

THE BIG MINE
FORTY YEARS AGO

The Commencement of Mining
Operations Near Rock Bluffs
Many Years Ago.

In the past few months there has been many stories printed and related of the mines that in pioneer days existed throughout Cass county, and particularly in the vicinity of Rock Bluffs, that were thought the might materialize into something that would bring fortunes to the persons owning the claims to the mines, and a few days ago, while looking through the records of the old newspapers that in those days served to enlighten the people of the county, we came across a story of a once famous coal mine located along the river south of this city, and it is well worth the reading. It is as follows:

Last Friday we had the pleasure of accompanying Prof. Aughe, of the State University, on an exploring trip down in Cass county, in search of coal.

We reached Rock Bluffs, several miles below here, on the river bank, about 6 o'clock in the evening, intending to stay there all night so as to get an early start next morning for Van Horn's mine, further down the river, that being the real animus (as Father Martin used to say) of our journey. At Rock Bluffs we found everybody coal crazy. Mr. Jos. Shera had gone to Nebraska City to get a coal stove to see what the blasted thing would do in a stove. Mr. Henry Shera and Mrs. Jos. Shera received us very cordially, and in a short time Dr. Reed, Mr. Allen, Dr. Bradford and several citizens came over to welcome the professor and talk coal.

After supper we tramped down to the "mine," and as by this time word had spread that a great geologist had come to examine the wonderful mine, we were followed by all the boys in town, and for some distance around in the country.

The "mine" is simply a drift in the point of bluffs just north of town, about a quarter of a mile above the main street. It opens just where the bluffs approach the river closest, the same as at our point here. The mouth is 100 feet from the water and about 20 feet above water level. It has been opened by a miner named Wm. Black, who says he was busted, and robbed in the Black Hills, and coming down here, accidentally discovered the outcropping.

Now you may all laugh, but it isn't such a joke for a greenhorn to consent to bury himself in the heart of a huge bluff, by means of a little slit, that looks as if it might close up on him any minute. Black lit a candle, and crawled in. The professor followed without fear and trembling, but then he is used to it. We pushed Allen—who weighs 200—in before us, calculating that if anything fell, it would hit him first, and we could crawl out under his lee, somewhere, and get time to "holer" for help; besides we didn't want him behind, choking up the entrance, if the hole should shrink together any.

In we go through a low passage, so narrow we have to almost squeeze through, and Allen has to go edgewise—as there is a small chance for bay windows there. Twenty feet of this and we come to rock, and the drift is widened and deepened so that we can stand up. A little further and we strike what they call the coal. Sometimes walking and sometimes crawling, we go on for nearly 100 feet from the mouth. Black is just drilling for another charge.

The professor and Black hold candles in every nook and corner and talk learnedly of "seeps," and "veins," and "coming in," and "sub-strata," while the rest of us huddle round on cold black stones and catch more cough.

The blast has been put in and a low dull thud is heard. The cavern is filled with spawls and smoke, and after waiting some time for it to clear, we concluded to go home for the night. Mr. Allen kindly lodges us and we sleep the sleep of the just—just out of a coal mine, you know.

The next morning the professor measures the depth of the vein, the length of each different soil or rock the drift passes through, and then goes off on the

bluff hunting specimens—the boys say he can climb like a goat—while we stayed in the buggy more as a thousand "periods," glacial at that, and watched the boys throw coal shale in the river.

The professor has filled a cigar box or two, we load up half a ton of coal as specimens, and set out for "VanHorn's" wherever that may be.

Black rides ahead on a wild mustang, his broad hat flopping in the stiff southern breeze and the wide wings of his ancient blue cavalry coat spreading like sails over the hull of a small schooner. The pony yawed hither and yon, and we galloped (?) the buggy up hill and down, through gulch and ravine, by yawning caverns (which Black said were filled with coal), and over tall hazel trees for about two hours, when our guide took in sail and we dropped anchor in old man VanHorn's barnyard ten miles below Rock Bluffs.

Only a couple of hundred yards below the house Mr. Black has drilled another opening under the ribs of the bluffs. Here they have gone in 135 feet. The same features, nearly, mark the spot. The drift is very narrow at the entrance and the sides crumbly. Forty-three feet in we strike the coal, the drift widens and we can walk. It is 82 feet from here to the end of the pit. The vein is 3 feet 8 inches and Black says will come in 5 feet strong in a few feet further.

The mouth is about 15 feet above water level and almost over the water so close is it to the Missouri. Mr. VanHorn and family feel confident it is coal and are sanguine of a fortune.

The same measuring and inspection were gone through with, and we go up to the house, where we have an excellent dinner of ham and eggs. We ate thirty and the professor a dozen, you see that sail on the prairie after Black did it, the horses were stuffed with corn and we turned our backs on the Cass county coal measure and hid ourselves to Plattsburgh in order that Prof. Aughe might catch the 10 o'clock St. Louis Express.

Prof. Aughe will take the specimens of coal from these openings to Lincoln and subject them to careful analysis. When he makes his report to the governor the Herald will publish it in full, if it can be obtained.

THIS NEW MEDICINE
SAVES YOU MONEY

We are druggists right here in your town and make a living out of the drug business, but is because people have to have drugs and not because we like to see people suffer—we don't. Our duty is to render the best services we can, and when someone is ailing, we are interested in seeing them take the best medicine there is for their particular trouble. We don't recommend "cure-alls," as we don't believe there are such things. We don't want you to spend more than you have to. Some of you get small wages, and when you're sick, none at all, and you should get the most you can for your money.

We recently came across a new remedy for increasing strength and building up people who are run-down and emaciated. We know that a slight trouble sometimes grows into a serious one, and to stop it in the beginning will save you money in the end. This new compound is called Rexall Olive Oil Emulsion. It is the best remedy, when you are run-down, tired out, nervous—no matter what the cause. It doesn't merely stimulate you and make you feel good for a few hours, but takes hold of the weakness and builds you up to a healthier, normal condition. It is a real nerve-food tonic and builder of good blood, strong muscles, good digestion. It contains Hypophosphites, which tone the nerves, and pure Olive Oil, which nourishes the nerves, the blood and the entire system. Pleasant to take. Contains no alcohol or habit-forming drugs. We promise that if you are not perfectly satisfied with it, we'll give back your money as soon as you tell us. Sold only at the 7,000 Rexall Stores, and in this town only by us \$1.00—F. G. Fricke & Co., Union Block, Plattsburgh, Neb.

Don't forget that the next dance to be given will be at the W. W. A. hall on Saturday evening. The music will be furnished by the Holly orchestra.

THE COMMERCIAL CLUB
BANQUET ARRANGED FOR
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5

The final arrangements for the big Commercial club banquet on Thursday evening, February 5, are being rapidly completed and a big time is being anticipated by all those who have in the past been in attendance at these gatherings, where representatives from every line of business and trades in the city are gathered together in a general good time, and when the mutual interchange of thoughts and ideas is calculated to aid in the upbuilding of the city, and its interests. The committee has secured a number of excellent local speakers and others of state-wide reputation will be secured to furnish the oratorical talent of the evening, which has always been one of the rare treats of these banquets. The banquet itself will be served by the ladies of the Methodist church, who have had charge of the feeding of the host of hungry men for the last two banquets, and their handling of the job was found so satisfactory that they were allowed the privilege again this year, and it is unnecessary to state that it will be up to the high standard of the banquets given in the past. The committee in charge of the tickets will be out on the street in a few days to dispose of them to all who desire to attend this event, and as the number will of necessity be limited, it will be a wise plan to secure the tickets early, as the reservation for places will be made according to the number of tickets sold, which will be in the neighborhood of 150.

THE LOYAL SONS'
DEBATE AT THE BRIGGS
HOME WEDNESDAY NIGHT

From Saturday's Daily. The Loyal Sons of the Christian church, who are to hold a meeting at the home of M. S. Briggs on Wednesday evening, January 28, have decided upon the different sides who will debate the question, "Resolved, That the construction of the Keokuk dam over the Mississippi river and its inspiration for other dams will be of more benefit than the construction of the Panama canal." The affirmative will be represented by Luther Pickett, Harry Wainwright, Cressy Hawkenberry, Oliver Harvey, Inez Cowles, Isaac Hall, Lee Roger, Leon Stenner, Beulah Stone. The negative of the question will be taken by P. F. Rhin, Myra Stenner, Herbert Thacker, Mrs. Minnie Rhin, W. H. Bunch, Guy Crook, Elizabeth Hall, Ruby Wainwright, B. A. McElwain, Mrs. Rose Pickett, Orpha Stenner.

FREE TO FARMERS

By special arrangement the Ratekin Seed House of Shenandoah, Iowa, will mail a copy of their Big 1914 Illustrated Seed Book, and a sample of their famous "Diamond Joe's Big White" seed corn that has a record of over 200 bushels per acre, free to every reader of this paper who may be interested in the crops they plant. This book is a complete compendium of farming and farm and garden seeds. It tells how to grow big crops and all about best varieties of seed corn for your locality; also Seed Oats, Wheat, Barley, Speltz, Grasses, Clovers, Alfalfa, Pasture and Lawn Mixtures, Seed Potatoes and all other farm and garden seeds. This seed book is worth dollars to all in want of seeds of any sort. It's free to all our readers. Write for it and mention this paper. The address is RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE, Shenandoah, Iowa. Box 227.

The "Mischief Quartette" and
It's Work.

Each year the month of January numbers its list of victims from influenza, la grippe, bronchitis and pneumonia. The prompt use of Foley's Honey and Tar Compound will check the onset of a cold and stop a cough, preventing the development to more serious condition. Keep it on hand. For sale by all druggists.

William Heil of Cedar Creek was a visitor in this city Saturday and called at this office and renewed his subscription to the Daily Journal.

THE BUSINESS
COLLEGE CHANCE
LOOKS GOOD

Those Interested Feel Greatly
Encouraged Over the Prospects of the Enterprise.

Prospects for the new business college in this city are very bright, as the business men and citizens in general are beginning to take a very active interest in the foundation of this institution and it will bid fair to make one of the best in this section of the state as soon as it is possible to get it in running order and decide upon the proper location for the college.

Mr. S. P. Randall, who is here from Holton, Kansas, to make the preliminary arrangements for the establishing of the college, has met with a great deal of encouragement from all with whom he has talked and quite a number have signified their intention of taking up a course in the college. One of the features that appeals particularly to the working boys and girls of the city is the night school course, which enables a person to attend to their duties during the day and then go to school at night and further equip themselves for a business life. The night school will be opened five nights in the week and furnish as complete a course as that of the regular day course.

An institution of this kind has been needed in this city for several years, as any number of the young people would be glad of the opportunity to attend if it was afforded them, and quite a number have been students in the Omaha colleges because of the fact that there was no business college here that they could attend, and the new institution which will be established here will be able to give as good and complete a course of instruction as would be possible to get anywhere and at a much cheaper rate than if the pupils were compelled to go to Omaha to school. The project should be taken up and pushed by those who are interested and made one of the leading features of the educational life of the city.

COLDS TO BE TAKEN
SERIOUSLY.

Intelligent people realize that common colds should be treated promptly. If there is sneezing and chilliness, with hoarseness, tickling throat and coughing, begin promptly the use of Foley's Honey and Tar Compound. It is effective, pleasant to take, checks a cold, and stops the cough which causes loss of sleep and lowers the vital resistance. For sale by all druggists.

Tyewriter ribbons at the Journal office.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR ONE MONTH ONLY!

EVENING JOURNAL FOR \$3.00 a Year by Mail

During the past few months there has been a great many of our semi-weekly readers expressed their willingness and desire to become readers of the Evening Journal provided we could make the price \$3.00 per year. If we could double our daily list, we can place the subscription at this price per year, and during the next 30 days we are going to make an effort to more than double our mailing list by placing the price at \$3.00. Remember this price is only good for 30 days—so send in your subscription at once.

OFFER CLOSES FEBRUARY 15th

THE EVENING JOURNAL Plattsburgh Nebraska

A GOOD
WOMAN LAID
AT REST

The Last Sad Rites Attended by a
Large Number of Those Who
Had Known Her So Long.

From Friday's Daily. The funeral of the late Mrs. Thomas Pollock was held yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles C. Parmelee, and the last sad rites were attended by a large number of the sorrowing friends and relatives of this grand good woman, who, after a long and useful life, had been summoned to her final reward in the kingdom of the Master.

The services were conducted by Rev. J. H. Salisbury of Auburn, a former pastor of the Presbyterian church in this city, and an old friend of the departed lady and her husband, who had preceded her to the Great Beyond, and his remarks were most comforting to the family and friends who were gathered to pay their last tributes to this lady, whose life had been such as to be a most worthy example to all who are left behind. A choir composed of Misses Florence Rundstrom and Mathilde Vallery and Messrs. G. L. Farley and L. O. Minor, sang a number of the old well loved hymns during the service, which greatly comforted the hearts of those who were present at the services.

The casket was borne to its final resting place by old friends of the family: J. M. Robertson, J. N. Wise, John Waterman, J. M. Roberts, D. B. Ebersole and Henry Zuckweiler, and laid to rest in Oak Hill cemetery beside that of the husband.

CRIMINALS SENTENCED
TO THE PENITENTIARY
BY JUDGE J. T. BEGLEY

From Friday's Daily. This morning District Judge Begley was called upon to pass sentence upon Joseph Rowe, the man who was found guilty of second degree murder by the jury a few weeks ago, and he sentenced the man to fifteen years in the penitentiary at hard labor for the crime. Rowe is a middle aged man and if he serves out his sentence he will be quite advanced in years by the time he is released from the penitentiary. Erwin Saans and Raw Dawson, the two men who pleaded guilty to the charge of burglarizing the store of Frank Nichols and Stander & Stander, were also sentenced by the court to serve a sentence of from one to ten years.

Benefit Social.

There will be an oyster supper at the M. W. A. hall at Myard Saturday evening, February 7th. Proceeds to be given to the widows caused by the recent gasoline engine explosion.

MRS. PETER HEROLD
VISITS HER FATHER, GEO.
POISALL AT KANSAS CITY

From Saturday's Daily. This morning Mrs. Peter Herold departed for Kansas City, where she will visit for a short time with her father, George Poisall, at the hospital in that city. Mr. Poisall has been suffering greatly with stomach trouble for the past few months and failed to receive relief from the treatment afforded him, and on the recommendation of his friends he went to Kansas City to take treatment of the specialists in that city. Just the exact nature of the complaint from which Mr. Poisall is suffering could not be ascertained, and he will be submitted to an x-ray examination in order that the proper course of treatment may be followed. That this worthy gentleman may speedily recover his former state of health is the sincere wish of his host of friends in this city.

WOMEN AND WET FEET.

Cold and wet feet are a dangerous combination, especially to women, and congested kidneys often result. Backache, urinary irregularities and rheumatic fevers are not unusual results. Foley Kidney Pills restore the regular and normal action of kidneys and bladder and remove the cause of the trouble. Contain no habit forming drugs. For sale by all druggists.

The Journal does job work.


Parmele Theater, Friday Night, January 30th
HARVEY D. ORR offers the season's biggest success

"Lifes Shop Window"
BY VICTORIA CROSS

See the great rain storm in Act I. The most realistic effect ever produced.

The complete original scenic production and cast with Miss Florence Wright.

This is the same company which played Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, and goes from here to Des Moines.


Miss Florence Wright

A GREAT PLAY FROM A GREAT NOVEL

Every husband, wife, lover and sweetheart in the country should see "LIFE'S SHOP WINDOW"—a truly wonderful play which teaches a lesson which can never be forgotten.

First time ever at these prices—25c, 35c, 50c and a few at 75c.

Seats on sale at Weyrich & Hadraba's Store Wednesday, January 28th.