson that parties arriving there from Edmonton route report a sad state of affairs on the Wind river, a branch of the Peele. About seventy-five prospectors were wintering there, and their camp was invaded by scurvy.

The convention at San Francisco of the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experimental stations the section on botany and horticulture have elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, S. A. Beach of New York; secretary, P. H. Rolfs of Florida. The president brought before the cabinet the plan for officering the provisional army. The decision to appoint the colonels and lieutenant colonels of the volunteers from among the regular army officers who served during the Spanish war and the volunteers officers from among those who served in the volunteer army with credit or distinction, was heartily approved by the members of the cabinet.

The English government announces that it will contribute £45,000 to the Antarctic expedition fund. Today's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balances, \$279,608,571; gold reserve, \$242,168,463. The Venezuelan arbitration commission resumed its session in Paris. Sir Richard Webster, the British attorney general, continued his argument in behalf of the case of Great Britain.

Consul General Osborn in a letter to Senator Thurston under date of June 10, from Apia, Samoa, states that Mrs. Osborn and his son will be compelled to return to the United States on account of ill health, the climate being very severe on white women. The War department has granted the request of the governor of Texas for aid for food sufferers. Such government boats as are available will be placed at the disposition of the governor and the rations asked for will be issued at once.

A general meeting of western stove manufacturers was held in Chicago behind closed doors. President Stanhope Boal of the national association, who presided, said the general advance in the raw materials used in the construction of stoves was discussed and the western manufacturers agreed to an advance of 5 per cent, to take effect immediately on all stoves and ranges. In an attempt to save her child from death Mrs. Frank Lausman of Chicago and her 4-year-old daughter Hazel were fatally injured by being struck by an Illinois suburban train. Mrs. Lausman jumped directly in front of the engine and clapped the child in her arms, but before she had a chance to escape the two were hit by the swiftly moving train and hurled thirty feet from the tracks.

The Brooklyn Eagle received a letter from Governor Roosevelt today, accompanied by a check for \$25, for the Dewey fund. In his letter the governor says: "I enclose you a check as a slight token of my appreciation of your efforts to get some memorial and to give recognition in whatever shape the admiral himself deems best to services to the country which have justly rendered him the man of all since the civil war who stands highest in popular regard."