

THE O'NEIL FRONTIER.

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O'NEILL NEBRASKA

The oyster, it would appear, has been seriously maligned by investigators who were making records for themselves at the expense of the do-

Colonel Maurice George Moore, who has been appointed to the supreme command of the military is the son of an Irish politician who was a leader of the tenant right movement half a century ago.

If the life of the old man-of-war was longer than that of the present dreadnaught, the old merchantman lived longer still.

Before Napoleon's time it had been the custom for armies to carry huge, unwieldy flags mounted on poles, which, when they afforded a rallying point for their men, also drew the enemy's fire.

The independent grand duchy of Luxemburg has an area of 998 square miles and is bounded by Belgium, Germany and France.

The United States government is erecting three 600-foot steel towers toward the Gatun locks, canal

One of the most amazing instances of religious stupidity is recorded in connection with Marylebone church, London.

Hundreds of tons of peach seeds piled at fruit canning establishments in California are now to be utilized in a commercial way.

More than 200 giant searchlights, which are to be used as part of the 500 at the San Francisco exposition, have arrived and are being put in place.

The production of essence of orange flowers and orange flower water in Tunis is confined to the region of Nabeul.

A Glasgow merchant, famous for his stingsiness, came into his office one morning and found a young clerk writing a letter in rather a flourishing hand.

After being on terms of warmest friendship for years, out of 30 men employed by an expert firm in London have left to fight in different armies.

When there is moss on the north side of the forest trees it is a sign among woodsmen that the winter will be a severe one.

There is something like a plague of caterpillars on the Kowloon plantation in China. Twelve millions have been destroyed so far.

The old Moslem feeling against portraits is disappearing from Turkey even to the extent of printing the likeness of the sultan.

COMMISSIONER BRIAN WOULD CLASSIFY ALL OF INSURANCE RISKS

Does Not Urge Rate Regulation But Intimates Supervision Is Advisable.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 4.—In his bienna report to the governor, Insurance Commissioner Brian makes it plain that he is opposed to the proposed plan of having the state legislature, either directly or through a commission, fix insurance rates in the state.

"The question is one that cannot be long ignored and if the state is properly to discharge its obligations to the public, it must take hold of the matter in such a way that it may be in a position to say what rates are proper and equitable, and this it cannot do unless tangible evidence can be submitted in substantiation.

"It is said that the fact that the insurance companies have not yet combined their experience and used the results as a basis for rate making, is due partly to mutual jealousies and partly to the fear that the information, should it become available to the public, would be used as an absolute measure of rates unmodified by judgment.

"We certainly do not favor the making of fire insurance rates by the state. It is our belief that state made rates have usually proved to be arbitrary and unscientific, and have been found to require constant changes, thus aggravating the very condition they were called into existence to cure.

"We recommend that the activity of the state in this matter be confined to the present, at least to the acquisition of information which will base a classification of risks. This can be done partly by following the methods which have been used for many years by the rating bureaus established by the companies, surveys, maps, etc., and partly by taking advantage of such statistical data in relation to the loss experience of the companies as might be available, and which, so far as their experience in this state is concerned, they should be required to contribute.

"From the information thus obtained a classification of risks could be made and established, giving, of course, the public and the companies opportunity to be heard as to any inequality which might be thought to exist."

WILL ASK SECURITY FOR WATER POWER PROJECTS
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 4.—In order to prevent speculation in water rights, Land Commissioner Beckmann, a member of the board of irrigation, proposes to ask the legislature to amend the law so that applicants for water power will have to put up bonds that they will complete the work of development.

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NEBRASKA GUARANTY FUND NEAR TO MILLION MARK
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 4.—Nebraska's state guaranty fund now is \$949,200, according to the summary issued by the state banking board.

LIGHTS IN HEN COOP NOT EGG ACCELERATORS
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 4.—J. R. Herron, a chicken fancier of Normal, spoiled a good story the reporters thought they had unearthed. The story was that Mr. Herron had installed electric lights in his chicken coops so that the hens would be delivered as to the length of the days and feel it incumbent upon them to lay more eggs than they usually do in the short days of winter.

TWO BOYS KILLED.
Salt Lake City, Utah, Jan. 2.—One boy was killed, two probably fatally injured and three others seriously injured when a trolley on which they were coasting last night crashed into a street car.

AGENT OF ROCKEFELLER QUILTS CHAIRMANSHIP
Denver, Colo., Jan. 2.—Announcement was made today that L. M. Bowers had resigned as chairman of the board and resigned of the Colorado Fuel & Iron company. No successor has been appointed.

"The safety first" idea which has recently come into general practice on most American roads is an old one in Germany and other European countries where the practice existed long before the war.

CLAIMED ROBERTS IS JUGGLING ASSETS TO JURY OF CREDITORS

Stock Worth \$30,000, Obtained Largely on Credit, Divided With Relatives.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—Arthur Roberts, late a merchant at Charles City, Ia., is charged in federal court with being a professional bankrupt. The allegation is made by Fred Dodge in a petition filed asking for the appointment of a receiver to take charge of a stock of goods now in Beatrice, Neb.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—Cancellation of several water power rights and dismissal of applications therefor kept the state board of irrigation busy yesterday. It was the first session the board has had for months, and many of the matters acted upon had been hanging fire for a long time.

PROMOTIONS ANNOUNCED AT U. P. HEADQUARTERS
Omaha, Neb., Jan. 2.—Numerous changes, all of them promotions, were announced in the passenger department of the Union Pacific yesterday, resulting from the recent death of John W. Tuttle, formerly traveling passenger agent of that line at Des Moines.

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE MEETS NEXT MONDAY
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—Although the legislature meets next Monday, but few of the members have thus far shown up. None of the candidates for speaker of the house are in evidence, and only two or three of those who desire the better paid clerical jobs have put in an appearance.

FARMER "MEETS UP" WITH GENIAL MATCHES
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—A farmer named Eckelburg, living near Malmo, Neb., was victimized the other day by a novel variation of an old game. He was beguiled into matching pennies with a genial stranger, but the genial stranger had a better way of getting the farmer's money than by securing the services of his side partner to whip-saw him.

FIVE CANDIDATES FOR POSTMASTER AT PILGER
Pilger, Neb., Jan. 2.—Congressman Stephens has appointed James Doty chairman of a committee to call a special election to vote on postmaster for the Pilger office.

FOOD AND DRUG LAWS ARE GENERALLY OBEYED
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 1.—That the state laws governing the food, drug, dairy and oil businesses in Nebraska are being generally obeyed, is the statement made by Commissioner Harmon in his biennial report to the governor.

WATER POWER RIGHTS ANNULLED BECAUSE OF FAILURE TO IMPROVE

State Board of Irrigation Puts Fate of Big Concerns Up to State Legislature.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—Cancellation of several water power rights and dismissal of applications therefor kept the state board of irrigation busy yesterday. It was the first session the board has had for months, and many of the matters acted upon had been hanging fire for a long time.

The board decided to rest responsibility for dealing with four of the big projects with the legislature, and accordingly the lawmakers took no action. Whatever the lawmakers say with regard to these projects will go. The quarter confirmed are:

SOCIETY WOMAN CITED FOR "GROSS INHUMANITY"
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—That "gross inhumanity" was practiced by Mrs. E. H. Steckley, a society leader of this city, in compelling a maid to leave her house when a child was about to be born to the servant, was the verdict of the jury here, investigating the death of the baby, Dorothea of All.

WOMAN 89 YEARS OF AGE SUICIDES AT SON'S HOME
Nebraska City, Neb., Jan. 2.—Mrs. Rosa Kurhn, aged 89, committed suicide at the home of her son, John Kurhn, two miles west of Lorton, where she was making her home.

CHIEF CLERK CANDIDATE MAKES ECONOMY OFFER
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—Trenmore Cone of Wahoo has launched his boom for chief clerk of the lower house of the Nebraska legislature. He called the governor this morning in an effort so it is said, to enlist the executive in his behalf.

PROSPECTORS HOPE TO STRIKE OIL NEAR TYRON
Tyron, Neb., Jan. 2.—Holloway Brothers have commenced drilling for oil near this city. A company has been organized at North Platte to cooperate with Holloway Brothers in prospecting for oil on their farm.

TWO PERSONS BADLY HURT IN EXPLOSION AT OMAHA
Omaha, Neb., Jan. 2.—Andy Knox, clerk at the Oxford hotel, southwest corner of Eleventh and Farnam streets, and Anthony White, proprietor of the establishment, are both perhaps fatally injured from the results of an explosion which took place when the former lighted a match to find a gas leak on the second floor of the structure.

That Farmers' Congress. From the Fremont (Neb.) Tribune. Whether the farmers' congress of Nebraska is run by real farmers or by imitation farmers and agriculturalists is being widely discussed.

IMMUNITY IS DENIED NEW HAVEN DIRECTORS

Billard, Elton and Skinner Fail to Escape Criminal Prosecutions.

New York, Jan. 4.—The federal district court overruled today the plea of immunity interposed by John L. Billard, James S. Elton and William Skinner, to indictments charging them with criminal violation of the Sherman law in connection with their acts as directors of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad company.

DEFENSE POLICY MADE RIDICULOUS
Unknown Writer, Said to Be Former High Official, Pokes Fun at "Pork Barrel" Congressmen.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—A sensation has been caused here by the private circulation of an anonymous play entitled, "Stultitia," said to have been written by a former high government official which depicts the unpreparedness of the United States for war and portrays the defeat of this country by the dominant power of Europe.

Some Live Sarcasm. Here is a typical bit of the dialogue: Admiral Stevens—"How many forepkins do you expect us to stand off a senator, with the few little samples of battleships you've given us?"

Admiral Stevens—"Dr. Harmony and the peace trust are against us. Think of the harm that old man does with his money. Do you know they distributed 150,000 copies of that tory's little war speech made in the Senate last week? With their publications and their pensions, there's a trust for you, a great hobby trust, the worst and most dangerous of all."

San Luis Potosi is Taken by Carranza
Troops of "First Chief" Occupy Town After Sanguinary Battle.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Capture of San Luis Potosi by Carranza forces was reported in this city today from Galveston by the Carranza agency here, which said: "Semi-official reports by wireless from Tampico say forces under Gen. Cosio Robelo entered San Luis Potosi yesterday."

DAMAGES AWARDED BY BRITISH PRIZE COURT
Washington, Jan. 2.—The decision of the British prize court in London in the case of the British steamship Miramichi loaded with wheat and shipped from America to German consignees prior to the war was announced here tonight by the British embassy.

SELF GOVERNMENT FOR PHILIPPINES IMPRACTICAL-TAFT

Former President Declares Natatives of Islands Are Not Yet Capable of Directing Affairs.

Wants to See Them Free
One Time Governor Says They Must Be Educated—Chaos Soon Would Follow Independence, He Says.

Washington, Jan. 4.—It will take more than one generation and probably more than two to prepare the Filipinos for self government in the opinion of William H. Taft, former president, who, today, gave his views on the administration bill for ultimate independence of the Philippines before the Senate committee working on that measure.

Tells Federal Aims. "When we went to the Philippines, we tried to give it to them by maintaining a constitutional form of government as an object lesson and by educating the people in the language of free institutions. We tried to have the government participated in, but not controlled by the natives."

Couldn't Let Go. "When President McKinley sent me to the Philippines, I told him that I thought we ought not to be in the islands. He said to me that 'we had the bear by the tail and that we had to stay. But the idea then was that we would get out just as soon as we could. Our first purpose in being in there is to get out.'"

"Democratic promises of Philippine independence," Mr. Taft said further, "have been the great obstacle in our own work over there. Even now it is causing trouble. This man Ricarte, who is charged with fomenting the present disturbance, is a professional revolutionist, some from my time in the islands. He lives in Hong Kong on funds he collects for revolutionist purposes in the islands. This present outbreak is the result, undoubtedly, of his agitation in trying to justify his collections. He probably argues that democracy in the United States promised independence at a fixed time; that the time now has been postponed and that the promise has been broken."

"The Filipino people do not understand republican self government in the sense that we know it," the former president said. "What would be the result if they were given self government at once," asked Senator Hitchcock.

"A Filipino, in whom I have great confidence," said Mr. Taft, "said to me: 'Your steamers would not be around Corregidor island before the throat cutting would begin.' I verily believe that is true. We find the same condition in Mexico. The man who loses a political fight has his head for a forfeit. That's what developed when Aguinaldo was in power."

"I'm describing an actual condition that exists there. I'd be glad to have the United States get out of the Philippines, and I have a great regard for the poor people out there. They don't like me because I've told them the truth. If you give those people independence now or by 1920 you will have this terrible situation develop. Either a Diaz would arise in the Philippines or they would get into a condition that caused a Diaz in Mexico."

The former president said the obligation of the United States to defend the Philippines might be a "source of weakness in time of war."

"But," he continued, "I do not believe that any of the nations now engaged in the European war would look on the possession of the Philippines as a naval base as a source of weakness."

Find Combustibles in British Vessel
Powder Stored in Hay Aboard Steamer Transporting Horses to England.

New Orleans, Jan. 2.—Combustibles were found in hay on board the British steamer Rembrandt, which recently sailed from Baltimore and later caught fire, according to a statement made here today by A. Edlin, her captain. The ship sailed from Baltimore loaded with horses for the allies but was forced to put back into Newport News because of the fire.

Captain Edlin said he was not absolutely certain the fire started from combustibles surreptitiously placed aboard. After the fire was extinguished a thorough search of the ship was made and powder and other combustibles were found, he said. The powder was not strongly incased and there was nothing to indicate an attempt had made to blow up the ship the captain said.

Captain Edlin denied that spies had been found on the ship or that any of the horses had been mutilated. He said that 23 horses were suffocated and that 125 died later.