

# THE O'NEILL FRONTIER

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O'NEILL, NEBRASKA

Some tests recently carried out on the ammonia lamp by Dr. H. Berlin, reading at the Technical college, Berlin, go to show that this method of illumination is making progress. In the experiments two groups consisting of six 37-volt lamps each were connected in series across a 220-volt circuit. In group 1, for the first 3,132 hours the average life of the six lamps was 2,853 hours, and the average candlepower fell from 30.1 to 23.7. The mean consumption per candlepower rose from 1.46 to 1.78. After 520 hours the first lamp collapsed, and after 3,734 and 3,940 hours, respectively, two other gave out, the remainder three burning after 3,973 hours. In group 2, which consisted of six 25-candlepower lamps, the report gives the average life as 1,479 hours, the candlepower dropping in 2,198 hours from 25.1 to 19.9 and the energy consumption increasing from 1.37 to 1.75 watts per candlepower.

Denmark suffers from a quite mediocval paucity of surnames, and so inconvenient is this fact becoming that the government has announced its intention of presenting a bill to the legislature sanctioning the encouragement of the adoption of new surnames. Such names as Hansen, Petersen and Svendsen are overwhelmingly frequent. It is even said that there are towns of 30,000 inhabitants among whom there will not be found more than twenty different surnames, as against a thousand different people having the same surname.

Red-headed people are less subject to baldness than others. A doctor explains the matter thus: The hair of the red-headed is relatively thick, one red hair being almost as large as five fair or three brown hairs. With 30,000 red hairs the scalp is well thatched, whereas with the same number of fair hairs one is comparatively bald. It takes nearly 160,000 fair and 105,000 brown hairs to cover adequately an ordinary head.

In order to protect themselves from forgeries of their pictures some British painters have taken a leaf from the scientists, and in addition to their signature impress the mark of their thumbs on the wet oils or water colors in one corner of the picture. The mark of identifying people by the impression of their finger tips was introduced by Sir Francis Galton and has been practiced of late for the detection of criminals.

A preliminary report received by the war department from Brigadier General Joseph P. Sanger, superintendent of the Philippine census, shows that the total population of the islands is approximately 6,976,574 persons, including about 650,000 members of "wild tribes." The most populous province is Cebu, with 651,521 civilized inhabitants. Manila province has 319,941, and Cavite, adjoining, 134,438 civilized inhabitants.

Among the fetures of Louisiana's transportation exhibit at the coming exhibition in St. Louis will be a miniature train of rice, sugarcane and banana cars, made of wood. There will be a real steam engine, though proportionately Lilliputian, to draw these infantile devices through miniature fields. The cars will be loaded with sections of real sugar cane and tiny sacks of rice.

M. Bunau-Varilla, the minister from Panama, is the French engineer who was invited by the king of Roumania to improve the navigable waters of that country. He utilized a dredge of his own invention, which is believed to be the first of the kind to be operated by electrical power. Its advantages have since led to its extensive use elsewhere.

There are 190,277 professional beggars in Spain, of whom 51,948 are women. In some of the cities beggars are licensed to carry on their trade. Seeking alms is recognized as a legitimate business, and the municipality demands a percentage upon the collections. Seville is the only city in the kingdom which forbids begging in the streets.

The countess of Warwick intends to establish agricultural settlements in different parts of England, where women who are expert in horticulture, dairy farming and poultry raising can work on the co-operative principle. She believes that the problem can be solved by training intelligent and educated women to these callings.

Light Havana cigars contain less nicotine than those of Porto Rico, and those of Porto Rico less than those of Germany. When one smokes the nicotine lodges just back of the burning part. Cigarettes are worse for the eyes and lungs than cigars because of the smoke from the burning paper.

The nitrate mines of Chile, which furnished the world's supply of that fertilizer, yielded 1,250,000 tons last year, which furnished work for 23,000 men. The production of nitrate is limited in order that a high price may be maintained. The government tax on the output was \$21,000,000.

The corn crop, which is the most valuable one, required for its production \$3,091,993 acres last year, and yielded on an average 25.5 bushels, aggregating 2,244,179,925 bushels, which marketed at an average price of 42.5 cents, representing a total value of close to a billion dollars—\$952,868,801.

Only three of the fifteen members of the famous electoral commission of 1877 survive—ex-Senator Edmunds, Senator Hoar and General Eppa Hunton of Virginia. All of the five justices of the supreme court who sat on the commission long since passed away.

The promotion of the antitoxin treatment of diphtheria has resulted in a reduction of the death rate of that scourge of the nursery from 35 per cent. to less than 7 per cent. in the thousands of cases treated by the medical inspectors of the health department of Chicago.

Six hundred thousand acres of India's best land, says a circular issued by the Christian Union against the opium traffic, are used by the government for the cultivation of opium, the great bulk of which goes to China.

An anti-swearing league has been formed at Hammersmith, London, which will appoint inspectors, whose duty it will be to warn, and, afterward, if necessary, summon any person found swearing in the street.

Australia has more churches per capita than any other country. She has 210 churches to every 100,000 people. England has 144 and Russia about fifty-five.

Arrangements have been made for telephonic communication between various towns of Lancashire and France. French legislative sanction is awaited.

# EXPERT ACCOUNTANT

## AWARDED CONTRACT

Lancaster County Will Have Books Examined for Last Ten Years.

## SET A CANNING FACTORY

Plattsmouth Business Men and Capitalists Interested in Offer to Establish a Sweet Corn Canning Plant.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 26.—J. M. Gilchrist has entered into a contract with the county commissioners to examine the books of the office of the county treasurer for the last ten years at \$20 a day. Gilchrist is to furnish two assistants to complete the work as soon as possible. The publication of the contract has caused considerable agitation, and it is expected that suit will be brought to annul it. One taxpayer called at the court house seeking information how to go about such a suit. He said it meant a three years' job at \$6,000 a year, and it is the general belief that there will be nothing result from the examination.

## TO HAVE A FACTORY.

Offer to Erect Plant for Canning of Sweet Corn Is Accepted.

Plattsmouth, Neb., Jan. 26.—Pursuant to a call of Mayor Frank J. Morgan business men of Plattsmouth assembled to accept the offer of W. L. Landon to erect suitable buildings and equip them with the latest improved new machinery for a first class canning factory. He will contract with the farmers to raise and sell to him 1,500 acres of sweet corn this year. The yield is usually from four to six tons per acre, for which he will pay the sum of \$5 per ton. The plant and machinery will cost about \$75,000, and will employ 250 persons during the busy season.

## PLEADS GUILTY TO CHARGE.

Principal of Schools Stands Trial on Complaint of Woman.

Blair, Neb., Jan. 26.—Sheriff Mincke returned from a trip to Wauwata, Chase county, bringing Ralph R. Benedict, principal of the schools of that place, who was arrested on a charge preferred by Miss Leslie M. Drown, who resides with her parents, residents of this county. A preliminary trial was given Benedict before County Judge C. G. Marshal. He pleaded guilty and was bound over to the February term of court in the sum of \$1,000. Miss Drown was in court with her 1-month-old baby.

## FARMER GOES INSANE.

Trouble Is Due to Brooding Over Death of Parents.

York, Neb., Jan. 26.—Friends and relatives of Abraham Ratzloff, a prosperous York county farmer, owning a good farm northwest of Charleston, complained that he was acting queer and that they thought he was insane. Deputy Sheriff Attebaugh brought Ratzloff to York last night and, owing to his violent condition, was obliged to use straps. Some attribute his insanity to smoking cigars. They say that, for the last seven years, he has smoked excessively. Mr. Ratzloff imagines that he is about to lose a part of an estate, and the fact that his father died two years ago and his mother a short time ago, leads many to think that he has been brooding over their deaths.

## CAST LAW ASIDE.

Eight Men Are Arrested for Seizing Corn in Payment of Claim.

Pender, Neb., Jan. 26.—Over a dispute arising from a division of rents, Farley Bros. of Bancroft, with a train of wagons, drove to the farm of Nilsson Bros., twelve miles east of here, on the reservation, and forcibly, without writ or officer, took possession of 350 bushels of corn. The Nilssons came to Pender and swore out warrants for eight men, charging them with unlawful taking of property. Deputy Sheriff D. A. Kelso went to Bancroft and got his prisoners. Each of them gave bonds for their appearance for trial, which is set for hearing, February 15 before County Judge Wright.

## SPINNEY IN TROUBLE.

Former Iowa Man Head of Omaha Company Which Is Placed in the Hands of a Receiver.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 25.—Chief Justice Holcomb today granted the request of the deputy state auditor for a receiver for the Bankers Union of America, an insurance order with headquarters in Omaha, and Sheriff Powers of Omaha was appointed. The deputy auditor alleges that all the liabilities, including \$30,000 due policyholders, have not been reported and that the assets are only \$2,347. E. C. Spinney of Omaha is president and his wife is vice president. Spinney formerly lived in Des Moines and has been mixed up in insurance and building and loan concerns.

## METHODIST CHURCH BURNED.

Fire Totally Destroyed Edifice Yesterday at Ireton.

Ireton, Ia., Jan. 26.—Fire completely destroyed the Methodist Episcopal church of Ireton this afternoon. The fire in a brief space of time had made such headway that the fire department was powerless to check its progress. The firemen gave their entire attention to saving surrounding buildings, and succeeded in confining the loss to the one structure. The new parsonage, which was built last year at an expense of \$4,000 and which was located near the church, was threatened. The loss on the church building was about \$1,500, of which is covered by insurance in the Church Mutual Insurance company.

The building was erected in 1884. The pastor is Rev. E. E. Gilbert. He was not in town at the time of the fire, having exchanged pulpits for the day with his brother, Rev. A. B. Gilbert, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at Hawarden.

Henry A. Castle, auditor of the post-office department in Washington for the last six years, taught a Sunday school class in the west before he entered the government service. One of his scholars was a little girl whose mother had expended great effort in teaching her the bible verse each pupil had to learn. Many times, says Mr. Castle in telling the story, the mother repeated the verse, which was chosen for its brevity. It was, "Let your light shine." The child said it over and over on her way to church, but after she got there it escaped her, although the idea stuck. When Mr. Castle came around to her she responded promptly: "Always keep the gas lit."

# AFTER MERGER ROADS.

Rockefeller's Brokers Reported Buying Up Stock of Northern Securities Company.

New York, Jan. 25.—It is rumored on Wall street that John D. Rockefeller is to take from Morgan and Hill the control of the Northern Securities company. The buying of the stock by Rockefeller brokers yesterday on the curb and the sharp advance in price was said in railroad circles to mean that the fight for control already has been started.

E. H. Harriman, who is recognized as one of the Standard Oil faction, is the largest minority holder of stock, and it was his efforts to get control of the Northern Pacific railroad which caused the Rockefeller brokers yesterday on the curb and the sharp advance in price was said in railroad circles to mean that the fight for control already has been started.

Greater Merger Planned. If Rockefeller gets control it is said the securities roads and the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific systems will be merged, either openly or in some manner that will make them, to all intents and purposes, one system. Such a system would be the most powerful in the world. Its total mileage would be 36,274, and its total capitalization \$788,103,327. This move by the Standard Oil crowd against Morgan is an attack on the long fight that the Rockefeller brothers have been engaged in against the promoter of the steel corporation.

## HOW ABOUT THIS?

Canada Doesn't Like America's Disregard for Enforcement of Law.

Joliet, Ill., Jan. 25.—Sir William Van Horne, the railroad magnate who put through the Canadian Pacific and was knighted for his services by Queen Victoria, now opening up his system of railroads in Cuba, and who spent the earlier years of his life in Joliet as an orphan boy for the Michigan Central railroad, and telegraph operator for the Chicago & Alton, arrived in this city today from Montreal, with the body of his sister, which was buried in Oakwood cemetery. Speaking of the Canadian annexation of Canada to the United States, Sir William said: "I think the annexation is more likely to be the other way. Canada is very well satisfied as it is. Our administration of the laws is much more prompt and just than in the United States. When a crime is committed in Canada punishment follows, swift and sure. The contrast is strongly presented in the mining camps of the two countries, even though they may be only a few miles apart. It is noticeable at Skaguay, which was claimed by Canada, though nobody wanted the place. The crack of the revolver was heard every day, and everybody was armed to the teeth. But when the rush to the Yukon began, the Canadian government sent a customs inspectors and half a dozen mounted police. The revolvers and knives dropped at the border line and north of it those terms of the town were as meek as Sunday school children. That is not a Canadian characteristic only, but similar conditions prevail wherever Great Britain's flag flies. It is this that makes her so successful as a colonizer.

"Conditions are improving greatly in the United States. But Canadians feel a comforting security as to life and property." Sir William declared that he was almost out of the business world himself, and intimated that after the Cuban war was over he would retire from active business life. He left for Montreal late yesterday afternoon.

## TO MEET IN ST. LOUIS.

South Dakota Press Association Will Go to the Exposition for Week of June 16-22.

Sioux Falls, S. D., Jan. 25.—At this forenoon's session of the South Dakota Press association addresses were made by W. H. Besancon of the Pierre Free Press, C. W. Downey of the Mitchell Republican, and T. A. Crisman of the Redfield Journal-Observer. The matter of selecting the place or route for the summer outing drew forth a prolonged discussion. The choice lay between a trip to St. Louis and a trip over the Canadian Pacific railroad. It was finally decided to accept the invitation from St. Louis, and hold a meeting in the exposition city during the week of May 16-22.

## HE DIED GAMELY.

Negro Murderer Said He Was Going to Meet His Victim in Heaven, and Then Dropped.

Baker City, Ore., Jan. 25.—Pleasant Armstrong, who murdered Minnie Ensminger, near Haines, this county, Christmas, 1902, was executed in the jail yard this morning. His neck was broken by the fall. Armstrong maintained his iron nerve until the last. He made a brief address to the assembled crowd, saying he was sorry for the crime, but was going to meet the girl Minnie Ensminger. At the close of his address he knelt and received the last sacrament of the Catholic church.

## HULL DOES SOMETHING.

Des Moines Congressman Appears in the Rather Humorous Role of a Reformer.

Washington, Jan. 25.—When the house convened today a resolution was submitted by Hull of Iowa from the committee on military affairs, requesting the secretary of war to furnish the house a statement showing the number of horses, carriages and automobiles maintained at government expense for officials of his department; also the amount of wages paid coachmen, footmen and chauffeurs. It was passed. This being pension day, the house went into committee of the whole for consideration of pension bills.

## Chicago Milk Trust.

Chicago, Jan. 22.—Under the name of "The Chicago Dairy Company" Chicago capitalists are forming a corporation designed to control the milk supply of Chicago. It is organized under the laws of the state of Maine. The trust has an authorized capital of \$4,000,000.

# EXPLOSION CUTS OFF 150 MINERS

Two Men Dead, and Much Mystery Prevails About the Entire Affair.

MULE BLOWN FROM SHAFT

There Were 150 Men at Work in the Mine and Their Avenue of Escape Was Shut Off—Fatal Explosion at Another Place.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 26.—Dr. W. B. McCullough of Cheswick, who has been in the mine for two hours, has just come to the surface and told the Associated Press representative that in his opinion not one of the miners was hurt in the shaft at the time of the explosion is alive. He thinks it will be several hours before any of the bodies can be brought to the surface.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 26.—The report of the rescuers on their way to the effect that many were alive was rudely shattered at 2:25, when the body of Selwyn Taylor was brought to the surface. He had evidently been dead for several hours and now hopes for the other imprisoned men have been abandoned. The rescuers are being brought out coated with ice, drenched to the skin and unable to walk. They report that the dead men were scattered thickly about the different headings. Water is fast pouring into the mine, covering the corpses with a shroud of ice and making the work of rescue almost impossible. Afterdark is now collecting.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 25.—An explosion occurred in the shaft of the Harwick Coal company, near Cheswick, Pa., on the West Pennsylvania railroad, today, cutting off escape of at least 150 miners who were at work. Three triple men were badly burned and one badly shot. The dead men were put on a train for Allegheny and one died on the way to the city. When the explosion occurred the concussion was so great that a mule was blown out of one shaft. It is not yet known what caused the explosion or just how it occurred. About 200 men were employed in the mine, 150 inside and the remainder on the tipples. The latter were badly burned by the explosion, which came with a loud report, and a shock like an earthquake. The tipples were destroyed, the walls of the shaft filled with dirt and earth, completely cutting off means of escape.

Just in what part of the mine the explosion occurred is not yet known, and there is no means of knowing how many were killed. Unless the entrance can be cleared and fresh air forced into the mine all will be dead in a few hours. Gangs of men are at work in the attempt to clear the entrance and relieve the men inside. The mine is located a mile from Cheswick, and opened two years ago. It is owned by the Allegheny Coal company. At 2 o'clock no one had been able to descend to the mine.

## Crowds Soon Gather.

As soon as the news of the explosion and the crash at the pit mouth started the little village the wives and children of the men below rushed to the scene of the disaster, but to gain no encouragement. There was no way to get into the deep workings. The walls of the shaft were filled with dirt and brought them out again when the day's work was done were both demolished.

All day long there was a jam of waiting women and children about the mouth of the mine. They were called to assistance and for surgical aid from the men in charge of the mine, but it was not until 11 o'clock this afternoon that the first attempt at rescue was made. This was a failure, as the two men who were lowered were killed by the haul air. Shortly after 5 o'clock Selwyn Taylor and one of his assistants signaled for the engineer to lower them into the shaft. Taylor is still down. Three times efforts have been made to reach him, but so far without avail.

Thomas Wood, one of the first of the rescue party hauled to the surface, told his story of his trip through the mine. He said:

"We went with Taylor, and we clambered over three or four falls. Taylor laid out the mine and seemed to know the way. There was a man alive at the foot of the shaft. He was sent up, and then we took the mule path into the south level. We saw two men who were down, and notified those back of us, then went on. We passed the third, fourth and fifth headings and then through an overdrift into the air shaft. I began to feel dizzy and sick and then I saw Taylor stagger and fall. His lantern fell. We tried to lift him, but could not carry him up, and I made my own way to safety."

F. W. Cunningham, the mine inspector of the Fourteenth district, reached Harwick tonight. When seen by an Associated Press reporter soon after his arrival he said:

"The mine where the explosion took place was inspected, I think, about the 1st of December. There was some gas in there then, but I never considered the mine dangerous." The last inspection blank in the mine company's office is dated July 17, 1903, but it is evident that a later report has been torn off.

## Hartwick Horror-Stricken.

The little village of Hartwick has been horror stricken all day. The wives and relatives of the entombed men have crowded about the entrance to the pit, beseeching for news of those below, but only to meet with the same sad answer: "We do not know yet, if we find him we will send him home."

The little school house has been prepared as a morgue and hospital. The benches and seats have all been removed, and eight girls from the highest class at the school have been impressed as nurses. Doctors have been summoned from the surrounding towns of Springdale and Denny, and also from Pittsburg, but nothing can be done until further details come from the mine. Mr. Scheetz, the manager of the mine, said last night to a representative of the Associated Press: "The explosion Monday morning was terrific. Both cages were blown from the shaft, one of them a distance of over 200 feet. Three men at work on the tipples were blown to the ground and one of them is already dead. The other two are badly hurt, but I am told they are resting easy and may recover. "There are at least 150 men in the mine, and I am afraid there are several more, although there are several men on the pay roll who did not report this morning."

## Mrs. Craig Dead.

Sioux Falls, S. D., Jan. 25.—Mrs. Lucy Parker Craig, a pioneer resident of Sioux Falls and mother of C. H. Craig, editor of the Argus-Leader, died this morning at an advanced age.

# CHARGED WITH BRIBERY

Col. Melvin Grigsby, a South Dakotan. Accused of Accepting a "Fee." Washington, D. C., Jan. 27.—The department of justice has nearly concluded its investigation of the charges against Colonel Melvin Grigsby of South Dakota, the United States district attorney at Nome, and Attorney General Knox will probably take conclusive action in the case at an early day.

It appeared today for the first time what the real nature of the charges is. Sworn statements have been filed with the attorney general, saying that Grigsby received \$10,000 from the Pioneer Mining company as the price of refraining from prosecuting the company. Grigsby has employed Thurston & Ballinger, lawyers of this city, to present his defense to the department of justice, but up to this time the department officials who have the matter in charge have not been satisfied of the innocence of the district attorney.

Among the papers in the case is the sworn statement of Jafet Linderberg, in which he declares that the fee in question was paid to Grigsby by himself in order to retain him as his counsel. He swears that the money was not paid on behalf of the company, but by himself as an individual. Other evidence on file, however, shows that the \$10,000 in question was paid over to Grigsby by the Pioneer Mining company and not by Linderberg as an individual.

The district attorney admits that he received \$10,000 from Linderberg, but, of course, denies that it was paid to him for any improper purpose. He says that he was engaged as counsel. It is not unusual for United States district attorneys to engage in the private practice of law during their terms of office, and the department of justice does not discourage this usage.

It appears from the information obtained by the special agents that when Grigsby landed at Nome on a certain Saturday in the summer of 1902, he was met by representatives of the Pioneer Mining company. On the following Monday, as shown by this evidence, Grigsby appeared in the federal court in his official capacity in connection with the Pioneer Mining company's case, involving the title claim in Glacier creek. A few days later, and before the judgment in this case was handed down, the \$10,000 "retainer" was paid over to Grigsby, either by Linderberg or by the Pioneer Mining company. The department of justice doesn't care very much who paid the money, but it is interested in the fact that the money came from the individual or from the company; the important point is the object of the payment. It appears in the testimony, and is admitted by Grigsby, that the \$10,000 consisted of \$5,000 in cash and \$5,000 in shares of the Pioneer Mining company.

The department cannot understand why the mining company should have paid Grigsby \$10,000 for legitimate legal services when it is shown by all the testimony and records in the case that William H. Metson had for some time been the sole attorney of the company, that he was still acting in that capacity and that the company did not have an unusual amount of litigation in prospect. It is also regarded as peculiar that Grigsby should be able so promptly to secure so valuable a client and to receive the substantial fee of \$10,000 in advance.

Colonel Grigsby narrowly escaped dismissal last year on account of insubordination. He left Alaska for the winter, despite the specific orders of the attorney general. Aside from the disobedience, no charges against the district attorney were seriously considered by the department last year. The present charges, however, are chiefly substantiated by the evidence obtained by the department's own agents in Alaska during the summer of 1903.

## MAY PROHIBIT SALOONS.

Town of Miller May Vote for Prohibition This Spring.

Miller, S. D., Jan. 27.—The probability of this town voting the saloons out at the spring election is good, owing to the large number of accessions to the prohibition cause from the disgruntled faction that was refused a bond for the second saloon. The second saloon people have carried their case to the supreme court, but the election will come before a decision is handed down, and then if Judge Gaffy should be reversed, both the second and first saloons will be contesting for supremacy in a prohibition city. The likelihood of the prohibition days ten or more years ago recalls the odd diseases that some druggists were compelled to prescribe for in many cases, as the law permitted a druggist to prescribe liquor if a patient had the proper ailment. The druggist then had to report the same to the county judge at regular intervals. From an old report from a St. Lawrence druggist, when that town was in flower, the following entries are taken: "John Doe, age 30: Ailment, constipation; remedy—one gallon applejack; taken as appetite demands. "John Doe, age 30: Ailment, running away of bowels; remedy—one gallon applejack; taken as appetite demands. "John Doe, age 70: Ailment, croup; remedy—three pint bottles common gin. "John Doe, aged 20: Ailment, cold in the extremities; remedy—one quart flask of common liquor. "John Doe, age 68: Ailment, rush of blood to extremities; remedy—one quart flask of common liquor."

## FIRE AT RAPID CITY.

Livery Barn, Together with Ten Horses, Incinerated.

Rapid City, S. D., Jan. 27.—James Belknap's livery stables were entirely destroyed by fire and ten valuable horses were incinerated. There were a number of costly carriages, a large quantity of hay and feed and other property in the barns, bringing the loss up to \$2,200. It required some strenuous efforts to prevent the fire from spreading to adjoining buildings.

## A New Railroad.

Pierre, S. D., Jan. 27.—Articles of incorporation have been filed with the secretary of state for the Minnekatahta and Rey Canyon Railroad company, of Keystone, S. D., with a capital of \$10,000, its purpose being to construct four miles of narrow gauge road in Fall River county. The incorporators are: George A. Clark, Charles A. Clark, M. R. Tallierm, Ella D. Axford and C. J. Patton, all of Keystone.

## Meeting of S. D. National Guards.

Salem, S. D., Jan. 27.—At a meeting of Company F, South Dakota National Guard, held at the armory, Captain C. Sweeney completed the organization of the company by appointing one sergeant and five corporals. The officers now are as follows: C. Sweeney, captain; Dion E. Pearce, first lieutenant; P. H. Putnam, second lieutenant; J. E. Patton, quartermaster sergeant; Adolf Ericsson, Frank Padgett, John Frick, George Krebs and Len Hazen, sergeants; Morris Gregory, Willard Gapp, J. E. Ecklein, Wm. Myers and J. B. Blass, corporals. Company F is composed of an energetic and enthusiastic set of young men who propose to make their company the best in the state. Company F was transferred from Cannonville, Utah, in November and has been reorganized.

# HIGH OFFICIALS ARE HELD TO GRAND JURY

Mayor Harrison of Chicago Is Directly Responsible for Iroquois Holocaust.

REPORT OF THE JURY

Accuses Officers of City of Lamentable Lack of Force, and Others for Gross Neglect of Duty in Not Enforcing Ordinances.

Chicago, Jan. 27.—The coroner's jury which for three weeks has been listening to evidence relating to the fire in the Iroquois theater, returned a verdict by which the following persons are held to await the action of the grand jury: Carter H. Harrison, mayor of Chicago; Fire Marshal William H. Mushman; Will J. Davis, proprietor in part and manager of the theater; George Williams, building commissioner of the city; Edward Laughlin, building inspector under Williams; William Sallers, fireman in the theater; James E. Cummings, stage carpenter, and William McMullen, who had charge of the light that caused the fire.

There were over 750,000 words of testimony, and each juror would, according to the law, be compelled to sign his name to the testimony of each witness, which meant that each man would be compelled to write his name 572 times. This work alone, the coroner estimated, would consume five hours. There was, therefore, considerable surprise when the jury announced shortly before 11 o'clock that it had reached a verdict and was ready to report. It was also decided by the coroner that all men who would be held by the verdict to the grand jury should be taken into custody last night. He therefore procured warrants for their arrest, and called on the police department for force to arrest them.

"I do not expect that some of these men who are likely to be held will try to escape," said the coroner, "but some of them may have not large property interests might take it into their heads to do so. I do not intend that there shall be any mistakes in that direction laid to my department. If I cause the arrest of one of them I am compelled to cause the arrest of all, and then of the favorably shown no matter who are the men held by the jury."

As soon as the finding of the jury was announced details of officers were sent at once for the men named in the verdict, with orders to bring them in at once, and in the absence of a grand jury they were to be taken to the county jail for the night.

## Findings of the Jury.

The findings of the jury are as follows: "The cause of the fire was drapery coming in contact with a hood, or arc light. "City laws were not complied with relating to building or ordinance, fire alarm boxes, fire apparatus, damper or flues on and over the stage and fly galleries. "Violation of the ordinance requiring fireproofing of stock stands and all wood-work on and about the stage. "The asbestos curtain was wholly inadequate, and was entirely destroyed. "Building ordinances were violated, in that aisles were enclosed on each side of the lower boxes and in that fire apparatus on the orchestra floor. "Building ordinance was violated in that there was no fire apparatus in the gallery or first balcony."

Will J. Davis was held responsible as president and general manager. He was primarily and general manager. He was primarily responsible for the observance of the laws, and was bound to see that his employees were properly instructed as to their duties in case of fire. In relation to Mayor Harrison the verdict reads as follows: "We hold Carter H. Harrison, as mayor of the city of Chicago, responsible, as he has shown a lamentable lack of force, and for his efforts to escape responsibility, evidenced by the testimony of Building Commissioner Williams and Fire Marshal Mushman. As heads of department under the said Carter H. Harrison following this weak course has given Chicago inefficient service, which makes such calamities as the Iroquois theater fire horror a menace to the public service is purged of incompetents."

Building Commissioner Williams was held "for gross neglect of his duty in allowing the theater to open its doors to the public when the said theater was incomplete, and did not comply with the building ordinances of the city of Chicago." Fire Marshal Mushman was held responsible "for gross neglect of duty in not enforcing the ordinances, and failure to have his subordinate, William Sallers, fireman at the theater, report to him of the lack of fire apparatus in the theater. Sallers was held for not reporting the lack of fire apparatus. McMullen for carelessness in handling the light that caused the fire; Cummings as stage carpenter, for not providing the stage with proper fire protection.

## Mayor Not Arrested.

Later in the night, after the members of the jury had departed, it was decided by Coroner Traeger that it would not be necessary to arrest Mayor Harrison, Fire Marshal Mushman and Building Commissioner Williams, and no officers were sent for them. Mistresses were made out, however, for the other six men. A special grand jury will convene next week to reopen the investigation and decide what action shall be taken on the report of the coroner's jury. The charge, as far as the city officials are concerned, which the grand jury will consider is malfeasance in office. Conviction means their removal from office in addition to any other penalty.

## MORO TREACHERY.

It Results in Death of Lieutenant Flak, and Private Foy of the Twenty-Second.

Manila, Jan. 27.—It is reported that Lieutenant Campbell W. Flake of the Twenty-second infantry, was killed while trying to enter a Moro cotta in Mindanao for the purpose of examining the locality. He was accompanied by Private Foy. Flake was shot treacherously, the Moros firing on the party while Major Bullard was parleying with them. The place was immediately taken by assault and twenty Moros killed.

## Germans Still Losing.

Berlin, Jan. 25.—An official dispatch from Windhoek, German Southwest Africa, says the Germans have lost heavily in unsuccessful attempts to relieve Okandja, and that some of their and their entire families have been murdered and the hereros are threatening Windhoek.