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A BILL OF INTEREST

It Provides That Fire Companies Shall be Paid By Insurance Companies.

BLOODY BUTCHERY IN SAMOA

Hippolyte Gains a Great Victory By Staying Three Hundred of the Enemy--The Times On Top--Other News.

House Roll No. 282.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 7.—House Roll No. 282 is a bill of interest to every town of any importance in the state. It provides that the fire companies of the state shall be paid by the foreign insurance companies doing business in the state. This law has been enacted in several states and works well.

The theory of the bill is that fire companies exist for the benefit of insurance companies as for the people, or even more. As this bill is of unusual importance and was recommended for passage by a house committee on Tuesday, we submit the essential parts of it in full:

For an act to require insurance companies organized under the laws of other states and doing business in Nebraska, to pay a duty or rate for the support of fire companies composing the fire department of any city or village. Introduced by McBride. Read first time January 25, 1889. Read second time January 26, 1889. Referred to committee on miscellaneous subjects. Sent to printer January 26, 1889.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Nebraska:

Sec. 1. There shall be paid on the first days of July and January of each year to the treasurer of any city or village organized under the laws of this state for the use, support and benefit of the companies composing such fire department, by every underwriter who shall effect any fire insurance, and by every person who shall act as agent for any fire insurance corporation, company, association, or underwriter whatever in such city or village, a duty or rate of 2 per centum upon the amount of all premiums which during the year, or a part of a year, ending on the next preceding first day of July, or January, shall have been received by such underwriter or agent, or by any other person for him, or shall have been agreed to be paid upon any insurance effected, or agreed to be effected or promised by him as such agent or otherwise, against loss or injury by fire in any such city or village.

Sec. 2. No person shall in any such city or village as underwriter, agent or otherwise, effect or agree to effect, or procure to be effected, any insurance upon which the above duty or rate is required to be paid until he shall have executed and delivered to such treasurer a bond in the sum of one thousand dollars, with such sureties as such treasurer shall approve, conditioned that he will render to such treasurer on the first day of July and January in each year, a just and true account, verified by his affidavit, of all premiums which during the six months immediately preceding such report, shall have been received by him, or any other person for him, or agree to be paid for any insurance against loss or injury by fire in any such city or village, which shall have been effected or agreed to be effected by him, and that he will remit annually on the first days of July and January on each year, pay to the said treasurer two per centum upon the full amount of such premiums, for the use, support and benefit of such fire departments as aforesaid.

Section 3. Every person who shall effect or agree to effect any fire insurance in any such city or village, without having executed or delivered such bond, or who shall willfully omit or refuse to pay such duty or rate, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, for each offense, shall be subject to indictment, and upon conviction thereof, in any court of competent jurisdiction, shall be fined in any sum not exceeding \$1,000, or be imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding six months, or both, in the discretion of the court. Said duty or rate may also be recovered of such fire insurance corporation, company or association, or its agent, or both, by action in the name and for the use of such fire department, as for money had and received for its use, support and benefit as aforesaid.

Section 4. The requirements of this act shall apply only to such cities and villages as have an organized fire department or maintain some organization for the prevention and extinguishment of fires, and they shall not apply to any fire insurance companies, corporation or association organized under the laws of this state.

A Bloody Butchery.

ST. MARY, Hayti, Jan. 28.—Gen. Hippolyte has just gained a great victory. It is the most important battle that has been fought in the civil war in Hayti. The word "battle," by the way, is rather misleading in the present instance, for when 300 men are caught like rats in a trap, with their retreat intercepted, and they are then surrounded and shot down at leisure with barbarous cruelty, no quarter being shown, no prisoners being taken, and every living soul put to death "butchery" seems to be the proper characterization of the horror that was

witnessed here yesterday at the little sea port town of Grand Selien, about twenty five miles from here. It was a complete annihilation.

The "Times" on Top.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 7.—By direction of Mayor Roche, Superintendent of Police Hubbard last night suspended from the police force of this city John Bonfield, inspector and chief of detectives; Michael J. Schaack, captain, and Jacob Loewenstein, detective, pending an investigation of the charges made by the Chicago Times. Lieut. Elliott will act as chief of detectives vice Bonfield and today Supt. Hubbard will issue a general order which will name the officer who will take charge of the East Chicago ave station vice Schaack.

Samoa in Germany.

HAMBURG, Feb. 7.—A Hamburg correspondent publishes a letter signed "Otto Hierich," which gives an account of the recent events in Samoa from a German point of view. The letter says the whole fight in Samoa occurred on German private property. The writer asserts that the United States steamer Nipsic supplied the rebels with ammunition through Capt. Leary of the United States steamer Adams, and he deplors the fact that all the efforts of the German consul to stop the sale of war munitions to the natives has proved futile.

Deserted to Die.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Two sailors who deserted from a schooner at New Haven, on a raft, were picked up by the steamer Old Colony and brought here yesterday. They were unconscious and badly frozen when found, and one of them, William Barenthen, died soon afterwards. The other, Leander Kuldron, is in a critical condition. They deserted on account of alleged cruel treatment and bad food.

WON A BRIDE BY A RIDE.

The Romance in the Life of the Author of "Dunraven Ranch."

Capt. Charles King, author of "Dunraven Ranch," an interesting story of army life subsequent to the war, which appeared in Lippincott, is an old Albany boy.

He was born in this city Oct. 12, 1844, and is of aristocratic lineage. His great-grandfather was one of the signers of the constitution, senator from this state in the United States senate, and twice minister to the court of St. James.

His grandfather was president of Columbia college. His father was Rufus King, for some years resident minister to the Pontifical states in Rome, and during the rebellion a brigadier general of volunteers. Shortly after Charles' birth his father removed to Milwaukee and became proprietor and editor of The Milwaukee Sentinel.

In 1858 Charles was educated at the Columbia College Grammar school and in the Military academy at West Point. He graduated from West Point in June, 1860, was artillery instructor until October, and for over two years was attached to Battery K, First artillery, at New Orleans.

The story of his marriage has a tinge of romance and he won his bride through his skill as a jockey. It was an international race, with gentleman riders, over the Metairie course, at New Orleans, April 7, 1872. England, Ireland, Austria and France were represented and up to the day of the race no one had seen fit to take up the challenge to the United States.

Lieut. King happened to be away, returning in time to learn of it. He sought his country's permission to take up Gen. Emory's colors, was accorded it, and entered the race. He wore Columbia's colors, and while the ladies present wore other colors in profusion, but one or two had the courage to wear the sky blue and white worn by Lieut. King.

One of these was a young lady who had accompanied Gen. and Mrs. Emory to the race course. The prize was a gold mounted whip. King won the race by two lengths, presented the whip to the lady who wore his colors and married her that same year.—Albany (N. Y.) Journal.

Increasing Speed of Trains.

The speed recorder for railway trains is the invention of a Chicago German. An indicator may be placed in a passenger car, and the speed of the train at any time is shown upon its face. The connection is made with the locomotive engine by the steam pipes. The cost of the instrument is about \$130. One was tried the other day on a train between Chicago and New York. There were brief times when the wheels of the car stopped, and then the indicator dropped quickly to zero, as the instrument is governed by the revolutions of the wheels.—Frank Leslie's Newspaper.

The Beggar Worse Than the Thief.

It is strange, but true, that the laws of Connecticut favor the dishonest. If a man is hungry and begs a slice of bread the law will send him to state prison for one year; if he steals a whole loaf he will only get thirty days in jail. It is safer to steal than to beg in Connecticut.—New Britain Independent.

WHERE HIS THOUGHTS WERE.

A Lightly Clad Somnambulist Visits His Sweetheart at Midnight.

The strangest somnambulist feat we ever heard of occurred in the woods near Interlachen the other night.

A young man, whom we will call Tom Jeffreys, by way of illustration, was very much infatuated with a young lady who lived on the public road, three miles from his home. Everybody who has traveled that part of the country knows that the neighborhood is thickly settled, and for miles you go without getting out of sight of some one's house. The road is traveled about as much as some of our back streets.

One night, about 8 o'clock, he retired early. It was bright moonlight. In his sleep he got up out of bed, and, in his night clothes, walked undisturbed to the house of his lady love. As is generally the case in this country, stairways run up to the second floor on the outside of the buildings, and this one in particular leads from the ground to the young lady's room door. Young Jeffreys walked up those stairs and sat down unconsciously near the lady's door. How long he remained there he does not know, but when he awoke his head was resting on his knees, and it was 10 o'clock.

Imagine his surprise. There, at his affianced home, in his night clothes, three miles from home. As easily as possible he crept down the stairway. He could hear the old man down in the field attending to his horses and cattle. Everything was still. The people in the house were quietly chatting. An open space of about twenty feet separated the kitchen from the main building. The young man went round the corner of the house, and saw the young lady and her mother going to and fro in discharge of household duties. He couldn't speak to them, because he wasn't dressed that way. His trouble was to get back home without being discovered or noticed.

When he was quietly stealing his way out of the yard into the road two ferocious dogs awoke from their slumbers, and with grinning teeth took after the flying night shirt which was making its way to the thicket on the side of the road. The animals overtook the object, and what part of the white garment they did not tear off the briars and brush did, and that young man found himself in a most unpleasant fix with half his skirts torn off. The night was cold and he felt it. On getting into the thicket he got out of the way of the dogs, but for two hours he was wending his way home, dodging passers by in the public road and shivering like a leaf in the Arctic regions.—Palatka (Fla.) Enterprise.

Survivors of Tweed's Time.

A few of "Boss" Tweed's old lieutenants still survive, but they may be counted on the fingers of one hand. Harry Genet, "Prince Hal" of imperial days, wanders like a ghost among his old haunts, but a new generation of politicians gaze at him curiously when he is pointed out to them. "Mike" Norton, the "Thunderer" of the Eighth ward, got out of the wreck in the beginning of the storm, and is now civil justice and a subordinate Tammany leader. The most remarkable resurrection of all is that of general, eloquent Tom Creamer, who was a state senator with Tweed, Genet and Norton. He has had a checkered career. His exacting life was as a cash boy in A. T. Stewart's store. The dry goods magnate took a liking to him, pushed him, aided him into the legislature and presented him with a house for his services there in his behalf—especially in defeating Sharp's Broadway railroad scheme, to which Stewart was always bitterly opposed. Creamer grew rich and prosperous as a legislator and office holder, but finally prosperity was too much for him, and he went under, though he was at one time thought to be a millionaire. He lost everything, became an inmate of the Christian home, signed the pledge and "experienced religion," and came out to edit a weekly newspaper. Now he has blossomed out as an assemblyman and Tammany leader, with the prospect of a second run of luck. This time, he says, he means to hold on to his money if he makes any.—New York Cor. Philadelphia Record.

Embalmed by the Air.

There are on exhibition in the rooms of the state mining bureau at San Francisco four "desiccated human bodies" that were found by Signor S. Margheri in a sealed cavern at an elevation of 4,000 feet on the eastern side of the Sierra Madre mountains in Mexico. The bodies were found in a sitting posture, with the hands crossed on the breasts, the heads inclined forward and facing the east. The adults, male and female, were side by side, and by the side of the man was a boy and a girl by the side of the woman. The bodies were apparently dried up by the air, no embalming process being used. They are not like any known Indians of today, the hands and feet being particularly small, and the woman's hair brown and silken. The woman's forehead is large, and the reasoning powers were apparently well developed. In the lobe of each ear is a piece of hollow reed. The burial garments are of cotton, hide, grasses and the bark of willows. In addition, the little girl is covered with the skin of some animal.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

The Countess de Staukowitz predicts that the United States is destined to become in the not distant future the center of civilization and art.

The Poodle Mustache.

Among the individual dogs which have earned a good name in their country's history was one which in A. D. 1702 shared the cares of his master, Gen. de Melac, who was besieged by the French in Landau. He not only escorted his master on every sortie, but contrived to ascertain all the mining proceedings of the besiegers and to reveal them to the general, who thus, thanks to the dog's sagacity, was able again and again to ward off impending dangers.

Probably, however, no dog has ever rendered such signal military service, or been so honorably recognized, as the celebrated poodle Mustache, who shared the victorious fortunes of the French army through most of the wars of the consulate and of the French empire. He won special honors at Marengo, and was decorated on the battlefield of Austerlitz by Marshal Lannes as a reward for having rescued his regimental standard from an Austrian soldier when in the act of snatching it from the grasp of the standard bearer as he fell mortally wounded. The plucky poodle drove off the assailant, and then seizing the tattered colors in his teeth, dragged them triumphantly till he reached his own company.

Many are the incidents recorded of the bravery and sagacity of this prince of poodles. In the van of scouting parties he detected many an Austrian ambush, and on at least one occasion he drew attention to the presence of a disguised spy in the camp. Moreover, to his vigilance was due the failure of a night attack by a body of Austrians, of whose vicinity in the Valley of Balbo the French were apparently ignorant.—Vinton's Gazette.

Where They Burn Water.

This burning of water is a curious thing. When I went to England, many years ago, a perfect novice in matters relating to combustion of fuel, and saw the firemen and engineers pouring bucketfuls of water on their coal heaps just before shoveling the coal on to their fires, I at once told them that they were doing a very foolish thing, for it took a lot of heat to drive off the water before the coal would burn. But when they told me that it was a matter that did not admit of an argument, as they had proved that they had got much hotter fires when they wet their coal than when they put it on dry, I was completely nonplused; and when with my "stoker" I fed the furnaces with tan bark, etc., so wet that the water ran out of the hoppers, I believed the firemen were right.—Manufacturers' Gazette.

Uneducated Palates.

Very few people are expert judges of wine. I have seen people who expatiated on their great abilities as connoisseurs of wines wofully fooled by a very simple trick. It's this. An order would be given at the table for an imported wine. An American wine would be brought to the person when he would make a loud complaint and refuse to take it and order it to be taken back. The barkeeper, whose wits in such cases are rarely at an end, simply pours the American wine into a bottle having an old imported label on and returns smilingly to his customer. With the remark, "Why didn't you bring that at first?" the customer drinks the liquor and smacks his lips with an artistic air of an expert who drinks only imported brands. His uneducated palate had been fooled by the label.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Soldiers on Skates.

Perhaps the most curious battalion in the army is the Norwegian corps of skaters. These corps are composed of picked armed men with rifles, which they use with great precision. The skates used are admirably adapted for traveling over rough and broken ice and frozen snow, being six inches broad and between nine and ten inches long. The soldiers can be maneuvered upon the ice or over the snow fields of the mountains with a rapidity equal to that of the best trained cavalry. As an instance of the speed they attained, it is stated that a messenger attached to the corps has accomplished 120 miles in eighteen and a half hours over a mountainous country.—Boston Budget.

The Family Runs to Eyeglasses.

There is a married man in Atlanta who wears eyeglasses with a gold rim. His wife wears eyeglasses, too, and the two pairs are just alike. They are the parents of three children—the youngest being 10 years of age—and each of the children is nearsighted—so much so that they wear eyeglasses too. Five pairs of eyeglasses in one family is rather unusual. It makes something of a glass house and none of the family should throw a stone.—Atlanta Constitution.

A chapter of strange coincidences occurred at Toledo, O. Two years ago to the day there occurred the terrible wreck of a passenger train on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, at Republic, near that city. By a strange happening, proceedings were begun on Friday against the Baltimore and Ohio in the United States court for \$15,000 damages. The plaintiff was W. F. Gates, the baggage master, who was injured in the wreck. He claimed in the petition that the wreck was caused by the carelessness of L. F. Fletcher, conductor of the train. The petition had scarcely been filed when a dispatch was received that Fletcher had just been killed by a railroad accident in Indiana.

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