

News from Over the State

Big Canal Scheme.

An irrigation project of large proportions, calculated to benefit not only arid territory in western Nebraska, but a large district in eastern Wyoming as well, was outlined at a conference in Lincoln, participated in by Senator Dietrich, Elwood Mead, chief of irrigation investigation for the department of agriculture, and State Engineer Dobson. The plan contemplates the construction of a canal from a point on the North Platte river near Guernsey, eastward to and across the state line, probably extending through the counties of Sioux, Scotts Bluffs and Cheyenne, and for a short distance in Deuel. Several reservoirs may be needed, but it was agreed, from all information at hand, that a suitable site for a main reservoir would be at Sheep Creek canyon, which crosses the state line. The work contemplated would be started at Guernsey, however, and would extend for a considerable distance into Nebraska. No definite estimates of the cost or other details of the project have been made, but it is thought that at least 500,000 acres could be irrigated from the projected canal. The cost would probably not be over \$2,000,000.

Flesh Cooked by Steam.

While William Thomas was backing up the engine to couple on his thrasher separator at Nelson the hind wheels dropped into a ditch and pulled the engine against the self-feeder. Thomas was thrown forward against the boiler and two streams of boiling water and steam poured over his body. The flesh was cooked and after 54 hours of terrible agony Thomas died.

Tells of a Collision.

An inspector of the department of the interior who was sent to O'Neill to investigate the sale of certain tracts of land in the Omaha Indian reservation that were sold to O'Neill May 4, has made a report that a combination was formed between the prospective bidders and that a fund was raised to pay certain other prospective bidders to refrain from bidding.

Wants Roosevelt's Presence.

Work has commenced on the Carnegie library building at Fremont and the cornerstone will be laid about September 25. An effort will be made to have President Roosevelt stop off on his trip through the west and take a part in the ceremonies.

Farmers Ignore Thrashers' Trust.

Those who own and operate thrashing machines in Cass county formed what is known as a thrashers' trust and raised the price of thrashing. The farmers refused to pay the increased price asked. Fifteen farmers united and purchased a large steam thrasher.

Honor for Wymore Man.

Dr. W. H. Johnson, of Wymore, has been honored with the appointment of aide-de-camp on the staff of Col. Eli Torrance, of Minnesota, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. Dr. Johnson was with Gen. Sherman in his march to the sea.

Bids Were Too High.

All bids for additional construction and repair work at the state penitentiary were rejected by the board of public lands and buildings, the figures being regarded as too high. The offers of the contractors ranged from \$34,000 to \$38,000.

Girl Killed by Frightened Horse.

While Katie Ewing, aged 17, of Lodge Pole, was out horseback riding the animal became frightened and dashed into a barbed wire fence, throwing the girl to the ground with such force that her neck was broken and death was instantaneous.

Robbers Missed Their Guess.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to blow open the postoffice safe at Sidney. The burglars drilled a hole on the top of the safe, but the powder failed to cause as heavy an explosion as intended and did not blow open the doors.

A One-Plank Platform.

The prohibitionists of Nebraska, in state convention at Lincoln, nominated S. T. Davies, of Otoe county, for governor. The platform is of one plank, dealing wholly with the liquor traffic.

Cattleman's Pockets Picked.

J. A. Morton, a cattleman of Ontario, Ore., had his pocket picked in the Union Pacific yards at Grand Island, missing \$1,200 in checks and paper and \$115 in bills.

Change at Industrial School.

Following the retirement of John Mallalieu from the head of the industrial school at Kearney comes the resignation of O. G. Smith as assistant superintendent.

Falling Off in Shares.

A consolidated statement of the building and loan associations of Nebraska will soon be issued by the secretary of the state banking board. It will show the associations to be in a flourishing condition, though the number of shares in force, especially in the smaller towns, will not be so large as heretofore. The falling off in the number of shares is said to be due to the fact that the members are paying off their indebtedness much more rapidly than new shares are being issued.

Crowded at State Capitol.

The custodians of the capitol building are at a loss to know how to provide office room for all of the committees and officers of the next legislature. The building was never so crowded as it has been for the last year, owing to the creation of several new offices and departments, and it is thought now that the only way out of the difficulty is to rent temporary quarters during the next session of the legislature in some downtown building.

City of Lincoln Appeals.

The city of Lincoln has appealed to the supreme court from the judgment of the district court in the suit against the Lincoln Traction company to collect upward of \$110,000 of delinquent paving taxes. The decision below was in favor of the city, but gave a first lien for only \$50,000, leaving a collection of the remainder a matter of doubt. City Attorney Strode is confident of securing a first lien for the entire amount.

Fight for State Fair Business.

There promises to be a lively war between the Burlington railroad and the Lincoln Traction company for the passenger business between Lincoln and the state fair grounds during the forthcoming exposition. The Burlington has improved its facilities and given notice of a quicker train service than has prevailed in recent years.

Hardware Men Confer.

Upward of 200 retail hardware dealers of Nebraska, comprising a state association which was organized at Hastings in June, met last week in representatives' hall at the capitol for the discussion and consideration of matters pertaining to their business. The organization is in a flourishing condition.

Burlington Settles Death Claim.

The Burlington company in settling with Mrs. W. L. Ray, of Tecumseh, for the death of her husband in the wreck near Alliance several weeks ago gave her \$4,000 in cash and paid all the expenses incidental to Mr. Ray's funeral.

Train Strikes Stubborn Pair.

Arthur Freet, a character at Nebraska City, who drives a donkey, was struck by a Burlington train. The donkey escaped, but Freet and the buggy suffered seriously, the former having two ribs broken.

Epworth League Assembly.

The annual assembly of the Nebraska Epworth league was held at Lincoln the past week, over 3,000 campers being on the ground. Among the speakers was Gen. Fitzhugh Lee.

Without Change of Cars.

Nebraska G. A. R. veterans who attend the national encampment in Washington city in October will be taken from Lincoln and Omaha clear through without change of cars.

To Camp at Fort Riley.

The Nebraska national guard will go into camp at Fort Riley, Kan., some time during September. The state will pay the expenses, which will aggregate about \$30,000.

Strawboard Factory at Kearney.

E. B. Shaw, of Richmond, Va., purchased the old cotton mill plant at Kearney and will turn it into a strawboard factory, which will employ many men the year round.

Attractive Spot for Lightning.

During a severe storm at Papillion lightning killed a cow belonging to Mrs. Mulligan. A week before she lost another cow in the same place and in the same manner.

Granted the Right-of-Way.

The city council of Sutton granted the right-of-way through Main street to the B. & M. railroad to connect with the Kansas City & Omaha east of that city.

Two New Banks.

Charters have been issued to the Commercial state bank at Coleridge, capital \$20,000, and the Chapman state bank at Chapman, capital \$5,000.

Wausen Shot to Kill.

W. S. Wausen, of Plainview, went to Creighton the other day and shot Elmer Finson, a young barber, three times. Wausen claims Finson betrayed his 16-year-old daughter.

KILLED WITH A PAPER KNIFE.

Walter A. Scott, President of Illinois Wire Company Stabbed to Death in an Altercation Over Money Matters.

Chicago, Aug. 11.—Walter A. Scott, president of the Illinois Wire company was stabbed to death in the Monadnock building Saturday by Walter L. Stebbings, a civil and consulting engineer with offices in the same building. Stebbings used a paper knife, stabbing Scott twice.

Stebbing when arrested said he had struck Scott in self-defense and that he had not intended injuring him seriously. The fight was witnessed by Miss Myrtle Shumate, a stenographer in Scott's office, who ran screaming into the hall. Occupants of other offices notified the police who placed Stebbings under arrest. According to Miss Shumate's story the two men were in Scott's private office for nearly an hour disputing over a claim for \$3,000.

TORTURED BY ROBBERS

An Aged Farmer's Feet Covered with Coal Oil and Fired to Compel Him to Reveal His Money.

Dayton, O., Aug. 11.—Jacob Mumma, an aged farmer, who lives alone north of the city, was tortured by masked robbers who broke into his house and is in a critical condition as a result of his injuries. Mumma attempted to defend himself with a shotgun, but his aim was bad and he was overcome and bound. The robbers poured coal oil on his feet and started a blaze to compel him to reveal the hiding place of money he was supposed to have, but they secured only an insignificant sum.

A Big Deal in Oklahoma.

Guthrie, Ok., Aug. 11.—T. C. Shoemaker, a ranchman of Beaver county, has closed a deal here with H. M. Stoneburger, an Osage reservation cattleman, by which the former turned to Stoneburger the lease on 37 sections of territorial school lands in Beaver county and the possession of 11,000 head of cattle, the money involved being estimated at \$500,000. This is considered one of the biggest deals ever consummated in the territory.

Revolutionists Capture Barcelona.

Port of Spain, Island of Trinidad, B. W. I., Aug. 11.—News has reached here from Venezuela that, after three days of very severe fighting in the streets of Barcelona, in the state of Bermudez, the revolutionists, under the command of Gen. Penaloza, captured the town from the government forces. The government lost 60 men and Gen. Puerto Bravo.

Four Men Died on Mont Blanc.

Chamonix, Aug. 11.—Two French tourists and two guides lost their lives Saturday on Mont Blanc. They were overtaken by a terrible snow-storm while descending the grand plateau. The two tourists perished in the snow and the guides set off to obtain assistance. They were unable to reach shelter and also perished.

A Crew of Ten Persons Drowned.

St. Johns, N. F., Aug. 11.—The steamer Virginia Lake returned here yesterday morning from Labrador and reports the fishery prospect there to be excellent. The catch promises to be above the average. A schooner has gone ashore at Farm Yard islands. Her crew of ten persons were drowned.

Death of Senator McMillan.

Washington, Aug. 11.—A dispatch was received here yesterday announcing the death of Senator James McMillan, of Michigan, at an early hour yesterday morning, at his summer home at Manchester-by-the-Sea, Mass. Death was the result of heart failure, following congestion after an illness of a very few hours.

Sweden's King a Life-Saver.

Stockholm, Sweden, Aug. 10.—While King Oscar was yachting near the Marstrand bridge, which was crowded with women and children, the structure collapsed, throwing the occupants into the water. The king threw off his coat and assisted in the rescue of 23 persons who were taken aboard the yacht.

An Old Actress Passes Away.

New York, Aug. 11.—Mrs. Eliza Young, the oldest actress of the American stage, died yesterday at the Actors' Fund home, West New Brighton, Staten island. She fell two weeks ago and had one of her hips broken. Mrs. Young was nearly 92 years old.

The License Question in Arkansas.

Rogers, Ark., Aug. 11.—The license question is the only live issue to be decided at the Arkansas state election the first Monday in September. From a political standpoint the election will be of little or no interest.

Coe Indicted for Larceny.

Boston, Aug. 10.—The Suffolk county grand jury returned an indictment Saturday against Henry F. Coe for the larceny of \$100,000 from the Bowker Fertilizer company of which he was formerly treasurer.

TRACEY'S LIFE ENDED

Wounded and Surrounded the Outlaw Killed Himself.

Run Down in a Wheat Field Near Fellows, Fifty Miles West of Spokane—His Escape from Oregon Penitentiary.

Spokane, Wash., Aug. 7.—Harry Tracey, the notorious outlaw, who with David Merrill escaped from the Oregon penitentiary at Salem, on June 9, after killing three prison guards, killed himself early yesterday morning, after being wounded by the rifle of one of the posse in pursuit. Tracey was surrounded in a wheat field near Fellows, a station on the Washington Central railroad about 50 miles west of Spokane, Tuesday night. Word was sent back to Davenport, the county seat, and a large number of armed men hurried to the scene.

The posse under Sheriff Gardner opened fire on the outlaw and one bullet pierced his right leg between the knee and hip. Twenty minutes after being wounded, he shot himself with one of his revolvers, and his body was found yesterday morning after daybreak. The revolver with which he killed himself was grasped tightly in his right hand.

After baffling the officers of two states, after a wonderful flight of nearly 400 miles across Oregon and Washington, Harry Tracey was hunted down by five citizens of the little farming town of Creston, not one of whom was even a deputy. To them is to be paid the reward.

Sheriff Gardner and posse arrived in time to guard the wheat field through the night; but the work was already done. The outlaw was dead.

The party to which belongs the credit was made up of the following citizens of Creston: C. A. Straub, deputy sheriff; Dr. E. C. Lanter; Maurice Smith, attorney; J. J. Morrison, railway section foreman, and Frank Lilligen.

A total reward of \$4,100 was offered for his arrest. Gov. McBride, of Washington, offered \$2,500 for his capture, dead or alive. The state of Oregon offered \$1,500 and a brother of one of the guards killed at the penitentiary offered \$100. The reward for Merrill's capture amounted to \$1,500, which has been claimed by Mrs. Waggoner, the berry picker and her son, who found the body near their house.

The Escape from Prison.

When Tracey escaped from the Oregon penitentiary he was serving a sentence of 20 years. Merrill was in for 13 years. Tracey's long sentence was due to the fact that he tried to kill an officer who attempted to arrest him when he and Merrill were committing "hold-ups" in Portland. Tracey, just before he was sent to Oregon prison, had been a member of a gang that was terrorizing Portland. Finally the officers surrounded the house and captured Merrill. Merrill's mother was angry and helped the officers catch Tracey. It was then that Tracey attempted a detective's life. When Tracey and Merrill were finally landed at Salem, Warden Jones underestimated the resourcefulness and daring of these two prisoners. At all events he did not attempt to separate the two men, who continued month after month to labor in the stove foundry of the prison. The morning of June 9, promptly at seven o'clock, the prisoners were paraded to their various workshops and set to their daily task. This is done so regularly in every prison that the guards regard it as a bit of routine they do mechanically. Nothing to them is more surprising than to be called upon suddenly to do the very work they are put there for. No one of many who were in the foundry seems to have seen what occurred. Certain it is that Tracey and Merrill walked to their places as usual. Certain it is that somewhere near the places in which they worked were two large rifles loaded and ready for work. The two prisoners could not have carried the guns from their cells. No one seems to have seen them seize these rifles, but just as the foundry guard was about to be turned over to the guard, Frank E. Farrell, and put to work, a shot rang out and Farrell fell dead.

The stove foundry was next to the wall. A yard surrounded it and 30 feet from the wall was the "dead line." Guards were stationed upon the walls armed with heavy rifles to shoot any luckless prisoner who crossed that line. Tracey and Merrill rushed to the yard, followed by the guards who had paraded the foundry gang to its work. Near the door Frank Ingham, a life convict, undertook to stop them, only to receive a rifle ball.

Reaching the yard, Tracey, whose shots seldom failed, fired at every wall guard in sight. One of the bullets killed E. R. T. Jones, a guard, and his fall made every other guard in the place hesitate to expose himself as a target for either of the desperate men. The warden returned the fire, however, from all sides and behind shelter, but in the rain of bullets the convicts took a ladder from the side of the foundry, put it up against the 20-foot wall, climbed up and jumped over.

In the meantime, two of the watchmen had rushed out to the main gate and circled the outside of the wall, hoping to head off the fugitives. They ran into them face to face, but with a quickness born of thorough desperation the convicts had them covered with their rifles. Compelling the officers to drop their rifles, they made them walk in front of them across the fields, hostages of the good behavior of their fellow-jailers on the walls. Once in the heavy timber the long chase had begun.

Little is known of Tracey's life before he went to Seattle. It is believed that he murdered Valentine Hoge, a Colorado stockman, and William Strong, a boy, in 1897, in Colorado.

SOLDIERS APPLY THE TORCH.

Town in Hayti Destroyed and 4,000 People Rendered Homeless—French Cruiser Renders Assistance.

Port-au-Prince, Hayti, Aug. 12.—A correspondent of the Associated press visited Petit Goave Sunday and found that the town had been entirely destroyed, there being nothing left but a pile of ruins. About 4,000 persons are homeless and greatly in need of assistance. The greatest number of them have sought shelter in the Simmond's factories near the town. The French cruiser d'Assas arrived at Petit Goave yesterday with provisions for the sufferers and returned to Port-au-Prince with 200 women and children and 15 wounded men.

Insurgents Blockade Cape Haytien. Washington, Aug. 12.—Commander McCrea, of the gunboat Machias, today cabled the navy department that a de facto blockade had been established at Cape Haytien. The Machias is at her anchorage.

NO FAITH IN AIRSHIPS.

Thomas A. Edison, However, Believes Electric Motors Will Supplant Steam Locomotives on All Railroads.

Copenhagen, Aug. 12.—The official organ of the press exhibition, which was opened here on June 14, prints a letter from Thomas A. Edison in reply to the queries as to his opinions concerning motor, traction and aerial navigation. Mr. Edison's letter read as follows: "I believe that within 30 years nearly all railways will discard steam locomotives and adopt electric motors and that the electric automobile will displace the horses almost entirely. In the present state of science there are no known facts by which one could predict any commercial future for aerial navigation."

OVERPOWERED THE SERVANT

At Valparaiso, Ind., Burglars Entered the Home of Dr. Stoneburner and Secured \$7,000.

Valparaiso, Ind., Aug. 12.—Three robbers broke into the home of Dr. A. A. Stoneburner yesterday and, after overpowering, binding and gagging the servant, secured money, jewelry and negotiable securities to the value of \$7,000. They escaped without leaving a clew. Dr. and Mrs. Stoneburner had gone for a drive, leaving the servant in charge of the house. The girl was unconscious when they returned.

Gov. Gage Charged with Libel.

San Francisco, Aug. 12.—John D. Spreckels, proprietor of the Morning Call, has sworn to a warrant in the police court here charging Gov. Gage with libel. The alleged libel is contained in a statement, published Friday, in which the governor said that charges against him recently published in the Call were made for the express purpose of attempting to defeat his renomination. Judge Cabaniss signed the warrant, which was placed in the hands of Captain of Detectives John Martin for service on the governor.

Uncle Sam's "Loose Change."

Washington, Aug. 12.—J. R. Page, of the New York government assay office, and F. W. Braddock, of the mint bureau in Washington, during the last month have counted more than \$26,000,000 loose change which Uncle Sam has stored in the New Orleans mint. Every coin passed through the hands of one or the other of these expert tellers, and carefully tally was kept.

Mineral Products for 1901.

Washington, Aug. 12.—The United States geological survey has issued its annual statistical summary of the mineral products of the United States for the calendar year 1901. It shows for the entire country a grand total of \$1,092,224,380, as the value of minerals produced in 1901, as against \$1,064,408,321 in 1900.

Iowa Corn Damaged by Frost.

Des Moines, Ia., Aug. 12.—A severe frost is reported in northwestern Iowa. Messages received from Cloverdale states that the section about Sibley was visited by a heavy frost and that the damage to corn has been considerable.

Will Plant 300,000 Elbertas.

Chandler, Ok., Aug. 12.—The Chandler News announces that a prominent Oklahoma horticulturist will plant 300,000 Elberta peach trees at points along the Frisco railroad between Chandler and Oklahoma City.

Flood Washed Coffins from Graves.

Madison, N. J., Aug. 12.—The cloudburst last night caused devastation in Hillside cemetery. About 75 caskets were uncovered by the rushing waters and many of them were swept from the graves in which they had lain.

"Huck Finn" Excluded as Immoral.

Denver, Col., Aug. 12.—"Huckleberry Finn," Mark Twain's story of boy life on the Mississippi river, has been excluded from the Denver public library on the ground that it is immoral and sacrilegious.