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ANOTHER DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION VISITS THE VILLAGE OF UNION

Nearly a Whole Block of Business Houses Laid in Ashes Early Monday Morning and the Ledger Building is Among the Ruins.

Union, Neb., Dec. 6.—(Special to the Journal)—Union has been visited once more by a destructive conflagration and, as a result, a large number of business houses are today wiped off the map. Five store buildings were destroyed completely and in most instances the stocks went with them. Conservative estimates place the loss at \$12,000 with very little insurance, the high rates which had been charged by the companies preventing many of the firms from carrying protection against fire. In the cases in which the stocks were not destroyed, they were hurriedly taken from the buildings and piled in the street where they stand now exposed to the elements.

door he succeeded in getting his office furniture and supplies out and just as this was done the building caught and went up in smoke. The plant of the paper was saved by this prompt action and it now stands in the open street waiting until Mr. Graves can secure a room in which to print his paper. He states he will issue his paper as usual this week and is already hustling for space in which to install his machinery. The restaurant of H. M. Townsley came next and, although most of the stock was saved, the building was soon reduced to ashes. At this time it is impossible to place accurately the extent of the loss inflicted owing to some of the prop-

LETTER FROM SENATOR THOMAS

Extends Congratulations to Morgan, Schlater and Beeson

Though the courtesy of Judge Ramsey, the Journal takes pleasure in publishing the following letter from ex-Senator Samuel L. Thomas written from his new home at Long Beach, California. It will be observed that Senator Thomas, Republican, though he be, and a good one, too, does not fail to indicate his great interest in the result of the election last month. The strong attachment among and between the early pioneers and for the success of their children, is something often so strong as to ignore partisan politics entirely. Senator Thomas' careful notation of the temperature of that far away coast will interest the reader:

Long Beach, Cal., Nov. 15, 1909. Judge B. S. Ramsey, Plattsmouth, Neb:

Dear Judge:— One month ago today I bid you and many of my friends goodbye for the Land of the Sunset. Our long coast line here is facing the south and the big waves that beat against the beach seem to come from the far south, where the thread is being slowly spun the world in happy wedlock.

I could hardly wait till the Plattsmouth Journal could reach me, giving the returns of the election. Frank, Jake and Cleo elected, and to see Frank's big majority seemed to be the work of natural magic. I had known their fathers from the pioneer days of Nebraska—saw them grow as boys and develop as men.

Judge, I will send you the record of temperature that I have kept with a tested thermometer, beginning November 1, 1909:

Nov.	Morning	Noon
1	48	75
2	54	74
3	40	78
4	50	73
5	52	65
6	56	68
7	54	74
8	46	64
9	54	64
10	46	66
11	52	58
12	48	64
13	42	66
14	54	64
15	39	64

I will send you the temperature of the balance of this month the first of December, 1909. The temperature rises so slowly in the forenoon that you do not notice it. An hour by sun it will have raised 2 or 4 degrees, Yours Truly,
S. L. THOMAS.

Mrs. Donat Returns Home. Mrs. Ed. Donat, who has been spending quite a length of time in the hospital at Omaha, has so far recovered that it was possible to bring her to her home in this city yesterday. Her husband was a passenger to Omaha on the morning train and accompanied her on her return. The lady's many friends will be glad to note her favorable condition and pleased that her recovery is assured. She has been getting along nicely and stood the return trip to her home easily. Mr. and Mrs. Donat also bring reports that other patients in the hospital from this city are getting along very nicely and are well on the way to good health. Among them is Mrs. Dr. Cook, who is doing famously and for whom no fears are entertained. She has stood the operation to which she was subjected nicely and the attending surgeons report her recovery as assured. The same is true of Mrs. Englekemeier, who also underwent a severe operation and whose condition is pronounced very good indeed.

Ami Todd in Town. Ami B. Todd of Denver, Col., came in last night on No. 2 to remain over night with relatives, departing for Omaha this morning, where he will spend the day and expecting to return to Denver tonight. Mr. Todd is looking very well now and seems to be getting along very nicely. He reports that there is snow all the way from Denver to this city, the snow being much heavier farther west than here and the state of Colorado and western Nebraska being covered by a heavy fall. He intended to make a visit with his brother west of the city but abandoned the plan when he found the condition of the country roads and the impossibility of getting about.

Judge H. D. Travis departed last evening for Beatrice, where he will resume the trial of the Chamberlain banking case today.

Funeral of Nelson Jones.

The funeral of the late Nelson Jones took place yesterday afternoon from his late residence on lower Main street. There was quite a large attendance of friends assembled to pay a last tribute of respect to this excellent friend. The services were brief, being conducted by Elders Baker of Omaha, and Lowden of Council Bluffs. Following the services at the house the remains were taken to Oak Hill cemetery, where they were laid to rest, a large number of friends braving the very bad roads and forming a cortege to the grave. The pall bearers were all fellow members of the fire department, being: Peter Claus, Secretary, Frank Libershal; Chief Anton Koubek; Foreman, Sam Gouchenour; P. W. McCrary and Wm. Mendenhall. There was a large attendance of members of the department. The sympathy of many friends is extended to the sorrowing members of the family of the deceased.

BUT ONE POOR LITTLE RABBIT

To Tell the Result of One Day's Wandering for Wild Game.

Capt. James M. Johns and Capt. Paul Wohlfarth arose betimes yesterday morning and marched forth to slew ducks, geese and rabbits, leaving their downy couches at the hour when the clocks were tolling five a. m. They spent the greater part of the day wandering along the Missouri and Platte rivers and up the intersecting streams and when nightfall came they had one poor, solitary little rabbit to show for their valor. And this was owing to a case of deliberate suicide by the rabbit. Capt. Wohlfarth claims the glory there be to this case. He is said to have discovered the rabbit and gave it pursuit on foot, being of uncertain aim and fearful that even this one might escape him if he bombarded it. The rabbit did its best to escape but finally gave the case up and it deliberately ran under his feet, one of them descending upon his neck with a dull sickening thud which forever more settled the fate of bunny. Paul emitted a yell of triumph and picked up the body of the animal, discovering that his aim had been true and that his heel had broken the animal's neck. Capt. Johns was consumed with envy and all day has been claiming the victory of Capt. Wohlfarth was a stroke of luck and not genius thus imitating Admiral Sampson and Lieutenant Peary and other great warriors and explorers. The two doughty warriors returned by a back way last evening after the shades of night had fallen much worn by their long tramp and with nothing tangible to show their friends or families. Public opinion, however, condemns such sportsmanship as running down an innocent rabbit in the snow.

Last Night the Coldest.

From Wednesday's Daily. Last night was the coldest so far of the winter. The thermometer crawled below the zero mark for the first time this winter and it has been slowly getting above that mark ever since. The cold was of the still variety and did not make itself felt so much as if a wind had been blowing but it was all there. Trains from the west and south are late on all roads, although those from the east have been practically on time. Train No. 10 from the west due here at 3 o'clock a. m. was several hours late, while No. 6, due here at 7:53 a. m., did not get here until 9:30. No. 2 last night was three hours late but most of this was due to a derailment in the east end of the Hastings yards. The Missouri Pacific is running from three to six hours late from the south and mails are consequently much delayed.

The weather indications are for continued cold weather with more snow. As there is now nearly two feet of snow on the ground another hard snow will make sleighs and cutters in great demand as wagons will find the going mighty hard. The snow is reported as covering the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains and extending to the Mississippi river. Colorado, Oklahoma, New Mexico and the Texas Pan-handle are all buried under a deep coat of fleecy whiteness and trains are making their way with difficulty. The same is true of North and South Dakota and Wyoming and Montana with snow falling there today. The snow in this section started in again this noon and this afternoon there is a steady downfall which bids fair to last all night. Farmers who have ventured to the city, state that snow is desirable now so that they may get around better but it probably means a tremendous loss in corn as there are thousands of acres still in the fields ungathered. Coal men haul the freeze and the snow with glee as it stiffens the roads so that they can make deliveries.

Operated Upon for Appendicitis.

Mrs. August Englekemeier, from near Murray, was operated upon last Saturday at the Immanuel hospital, Omaha, for appendicitis. At the time of the operation her condition was considered quite serious, but later reports are to the effect that she is getting along as well as could reasonably be expected. Mrs. Englekemeier is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Albert of Plattsmouth.

How the Vote Stands.

This is the last week of the great World-Herald's automobile contest and interest in it is at fever heat. The Journal prints the standing of Cass county's entries so that all can see how they stand on the final stretch of the fight. They rank follows: Lona M. Lemon, Greenwood, 329,860; Katherine Oliver, Plattsmouth, 300,969; Norma McDonald, Greenwood, 300,860; Luella Hunsell, Union, 229,800; Marguerite Thomas, Plattsmouth, 178,900; Louise Bradway, Plattsmouth, 166,460; Frances Morley, Plattsmouth, 127,520; Janet Brantner, Plattsmouth, 81,360; Leone Switzer, Weeping Water, 49,820; Ethel Leyda, Plattsmouth, 49,120; Clara Jenkins, Manley, 17,160; Daisy Langhorst, Elmwood, 10,340; Zelma Tudy, Plattsmouth, 8,620.

A ONE-SIDED BALL GAME

The Fairmont Team Literally Wiped the Plattsmouth Boys Off the Face of the Map.

The basket ball game last Saturday night at Coates' Hall was a one-sided affair in which the Fairmont team literally wiped the Plattsmouth team off the map. The game was so one-sided that there was no interest in it and those who attended were soon wearied of the slaughter. The Fairmont team simply played rings around the locals and scored about whenever they got good and ready. The final score was Fairmont 73, Plattsmouth 20, which is some destructiveness. If the score is any criterion the locals haven't any business in the same class with Fairmont, who seem to know about all the rudiments of the game and how it should be played. The visitors returned home yesterday flushed with triumph and carrying a nice, new, clean scalp at their belt.

Monthly Public Auctions.

We note that several cities throughout the west are holding public auctions for the benefit of farmers who have live stock or other articles they want to dispose of. The commercial club of Independence, Kas., has held these monthly auctions for several years, and they find that they are a great benefit to the city. Any farmer is permitted to bring in anything he has for sale, and hundreds of farmers attend them every month. A farmer may have a horse, a cow or other stock to sell, and it may prove to be just what another farmer wants, and in this way these auctions have proved a great thing for the farmers, and the merchants have benefitted therefrom. Would it not be a good idea for the commercial club of this city to interest itself in something of this character?

Acquitted Herself Nobly.

Recently at Peru, Neb., the members of the Athenian Debating club debated the subject: Resolved, "That Champ Clark's Ideas of Civil Service are More Desirable Than Those Embodied in the Present System." Miss Emma Falter of this city was one of those taking the affirmative and she acquitted herself with the highest credit delivering an able argument to sustain her side of the debate. The voice department of the Normal also gave a fine concert last Saturday night. Miss Dora Kaffenberger of this vicinity taking part in it, being one of the singers of a trio which attracted much attention and which was exceedingly well given.

Case Continued.

In county court last Saturday afternoon the case against the four boys charged with breaking into a house belonging to W. A. Kirby and taking therefrom a quantity of lumber and other stuff was continued for thirty days as to Lester Mason and Frank Kinnamon and dismissed as to Frank Petersen. Kirby, the complainant, dismissed the charges against Petersen, when the other two boys took a thirty days continuance on a showing which their counsel, W. A. Robertson made. County Attorney Ramsey appeared for the complaint.

George Snyder drove to the city this morning, coming in despite of the very bad conditions of the roads. The trip was a necessary one and he found that he had to make it regardless of weather or rough roads.



Street Scene in Union, Showing Scene of Fire, Block on South Side From Stites' Drug Store West to Depot.

The flames were discovered at about 1:30 this morning when Agent Williams of the Missouri Pacific at Wyoming, and a traveling salesman for the Loose-Wiles Candy company of Kansas City, Mo., came up the street from the late Missouri Pacific passenger train from the north. The train was late and the men were on their way to the hotel at the head of the main street of the town when they saw flames in the rear of Stites & Co.'s drug store. This store stands at the southwest corner of the street intersection and a little over one block east of the Missouri Pacific station. As soon as the men discovered the flames they gave an alarm and within a few moments a large crowd of the townspeople were on the scene but the fire had obtained too great headway to be stopped and the drug store was soon a roaring mass of flames. The building is a frame structure, which has been built for several years and it burned with great rapidity. As the town is without fire protection little could be done to stay the advance of the flames and the men devoted themselves to saving what they could in the way of property.

From the drug store the flames ate into the office of Attorney C. L. Graves, destroying his library and quickly reducing the office building, also a frame structure, to a mass of smoking ruins. The restaurant of C. W. Clark next fell a prey to the flames and then the barber shop of Louis Curtiss went up in smoke. Warned by the onward march of the flames editor Harry Graves of the Union Ledger, summoned help and while the flames were raging next

Reporter Kisses Bride. County Judge Beeson's assistant marriage license clerk Miss Gertrude Beeson, this morning issued a marriage license to Fred W. Hunt, aged 20, and Miss Lena Kimmel, aged 17, both of Council Bluffs. The couple came in this morning on No. 4 and after securing the license, hurried before Judge M. Archer, who tied them up with neatness and dispatch. The couple departed this afternoon for their home.

Advertised Letter List. The following letters remain in the Plattsmouth postoffice uncalled for on this (December 6,) date, and unless called for within a reasonable length of time will be sent to the Dead Letter office at Washington. Parties calling for same will please say, "advertised." Mrs. B. K. Billups, S. L. Filson, H. Kinney, Richard Morlan, Peter Sichterman, Tom H. Sherwood, Frans Sager.

Mrs. L. E. Schalls is spending the day in Omaha, going there this morning on No. 15.