

# NEBRASKA NEWS

A PLEASING CONDITION EXISTS IN STATE BANKING CIRCLES.

## SEC. ROYSE MAKES REPORT

Not a Single Bank Under State Supervision Went Down During the Cyclonic Financial Convulsion of Last Fall.

Secretary Royse of the state banking board makes some very gratifying commentaries as to the conditions of the banks under state supervision in his report just issued. He commends the present state law and the manner in which it is obeyed and enforced, and points out only one danger that promises to cause trouble in the future—the not unusual chain of small banks owned, operated and controlled by the same management, or used as feeders for some larger bank. After giving compilations of the work done by the department, Secretary Royse says:

"An inspection of the foregoing compilations will certainly be gratifying to your honorable body, as it shows the condition of the banks under your supervision to be exceptionally strong. At the date of the last report made for 1907 the financial panic had been in full force for one month, and found such a degree of strength existing that not a dollar has been lost to a depositor. The manner in which the banks were able to withstand the onset of the panic and to resume normal conditions is convincing evidence of the wise foresight and conservative management of the banks of the state. Reference to the last annual report made to your honorable body will show the confidence this department had at that time that banks of Nebraska were prepared for any emergency that might arise. The financial convulsion through which they have passed, cyclonic though it was in its nature, failed to destroy a single institution under state supervision and fully justifies the confidence then expressed in the soundness and integrity of our banks.

"There is one practice that exists to some extent in this state which, in my opinion, sooner or later will have to be remedied or serious trouble will follow—I refer to a chain of small banks owned, operated and controlled by the same management, or used as feeders for some larger bank. This is a practice that will require more than ordinary skill to avoid disaster sooner or later. I am firm in the conviction that some legislation is necessary to enable the state banking board to meet this practice, when in their opinion the interest of the depositors demands it."

## FALLS INTO SCALDING TANK.

Workman in South Omaha Packing House Severely Burned.

Joe Meduska of South Omaha fell into the scalding tank at the Armour packing house Thursday morning, receiving serious burns. Meduska was one of the regular workmen at the tanks, and it is his business to handle the scalding hogs with a pike pole and move them along to the lifting apparatus. It is said he was resting on one side of the tank and his partner was on the other side. In their conversation Meduska, trying to be polite, was in the act of reaching across over the tank to give his partner a pinch of snuff. The platform at the side of the tank on which he stood was slippery with the splashed water and lye. While his partner was helping himself Meduska's feet slipped and he fell head first into the tank.

## His Liberty is Short.

Charles J. Webb was released from the county jail at Plattsmouth Thursday morning at the termination of a sentence of 30 days for petty larceny and soon thereafter went into the shoe shop of John Gebhart and asked to have a new heel placed on one of his shoes. While the workman was engaged in the task Webb slipped a pair of fine shoes under his coat. John Kuhney, a barber next door, happening to be out in front, saw Webb's act. He called the deputy sheriff who was passing and Webb was rearrested.

## A Notable Mystery Story.

Lovers of mystery stories in which desperate crime is unravelled have long been waiting for something novel in this fascinating field. Charles E. Walk has succeeded in giving a new and modern touch to this established form of fiction in his first essay, "The Silver Blade, A True Chronicle of a Double Mystery," newly published by A. C. McClurg & Co. He has made his book not only a narrative of incident and crime, but a romance of love and passion, and at the same time a novel of manners and character.

## WAR VETERANS CONGREGATE.

The First Meeting Since They Were Mustered Out.

The first reunion of the Spanish war veterans was held at Lincoln, Thursday, ending in the evening with a huge banquet, filled with intense enthusiasm and patriotic speeches. A plan of organization was presented to the association by a special committee and was adopted. More than 150 veterans were present from all parts of the state. The First, Second and Third Nebraska regiments were represented in a way gratifying to the movement, while several veterans registered as United States volunteers, and four men placed their names under the head of "Grigsby's Rough Riders." It was decided that the next reunion should be held in Omaha, at a date to be fixed later. A toast was drunk to Brigadier-General P. H. Barry, adjutant-general of the state at the time of the war, and a message of condolence on his recent illness was sent to ex-Governor Elias A. Holcomb.

The afternoon meeting was devoted to a camp fire in the convention hall, at which the "vets" told stories almost forgotten about things, ludicrous and sad, that happened when they were soldiering. The chief attraction of the meeting lay in the report of the committee on organization, and in the banquet in the evening, with its attendant speeches from well known participants in the war. The reunion was the first one in the ten years since the war occurred, and the effort is to make it a permanent thing with a permanent organization.

Many and prominent were the speakers present, among them being General Barry, Governor Sheldon, William J. Bryan, and Col. Wm. Hayward.

## EAGLES HAVE LIVELY SESSION.

J. J. Rider of Lincoln Elected President at Norfolk.

The state aerie of Eagles, after a two days' session at Norfolk, adjourned Thursday afternoon. Benson was selected as the place for holding the 1909 convention over McCook and Grand Island. John J. Ryder of Lincoln, deputy labor commissioner, was elected state president over H. B. Fleharty, of South Omaha. Other officers elected were: Julius Althaus, Omaha, state vice-president; E. B. Kauffman, Norfolk, state chaplain; J. M. Tanner, South Omaha, state secretary; L. J. F. Iaeger, Chadron, state treasurer; Thomas Eastner, Nebraska City, state conductor; George Gamble, Florence, inside guard; Anthony Hirschman, Hartington, outside guard; T. J. Curry, Geneva; C. Christianson, Fremont; O. E. Gillon, Blair, state trustees. The Nebraska aerie declared against reducing the membership age limit to 18 years, and in favor of a new system of national deputies.

## AN OLD RESIDENT A SUICIDE.

C. F. Wilber of Beatrice Hangs Himself in Store.

C. F. Wilber, an old resident of Beatrice, committed suicide Wednesday morning by hanging himself in the rear room of the building formerly occupied by him as a meat market, on North Fifth street. The deed was done in a deliberate manner. A block and tackle was suspended from a large hook in the ceiling, and after a small rope had been knotted and fastened to the hook in the block, the unfortunate man placed his head in the noose made by him, ascended a step ladder and jumped off, the fall, a distance of nearly eight feet, breaking his neck and causing almost instant death.

Mr. Wilber was observed in the room about eight o'clock that morning. He was placing the hook and tackle in position and stated that he intended to hoist some boxes from the cellar. Upon going to the rear room shortly before nine o'clock, one of the carpenters working in the front of the building found Mr. Wilber hanging from the rope, his feet almost touching the floor.

## Enid, Okla., Under Water.

Enid, Okla., faces the most disastrous flood in its history. Following six hours' rainfall, Boggy creek, running through the city, widened from 20 to 2,000 feet and flooded practically the whole of Enid, carrying away houses, flooding stores and endangering lives. Water stood 12 feet deep in Main street, covering two blocks of the business center. Fifty houses were swept away and carried down stream with the occupants who had been driven to the roofs, shouting for help. Several families floated about at the mercy of the flood and in the darkness all night.

## Elevator at Grand Island.

The Union Stock Yards company at Grand Island has let the contract for an elevator of 20,000 bushels capacity and will equip it modernly and establish a grain market in the vicinity of its yards two miles east of that city.

# NEWS OF THE WEEK

Most Important Happenings of the Past Seven Days.

Interesting Items Gathered From all Parts of the World Condensed into Small Space for the Benefit of Our Readers.

## Miscellaneous.

A life size statue in bronze of the late President McKinley has been unveiled in front of the city hall in Philadelphia.

The Missouri supreme court has decided that liquor shipped into prohibition counties is sold at place of shipment and that no state law is thereby violated.

The Missouri supreme court has declared unconstitutional the law forbidding railroad companies to work a telegraph operator more than eight hours in 24.

President Roosevelt has reappointed the members of the inland waterways commission.

Business failures for the week ending June 4 number 225 in the United States, the smallest reported for any week since last October, and compared with 263 the week before, 155 in the like week of 1907.

The Santa Fe shops at Topeka were closed down for a week giving an enforced layoff to 1,300 men.

All the banks, two hotels and practically every business house in Frankfort, Kan., have been flooded by the overflow of the Vermillion river. All the streets in the town were running with water from three to four feet deep.

The rebate fines assessed against three packing firms and one railroad company at Kansas City have just been paid. The total aggregated \$45,880.75.

The admission has been made at the White House that President Roosevelt and his son, Kermit, are making definite plans to spend a year in Africa hunting big game. The party will sail from New York to Cairo, Egypt, as soon after March 4 next as arrangements can be made.

The Republican national committee in session at Chicago decided the contests from Alabama, involving 24 seats in favor of the delegates instructed for Secretary Taft. No roll call was necessary in deciding the case.

Four men were killed and ten injured on board the cruiser Tennessee while on the way from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles when a boiler tube broke, hurling fragments of iron about the engine room and filling it with scalding steam. Admiral Sebree had just stepped out of the room when the accident occurred.

Several persons were injured and a dozen residences were either destroyed or badly damaged by a tornado in Kearney, Neb. Eight funnel shaped clouds formed during an hour and passed within sight of the city.

Returns from the Georgia primary indicate the defeat of Hoke Smith for governor by Joseph M. Brown by a majority of 15,000.

While the president and Mrs. Roosevelt were riding in Rock Creek park the president's horse reared and plunged backward over a ten-foot embankment into the stream. The president escaped with a thorough ducking.

On account of muddy roads the motor car tour of Speaker Cannon and his party was abandoned at Pittsburg. will be composed of 80 Republicans and ten Democrats and may be compelled to elect Gov. Chamberlain to the senate as the people's choice.

The body of Miss Lena Uhlinger, member of a prominent St. Joseph, Mo., family, who disappeared last October, has been found in the Missouri river.

The people of the south celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Jefferson Davis one June 3.

A suit asking \$1,000,000 damages and praying for a receiver for the United Oil company, one of the largest drilling and refining companies in the west, has been filed in the district court at Florence, Col.

At the ninety-first commencement of the Georgetown college 16 graduates received the degree of bachelor of arts.

Ninety-three acres of land occupied by the Illinois Steel company in South Chicago has been declared the property of the state by a master in chancery.

The Lackawanna railroad is preparing to replace its telegraphic system of train dispatching with the telephone.

The assembly of the United Presbyterian church at Pittsburg, Pa., adjourned after adopting a resolution to abandon for the present the proposition to unite with other branches of the church.

The Kansas delegation to the Republican national convention will be quartered at the Auditorium hotel. The Missouri delegates will be at the Grand Pacific.

The big balloon Chicago traveled from Quincy, Ill., to Clear Lake, S. D., a distance of 500 miles, in 11 hours.

It is estimated that 25 persons lost their lives in the tornado which devastated southern Nebraska recently. It is impossible to estimate the value of the property destroyed.

The anti-Taft leaders have decided to submit no more evidence in contests to the Republican national committee. This will cause the committee to seat all the Taft delegates by default.

A tornado struck Charles City, Ia., demolishing 200 buildings. One man was killed and four children reported missing.

The special commission sent to Panama by the president to investigate labor and commissary conditions in the canal zone has returned to New York.

One man was killed, three persons fatally injured and 40 others seriously hurt when a St. Louis trolley car jumped the track and pitched over a ten-foot embankment.

The work of preserving the old state house on the Fort Riley military reservation, the first Kansas capitol has been completed.

J. A. Edson, president of the Kansas City Southern railway, has been appointed receiver for the Strang interurban motor line operating between Kansas City and Olathe, Kan.

Many points in northern Kansas and southern Nebraska report severe damage from floods and storms. The Blue river near Wetmore, Kan., was reported 12 miles wide. Several fatalities were reported.

Sheriff Garrison of Oklahoma City was shot and killed in a fight with seven negroes at Hitchcock, Ok. A deputy was wounded and one of the negroes was shot.

In a head-on collision between two special electric cars near Annapolis, Md., eight persons were killed outright and a score of others were seriously injured.

An estimate of the total assessed value of all Kansas property this year is placed at \$2,500,000,000.

During the canonization services of Emil Zola at the Pantheon in Paris an attempt was made by a newspaper attaché to kill Maj. Dreyfus, the central figure in the world-discussed Dreyfus case. Two shots were fired but only one took effect, wounding the officer in the wrist. The would-be assassin was arrested.

Warrants have been issued in Philadelphia for the arrest of Max Kaufmann, secretary of Mayor Reburn, and Secretary Gibboney of the Law and Order society, on charges of perjury and libel.

Stanley Ketchell of Grand Rapids, Mich., was given the decision over Billy Papke at Milwaukee in the presence of 6,000 spectators.

Three persons were killed and 20 others injured in a collision between a trolley car and freight train near Joliet, Ill., recently.

Miss Hester Ward, the girl operator of the Appleton City, Mo., telephone exchange, was recently bound and gagged by masked men and the safe robbed of \$60.

Five hundred infuriated Italians stoned the closed doors of the private banking house of Castano Liotta in Cleveland, O., but were prevented from forcing an entrance by the police.

A rate of one cent a mile for harvest hands in parties of five persons is to be asked of the railroads by the Kansas railroad board.

## Personal

Mary Ann Ladheus Hunt is dead at Beloit, Wis., aged 106 years. She was born in Connecticut in 1802.

John A. Thayer and wife of Boston won first prize in the annual flower fête in Paris.

Dr. Gustav Nautze, formerly an army surgeon stationed at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, and Fort Leavenworth, Kan., is dead in St. Louis.

G. F. Payne, one of the defendants in the capitol graft cases in Pennsylvania is dead in Philadelphia.

By the bursting of a dam near Enid, Ok., 200 persons were driven from their homes in that city.

Mrs. Ruth Leavitt, daughter of William J. Bryan, has been elected a delegate to the Colorado state Democratic convention.

Mr. Bryan is out in a statement denying categorically the charges of the New York World that a campaign contribution from Thomas F. Ryan of New York was used in his behalf in the Nebraska campaign four years ago. Speaker Cannon has opened permanent headquarters in the Auditorium hotel at Chicago.

James Eades How, the St. Louis millionaire, has been re-elected president of the Hobo association.

A document has been discovered in St. Louis which shows that Gen. U. S. Grant applied for the position of county engineer in 1859 and was refused the place.

Prince David Kawainanakoia of Hawaii, brother of the Hawaiian congressional delegate, is dead in San Francisco of pneumonia.

Capt. James E. Cox, 82 years old, a pioneer of St. Joseph, Mo., is dead from gangrene poisoning resulting from trimming his toe nail. Capt. Cox built the first street car system in St. Joseph.

# VICTIMS OF WIND

KNOWN DEATHS IN FRIDAY'S TORNADO TWENTY-THREE.

## KANSAS HIT WITH NEBRASKA

Loss of Life Heaviest in Vicinity of Geneva and Byron—Heavy Property Loss at Town of Fairfield.

Reported Dead.....23  
Fatally Injured..... 5  
Injured, slight or serious.....60

The tornado which passed over southern Nebraska and portions of northern Kansas Friday evening was the most destructive and covered the most territory of any similar storm which has visited the state in many years. Twenty-three are believed to be dead, five fatally injured and a score of others, possibly 60, more or less seriously hurt, some of them dangerously.

## The Dead.

LULU SCHMIDT, domestic, at Shively home, near Geneva.

IRENE SHIVELY, aged four, near Geneva.

JOSEPH SHIVELY, a boy.  
MRS. MAUD CARTER, at Carleton.  
BABY CARTER, Carleton.

TWO SMALL CHILDREN OF MRS. SNELL, near Guide Rock.

HENRY MADISON, near Franklin.  
MRS. AUGUST FENTELL, near Shickley.

BABY FENTELL, infant son of Mrs. Fentell.

ELIJAH ARGENBRICHT, of near Shickley.

BABY FLAMING, drowned near Fairfield.

TWO DAUGHTERS OF MRS. C. SIMPEL.

MR. AUSTIN, a farmer.

MRS. AUSTIN, his wife.

MISS AUSTIN, his daughter.

— AUSTIN, 17-year-old son.

ONE ENTIRE FAMILY, four to six members, names unknown, all near Byron.

BABY LUEDERS, infant son of Mrs. Leuders, near Hebron.

Fatally Injured.

John Shively, Geneva, fatally.

Ross Shively, Geneva.

John Merriam, Shickley.

Press Bailey, Carleton.

Mr. August Fentell, near Shickley.

The storm was general throughout at least four counties, Fillmore, Webster, Franklin and Thayer on the southern border of the state and reached over into Kansas from where great destruction is reported. The towns of Carleton, Fairfield, Deshler, Shickley, Geneva, Franklin, Ong and Riverton are among those visited by the storm.

Homeless and helpless, more than 200 people, members of the farmers' families, have sought refuge in such homes as were not in the path of the storm, or were fortunate enough to escape without serious damage.

Between Byron and Deshler, the greatest loss of life occurred, 12 persons being killed outright and a number receiving injuries from which they cannot recover. The injured have been cared for in the best manner possible, but many are still in a critical condition and cannot be moved to hospitals. Every physician within a radius of 50 miles has gone to the scene of destruction to render assistance.

At Carleton five residences and two churches were entirely destroyed, while a new school building and 30 houses were badly wrecked. The home of Leslie Carter was demolished and his wife and baby killed, while Carter himself and another child received possibly fatal injuries.

At Geneva the storm wrought great destruction and in the adjacent country claimed five victims, two of whom were killed outright and three fatally injured. The scene at Fairfield is bad. More than 40 buildings were more or less wrecked and some of them, including three churches, were entirely demolished. The loss there will exceed \$100,000.

In the vicinity of Shickley farm-houses received the brunt of the storm and one or more fatalities are reported, with a number receiving injuries, some of which will prove fatal.

## Factory Blown Up.

The prestolite factory at Indianapolis, Ind., blew up Saturday for the third time within a year. Its new plant is wrecked and St. Vincent's hospital adjoining is damaged. The explosion was heard all over the city and windows were shattered in buildings several blocks away. Eight persons are known to be injured.