

### EX-CONVICT SAVES HIS ACCUSER IS JEALOUS AT HIS INDIFFERENCE

#### Woman Acquainted With All of Lincoln Prison Murderers Tells Story.

Lincoln, Neb., March 25.—Mrs. Lillie Owen, of Omaha, was the chief witness against Hartford Reed, charged with having supplied Albert Prince with the knife with which he killed Deputy Warden Davis. Mrs. Owen said that Reed told her he had not only furnished the knife to Prince, but that he also helped to get to "Shorty" Gray the explosives and one of the guns with which the three men who killed the three prison officials and broke out were equipped.

Mrs. Owen also swore that she knew all of the men, Prince, Gray, Dowd and Morley, and that they had been frequent visitors at her home. She said that Reed had told her seven days before the warden was murdered he had told a woman prison worker that within a week Delahunty would be a dead man. She claimed to have worked for a long time with the Omaha police in turning up convicts.

Reed declares that the woman had a grudge against him because of his failure to properly appreciate her personal charms, and his attorney, in cross-examination intimated that it was because of Gray's attention to her that her husband got a divorce.

Governor and Mrs. Aldrich went to the penitentiary last evening to make an investigation of the report that Morley and Prince, the two murderous convicts, were being cruelly treated. The men are being confined in what is known as the dark cells, but that is a misnomer, according to the governor, as he found the cells were partially lighted, heated and kept dry.

A new information will be sworn out against Morley, charging him with the murder of the three prison officials. The county attorney is understood to be delaying action pending the conclusion of the trial of Reed, who may be charged with being accessory to the crime.

**Appropriation for Widow.**

A liberal appropriation for the benefit of Mrs. Roy Blunt, widow of the victim of the posse in Sarpy county, will be recommended by Governor Aldrich. The governor takes the position that the fact that the young man lost his life under the circumstances confers an obligation upon the state to assist his widow in the only way possible, which is financially.

The governor in a statement says that he desires control in any way the disposition of the \$2,100 reward money offered by the state for the capture, dead or alive, of the three convict murderers. The courts can determine who of various claimants are entitled to share in the reward, but no action of the government has anything to do with it save to pay it out when legal proof is furnished as to the identity of the person entitled to it.

So far as three of the officers are concerned they have stated that the petition for the reward is of no right to it, but there are so many persons who have at least a basis of a claim that it may not be possible to transfer it to Mrs. Blunt. In fact, she has a strong claim for a portion of the reward, as she was within a mile to a neighbor's house to telephone the Springfield central so that the posse might kill the men were then at her house.

### NEBRASKA NEWS NOTES

**LINCOLN**—Victor Rosewater, who essayed to keep Congressman DeLoe's back off the populist ticket in the Second district, has been officially notified by Secretary Wait that he was too late to do any good, and that the protest, which was ruled out. Determination to follow that course was announced here yesterday afternoon. The populist had conferred with Attorney General Martin. The law prescribes that protests must be filed within three days after the original petitions are sent to the secretary of state. Rosewater let the matter go a day too long, having sent in his petition the fourth day after the filing of the Lobeck populist petition.

**LINCOLN**—The big drop in the thermometer has put a temporary quietness on flood troubles in this vicinity, but it was more than made up today when the additional snow, with the balance which has fallen for the past two weeks, began to melt under the rays of the sun. A continuance of warm weather is looked to bring on a myriad of troubles both among the residents of the low places and the roads. Salt and Antelope creeks have been over their banks within the past three days and the further melting is expected to make up for the temporary alleviation of the trouble.

**HASTINGS**—Woodman "insurgents" adjourned their mass meeting by adopting a lengthy set of resolutions covering many phases of the matter of the raises in rates at the Chicago meeting. The "Chicago plan" was denounced in no uncertain language. A plan of campaign was outlined and it was unanimously decided to work in harmony with the meeting held Monday at Columbus. One of the points in demand is to hold back the operation of the raise in rates until it has been decided upon by a referendum vote.

**KEARNEY**—In a last desperate attempt to gain their freedom Harry Wycoff and Eugene Palmer, two escaped and captured industrial school boys guilty of burglary at Elm Creek, made an unsuccessful attempt at jail breaking. The Palmer boy has made several successful "getaways" from the industrial school, and has only been recaptured after each by the commission of a new crime. He was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of from one to 10 years and the Wycoff boy was returned to the school.

**BEAVER CREEK**—Philip W. Harlan, ex-convict, arrested at Olathe, Mo., charged with killing S. F. George, a hotel proprietor there; has lived in Furnas county since 1881. He homesteaded in Weaver precinct and now owns a large farm. His only son, Phillip W. Harlan, Jr., resides near the old homestead and is a prominent and influential citizen. Harlan left here a month ago to visit relatives at Olathe. Mr. Harlan died about three years ago and Harlan has wandered about since her death, coming home at intervals.

**MCCKOOK**—A brief session of federal district court was held in McCook, presided over by Judge T. C. Munger, assisted by Clerk R. C. Hoyt and United States Marshal W. P. Warner. The informal session was featured by the filing of L. H. Lawton against the trustees of the Gretna school district, who had refused to pay a portion of the cost of the school building. The court ruled in favor of the trustees, and the school district was ordered to pay the balance of the cost.

**FREMONT**—Congressman Dan V. Stephens has mailed out letters to his constituents in the Third congressional district asking support for Champ Clark. Mr. Stephens' opponents are rather surprised that he should take such a strong stand for Clark, though they knew that, in view of Mr. Clark's coming to the district in Mr. Stephens' behalf last fall, it would be more than likely the Third district congressman would support him.

**LINCOLN**—For disposing of a mortgaged cook stove without asking the consent of the man who sold it to him, H. C. DeClaus, of Custer county, was brought back to this state from Oregon, where he is at present being held. The expense of the trip to be taken there and back by an agent of the state will exceed several times the value of the stove, but no other alternative than to bring the man back is offered by the officials.

**OMAHA**—At the closing session of the Nebraska Landowners' association, Fremont was selected as the place for holding the October meeting and officers were elected as follows: President, C. C. Quigley, Lincoln; vice president, J. A. Richardson, Nebraska City; secretary-treasurer, H. A. Jacobberger, Omaha; executive committee, Dan McLean, South Omaha; L. B. Hoagland, Hastings, and J. A. Westling.

**CRAWFORD**—W. L. Davis, president of the Ranchers' Commercial club, of Crawford, Wyo., is in Crawford purchasing several carloads of seed for his section. Mr. Davis has already purchased seven carloads, consisting of alfalfa seed, flax seed, spring wheat, oats, barley, rye and speltz, and has contracted for three cars of seed potatoes.

**FREMONT**—People through this section and in Saunders county are wrought up over the slaying of Roy Blunt, then, Fremont was selected as the place for holding the October meeting and officers were elected as follows: President, C. C. Quigley, Lincoln; vice president, J. A. Richardson, Nebraska City; secretary-treasurer, H. A. Jacobberger, Omaha; executive committee, Dan McLean, South Omaha; L. B. Hoagland, Hastings, and J. A. Westling.

**NORTH BEND**—At a meeting of the school board Miss Martha Coulson, of Centerville, Ia., was elected teacher of the third and fourth grade rooms. Superintendent E. L. McNoun was re-elected to his position.

**FREMONT**—The snow melt of the past few days has raised all rivers and has done some damage to the railroads. The Northwestern has suffered delays on account of a washout between Octavia and Eldorado. The passenger train from Lincoln yesterday afternoon was tied up for 10 hours owing to the condition of the roadbed.

**WASHINGTON**—Representative David J. Foster, of Vermont, died here last night after an illness of three weeks. Mr. Foster was first stricken with grip, which today developed into pneumonia and terminated fatally in a few hours. He was 54 years old.

**NEW YORK**—Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fawcett, of Birmingham, Ala., will get \$500 damages each for the humiliation incident to being ejected from the Hotel Astor here last year. This compromise verdict was agreed upon by counsel yesterday afternoon after an indiscreet juror had caused a mistrial by asking a witness for the defendant: "What would happen if I held up the case?"

**COLUMBUS, OHIO**—Counsel for State Senator Isaac E. Huffman, on trial charged with having accepted a \$300 bribe for his senatorial vote, yesterday offered an alibi to offset the telephonic device evidence given by witnesses for the state and upon which the state rested its case.

**BOSTON**—Efforts to save Clarence V. T. Richeson, the confessed murderer of Avis Linnell, from death in the electric chair yesterday when his counsel, William A. Morse, conferred with Governor Fox.

### HOT INDIGNATION AT MURDER OF BLUNT IS SENSE OF NEIGHBORS

#### Funeral of Young Man Killed by Officers While Hostage of the Convicts.

Springfield, Neb., March 23.—The body of Roy Blunt was laid to rest in the Springfield cemetery here yesterday afternoon.

On what had been heralded as the first day of spring, the body of the young farmer, the innocent victim of the man hunt, which ended in the death of two convict murderers and the capture of a third in a pitched battle with sheriff's officers Monday, was brought to this city shortly after noon in a small sleigh from his father's farm, and followed to the Plattford church for brief services at the Plattford church.

In cutters, boats and wheeled vehicles of every description, some 200 mourners, farmers of Sarpy county and residents of Springfield and nearby towns, braved the biting north wind and followed the cortege through the well high impassable roads of Sarpy county to its destination. Residents of Springfield say it was the most impressive funeral cortege the town has known.

Long before the hour set for the beginning of the services farmers and the older members of their families had begun to congregated around the little white frame church which overlooks the township of Plattford from a wind swept hill. They came from Springfield, Gretna, Louisville and the farms and villages scattered along the roads, and in waggons, bobs, cutters and top buggies. They came early and waited patiently, discussing the while the incidents that led up to the untimely death of the young farmer. And the feeling was not friendly toward those who had the young man escape by dodging behind a tree. Recently Ayers came to the Howell home, and was ordered away by the irate father. He struck Howell and knocked him down. Howell watched for Ayers and when he stepped into the yard he opened fire on him with a revolver.

In his funeral sermon, Mr. Warn touched on the youth of the dead man, his great popularity in the community, and the sympathy which all extended to his bereaved family. He touched lightly on the incidents leading up to young Blunt's death, and spoke of the apparently needless sacrifice. The services were brief.

At the conclusion of the services the flower-laden casket was carried again to the sleight, the mourners untied their teams and, dropping in behind the vehicles in which were the members of the family, began the long, difficult trip to Springfield, six miles distant.

Among the many floral tributes which covered the white casket in the church were a broken column from the Modern Woodman of America lodge of Springfield, a beautiful wreath from friends in Gretna and Springfield, and remembrances from former schoolmates of Roy Blunt at York business college.

For several hours after services at the grave had been concluded, Springfield was filled with groups of friends of the Blunt and Anderson families, discussing the case. Bitterness against the officers responsible for the death of Roy Blunt it was evident from the conversations overheard, is increasing rather than diminishing.

Mrs. Roy Blunt today received a letter from Governor Aldrich.

A prominent Sarpy county attorney at Olathe, Mo., conferred today with the Blunt and Anderson families.

### SOUTH DAKOTA WINS LAURELS IN ORATORY

Omaha, March 23.—A good sized and very enthusiastic audience listened to the debate at the University of South Dakota against the Creighton university, last night at the Creighton university auditorium. The question for debate was "Resolved, That the principles of the recall of the judicial office, extended to include all except those of the United States supreme court." South Dakota took the affirmative and Creighton the negative. South Dakota won by the decision of two out of the judges, who were Prof. C. F. Berginger of the University of Nebraska; Charles C. Saunders, of Council Bluffs, and Prof. A. H. Waterhouse, of Fremont.

George A. Rice, A. H. Hasche and C. J. Jespersen, first, second and third runners up, respectively, made up the South Dakota team. For Creighton, John W. Delehart and Francis P. Matthews, first, second and third negatives respectively, made up the Creighton team. Henry Monks, alternate of the Creighton team, was officer.

At the request that the audience refrain from applauding, but the debaters received much applause, which seemed to be more for the visiting team than Creighton, and when it was announced that South Dakota had won the debate, the cheering of the auditorium was broken by great outbursts of cheers for the visiting team.

### SPIRITED CITY CONTEST PROMISED AT CRAWFORD

Crawford, Neb., March 23.—The people's party, which last spring won out by the largest majority ever given in the history of Crawford county, was elected mayor, Arah L. Hungerford and Chas. L. Leithoff were elected councilmen of the first ward, and Frank L. Hall and Wm. T. Forbes councilmen of the second ward, has renominated the old ticket.

At a meeting of the citizen's party, Brick McKelvey was chosen to make the race against Mayor Porter; Geo. Uhl against Chas. Leithoff, W. L. Judson against Frank Hall, Walton Mee against Arthur J. Porter, and E. Porter was nominated for treasurer and clerk, and also chosen for the citizen's ticket.

A few of the many things accomplished by the administration during the past year are the new seven-mile pipe line water system, the new tungsten system of street lighting, whereby the entire city is lighted with a 200-candle power Tungston lamp on every corner, the new viaducts connecting the east with the west side, and the new sanitary sewer system covering the entire city.

### NEBRASKA NEWS NOTES

**BROKEN BOW**—Albert Baker, a son of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Baker, of this place, who was reported lost in a storm near Lander, Wyo., several weeks ago, has been reported to his parents that he is alive and well. Baker says he was in ignorance of the anxiety caused over his disappearance, having been on a Wyoming ranch 40 miles from a railroad and being unable to communicate with the outer world. He further stated in the letter that the report coming from Lander was mainly correct, as there was another man bearing the same name as his own lost in the storm, and up to the present time no traces of him have been discovered.

**FREMONT**—Following is a list of the filings for office in Dodge county: Republican: For congress, J. C. Cook; for state senator, George F. Wola; representative, Charles Rogers, W. D. Holbrook, E. W. Montgomery and F. E. Linton; county assessor, C. B. Nicodemus, E. Olson; county attorney, Nye Morehouse and H. M. Kidder. Democratic: For congress, Dan V. Stephens; state senator, H. D. Schoettger; representative, G. W. Losey, Henry Oberman, M. E. Shipley; county assessor, M. E. Shipley, H. F. Meyer; county attorney, F. W. Hutton. Socialist: State senator, James Christopherson; representative, A. P. Anderson and C. Jensen.

**LINCOLN, NEB.**—Governor Aldrich has appointed S. M. Melick warden of the penitentiary, vice James Delahunty, murdered. Mr. Melick proceeded to the prison at once and took charge. The appointment of Melick has brought to the surface again the old controversy which was waged when he was chief of police in Lincoln. Those who stood by him then are doing so now and saying the appointment is an admirable one, and his opponents of those days are criticizing it. It is reasonably certain, however, that no objections made at this date will be too late to be of any effect.

**BEATRICE, NEB.**—N. F. Howell, an electrician of this city, who came from Cameron, Mo., a few years ago, shot three times at Vern Ayers, a high school student, because Ayers accompanied his daughter, Helen, home from church. The shot went wild, the young man escaped by dodging behind a tree. Recently Ayers came to the Howell home, and was ordered away by the irate father. He struck Howell and knocked him down. Howell watched for Ayers and when he stepped into the yard he opened fire on him with a revolver.

**GRAND ISLAND**—The proposition to adopt the commission form of government in this city was badly defeated, the opposition led and conducted largely by Councilman Heyde effectively using the argument that it would mean a curtailment of, or at least endanger, personal liberty, and that ulterior motives, with reference to real estate movements, prompted the admission. The proposition of the plan was largely in the hands of a committee of the Commercial club. The total vote was 235 for and 745 against.

**PENDER**—The following filings have been made in Thurston county for the primary to be held April 19: Socialists, congress, N. H. Nye; state senator, Garrison Bare; representative, B. Bakkeneyer, Andrew Republic, senator, H. P. Shanway, of Wakefield; representative, Shuman Olson, of Walthill; Mr. Helkes, of Dakota City, county commissioner; J. D. Claussen and Chas. Rutledge. Democratic, representative, T. L. Sloan, Pender; county assessor, Henry Rizen, Pender; county attorney, Howard Saxton. Filings close March 26.

**SPRAGUE**—Citizens of Sprague and vicinity celebrated the reconstruction of the town after the recent disastrous fire by dedicating the new M. W. A. hall and opera house. Despite the weather, scores of residents of Martell, German town and the countryside, were present as guests of the Sprague Commercial club and citizens. The new building is a concrete structure two stories in height, built by F. J. Sleek, of Lincoln. The ground floor is to be used as a general store and a completely equipped stage provides opera house facilities.

**OMAHA**—Fifty thousand dollars is the estimate made by the house committee of the Commercial club of the cost of furnishing the club rooms in the new Woodmen of the World building. Much of the furniture will be Croasian walnut. There will be new rugs, new curtains, new billiard and pool tables and kitchen and table equipment, sufficient to take care of 600 at one time. The dining room will seat 600 at one time.

**LINCOLN**—Sheriff Hyers, the man whom Convict Morley claims shot Gray in the battle with the trio of escaped convicts, sent a letter to Governor Aldrich, in which he recommends that the next session of the state legislature appropriate \$5,000 for Mrs. Roy Blunt, the three months' bride of the farmer boy who was killed while forced to drive the convicts.

**ALLIANCE**—Owing to the fast melting snow, the Cheyenne river is at flood. A washout 50 feet long is reported two miles west of Edgemont, on the Burlington road. Gangs of men and pile drivers are being rushed to the scene. Engineers are being hired they think they will control the situation unless the water rises materially.

**NEW YORK**—The chairmanship of the republican national committee, made vacant by the death of John Fremont Hill, former governor of Maine, will be filled, up to the time of the national convention, at least, by Vice Chairman Victor Rosewater, editor of the Bee, of Omaha.

**PENDER**—Terry Bros., of Onawa, have purchased the local moving picture show.

**DAKOTA CITY**—J. Spellman, of Omaha, has formed a partnership with A. Boynton, of Sioux City, Ia., and will build a number of houses in South Sioux City, Neb., on land owned there by them.

**FREMONT**—A telegram received from Earl Wyo., by S. S. Slider announced the death of Frank Puffer, a well known resident of Crawford, from a sudden attack of heart trouble.

**KANSAS CITY, MO.**—August T. Moreaux, a land dealer, was arrested here yesterday charged with defrauding Mrs. Rodella G. Dwight, a wealthy resident here, of \$50,000 in the sale of 825 acres of land in the Bitter Root valley in Montana. Moreaux's bond was fixed at \$20,000, which he was unable to secure today and he was taken to jail. He denied that he was guilty of the charge and said he would establish his innocence.

**DETROIT, MICH.**—Floods resulting from sudden and rapid melting of the heavy snow which fell last week have caused damage estimated at \$75,000 in the eastern part of Detroit. Large areas are inundated to a depth of five feet and street car service is suspended in flooded sections.

**OPENING CONTEST IS POSTPONED A WEEK**—St. Louis, March 21.—The opening game of the series of games between the St. Louis American league and the National league teams which was postponed today until March 30. Cold weather and the frozen baseball grounds caused the postponement. The teams will continue to continue in the south for another week.

### FAULTS OF PRISON AS PASSED IN REVIEW BY NEBRASKA'S GOVERNOR

#### Aldrich Tells the Prison Reformers the Shortcomings of the Lincoln Pen.

Lincoln, Neb., March 22.—In a statement, accompanied by a long and comprehensive set of questions on the conduct of the Anamosa, Ia., reformatory, Governor Aldrich takes a decided slip at the reform prison men of the state and sets out some excuses for the recent laxity of state penitentiary administration. He says in part:

"What Nebraska is entitled to have in its prison management, of course, is a man like McClaughry, at Anamosa, Ia., or a set of men who handle the federal prison at Fort Leavenworth. "But does anyone expect to get such a man for \$125 a month? Does anyone expect to have modern conditions and modern rules enforced and carried out according to modern lines with nothing but an old rookery in which to keep desperate men? Can modern ideas of reform be carried out by being obliged to have work side by side a young man who is in for the first time for a short term, in company with men who are hardened criminals?"

**An "Impossibility."**

"Absolutely, it is impossible to conduct a reformatory and a penitentiary under one roof, you have a reformatory, but you must have equipment such as buildings, grounds, etc., occupied by first term prisoners—men who must be punished and punished according to their crimes. It is repugnant to the idea of a reformatory or an intermediate penitentiary to have within its walls the ordinary man or the man who has committed his first infraction or who is incarcerated for his first commission of crime, housed with hardened criminals, absolute moral degenerates, with not a single spark of virtue to redeem them from their vices. "I simply mention these things in order that the public may understand the difficulties under which I am laboring. Some good people think that the Nebraska penitentiary down here should be run on the same basis as an ideal reformatory could be run, when it is impossible to do so. Criminals like the three desperadoes who broke prison the other day should be imprisoned, not so much for purposes of reform as for the protection of society."

**Sunday School Leaders.**

"These human devils, Gray, Morley and Dowd, were leaders in the Sunday school class, Gray was on the roll of honor, had his name as star in the Baraca class. Their subsequent conduct, in fact, shows how they had succeeded in hypnotizing many good people."

"The difficult thing for the warden to contend with at this institution is how to give the proper treatment to the good prisoners down here and at the same time make it safe for life in handling the desperate, hardened, highwaymen or murderers. "A system of rules and regulations that would be adaptable to first-term men or slight criminals would be absolutely impracticable in handling or regulating hardened criminals. "But suffice it to say that I am getting sufficient data together that will enable the warden to handle this difficult matter with the best possible results to be obtained under the circumstances, simply want to give out the names of McClaughry's reasons for that the public may have some facts and data from the hands of one of the most brilliant and successful prison managers in the entire country and also to have them know how practical it is impossible to have a reformatory at the Nebraska penitentiary to do things that are being done at the Anamosa reformatory."

### WOODMEN AT HASTINGS INDULGE IN PROTEST

Hastings, Neb., March 22.—Delegates to the number of 378 are in attendance here at a meeting of Modern Woodmen, gathered in a protest convention against the rates adopted at the Chicago convention. There are 225 camps of Woodmen represented at the meeting. Mayor Miles, of Hastings, gave an address at a meeting of the Woodmen, in which he expressed his sympathy for other prominent individuals addressed the meeting. Mr. Hall, of Franklin, came to the platform and stated that it was the sense of the Columbus meeting of last Monday to harmonize action with the Hastings meeting. He asked that Edgar Howard be called to read the resolutions adopted at that convention. The Columbus resolutions carried these ideas:

"That the action of the Chicago meeting in raising the rates was censured by every Woodman in Nebraska who was not on the head office payroll; that condemnation was due Head Consul Talbot for withholding the opportunity from the camps to be heard in the matter of rates and trying to intimidate them by threatening to take away their charters; that they ask every camp in convention assembled to plead with Talbot to allow the matter of rates to be referred to a referendum vote of all the lodges and an special meeting of the head camp to reconsider the Chicago action; that they resolve against the expenditure of their money by the head officials to try and buy harmony."

### INDEPENDENT COMPANIES FIGHT AGAINST MERGER

Fremont, Neb., March 22.—Independent telephone companies of Dodge, Washington and Saunders counties will support a bill providing for physical connection of telephone lines, but will put up a determined fight against a merger. The co-operation of all the independent companies of the state is expected. A meeting was held in Fremont of representatives of the telephone companies of Dodge, Washington, Hooper, Pollock and the Farmers' Independent of Dodge county. The telephone situation was gone over, particularly with regard to the proposed split of territory between the big independent and the Bell. The men present decided that another meeting should be held for the further consideration of the subject.

### BRIGGS TURNS OVER HIS REWARD TO WIDOW

Omaha, Neb., March 22.—Chief of Police John E. Briggs, of South Omaha, who took a leading part in the battle near Chalco, Neb., on the death of two convicts, the capture of the third and the killing of Roy Blunt, the young farmer who had been forced to drive for the outlaws, wired today from Chicago offering to turn over his share of the reward to Mrs. Blunt, the widow of the innocent victim of the affair. Briggs is attending the bowling tournament at Chicago.