

# NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

NEWS NOTES OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SECTIONS.

## ALL SUBJECTS TOUCHED UPON

Religious, Social, Agricultural, Political and Other Matters Given Due Consideration.

The Burlington road is building a substantial addition to its passenger depot in Aurora.

A cow owned by O. C. Rasmussen of Oakland gave birth to triplets the other day.

August Swanson a well known York county farmer, sold last week a corn crop from forty acres which returned him \$37.60 per acre, or a total of \$1,504.00.

Grand Army posts generally united with the public schools in celebrating the Lincoln anniversary.

C. B. Sherman, formerly at Kearney, has moved to Boise, Idaho, where he will engage in the lumber business.

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Monette, formerly of Omaha and now of Los Angeles, Cal., have made a gift of \$5,000 in cash to the new Y. M. C. A. building of the former city.

For the abduction of a 16-year-old girl, the daughter of Aaron Dorman of Shelby, D. Horner was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary after pleading guilty.

Ex-governor Sheldon and family, accompanied by a governess, left for the governor's Mississippi plantation, where they will make a stay of several months before returning to Nebraska.

Herman Taylor, a prominent stock feeder residing a mile south of Plainview, perished in the blizzard which raged there recently. He went out to care for his stock and eventually became exhausted.

During a fight at the Harder & Victor Peterson and John Smith, Smith pulled a gun and shot at Peterson, one bullet striking him in the forehead glancing upward and out making a dangerous wound.

Charles E. Benson of the firm of Benson & Meyer of Omaha, died in the Union Pacific depot at Kearney. He had just returned from a trip to the Callaway branch attending to loan business for the company and went from his hotel to the depot.

Paul Blackenship, the Burlington agent at Blue Springs, who so mysteriously disappeared sometime ago and who it was feared had met with foul play, has been heard from at Ogden, Utah. His wife at Blue Springs received a telegram from him stating that he was all right.

Marshal Mayfield found several sacks filled with brass hidden behind a cobshed half buried in a clump of bushes in the north portion of Louisville. The brass is supposed to have been taken from the engines of John M. Jackman's mill, which was blown to pieces during the recent storm, and from the railroad cars.

Mrs. S. Hulfish of Harlan county met with quite a painful accident. While sewing on the machine one of her fingers was caught by the needle, which passed through the entire finger, breaking off in the bone. A physician was called, whose efforts to extract the needle were unsuccessful, and she was compelled to go to the hospital at Elmwood.

Jess Lake of Edgar was pretty badly shaken up in a runaway. He was helping Lincoln Stayner haul lumber when the team became frightened and started to run, and as is usual on such occasions the neckyoke came down and Lake was thrown off the load, and one limb was badly hurt, though it is thought no bones were broken.

In the cases against Albert Thompson and Rev. Jerome Emanuel, pastor of the Christian church of Aurora, who were tried in the police court, the charge being fighting, Thompson was judged guilty by Judge Rogers and fined \$5 and costs, amounting to about \$12 in all; and the minister was acquitted on the ground of self-defense.

As Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Colson are planning to leave Oakland in the near future, for their new home at Lodge Pole, Neb., a company of their relatives, forty-five in number, swooped down upon them and took possession of their home for an old-fashioned surprise. A goodly lot of eatables had been provided, and these were disposed of with "picnic" relish.

H. C. Smith and F. M. McElwee of Franklin were called to the country, and returning to town came very near freezing. When they got within two miles of town their team refused to come farther against the heavy wind. Smith was compelled to lead the team all the way in. He lost his hat and the storm was so bad he was compelled to lead the team walking backwards. He had a close call from freezing to death.

After a vigorous debate in which the question of cost was brought forth as the most serious consideration the bill appropriating \$200,000 for the establishment and maintenance of a building twice plant at the state penitentiary was recommended by the house committee of the whole, for passage.

A fire broke out in the mercantile store of Armstrong and Ward, at Rushville, and completely destroyed the store building of H. C. Dale; furniture store of J. M. Grubb; store building of M. P. Musser and that of Donald Brown.

## WORLD'S OLDEST PARISH CLERK.

Englishman Will Celebrate 103d Birthday in May.

London—The proudest and one of the happiest men in Cornwall, England, is James Carne, who lives in a cottage in the village of St. Columbo Minor, who on May 3 next will celebrate his one hundred and third birthday. He is a pleasant spoken and most communicative man, and in giving an outline of his family history told how he had come of a long-lived race. His grandfather, John Carne, who died in 1801 in his eighty-first year, had acted as vergor in the old Church of St. Columbo Minor for 50 years; he was succeeded by his son John, who, after serving for 51



years, died at the age of 84. The present James Carne then became vergor and parish clerk, and up to the present day has carried out those duties.

With the exception of missing one Sunday's services, Carne has for 51 years attended to his duties at the parish church twice every Sunday. The villagers say he is a veritable walking prayer book. In the earlier days of his parish clerkship it was customary for him to walk up and down the aisle playing his flute, and so lead the village choir. This instrumental accompaniment was the forerunner of a church band, which was considered quite a grand feature and consisted of a flute, a clarinet and a bass viol, with the later addition of a cornopean. The bandsmen practiced in the quaint old parlor of the village "pub" hard-by.

Carne says the hymn, "Oh Be Joyful," was sung at every Sunday morning service for 50 years. This certainly saved band practice and the congregation from learning new hymns. In the early years the congregation used always to repeat the last two lines of the psalms and hymns, the completion of each repetition being wound up with a loud "Amen."

James Carne's health still keeps good, and it is only in the last five or six years that he has worn glasses. He spends much of his time working in his garden. He is a non-smoker and practically a teetotaler, and was originally apprenticed to the tailoring business, but his father took him away from it "on account of his being delicate." However, the outdoor life of a postman may have helped to build up his constitution, for Carne was the parish mail carrier for more than twenty-one years and never missed his duties a single day.

Carne traces his lineage to King Blodre, who ruled in Cornwall in the fifth century. In the kitchen of his cottage is an oak settle made upward of two hundred and fifty years ago, which belonged to Carne's great-grandfather. It is so constructed that the back can be moved to form a table. Here also is an old stone with the Ten Commandments inscribed. It is recorded in the church books as having existed in 1283, and these commandments were read to the congregation before they dispersed from their Sunday services.

## SERVES TWO SEPARATE CITIES.

Texarkana, Tex., and Texarkana, Ark., Have Same Postoffice.

Kansas City.—Texarkana, Tex., and Texarkana, Ark., are two towns, separate and distinct, so far as municipal government and other relations are concerned, but they have one and the same postoffice.



Postoffice Used by Two Cities.

The two towns have a combined population of about 30,000 people. On each side of the municipal boundary between the two are about 15,000 people within the respective corporate limits. The boundary between the two towns is called State Line street. Notwithstanding the fact that the towns are practically one, so far as physical aspect is concerned, there is great business and industrial rivalry between them. Let one of the towns secure a new manufacturing establishment and immediately there is much crowding and rejoicing on the part of the people of the successful town and corresponding depression on the other side of State Line street. The towns keep neck and neck in business growth and activity.

Conscience Knows.—Patience—What in the world is conscience money we hear so much about?—Patience—Conscience knows.—Yonkers State man.

# Gossip of Washington

What Is Going On at the National Capital.

## Bright Scenes When President Entertains



WASHINGTON—That the fascination of life at the American capital depends much upon the beauty and gorgeousness of the court costumes of the foreign diplomats and the officers of our army and navy, who are regularly called into service for social duty, is not to be controverted, and when these attractions are combined with the imposing form and ceremony attendant upon the city surrounding a president of the United States and his cabinet, and the direct representatives of foreign powers to this government, you have a brilliant and interesting phase of life scarcely known in the western hemisphere outside of Washington.

While the president of the United States appears at formal entertainments in a frock coat in the afternoon, and at evening affairs in the simple, somber formal habiliments every American man wears after dark, he is surrounded by his aids from all branches of the military and naval service, who never appear at the White House or in company with the president in other than full dress uniforms and with their swords at their sides. The same is true of the foreign ambassadors and ministers.

## Loeb's Next Berth a Cause of Worry



SECRETARY WILLIAM LOEB, JR., who has been serving the president and the country at the White House offices for several years, is causing his immediate friends more political anxiety than any other prominent Republican of the hour. There is a time-honored tradition that a retiring president of the United States must take good care of his secretary, and it has therefore been incumbent upon President Roosevelt to see Mr. Loeb well placed before he starts for the dark continent.

But plans for placing Loeb have a habit of falling through, just why no one seems able to tell. For, while he has not gained the fame as secretary to the president that Mr. Cortelyou, his predecessor, gained, there is no denying that he has been very efficient.

## Nation's Capital Is a City of Parks



EXCLUSIVE of the capitol and congressional library grounds, the union depot plaza and the botanical gardens, the city of Washington boasts more than 6,000 acres in parks, excluding nearly 150 triangles and circles at street intersections and miles upon miles of shaded asphalt streets equal to the boulevards of many other cities. The largest of all these spots is Rock Creek park. This beauty spot covers 1,695 acres immediately adjoining the Zoological park, which contains 171 acres, and its natural combinations of rocks and streams, hills and dales, trees and meadows go to make perhaps the finest groundwork of a public park in any city in the country.

It will be probably a hundred years before the possibilities of this park are realized to the full, including the building of a boulevard down Rock creek into the city of Washington, connecting with the Riverside drive

## Plan to Pension Cleveland's Widow



A SUGGESTION that the widow and children of former President Grover Cleveland be given a pension is being discussed informally by congressmen. Many have declared themselves in favor of granting her one.

If Mrs. Cleveland is willing to accept, there is no question but that congress would be ready to vote it to her. Although there is now no surviving president of the United States, three widows of former presidents still live—Mrs. James A. Garfield, Mrs. Benjamin Harrison and Mrs. Cleveland.

The first-named has now survived her husband more than twenty-seven years. During all that time she has

and the military and naval attaches of the embassies and legations.

Two great occasions on which the White House is resplendent with the gorgeous uniforms of the diplomats and our own military and naval men are the reception of the president on January 1, when every member of the corps, with his wife and daughters, calls to wish the president a happy New Year, and about ten days later at the diplomatic reception prescribed by precedent, which is the first of a series of formal evening receptions the president gives during the winter.

Upon numerous occasions, and always at the White House, both the head of the navy and of the army appear in their conspicuous full dress uniforms, which are quite as rich as those of many of the foreign ambassadors and ministers. Scarcely second in brilliancy to the reception given by the president to the diplomats is that at which he is host for the army and navy, when hundreds of the higher officers of both branches of the service attend in their gala uniforms.

The senior aids to the president, who make all of the presentations to him at all entertainments and attend him upon all occasions, practically live in their official regalia, while the younger aids are almost daily called upon to wear their best uniforms.

In fact, there is a splendor about the official social life of the American capital which is scarcely second to that of any court of Europe, and which sets it apart from all other cities of the United States.

A few years ago there was a scheme afoot to elect Mr. Loeb as president of a Washington street railroad company. He became greatly interested in the matter, enlisted some financial friends in New York and bought into the stock of the road quite heavily. Ambitious arguments were advanced regarding what Mr. Loeb could do for the road. It has to go before congress, session after session, for tit-bits of legislation, which are very essential none the less.

But senators, who have little liking for the president, intimated that the man who had served as the president's secretary would have a fine old time persuading them to vote for his bills. Therefore the owners of the street railroad began quietly to lay plans for side-tracking the Loeb presidential idea, and about a year ago another was chosen to head the street railway.

Since then Secretary Loeb's name has been mentioned in connection with a number of good posts by purveyors of capitol gossip, but each story has been in turn denied.

The latest report is that he will become collector of the port of New York after March 4.

The river park, which reaches from the capitol to the islands of the Potomac, contains in the aggregate 1,800 acres, but does not represent an amalgamated whole as does the Rock Creek park.

In the northern portion of the city, about a mile eastward from Rock Creek park and connected therewith by the old military road over which union armies marched in the defense of Washington, is the Soldier Home park. Commanded by a group of white marble buildings erected on the highest point in the city, the park slopes toward the city over an extent of 502 acres. Still another park, Anacostan, in southeast Washington where the river flats will some day be one of the flower gardens of the national capital, contains 540 acres. The last of the larger parks, also in north Washington, is Tacoma park, containing 739 acres.

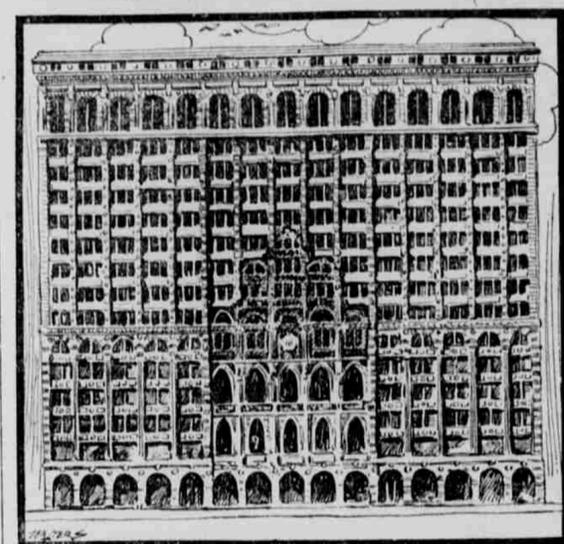
Other amusement places are the Henry and Sinton parks of 32 acres; Garfield park, 24 acres; Judiciary square, where is the pension office, 19 acres, and Howard University park of 12 acres. Lafayette square, in front of the White House on the north, in which no trees or bush is duplicated, contains six acres.

drawn a pension of \$5,000 a year from the government, and no money that comes from the treasury is more cheerfully paid. The first time a pension was ever suggested for the widow of an ex-president was in the case of William Henry Harrison, who died one month after his inauguration.

The death of Harrison appealed peculiarly to the nation, and the sum of \$25,000 outright was voted her. She lived to enjoy its proceeds for a period of 23 years. The second, Mrs. Tyler, drew a pension of \$5,000 per annum for 27 years. Mrs. Abraham Lincoln was given \$25,000 and an additional pension of \$5,000 per annum. Grant's widow also received \$5,000 a year, as did the widow of President McKinley.

Most of the ex-presidents of the United States died in advance of their wives, although there are notable exceptions. Thomas Jefferson outlived his wife 44 years, Martin Van Buren 43 years.

# NOW PITTSBURG WILL OUTWIT WILLIAM PENN



THE FOURTEENTH STREET CHURCH

Pittsburg is to have the latest thing in architecture, namely, a skyscraper and church, the latest of all ideas in building construction. But there is method in Pittsburg's "madness," for having been blocked for many years by the clause placed in his land grant by William Penn, setting forth that the property must always be used for "church purposes," the congregation of the First German Evangelical Protestant church has evolved the above scheme. It has been decided, therefore, that a building which shall combine church and office building, which will serve for worship and at the same time put revenue into the coffers of the congregation.

The auditorium and dome of the church are to be buried inside 14 stories of business offices and stores, only the gothic arches, the wide doors, and the chimes showing on the side of the building. All about the church and above it will be piled a mass of office architecture distinctive, as the business part of the building is to be of renaissance architecture and the church gothic.

It is the purpose of the congregation to make its valuable property at Sixth and Smithfield streets yield a profitable return and at the same time retain the property for church purposes. It was specified in the deed given by William Penn that the land should be so used. It could therefore not be sold except to another church, which would hardly be a profitable sale. At the same time it seemed necessary that the church should get more return from its land which is centrally located and which has been often sought after by big department stores. A church was built on the site 125 years ago, torn down and replaced by another, then another, then by the present structure, which was erected in 1877. Sentimental reasons, therefore, further persuaded the congregation that they did not want to leave the site.

To overcome the difficulty, Eugene C. F. Ernst, an architect and a member of various church committees, drew his plans for the unique building and laid them before the people. He said the cost would be about \$1,500,000, but that a corporation could easily be formed to furnish the funds and that it would prove a paying investment.

There was surprisingly little opposition from the conservatives, and it seems to be generally understood that the plan will go through. It is planned for the structure to face on Smithfield street 240 feet, extending back to Strawberry alley. It will be in three 80-foot sections, the two outside for commercial purposes and the central one for the church, up to the height of that edifice, and then more office floors above to the top story. A great clock, with a 19-foot face, will be placed at the sixth story, and above this a set of chimneys in a specially constructed bell chamber.

On the fourteenth floor is to be a great assembly hall, 240x110 feet, with a plaster facade built round a light well. On special occasions the light well could be closed at the floor and ceiling lines by mechanical rolling devices, the windows surrounding the light court being thus transferred into an open plaster balcony. The effect would be one large auditorium with an open inner court.

The basement will be for commercial purposes, and a sub-basement will hold the power plant. An arcade extending from Sixth avenue to Smithfield street will admit to the office and store sections. The entrances will lead into the commercial part of the building as well as into the church. On the floor level with the street are to be the Sunday school rooms, with two wings covered by skylights. The auditorium for the school is to be 80 feet wide, and two large balconies each provided with 290 chairs, will be erected above the room.

The main floor of the church will have 860 seats, which, together with the gallery, would give a total seating capacity of 1,150. The floor will have a grade of eight feet toward the altar. Sixty-two feet above will be the big

dome, while the balconies and ceilings will be supported by columns.

From the street to the gable sheer will be a distance of 128 feet, and at the top is to be a German eagle, perched, holding in his talons the American and German flags. This is to be the symbol of the history of the congregation, which is made up almost entirely of men and women born of German parents.

Abundant capital has been assured to carry out these plans, and in addition many offers have already been made for office rooms. A large department store has offered to lease all of one section of the building. The building promises to present an impressive appearance, in addition to the advantage of being in the center of the city. On Sixth avenue, just east from the church property, are the Nixon theater, the building known as Pittsburg's "Safety Palace," in which are the police headquarters and the Philadelphia Company's building. Street cars diverging to more than 25 sections of the city and surrounding country pass by the property.

## FINALLY GOT AN ANSWER.

Natural Results of Unfortunate Persistence of Sister Dash.

One of the saintly characters mentioned in Rev. Dr. Richard McElwaine's recent book, "Three Score Years and Ten," is a venerable Methodist minister, Rev. Jesse Powers, whose mind, Dr. McElwaine says, was always intent on doing something to bless and help somebody. He was a man of exact veracity, also, but his somewhat merciless candor was agreeably tempered by humor.

The old preacher once spent the night at the house of a prominent Methodist not far from Amelia court-house, Virginia, where he had often been welcomed before. The next morning at breakfast it developed that the bread was sour, perhaps not enough to be remarked upon, but still sour. He was engaged in eating it, when the worthy lady at the head of the table called attention to the disagreeable fact.

Brother Powers said nothing, but continued to satisfy his hunger with what was "set before him, asking no questions," and accepting no suggestions. His hostess, however, not to be thwarted in her efforts to wring from her guest the admission that the bread was not very bad, repeated the remark.

This also failed to elicit the longed-for response. Brother Powers kept his eyes on his plate, and went ahead eating more lustily than ever, in a quiet, doubtless, not knowing what to say, and resolved he would not tell a lie.

But the good woman, not satisfied, and with a fatality that sometimes overtakes the warlike of the sex, was so left to herself as to apologize for the third time.

This, Dr. McElwaine says, "was too much for the old saint." Turning his benevolent face toward the head of the table, he said, gently:

"Sister Dash, if I were you, I'd stop talking about this bread. It is mean enough, anyway."—Youth's Companion.

## The Toad Survived.

An experiment bordering close to the wonderful, was recently made in the clay testing department of a machinery company at Bucyrus, O., in which a toad was placed in a 20-ton brick press and was four times subjected to a pressure of 11,000 pounds without injury.

The question at issue was whether such a pressure would kill the toad or whether its ability to compress itself was sufficient to allow it to come lifted from the machine and the toad was first placed in a lump of granular clay and the whole pressed into a brick. After the huge press had done its work the "solid brick" was lifted from the machine and the toad wrinkled its eyes contentedly, stretched its legs and hopped away.—Popular Magazine.