

## WHY THERE ARE SO MANY ACCIDENTS

### A Railroad Man Says Dangers of Operation Are Constantly Increasing to An Alarming Extent.

D. L. Cease, editor of the Railroad Trainmen's Journal, writing in *Charities and the Commons* on the death and disability roll of our railroad employees candidly voices the opinion of the men actually in the railroad service upon a question of never abating horror to the American people. Speaking of the general and criminal inattention to precautionary measures Mr. Cease says in part: Practical railway employees, and by this we do not mean managers who are doing as their directors bid, but the men in the service, who are running engines and trains, have long been cognizant of the increasing dangers of railway operation. Their observations are made while performing their work on engines and trains, and while they may not be substantiated always by the usual technical and theoretical deductions that are common to the office they are given with a practical knowledge of what equipment, speeds, tonnage and right of way will do, and what safely can be done with them.

The track is an important feature that is not given the attention it deserves. The one hundred pound rail has been in use for several years, the standard tie has not been increased in size, but engines, cars and train tons have increased almost double in weight since the one hundred pound rail became standard. The limited trains have increased their speeds with few additional appliances being added for their safety.

The complaints are numerous to the effect that track maintenance is a lost art. On some roads the section foreman no longer has the right of way when a tie is unsafe. That work is done by an inspector who, usually, does not inspect. There are miles and miles of track patrolled by a foreman and one man, there are miles of it that are practically left without attention, for

a certain period of the year, that, too, during the worst season, while over all of this track mileage there is being rushed the heaviest freight and passenger business this country has ever known.

The block system is another necessary adjunct to safer operation. When it is installed if it is to do its work, it must be with the understanding that it is put there to be observed. Where railroads stand for its strict observance, and will not tolerate violations of rule, there are no violations and the system is reasonably safe.

There are not enough employees properly to inspect engines, cars and track. Railways have economy in operation reduced to a dangerous science. There is not a superfluous man in the service; there are too few for safe operation. Freight trains are dangerously short handed. Two men for almost a mile of cars, and some of our trains reach almost that distance, is not a safe way to run freight trains, yet it is done. It there is ever to be even comparative safety in railway operation the public must rouse itself to demand the employment by the railroads of as many practical men as are really needed.

The American railway managers are, as a rule, practical railway men. They are capable and understand their business, and it is not entirely their fault that affairs are as they are. It is the fault of the financial system that demands dividends first, for if the manager cannot get financial returns that expects theoretically show the boards of directors they ought to get, they will be side tracked to make room for the men who think they can. The railroads have made money. They ought to be made to use some of it in practices and appliances that promise safety in train operation and the minimizing of railroad disaster.

## LEAVES FOR THE SOUTH TODAY

### Where They Will Make Their Future Home and Become Tillers of the Soil.

W. J. Bull, formerly of the Lincoln Automatic Telephone Company, came to this city last Saturday, and will begin work with the Plattsmouth Telephone Company today. Mr. Bull comes to succeed M. E. Coleman, who has resigned the position which he has held so long and faithfully with the company, for the purpose of going to Minco, Oklahoma, where he will engage in farming, departing today.

Mrs. Coleman departed some days since for Ft. Madison, Ia., where she will visit at the home of her parents for some time, or until Mr. Coleman has gotten to the new home in the southland and has the goods there so they can go to housekeeping. In their new home the many friends of this couple wish all the prosperity which the efforts of these two sterling citizens shall merit.

### Sidney Miner Improving

Sidney Miner, who has been in the hospital for some time on account of an operation and who suffered an attack pneumonia before he had regained his strength and became very sick, is now greatly improved. He is getting along nicely with hopes of his speedy recovery.

### Mrs. Rachael Adams Very Sick.

Word was received here by W. T. Adams to the effect that his mother, who during the winter season makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Maxwell. The message said that Mrs. Adams, who is well advanced in age, has a severe attack of pneumonia, and on account of her age and not overly strong constitution, her condition is very serious, with but little hopes of her recovery. Will departed on the fast mail this afternoon, to attend the bedside of his mother, and will remain while he can render any assistance to her.

### G. J. Lair Dies in Hospital.

Grandpa Lair, formerly of Hamburg, Iowa, but for sometime past making his home in this city with his two sons, W. H. and D. J. Lair, died at a hospital in Omaha Saturday afternoon, having been there for about three weeks. On Saturday the sons with their wives went to Omaha to convey him home, having the report that he was improved so he could be removed, but on arriving there he could not be moved, returning Saturday evening. His condition, though not as good as reported, was not such as to cause alarm, but turning suddenly worse, he passed away yesterday morning at about 9 o'clock. The sons departed on the first train for that point, and today removed the remains to the old home at Hamburg, where the funeral and interment will be held. Mesdames W. H. and D. J. Lair departed for Hamburg this morning to attend the funeral. Mr. Lair was well advanced in years, being over 87 years of age at time of death.

### It Was a Surprise

January 6 being the eleventh wedding anniversary of W. D. Smith and wife, who live on Winterstein hill, their friends took it upon themselves to show them a good time. While they were spending the evening quietly at home, the doorbell rang. When they opened the door, to their surprise their friends all came in, loaded down with plenty of good things to eat, and proceeded to have a good time. Cards, music and a delicious lunch made time fly only too soon, and at a late hour they all departed, wishing the host and hostess many happy returns. A number of beautiful gifts were presented. The invited guests were Messrs. and Mesdames M. C. Joy, M. A. Dickson, A. S. Anderson, Saul Adamson, V. E. Sherwood, G. M. Bruhl, M. E. Manspeaker, Chas. Bell, John Busche, Henry Steinhaur, A. B. Hass, C. S. Forbes, Val. Burkle, E. H. Booth, Jack Ballard, Bob Sampson, W. Clark, W. T. Scotten, Joe Wales, H. S. Barthold, D. B. Smith; Misses Letta Smith, Jessie Duffy; Ralph Smith; Miss Lucile Ry- notte of Burlington, Iowa.

## DIED AT OMAHA SUNDAY

### Was Taken to Hospital For Operation, But Health Would Not Permit.

Mrs. Frank Buttery, who was taken to Omaha last Friday, where it was expected she would be operated upon for appendicitis and peritonitis as soon as her condition would admit, never recovered so as to allow the operation. Mrs. Buttery's condition has been very serious lately, having been troubled with a complication of the diseases above mentioned, and as a last resort was taken to the institute for treatment last Friday. The day after the arrival of the lady at the hospital it was evident that the operation would have to be deferred until a rally of her health would come, and on Saturday evening she was reported as a little better, but not as to justify the hope of sustaining an operation at that time.

Sunday, her husband and brother-in-law, Joseph Nejadley, departed for Omaha, and on arriving found her condition much worse. It was evident, as the morning wore away, that her strength was failing and her condition growing steadily worse, and during the morning the last sacrament was administered, the death, though not occurring until in the afternoon at 3:15. The remains were brought to this city this evening and the funeral will occur tomorrow, being held from her late residence, the Rev. H. B. Burgess officiating. Mrs. Buttery was born in this city and was Miss Frances Leukaseck, and united in marriage with Frank Buttery about ten years ago. Of this union one girl was born, Margaret, who is now about eight years of age.

Mrs. Buttery was a member of the Daughters of Rebekah and the Loyal Mystic Legion of America. She was also a member of the L. S. C. club, a ladies society who meet for social discourse and for a good time; many of the meetings being reported in this paper. The last meeting of the club was given by this lady in her new home, which Mr. Buttery had built this last summer and fall, and was given on the 17th of last month.

Where no more parting will ever come, where no sorrow is known, now is the abode of the late lamented Mrs. Frank Buttery, who but a short time ago was in the full enjoyment of all that is dear in this life. The last sad rites of the burial occurred this afternoon. The funeral was held at the home of the sorrowing husband and was attended by a large assemblage of sympathizing friends. The address was given by Rev. H. B. Burgess, rector of the St. Luke's Episcopal church, and was noted for the kindly manner in which he deals with the sorrowing, and pours balm on the wounded heart. He related the many good qualities of the one who had been taken from among those to whom her life had been a blessing and a benediction.

The funeral was conducted under the direction of the Loyal Mystic Legion of America, and assisted by the Daughters of Rebekah, and conducted according to the beautiful rituals of the order. Many from out of the city were in attendance at the services. The quartet under the leadership of Mrs. Anna Brit, and consisting of Miss Lucille Bates, Mrs. W. J. White, John Carmack and Ralph White, sang very beautifully, songs which told of the love and devotion of the life which has so suddenly been taken from those to her most dear.

The pall-bearers were: Lester Burrows, J. R. Sanders, J. E. Mason, L. C. Curtis, O. G. Hale and Harry Messersmith.

### Will Move to Oklahoma.

The report comes from Greenwood to the effect that D. K. Barr with his family will shortly move from that place and make their home at Tulsa, Oklahoma. Mr. Barr has lived in Greenwood for a number of years past, and will be missed from his usual haunts when he leaves. Mr. Barr was for a number of years a resident of this place. While here he was for a long time janitor at the High school building, and while, thus engaged studied law and was admitted to the bar. From here he went to Greenwood, where he practiced law, and was for a long time manager of the Plattsmouth Telephone Company's exchange at that place. In the new home which the Barr family shall make in the south, the best wishes of their many friends, both at Greenwood and this place, go with them.

Orino Laxative Fruit Syrup, the new Laxative, stimulates but does not irritate. It is the best laxative. Guaranteed or your money back by F. G. Fricke & Co.

### Were Not Good Guessers.

Two long gaunt specimen of what can be grown under adverse circumstances, hopped off the train last evening, apparently having circulating in their carcasses some remnant of a former be-bach, stopped at one of our hostleries over night, where they registered as Cameron Bros. This morning they proceeded, with appetites like one the wolves from Upper Canada, to drink all the whisky in the city, but missing their guess as to the amount or being fooled as to their appetite, got beastly drunk before the morning was half gone. When last observed they didn't know "straight up" and was looking for some one to tell their troubles to.

## HANDSOMELY APPOINTED ROOMS

### Such Are the Suite of Law Offices of Attorney Matthew Gering.

Last evening, for the first time since the remodeling and enlarging of the offices of Attorney Matthew Gering, we dropped into his place of business to find him nicely situated, having the same apartments heretofore occupied, but having added to them the room which has been the office of the Duff Grain company in the past. As they were arranged before, the offices were very convenient and well arranged, but allowing less room than was desired for work. As now arranged, the library room, which is used for the general study, is composed of the north room formerly occupied and the added one, formerly the grain company's room, making it very commodious, well ventilated, that in warm weather it may be more pleasant and in the winter a very delightful place, not alone as a library and study, but inviting as a place to spend the winter evenings. The paperings and floor are finished in green, and with the new lighting system which he has installed, makes the room very harmonious as a whole.

Mr. Gering has some original letters from very prominent personages, which he intends to have framed in ebony, and placed in the panels between the windows, among which are one from Edmond Burke and one from Voltaire, with a number of others. Besides this he will have some rare copies of works from the old masters, which he will soon have framed and on the walls, two of which are particularly fine, while a number are such as would pay going a long way to see. The one particularly striking us as being work of great merit was the "Head of the Christ," with the crown of thorns thrust down upon the brow. This is a copy of a painting, the original of which cost some \$50,000. The print alone, as Mr. Gering has it, cost \$25. This is so true to the artists design, that one almost expects the lips to speak and the eyes to open and look with that love upon you which prompted the giving of his life for the sins of the world. The next to appeal to us as being an especially fine ode was a street scene in Edinburgh, which showed the home of John Knox, the founder of the Presbyterian faith. To the lover of rare works of art and to the execution in a masterful style of the works of the real artist. It will pay to go and view the selection which will shortly adorn the walls of Mr. Gering's study.

## THE CASS COUNTY LAND COMPANY

### Meet, Elect Officers For the Coming Year and Consider Improvements

Monday evening the members of the Cass County Land company, which is composed of people scattered over a good portion of the county, met in this city to elect officers for the coming year and discuss and consider propositions for the improvements, and bringing the entire holdings of the company under the best of cultivation. A good attendance were present, and much interest was taken and high expectations are entertained as to the advancement of the value of the property.

The following were elected as officers for the coming year: C. C. Parmele, president; Fred Nutzman, vice-president; J. G. Richey, general manager of the property; D. C. West, treasurer; C. A. Rawls, secretary. Others present at the meeting were: John Wunderlich, J. M. Palmer, Frank P. Sheldon, of Nehawka.

### The Price of Peace.

The terrible itching and smarting, incident to certain skin diseases, is almost instantly allayed by applying Chamberlain's Salve. Price 25c. For sale by F. G. Fricke & Co.

## EXTRODINARY POSTAL RULING

### Department Resolves Itself Into a Collection Agency---Publishers in Nebraska Not in Love With New Ruling.

[Order No. 807. Ordered that the Postal Laws and Regulations be amended, effective January 1, 1908, as indicated as follows: Section 3. A reasonable time will be allowed publishers to secure renewal of subscriptions, but unless subscriptions are expressly renewed after the term for which they are paid within the following period: Semi-Weeklies within nine months.]

In speaking of the new ruling a special from Washington says: "Nebraska publishers are up in arms over a rule of the postoffice department which they feel certain is going to injure their business. This rule, apparently has been small publicity, and it finds the publishers totally unprepared. As a matter of fact the feeling is that notice of at least six months should have been given owners of newspapers and other publications so affected, in order that they might adjust themselves to the new conditions. The ruling provides that subscriptions must be collected up to within a certain time limit; otherwise the matter will not be accepted at the postoffice at the second class postage rate of one cent a pound, but may be mailed at the transient second class postage rate of one cent for each four ounces or fraction thereof, prepaid by stamp affixed.

"The rule says that to come under the provision whereby the publication may be handled as second class postage at the former rates, subscriptions to dailies must be within three months, weeklies within one year, semi-weeklies within nine months, tri-weeklies within four months, semi-monthlies

within three months, monthlies within four months, bi-monthlies within six months, quarterlies within six months.

"It is felt that especially hard hit will be the country weekly publishers, not only in Nebraska, but of other states. Upon the subscription of every country newspaper are names of subscribers whose subscriptions are in arrears several years. They are reckoned by the publishers "as good as gold." Nobody questions their value, but from a variety of causes they have permitted their accounts to drop behind.

"Generally the Nebraska publishers regard the ruling as working a special hardship from the fact that the knowledge of such intention has not become general among those most directly interested. Many have importuned members of the congressional delegation within the past two days to secure an extension of time so that they might be able to meet the requirements of the order. Senator Brown took the matter up today with Assistant Postmaster General Lawshe. He was advised that while the rule became effective last Wednesday, the department had granted an extension of three months to the publishers to adjust their subscription lists."

It will be seen from the above that postoffice department does not leave it optional with us to extend credit to you for more than nine months and enter the Journal at a second class rate. If we do carry a subscriber over that time then we are put to the expense of paying one cent postage on each paper you receive. This no publisher is able to do.

### Wedded at Seward.

The Seward (Neb.) Independent-Democrat, in speaking of the marriage of Miss Paulina Ramsel, a former Plattsmouth girl, says: "At 6 o'clock last evening, January 1, 1908, at the home of Mrs. Minnie Ramsel, occurred the marriage of her daughter, Pauline, to Prof. L. H. Rewinkel of Hannibal, Mo. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Becker of the German Lutheran church, in the presence of a small company of relatives and friends of the bridal couple. The bride is an estimable young Seward lady, who has been for some time past employed as a clerk in M. C. Miller's store. The groom was raised at Lyons, Neb., but was one of the students at the college here a few years ago, and afterwards employed to teach the German school. From here he went to Hannibal Mo., where he is now teaching his second year. During his residence in Seward he made many warm friends, all of whom will join with the friends of the bride in wishing them a prosperous and happy wedded life. The bridal couple will leave here in a day or so for a visit at the home of the groom's parents at Lyons, Neb., after which they will go to their future home at Hannibal."

### W. J. O'Brien Re-appointed.

The Journal notes with great pleasure the re-appointment of W. J. O'Brien as superintendent of the state fish hatcheries at South Bend. Mr. O'Brien long since demonstrated that he was the "right man in the right place," and Governor Sheldon is to be congratulated upon this act. Efficiency, faithfulness and gentlemanly qualities go hand in hand with Governor Sheldon when it comes to appointments, and certainly he has not deviated from this established rule in the re-appointment of Mr. O'Brien. May "Billy" continue to preside over the destinies of the fisheries for many years yet, is the wish of the Journal.

### A Fine Time.

Mayor Gering returned this morning from Omaha, where he attended the Jacksonian Club banquet last night. The banquet was an elaborate affair, and representative democrats from Nebraska and Iowa were present. There was a large number in attendance, and Mayor Gering reports a most enjoyable time. Plates were laid for two hundred and fifty guests, but this number was insufficient, and other tables were spread in the ordinary adjoining the dining hall of the Paxton Hotel.

## JOSHUA EATON LAID TO REST

### Funeral Held Yesterday at the Sciota School House, Southeast of Union.

The funeral of Joshua Eaton, an account of whose death appeared in this paper of last Saturday, was held Sunday afternoon at the Sciota school house which is near to the late home of the young man, the interment being made in the cemetery nearby. Rev. William Taylor of the Baptist church delivered the address. A large number of neighbors and friends were present to show their love and respect for the one departed.

During the discourse a young married woman arose and requested the minister to pray for her, and with the obliging spirit which should possess all our ministers, he immediately knelt at the altar where he was preaching and offered a prayer for the young woman, who said she would become a member of the Baptist church as soon as she could. In the discourse, the speaker called attention to the life of the deceased, which was like his great namesake, Joshua, of old. Mr. Eaton was one of two twins, the other being Caleb, who survives his brother. Mr. Eaton leaves a young wife, with whom he was joined in marriage less than a year ago, and who is yet scarcely seventeen years of age.

### Catches the Chicken Thief

Last night as a sequel to the losing of the chickens the night before, Clay Tyler caught the chicken catcher. Having a suspicion that the cause of the trouble would again make a visit to his hen roost, he prepared for whatever kind of a "critter" it might be, and last evening at an early hour caught a large yellow shepherd dog by the hind leg in a strong steel trap. His dogship seemed to have liked chicken, and his growing appetite proved his undoing. When the trap sprung, a howl as hideous as though coming from a band of Indians, broke the evening stillness and betokened the capture of the chicken thief. When the Tyler family discovered the captive, they telephoned for the police, who were soon on the spot and at the request of Chief Fitzgerald the night officer dispatched the dog. Tyler hauled the dead chickens and dog down to the dumping grounds on the river this morning.