

THE O'NEILL FRONTIER

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O'NEILL, NEBRASKA

Among the rings stolen from the hand of Mrs. Luard, whose recent murder has started England, was one bearing an inscription. The custom of inscribing within the hoop of the betrothal or wedding ring a motto or "posy," as it was called, was formerly very prevalent. Hamlet asks: "Is this a prologue or the posy of a ring?" Some posies were very tender and beautiful. Among the more appropriate posies may be mentioned "Deus corpus, in coeum," "My heart and I until I die," and "I am yours," from 16th century rings; "Love ever," "Love true, 'tis joy" and "Time lesseneth not my love," from the 17th century; "Love me," "My soul will keep thine company to heaven" and "En ma fidelite je finirai ta vie" from the 18th. In a ring which "Florize" (afterward George IV.) gave to the hapless Perdita were the words "Je change qu'en mourant. Unalterable to my Perdita through life."

Kits of sailors lost at sea are sold regularly at auction at the Albert docks in London. The sale provides many a pitiful sight. Most of the lots are contained in the regular sailor's sea chests, all marked with the name of the ship from which they come. One sea chest which came up for auction recently was that of an unfortunate Chinese cook who was eaten by cannibals. Among other contents the box contained two choppers, a large knife and the picture of an English man in a frame. It is not unusual for those who have lost friends or relatives at sea to attend these auctions and there are times when the first news of such a loss comes through the recognition of familiar objects.

In the state of Queensland, Australia, there is a pension system for widows left with the care of children. Under the new scale of weekly pensions, taking effect on May 1, last, the allowance for one child was \$1.22; two children, \$1.10 each; three children, 97 cents each; four children, 91 cents each; more than four children, a maximum of \$4.38. The state has found it wiser, so Consul Ellen Bayly of Brisbane, writes to Daily Consular and Trade Reports, to pension the mother rather than to condemn her to such employment as would cause her to neglect her children.

After four attempts the Episcopal diocese of Washington has succeeded in electing a bishop who will accept the place. The Rev. Dr. Alfred P. Harding, who has been chosen by the rector of St. Paul's, Washington, and he seems to satisfy all the warring elements in the diocese. "He understands the nature of the problems that await solution," says the Washington Post, "and knows how to handle the persons and local conditions which affect them. All things considered, the choice of a Washingtonian, rather than an outsider, is proper and wise."

The immense Northfield schools and colleges for the training of missionaries and preachers were erected out of the profits derived from the sale of Moody and Sankey's "Sacred Songs and Solos." Ellen Ellen Bayly ("Edna Lyall") built St. Peter's church, Eastbourne, England, with part of the money she received for "Donovan" and "We Two." She also presented a fine seal of bells to the neighboring church St. Savio, who christened them after the heroes of her books—Erie, Hugo, and Donovan.

A full fledged farmers' institute on wheels is attracting the attention of agriculturists in Pennsylvania. It is the brain of the cars on the Pennsylvania railroad in connection with the school of agriculture and experiment station of the Pennsylvania state. A corps of trained instructors on agricultural experiments accompanies the train and lectures on various topics that will aid farmers in making their lands more profitable are given at many points on the line.

Persia's rug industry has suffered materially as a result of the closing of the bazaars at Tabriz and other Persian cities. The difficulties of transportation on the highways of Persia and the decreased demand for luxuries have contributed to the small measure to the depressed condition of the Persian rug trade. Prices have fallen recently by one-third and rug exports have fallen off one-half. Labor there now commands only between 5 and 10 cents a day.

A certain minister was deeply impressed by an address on the evils of smoking given at a recent synod. He rose from his seat, went to a fellow minister, and said: "Brother, this morning I received a present of 100 good cigars. I have smoked one of them, but now I'm going home and burn the remainder in the fire." The other minister arose and said it was his intention to accompany his reverend brother. "I mean to rescue the 99 and nine," he added.

Russia's ministry of ways of communication demands about 2,000,000 rubles (a ruble equals 61.5 cents) for new railway construction. Out of this amount are to be taken the funds for building the Amur road, double track. The Siberian road, building a bridge across the Volga, and connecting the Russian and Finnish railway systems at St. Petersburg.

To teach the prospective English emigrant things he should know in order to adapt himself to his future home is the object of an imperial school near London. At it the youngster who has determined to follow fortune across the seas is taught farming, riding, shooting and the roping of cattle and horses.

A black fox with a pelt worth \$500, driven from the hills by the extreme cold, was killed in the streets of Nome, Alaska, recently. The animal was chased by hundreds of Nome citizens and finally its rich pelt fell to a tenderfoot prospector, who made a wild bet on the fox with a club and killed it.

Beggs, Okla., is said to be the place where a minister, marrying a negro couple, asked the woman: "Do you take this man for better or for worse?" She interrupted by explaining: "No, Judge, I want him just as he is. If he gets any better he'll die, and if he gets any worse I'll kill him myself."

Among the thousand and one projects on the program of the Young Turks for the regeneration of Turkey the Constantinople journals announce, with much satisfaction, the intention to rid the city of its street dogs.

Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand had to pay a deficiency of \$31,810 on last year's working of the Pacific cable, according to the accounts published a few days ago.

The rarest seashell is the "Cone of the Holy Mary." Only two specimens are known, one of which is in the British museum.

BOUGHT NOTHING AND PAYS NOTHING

Wesleyan Professor Purchased Place in Faculty from Predecessor Who Was Bounced.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 15.—Frankly admitted that he purchased the job of director of the school of music attached to Wesleyan university from his predecessor, E. M. Upton asks the district court to enjoin Vernon Spencer, a man from whom the purchase was made, from attempting to collect the \$500 note which evidenced the transaction, on the ground that Spencer had nothing to sell when the transaction was made.

Upton says that at the time Spencer dickered with him and closed the deal, the authorities at Wesleyan had demanded of him and received his resignation as head of the musical conservatory, a fact Spencer kept from him and which he only recently learned. He says that in order to comply with the law he must do equity, he makes a formal tender to turn back to Spencer all that he got from him—which was nothing—and in return wants the \$500 note returned to him. Spencer is now in Germany, but the note is in a local bank for collection or sale.

NEBRASKA DEBATERS WIN OVER ILLINOIS

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 15.—Nebraska's three debaters—J. E. Bednar, R. W. Bates and Dean Driscoll—were last night awarded the decision over S. M. Thompson, R. B. Frizell and J. C. Herbstman, representing Illinois university in the oratorical contest held at Memorial hall of the University of Nebraska.

Nebraska had the affirmative of the question favoring a commission form of municipal government. Governor Sheldon acted as presiding officer.

ABBIE RICE WILL LIVE IN BOSTON

Boston, Mass., Dec. 15.—Mrs. Abbie Rice, the central figure in the Rustin tragedy in Omaha, and the star witness for the state in the Davis trial, will make her future home in this city.

Her husband, Irving Rice, is here and has begun to furnish a home for her at the home of his brother, Fred H. Rice, in Cuba.

EDITOR'S WIFE GETS NEBRASKA DECREE

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 15.—Mrs. Carpar Whitney secured a divorce from her husband, the New York attorney, sports and editor of Outing, in Omaha. The hearing was held during the noon recess of court by Judge Lee Estelle.

Her suit was filed November 30 against Mrs. Whitney and thus disclosed, escaped notice until the decree was formally entered.

Mrs. Whitney testified she came to Omaha a year ago and that she has been living apart from her husband since. She went to New York in September to smooth matters over if possible, but she testified that her husband, when she called upon him in his office, knocked her down and dragged her out of the room. A deposition of a witness to this was read. September 24—Preliminary hearing of Davis begins in police court.

INDIANA HAS THE CHAMPION EAR OF CORN

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 15.—Prizes for individual exhibits in competitions open to the world had extreme interest for the exhibitors at the national corn exposition. Among the premiums were well divided among the 25 corn growing states, Indiana getting first and second for single ear of corn in the world's championship. The award follows:

Best half bushel barley—First prize, Harry Marthaler, Deaver, Dana, Wis.; second, B. W. Hayward, Bay City, Mich.; third, J. W. Thomas, Warren, Minn.

DAVIS ACQUITTED OF MURDER CHARGE

Abbie Rice Will Not Be Held for the Murder of Profligate Omaha Physician.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 12.—"Not guilty," was the verdict rendered by the jury in the case of Charles E. Davis, accused of the murder of Dr. Frederick Rustin on the morning of September 2, and in accordance with the decision of the jury, Judge Sears discharged the prisoner.

The jury deliberated 13 hours and it required 19 ballots to reach an agreement. The first ballot stood 11 to 1 for acquittal of the charge of murder in the first degree. The lone juror maintained his position for four ballots and after that was joined by another juror in voting for conviction on a lesser charge.

County Attorney English, who conducted the prosecution, was at his home when called up by telephone this morning and advised of the verdict. There was a noted disappointment in his voice when he said: "I thought it was a case that demanded the most vigorous prosecution. I exhausted the resources at my command to give it that. Everything the state could do to subvert the ends of justice was done."

"Will Mrs. Abbie Rice be prosecuted?" "Well, I should say not!" was the quick reply. "She will be released. The case which the state made against Davis contemplated, if it did not establish, the innocence of the woman as to the commission of the murder." Charles E. Davis, the defendant, is at the home of his brother, Fred H. Davis, vice president of the First National bank.

Mrs. Rustin, widow of Dr. Rustin, the dead man, has gone to Haverhill, Mass., to make her home with her parents.

Charles E. Davis immediately was released from custody, and within half an hour was at work at his desk in the ladies' department of the First National bank, apparently as unconcerned as if he had been since his name was first mentioned in connection with the case.

In an interview, he said that he had never felt any concern over the outcome, although he realized that his condition at the time of the tragedy made it difficult for him to remember clearly what had occurred.

Abbie Rice, the principal witness against Davis, will be allowed to rejoin her husband in Pennsylvania.

HISTORY OF RUSTIN TRAGEDY

September 2—At 3:15 a. m. Dr. Frederick Rustin found dying on the front porch of his residence by his wife. Died in hospital at 8 o'clock.

September 3—Mrs. Abbie Rice, mistress of Dr. Rustin, connected with case by police.

September 4—Surgeons say Rustin's death was case of murder. Mrs. Rice arrested.

September 5—Rustin funeral held.

September 6—Mrs. Rice gives full statement of connection with Rustin tragedy to police. Not made public.

September 8—Sensational story of triple suicide pact told at inquest by Mrs. Rice. She implicates Charles E. Davis. Davis denies he tried to kill Rustin.

September 9—Coroner's jury recommends that Davis be held. He is arrested and released under \$5,000 bonds.

September 11—Davis arraigned in police court. Pleads not guilty to charge of murder in first degree. He is released under bond of \$7,000.

September 24—Preliminary hearing of Davis begins in police court.

September 25—Mrs. Rice testifies to meeting Davis in Rustin's office night before shooting. Tells story of suicide pact.

September 30—Davis is held to district court on charge of murder in first degree under bonds of \$7,000. Mrs. Rice held as witness under bonds of \$1,000 and goes to jail.

December 2—Trial of Charles E. Davis begins in district court.

SUPREME COURT MUST PASS UPON OWN MEMBERSHIP

Gov. Sheldon's Appointment of Judges Raises Question for Court to Decide.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 9.—The newly constituted supreme court is shortly to be confronted with an embarrassing question. The democrats take the position that the four new judges should be appointed by the incoming governor because nobody will definitely and legally know whether the amendment increasing the number of judges was carried until the legislature announces the result from its constitutional canvass.

The issue is their present intention to bring this matter into question at the earliest possible moment.

The only tribunal wherein it can be settled is the supreme court itself. That consists now of seven judges, and the constitution says that a majority of the court must determine any question submitted to it. Following the usual and orderly manner, none of the four judges would care to sit in a case wherein they were personally concerned. If they followed their preference they would step aside and let the three old members decide. But three isn't a majority of seven, and no opinion the three might give would be a valid one. No one of the four new judges can be selected to act with the three because the right of all four to sit is challenged.

There is nothing, therefore, to do but for all seven judges to sit upon the question, and the democrats are wondering what they can hope for from the court since the question is largely a partisan one, and it is probable that all they really expect to gain is an issue that they can raise in the coming campaign, when three judges are to be elected.

REGENTS SELECT AN ACTING CHANCELLOR

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 11.—A farewell banquet was last night tendered Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews, of the University of Nebraska, by members of the faculty club. Chancellor Andrews has resigned and will conclude his service at the conclusion of the university year. His function was attended by leading educators and representative men of the state. The Nebraska regents elected Dr. Samuel Avery, of the university chair of chemistry, to be acting chancellor, his duties beginning January 1.

PRISONERS MAKE ESCAPE FROM COUNTY JAIL

Grand Island, Neb., Dec. 11.—Four prisoners confined in the county jail here, two of them declared by the police to be desperate men, escaped by sawing the bars on the jail door.

The leader is supposed to be Tom Haley, accused of robbing the postoffice at Callaway, Neb. Descriptions have been telegraphed to sheriffs over the country.

STOLE MINK COAT, GOES TO PENITENTIARY

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 11.—Shrieking wildly for her husband to save her from prison, Mrs. Mildred Boles was held carried out of the district court, after Judge Frost had sentenced her to one year in the penitentiary for shoplifting.

A month ago a \$300 mink coat and a \$25 hat were stolen from the department store of the Rudge & Guenzel company. The lifting was done in daylight, but without detection. Employees of the firm were sent to the various theaters to spy on the millinery displays.

After her arrest, Mrs. Boles pleaded guilty to taking the coat. She is a prepossessing woman of 21, and this was her first offense. She sobbed convulsively during the arraignment, and collapsed when the sentence was pronounced and she found that she was face to face with prison walls.

LOADING STORK CRIPPLES FARMERS

Scarcity of Farm Help Attributed to Race Suicide Among Tillers of the Soil.

Omaha, Dec. 11.—The president's country life commission is preaching the Roosevelt doctrine of anti-race suicide.

"The first question we ask farmers in every locality is: Have you a sufficient amount of farm labor? The invariable answer is no. Why? The stork is loafing."

This is the statement of Henry G. Wallace, member of the commission, who arrived in Omaha today for the opening of the National Corn exposition, that continues until December 30. The commission has an active part in the affairs of the exposition.

"The president is right," added Mr. Wallace. "In his anti-race suicide doctrine. Not only is this thing noticeable in the cities where the fashion holds sway, but it extends to the farms and the farmers are paying the penalty, they say, in a scarcity of labor. The situation for the present, of course, is not as bad as it will be for the future, unless the people get back to the old fashioned ideas of life."

CRUISE OF FLEET IS EPOCH MAKING EVENT

Secretary Metcalf, of the Navy Department, Makes His Annual Report.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Secretary Metcalf, of the navy department, in his annual report, discusses, as the most notable naval event of the past year, the voyage of the battleship fleet, which "has proven an epoch-making cruise."

Late in the spring of 1907 it was decided to send the Atlantic fleet on a practice cruise to the Pacific. When the purpose of giving this assemblage of 16 battleships such a practice cruise, under severe conditions, was announced, he states, criticism from high technical quarters was heard. The undertaking, it was said, was too multiplied; dangers more than multiplied with number in such a case; battleships should not be sent around the globe on any ordinary occasion; the skeletons of some of them would doubtless be left in the Straits of Magellan; and, if the ships should round South America, they would, one by one, arrive with machinery loose and unserviceable, and with crews reflecting the conditions of the material.

The facts are, Secretary Metcalf says, that the ships maintained schedule time and have practically taken care of their repairs on this cruise. The repairs list sent in at the naval station, Cavite, P. I., have just been received, and are insignificant. They show that after the voyage to the distant borders of the Pacific, the needed repairs are negligible. The performance of Oregon in 1898 has, it seems, been substantially repeated.

As the officer in command of the American fleet now in the far east holds the rank of rear admiral only, he is in a position of subordination to foreign naval officers. This is true because foreign powers have, on important naval stations representatives of the rank of vice-admiral. The secretary urges that the navy should, without delay, provide with two vice-admirals.

The secretary recommends that congress authorize at its approaching session the construction of four battleships, four scout cruisers, 10 destroyers, four submarines, three colliers, one repair submarine, one ammunition ship, two mine-laying ships—these two ships converted from cruisers now on the navy list.

THE REPORT OF THE CONTROLLER OF CURRENCY

Washington, Dec. 14.—The annual report of Lawrence O. Murray, comptroller of currency, made to congress on December 7, includes statistics and general information in relation to the condition of national and other banks at date of latest returns, the figures relating to national banks being as follows: On December 31, 1907, there were in operation 6,553 associations, with paid in capital stock of \$921,463,172, circulating notes outstanding \$613,726,155, and undivided profits of \$4,548,135,165. Loans and discounts amounted to \$750,612,731.11; and the banks held in their vaults gold and silver to the amount of \$680,185,555, and legal tender notes, \$188,238,515. The aggregate resources of the banks on the date in question were \$9,027,250,483. In addition to the paid in capital stock of national banks is the stockholders' liability, amounting to \$921,463,172. The surplus of the banks is \$565,566,207, and their undivided profits amount to \$4,548,135,165. Thus the capital, stockholders' liability, surplus and other profits, aggregate \$2,610,592,352, or over one-fourth of the total liabilities of the banks. It is estimated that there are about 406,000 shareholders in national banks, of which the affairs of the associations are managed by approximately 68,000 directors. The comptroller estimates the number of depositors in national banks at 14,000,000, or about half a million.

The authorized capital stock of the national banks on October 31, 1907, amounted to \$909,274,775, since which date there has been an addition of \$22,823,000 from banks organized during the year, and \$19,000,000 from increases of capital of pre-existing banks. The losses were as follows: By voluntary liquidation, \$11,040,000; by expiration of charters, \$1,375,000; by failures, \$6,560,000; by reductions of capitalization of old banks, \$117,200. These changes show an apparent increase of capital during the year of \$21,090,500, but this amount includes the capital of a number of associations closed voluntarily during the year. The stock accounts, which have not been closed on the books of this office, the amount so represented being \$2,035,000.

There are 1,826 national banks, with capital of \$25,000 each; 2,116, with capital of over \$25,000 to \$50,000 inclusive; 1,623, with capital of over \$50,000 to \$100,000 inclusive; 757 over \$100,000 to \$250,000; 476 over \$250,000 to \$1,000,000; 69 over \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000, and 6 with capital of over \$5,000,000. The first issue of national bank circulation, December 21, 1863, to October 31, 1908, notes were issued to the amount of \$4,172,614,945, of which \$3,506,769,853 have been redeemed, leaving outstanding \$665,845,092. In the year just closed the issues amounted to \$367,017,740, an amount exceeding by \$130,898,000 the sum issued during the year ended October 31, 1907.

BREAD LINE MAN IS BROKEN DOWN "BUM"

New York, Dec. 14.—Terrence V. Powderly, United States commissioner of immigration, has a decided opinion of the men who compose New York's much-talked-of "bread line," according to a letter received from him today.

"I have made it a practice for years," wrote Mr. Powderly, "to take my place in the bread line and converse with the unfortunate I found there. I managed to get the clew of number and to become enlightened as to the character of the man I associated with. In the main he is a bum, slovenly, indolent, shiftless and ambitionless. Some event in his past life broke his spirit, and of his own volition it will not mend."

EMBEZZLER IS SENTENCED.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 14.—John F. Schulte, ex-paying teller of the First National bank of Racine, Wis., was sentenced today to five years in Port Leavenworth. Schulte embezzled \$15,000 and pleaded guilty.

OFFERS REWARD FOR WIFE AND LOVER

Pittsburg, Dec. 14.—W. A. Stone, a millionaire coal operator of Uniontown, has offered a reward of \$2,500 for the capture of his wife and Emory Martin, a leading merchant of that place. Detectives are conducting a systematic search for them. On December 2 Mrs. Stone left her husband and family, the coal operator alleges, and Martin left the same day. Since Mrs. Stone's disappearance, her mother, Mrs. Engle, has committed suicide.

RUEF CONVICTED IN THIRD TRIAL

Jury Finds the "Frisco" Boss Guilty of Bribery—Honey in the Court Room.

San Francisco, Dec. 14.—Abraham Ruef, former political boss of San Francisco, was convicted of bribery. The verdict was returned at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, when the deliberations of the jury had been prolonged throughout a period of 24 hours.

The trial, which had been in progress 106 days, was Ruef's third. He pleaded guilty the first time and got clemency. The jury disagreed in the second trial.

Attorneys, defendant, spectators, detectives and police held their breath as the clerk slowly and deliberately, yet with apparent agitation, unfolded the paper, and then, as every eye in the court room was riveted upon him, read "the fatal words: 'We, the jury, find the defendant, Abraham Ruef, guilty as charged.'"

Immediately everybody rose to their feet. There was a murmur of approval, but no scene or demonstration.

MODEL FLATS FOR ONLY \$19 PER MONTH

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Agitation, started several years ago, has resulted in the construction of a "model tenement," which will be ready for occupancy January 1 at 528 and 532 W. Lake ave. William M. Hoyt, millionaire, is the owner of the structure, built at the solicitation of the Hyde Park Betterment league. Nearly \$30,000 has been expended in the construction of the building. At an average rent of \$19 per month, tenants of the "model tenement" will be provided with steam heat, janitor service, fuel and illuminating gas, hot and cold water, hard wood floors, electric bells, speaking tubes, letter boxes, window shades, full bathroom equipment, shower baths, a clothes closet for every room, scientific ventilation, and perfect lighting facilities. The building now is almost finished, has a frontage of 150 feet, with three stories built above the basement, in which will be two stores, a living apartment, janitors' rooms, boiler rooms, shower baths, and a large laundry. The laundry is devised for the convenience of any of the women tenants who may earn their living by taking in washing.

CASTRO IS IN PARIS, BUT WILL BE GOOD

Paris, Dec. 14.—It is officially announced today that the French government informed President Castro he would be expelled from the country in case he made any manifestation calculated to disturb public order, or if he gave interviews to journalists or in any manner to inaugurate a press campaign against France or in justification of his own attitude or that of the Venezuelan government.

Castro gave assurances that he came to France in the capacity of a private citizen to undergo an operation, and promised to adhere to the wishes of the government.

Castro arrived here this evening. The trip was uneventful. The president and party drove at once to the hotel.

THE DUTCH WILL MAKE IT LIVELY FOR VENEZUELA

Willemstad, Dec. 14.—The government of the Netherlands has no intention of being negligent in the matter of the blockade of Venezuelan ports, inaugurated by three of its warships last week. The Dutch battleship and cruiser left here this morning for Venezuelan waters, cleared for action.

SHONTS FORGETS THE BABY'S NAME

New York, Dec. 14.—Theodore P. Shonts and his daughter, Miss Marguerite, who went to Paris to be with the Duchess of Clarence when the stork visited her, returned today. Mr. Shonts was congratulated over the safe arrival of his grandchild. He said the duchess and her son are doing well.

Mr. Shonts was stuck when asked the baby's name. He rubbed his chin thoughtfully and said: "His name is Emanuel Theodore Marie—wait, that's wrong. Where was I? Now I'll have to start all over again. His name is Emanuel Theodore Bernard Marie—wait that's off. It's something like Louis. Its Emanuel Theodore Bernard Marie. Lo—now I will really ask my daughter. She made a special study of the whole name and I believe that she can recite it."

Certainly, Miss Shonts knew the new baby's name. She smiled and, taking a long breath, repeated without a single pause: "Emanuel Theodore Bernard Marie-Luynes O'Ally Duc De Chaules Et Picquiny."

WOMAN IS VICE PRESIDENT OF ILLINOIS BARTENDERS

Alton, Ill., Dec. 14.—A woman is now vice president of the Illinois Bartenders' association. She is Miss Anna Willard, of Chicago. There were about 50 delegates and their wives at the convention. Three delegates were women. They were Miss Willard, Miss Elizabeth Maloney, of Chicago, and Miss Muri Kelly, of East St. Louis.

FINED BECAUSE HE KILLED ONLY WILD ELK SEEN IN YEARS

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 14.—Arthur Allen, of Sherburne, won proud distinction a few days ago by killing an elk, the first seen in Minnesota in a wild state in 25 years. No one could account for its appearance in Martin county. The game law does not provide any season for killing elk so Mr. Allen has been compelled to pay a fine of \$25 because of his prowess.