



The gift giving season is at hand. Saturday the joyous occasion will have arrived. The next few days will be busy ones, and we counsel early buying if you haven't yet attended to that important task. Turn the task into pleasure by coming here to buy.

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The Kindly Acts:-

—of our many friends, we prize highest. Friendship is the greatest thing in life. Without it days would be bleak, nights cold and dreary. We are wishing the friends of Plattsmouth and vicinity the very best of the Holiday season can bring and thank all for their patronage, which has brought success to our enterprise.

Plattsmouth Storage Battery
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Our Picture

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When Xmas Shopping

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F. R. GOBELMAN

A Merry Christmas

—and a Happy and Prosperous New Year

—is our greeting to the many friends and customers who have contributed to our success of the past year. True friends are our best assets and we appreciate them more than words can tell.

L. B. EGENBERGER,
THE GROCER

GRAMMER AND COLE PAY FOR THEIR CRIME

GO TO DEATH IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR CLAIMING INNOCENCE OF CRIME.

Lincoln, Dec. 20.—Alson B. Cole and Allen V. Grammer are dead. At 3:24 and 3:35 p. m. today they paid the penalty for the murder of Grammer's mother-in-law, Mrs. Lulu Vogt, of Elba. Both went to the chair without a word of excuse and both professing innocence of the crime of which they were convicted.

Cole was the less composed at times. In the death cell for two hours before death he sat and talked to his spiritual advisers, Christian Science Practitioners McFadden and Gregory, and with his attorney, John M. Priest.

His face was slightly drawn and a bit pale. Around him were a few books among them the Bible. He took time to write a letter or two at intervals during the conversation. Asked whether he cared to see newspaper men and make a statement to them he said he did not.

Asks for Reporters
Grammer asked that the representatives of the newspapers be called into his cell. With him were his wife, her roommate, and his father, Charles Grammer, Sr.

Standing in the middle of the floor dressed in a red sweater, linen of immaculate cleanliness, his shoes well shined, and his hair combed sleekly back from his forehead, Grammer did not look like a man who was about to die. He did not speak like it. In a clear voice, looking steadily from one to another of his hearers as he spoke, Grammer told the world he was about to leave how he felt toward it. He told of the statement which would be given out, he said, just as soon as he was dead. He told of how he would give it to his attorney for distribution and he held the statement in his hands as he spoke about it.

"This is my last word to the world," he said. "I am going to die. In a few minutes I will be gone. This will tell you the facts of my case as I state them now, on the brink of another world and as I take my last so near to death, you may be sure that they are true. I ask that this statement be printed. I will never know whether or not it is printed, but I ask you here before I go that you may give it to the world."

Warden Fenton read the death warrant to Grammer at 2:15 and to Cole immediately afterward. Neither appeared materially moved.

Grammer Calls on Cole
At 2:30 Grammer asked to see Cole. He was taken to the latter's cell which adjoined his on the one side and the death cell on the other. He walked firmly into the room. When he entered the door Cole jumped up and grasped his hand. Looking Cole squarely in the eye Grammer said, "Well, be brave, boy."

And Cole, returning the gaze firmly, answered, "I will. You do your part." They shook hands and Grammer departed five minutes later. Cole asked to see Mrs. Grammer. He was taken by the deputy warden into a cell. The door was closed and what was said remains a secret.

Grammer remained unmoved during his parting from his wife, just before he began the march to the death chamber. As he was called by the warden she threw her arms around his neck and kissed him several times. "Allen, I will remain loyal to you while I live," she said. "I will try to lead such a life as you would want me to live and such a life as will enable us to meet later on." Grammer did not answer, but kissed her the last time and went out to the death chamber.

The execution was to have taken place at 3 o'clock sharp, but the arrival of I. C. Munger, the penitentiary physician, and his assistant was delayed fifteen minutes, and as a consequence Grammer was not started to the death cell until 3:17. As he entered he shook hands with newspaper men and witnesses, bidding them all good-bye in a clear voice and with a smile on his lips. He went directly into the death chamber. As attendants fastened the straps about him he looked on with all the interest and curiosity of a man being shown a new game.

Greets Friend
Seeing someone at the door whom he knew and had not seen before, Grammer smiled and said "Hello, there," in the manner of a man who meets his friend on the street. The death mask was placed over his face, his hands clenched, his teeth gritted slightly, and the switch was thrown at 3:20. It was all over.

Cole was brought to the chair immediately afterward. He had nothing to say except to shake hands and bid good-bye to those who stood about the room. As had been the case before Grammer's entry into the death cell, the chaplain offered prayer. Then Cole, standing there with head bowed, showed the first sign of weakening. His shoulders stooped, his closed eyelids twitched and he swayed backward and forward like a man who is about to collapse. He immediately steadied himself, however, and from then until the moment the switch was thrown on the chair, he was equally as composed as Grammer.

Just as Cole entered the death cell he asked for Charles Dobry, county attorney for Cheyenne county, the man who prosecuted him, and obtained his conviction, one of the men who arrested him at Janesville, Wis., after he had made his escape following the murder. Mr. Cobry was present only a moment before. He had just stepped out of the corridor when Cole asked for him. He could not be found. The switch was thrown on Cole at 3:35 and was thrown off

at 3:35. Physicians immediately pronounced him dead.

States First Execution
So ended the first execution in Nebraska. So ended the most bitterly fought criminal battle in the history of the state courts, lasting since Cole and Grammer were convicted on July 12, 1918, two and a half years ago and sentences to die. Through every court in the land from the district court of Howard county to the United States supreme court the fight was waged. It began in the Howard county court and ended at noon today when Judge T. C. Munger of the federal district court denied a writ of habeas corpus and denied an appeal to the United States circuit court of appeals. Until the last Cole had hope and confidence in his attorney, John M. Priest. Grammer gave up over a month ago when his appeal was dismissed by the federal circuit court of appeals. That may have been the reason for Grammer's greater bravery in the face of death today.

Cole gave out no statement. He left a statement of the facts, as he said, covering the whole case, with Christian Science Practitioners McFadden and Gregory and his attorney, J. M. Priest.

Jim and Edward Vogt, sons of Mrs. Lulu Vogt, whom Grammer and Cole murdered, and brothers of Mrs. Grammer, came down from Sidney, accompanied by County Attorney Dobry to attend the execution.

After an urgent request to the governor, the attorney general and the warden, Jim Vogt was allowed to witness the execution. When Mrs. Grammer heard that he was to be a witness, she immediately called the warden and asked that her brother be not allowed in the death chamber. The request was refused by the warden. Edward Vogt remained in a room in the outer offices during the execution. He said that if he could be where he could hear the news as it went out over the wires to the newspapers, he would be satisfied. As soon as the execution was over, he immediately called friends around Elba on the telephone, saying that he had given his promise to the people up there to let them know if Cole and Grammer were electrocuted.

History of the Crime
Mrs. Lulu G. Vogt, mother-in-law of Grammer, for whose murder the two men were convicted, was found dead along a road near St. Paul in July, 1917.

Mrs. Vogt, the prosecution charged, was killed while riding with Cole in an auto on the night of July 4, 1917. It was charged that Cole had induced her to go with him on the pretext that a friend of hers was sick and needed her help. While supposedly on this mission of mercy, she was shot to death and her body pitched out of the auto. It was not found until the next day.

Cole accused Grammer of having hired him to kill her, as she was a woman of considerable wealth, and the prosecution argued that Grammer expected to come into her estate.

After the supreme court affirmed the conviction, Cole retracted his accusation against Grammer and raised the idea that Mrs. Vogt had caused trouble between Cole and the girl he intended to marry. Attorneys for the two men then tried to get a rehearing by supreme court order, but failed.

Until today, Cole had lived thru eighteen different days chosen for his execution. Grammer's reprieve numbered fifteen. Their narrow escape was February 6, this year, when they were within two hours of the chair.

The electrocution was to have taken place soon after 6 o'clock this morning, but a short reprieve was given to 3 o'clock, when attorney Priest filed a petition for habeas corpus at 1 o'clock this morning. Priest contended that the requisire of Federal Judge Woodrough's order had not been met, and that Cole was not under legal sentence. Grammer took it very calmly and said that he was ready to die.

Cole broke down for the first time and said, "If it had to be, it had to be. I never thought it would come to this."

SNATCH FURS FROM WOMEN ON STREET

Organized Gang Exists in Chicago to Steal Valuable Furs from Their Wearers.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—Bandits have started snatching fur coats from the backs of Chicago women, according to police reports, and many women of Chicago's "Gold Coast" now leave their expensive furs and wraps at home nights, wearing garments of ordinary texture.

"Five hundred fur coats were snatched from the backs of women last year," said I. C. Greenburg, secretary of the associated fur industries. "From present indications the record will be equaled this winter."

Greenburg, whose organization was formed to protect fur merchants and manufacturers from burglary, said that furs valued at \$500,000 were stolen here during the last year. He alleged the fur thieves have the backing of a powerful thieves' trust that has "fences" in all large cities. Police reports show that ten fur stores have been robbed recently of \$70,000 worth of furs and that many women and girls have had their coats stolen from their backs at the point of revolvers.

Greenburg said that fur-snatchers and bandits get 15 per cent of the value of the coats from the "fences" through whom they deal. He said the "master mind" of the "fur thieves' trust" directs the places to be robbed and gets most of the proceeds.

The "fur trust," according to Greenburg, guarantees legal aid in case a fur bandit is apprehended.

We wish you

A Merry Christmay

AND A

Happy New Year



The Bank of Cass County

Murray

(Continued from page 5)

dressed to the homes of Charles Rovee and Charles Thacker, whose names were furnished by the Good Fellow department of the World-Herald.

Will Work in Elevator.

Albert Jones, who has made his home in Murray for more than the past year and who has ever demonstrated his ability to work and his desire to tackle anything which afforded an opportunity to make an honest living, has accepted an offer of employment in the elevator, which is managed by Mr. D. J. Pitman and will begin his duties there the first of the year.

Most Everybody Interested

The Federated Farm Bureau, for which some special workers have been in the vicinity of Murray for several days past, has resulted in the collecting of a large percentage of the farmers in the order, with the hopes of something being done for the improvement of the prices of farm products. During the past few months the prices have fallen to that extent that the grains and stock would not pay for near the money which has been put into either. The farmer is not wanting any special legislation in behalf of his industry, but what he complains of is that the conditions have been directly against him, and he is asking a just and fair show with the remainder of the producing and transporting industry. Some ninety per cent of the farmers have been enlisted in the effort to obtain a sound deal for the farmers. Frank Lillie and Searle Davis were selected as the captains for the work in the Rock Bluffs precinct while Nick Freidrich, C. D. Spangler, Harry Creamer and Will Seybold did the driving graciously.

M. P. Closes Night Office.

Joe Staska, the agent at Murray, is now doing all the work at the Missouri Pacific, beginning last Monday, when O. Wickham was sent to Wyoming to act as the agent for the company at that place. Last spring it was arranged for three men to do the work here, and each have an eight hour shift, but some time ago they took one man off, and then had the night man work from midnight until eight in the morning, and the

office closed in the evening. Now they have reduced the working force to the one man, Joseph Staska.

Young Lad in Serious Condition.

Phillip Kaleisek, aged twelve years, who has been making his home with Frank Schilsteimer, and who has been troubled with appendicitis for some time, was operated upon at the Methodist hospital at Omaha a few days ago and reports from his bedside were to the effect that he was not doing the best, but hopes are entertained that he will show some improvement in the near future. Phillip's case was very serious as the appendix had been ruptured.

Murray Christian Church.

The Bible school workers are preparing a Christmas program to be given at the church Friday night. Better come out and enjoy the evening.

Bible school next Lord's day morning at 10 a. m.

Preaching services at 11:00. Subject of sermon, "The Good News." The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

A. G. Hollowell, Minister.

Murray School Notes.

Blanche Scotten returned to school Monday.

Will Minford spent Sunday visiting in Lincoln.

Muriel Wickham visited with Hazel Davis Friday evening.

Mabel Howard was a visitor in Plattsmouth, Thursday.

Joe Diel was absent from school Monday on account of a cold.

Leona Puls was a visitor at the home of Elsie Puls, Monday.

Elsie Puls was absent from school Monday, on account of illness.

Doris Wright was a visitor at the home of Leona Puls, Thursday.

Hazel Wickham was a visitor at the home of Esther Puls, Friday.

Hazel Davis spent Sunday in the country, where she enjoyed a quiet day.

Clara Mrasek was sick most of last week, but returned to school Monday morning.

Lester and Leon Gansmer visited with Charles and Edward Howard Saturday morning.

Hazel Wickham was a visitor at the home of Grace Arnold last Thursday evening.

Hazel Davis was absent from school part of last week, but returned to school Friday.

Glady's Arnold was absent from school today on account of a cold.

Blanche Scotten and Leora Paris were visitors at the home of Grace Long, Sunday.

Harley and Leona Puls were visitors at the home of Bernes and Hilda Freidrich, Sunday.

Curtis Paris and Earl Mrasek were visitors at the home of Lester Long Sunday afternoon.

We are very sorry to lose one of our scholars, Florence Wickham. She is moving to Wyoming, Neb.

Miss Wilson will give a prize to all the pupils who had a hundred in spelling for the last three weeks.

Harry, Marie, Elsie and Esther Puls, and Glady's Mrasek went to the box social at the Eight Mile Grove school house Friday night. The program was very interesting.

Marie Puls, Margaret D'El, Harley Puls, Henry Hild, and Lloyd Leyda, and our principal, Miss Van Duesen, went to Omaha, Thursday, December 16, on a field trip.

There was a farewell party at the home of Mr. Leyda's for Mr. Tucker's family Friday night. We are very sorry to have the children leave our school. They are moving to the western part of the state.

The school house is being decorated for the holidays. The primary room has the sand tables, which with its decorations, makes one think of Christmas. Santa visited the room leaving a nice letter on the black board. The high school and grammar rooms are getting ready for their party by decorating the room where the party is to be given. The fourth, fifth and sixth grades are going to have a Christmas box. They drew names and the presents will be put in a box. Some of the pupils are going to distribute them to the owners.

To Our Customers!

—To our many friends, who by their patronage have contributed to our prosperity, we are extending our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Clarke & Pickett

THE BARBERS

Greetings Of The Season!

—It is our wish that all of our friends enjoy a Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.

Dr. G. H. Gilmcre

Murray, Nebraska

Give "HER" a Box of Liggett's

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