

Nebraska Notes

Aelron is hustling for a telephone system.

A former institute will be held at Auburn January 11.

A revival at Elwood has brought 60 people to a realization of their lost condition.

There is a religious revival in progress at the Grand Island soldiers' and sailors' home.

Five men have been arrested at Lodge Pole on the charge of stealing coal from railroad cars.

The bachelors of Alliance braced up the other evening and gave the unmarried ladies a banquet.

A switchman at Wynore got his fingers badly pinched recently while trying to make a swift coupling.

It was fifteen years the first of January since the Grand Island Independent was first published as a daily.

In Northwest Nebraska several stock men are vaccinating their cattle as a preventive for black leg.

Pawnee people have run the slot machines out of town and now they propose to put a stop to raffles.

John Musterman, a boy working in the Norfolk sugar factory fell down a pair of stairs and broke his leg.

Someone entered the house of Mrs. S. Kierstead of Tilden during her temporary absence and stole \$25 in money.

Farms are changing hands in Colfax county, five sales being made within a week in the vicinity of Leigh and good prices.

The Nebraska Telephone company is figuring with the people of West Point on the question of a telephone exchange for that city.

An examination of the records of Hooker county furnished uncontestable proof that the treasurer is an honest man.

Table Rock is paying the doctor bills of people injured by bad sidewalks rather than to chance damage suits in court.

The coal dealers of Grand Island advertise that they will hereafter give full weights for the money. What have they been doing?

It is reported that George Fairbrother the former editor of the Talmage Tribune, is to again take charge of that paper.

A stranger in Grand Island, while taking a bath was robbed of \$15 that should have been in his inside pocket, but was tucked away in his vest.

The saloons at North Platte have been compelled to take down their blinds and dippers must take their drinks in full view of the public.

Work on the creamery and cheese factory for Pender will begin at once. Some twelve or fifteen carpenters will be employed.

The Chadron academy has reduced its rates of tuition 10 per cent and also made a reduction in rent of rooms in the academy building.

So many cattle are being fed this winter in the vicinity of Ponca, that farmers there are predicting a scarcity of corn before spring comes.

A child of Charles Snooks, living at Elm Creek, fell over a pile of hot coals running her hand and arm in the pan, burning the hand so that the skin and finger nails fell off.

A Norfolk physician thought he was divorced a day before he was and took a second wife. He had two wives for a few hours until the decree of divorce was entered on record.

Times seem to be reasonably good on the frontier. The treasurer of Banner county sent out 130 notices to delinquent tax payers, and all but a half dozen called and paid up all delinquencies.

Jasper Powers of Gehring was driving home with two loads of goods for the local merchants when both wagons tipped over and went into a narrow canyon breaking up crockery in a frightful manner.

The Gothenburg Power and Irrigation Company has succeeded in making its stock pay a dividend the past year and proposes to spend about \$50,000 next spring in enlarging and improving the works.

Henry Laumers, the insane farmer of Comuz county, who walked all the way home from a private asylum at St. Louis about a month ago, has recovered his mental equilibrium and is able to attend to his farm work.

The Winnebago Indians have just had distributed to them by the government the sum of \$18,000. There are 1291 persons in the tribe making an average of about \$15 to each buck, squaw and papoose. Next month the Omahas will get an allowance of \$8 per head from an interest fund. This tribe numbers 1,282.

Gothenburg has a proposition for a half million dollar sugar factory and the citizens are working with might and main to secure the bonus required to secure it.

The land of the big red apple had no charms for Oscar Fowler of Sidney, who has just returned overland from Arkansas to Cheyenne county and is glad to get home again, even if Cheyenne county is not in the agricultural section of the state.

A FATAL CRASH

Upper Floor of the City Hall at London, Ont., Gives Away.

TWENTY KILLED AND MANY INJURED

London, Ont., Jan. 4.—Twenty persons are known to have been killed and many injured by the collapse of a floor in the city hall last night.

Loss night closed the municipal campaign and the candidates to be elected were known to the voters. The building was crowded to the very doors, probably 2,000 people being jammed in its narrow space. There was a full in the proceedings when the audience called for several of the newly elected aldermen at once, and there was some delay in securing a speaker to address them. Alderman Carruthers Jones, the mayor in an effort to secure quiet.

In response to numerous calls R. M. Toole was pushed forward to the platform on which the speakers stood. As he reached it there was an ominous cracking and the raised platform on which the mayor and newly-elected aldermen were seated seemed to pitch forward to the floor.

There was a sagging of timbers and the next moment 150 people were hurled twenty feet to the floor below. A beam running twenty feet across the hall had given way and the crowded mass standing above that section of the floor was thrown in a heap to the bottom. A large section of the floor, weighing half a ton, came crashing down on the heads of the victims.

Following the crash there was a wild rush for the door. At the south door, where the majority of the crowd had entered, there was a terrible panic. Those in front were thrown down by the oncoming rush, shoving and fighting for the door and seats. Only one half of the rear door, a space of probably three feet, was open, and in the mad rush no one through the open door in its entirety, and 500 people struggled through the narrow space, the strong bearing down the weaker.

Within a moment after the floor had fallen in there were not more than three persons in the hall on that portion of the floor which had fallen.

From under the massive weight of the broken beams came many cries for help. The windows on the ground floor were broken in and the living and the dead were tenderly passed to the waiting ambulance.

An investigation of the wreck after the catastrophe disclosed the fact that the whole section of the floor had dropped, the joists having been so neatly cut off as though the work had been done with a saw.

The building was an old one, having been erected as early as the 50's and of late years additional stories have been placed on the old walls.

In the grand opera house, which adjoins the wrecked building, a panic was imminent, but was averted by the actors and ushers, and the people quietly left the building.

Pretty Woman Kills Herself.

New York, Jan. 4.—An unknown woman committed suicide last night in the Hotel Windsor, on Fifty avenue, by taking carbolic acid. She was about thirty years of age, a brunette, handsome and richly dressed. Who she was or where she came from, no one knows. She was not registered. All of her clothing seemed new and expensive. Nothing was found that might lead to identification.

A Lucky Englishman.

Portland, Ore., Jan. 4.—Clarence Danvers Davenport, a young Englishman who has been leading a hard month's existence in Portland since August, has become a baronet. He received a cablegram announcing the death of his uncle, Sir Richard Danvers Court Lincolnshire, England, and informing him that he had succeeded to the estate and title. He has been here to take possession of his inheritance.

Want to Fight.

New York, Jan. 4.—Tom O'Rourke has posted with the Police Gazette a certificate check for \$5,000 as a guarantee for a match between Joe Walcott and Kid McCoy.

No Fame in the Klondike.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 4.—Forty-five Klondike men arrived here on the steamer Corona, from Skagway and Dyea. They brought no late news, as all of them left Dawson previous to November 25. They confirm the stories of last week's arrivals that there will be no fame this winter though provision are scarce. It will be necessary, however, they think, to send supplies in the spring.

Among those coming from Dawson was Dr. Van Zandt, Peoria, Ill.

WERE NOT IN IT

Possible Conflict Between the Power and China Doesn't Effect U. S.

THE TIME MAY COME WHEN IT WILL

We Will Take a Hand When Necessary—Diplomats at Washington are Greatly Interested in the Outlook in the Far East.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The rapid movement of events in the far east continues to be an absorbing topic in diplomatic circles here, principally at the embassies and legations of the powers, which are anxious for an apparent struggle for Chinese territory. There is no further talk of the United States as a possible factor in the contest, as the recent understanding at the cabinet meeting is accepted as removing the government from the field of controversy. At the same time, an eminent authority on international affairs said yesterday that a situation might develop when the United States would be called upon to go much further than protect American interests at the treaty ports of China. This situation would come, he said, if the scramble for China territory went to the extent of the extinction of China and the complete absorption of the empire by foreign nations. Such is the apparent drift of the present movement, he said, and it became a reality then a condition would arise similar to the extermination of Poland. Until this final movement occurred, however, it was plain that the United States had no interest in the fencing of European nations and Japan for coaling stations and ports on the Asiatic coast.

In the meantime, however, the diplomats are much concerned in the movements of their respective governments. A leading Japanese diplomat said today:

"I do not look at the question as involving the partition of China, and no event has occurred thus far to indicate that China is about to be divided among the powers. The only tangible fact is that Germany has occupied Kiaochow bay and Russia has a fleet at Port Arthur. But Germany's action was taken to collect an indemnity for an indignity to German missionaries, just as she enforced indemnity from Hayti. Beyond this Germany may seek to establish a naval station at Kiaochow and thus have a navy base of operations on the Pacific. But that does not involve the taking of any considerable portion of Chinese territory, and it is yet to be shown that Germany will take more than a coast port and such land immediately adjacent as to give the port proper facilities."

Free Lunches at School.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 30.—At a meeting of the Illinois state teachers' association the principal address of the morning was that delivered by President E. Benjamin Andrews of Brown university, Providence, R. I., on "The Public School System as an Instrumentality of Social Advance." The address was a masterly effort. President Andrews took advantage of the opportunity to discuss the advisability of having school architecture, aesthetic in character and conducive to the most perfect ventilation and physical comfort to the pupils. He strongly urged the text book system and free lunches in the schools. He said everything that would assist in making schools pleasant for the pupils would do much to elevate the social and moral character of the people.

President Andrews believed that the authorities should arrange in the cities for the furnishing of lunches to the scholars if not free, at very low prices. These, he said, should be palatable, well-cooked and served in the school room or in a building under the supervision of the teachers or principal. One purpose, he said, in having these lunches served under the supervision of the teacher was to give to the children of the poor such experience in the way of table life and etiquette as would be beneficial. Besides this he held that the palatable food served in these lunches would be just what so many poor children need. He impressed on his audience the benefits to be derived from good food, neatly served by ladies or gentlemen, and the training derived therefrom. President Andrews thought free lunches would be better adapted to large cities than to the country, as in many instances it is hard for the child to get home to dinner through the crowded streets, etc.

No Soft Coal Combine.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 30.—Judge Stevenson Burke denies the report from New York that he has been authorized to complete the necessary legal forms of procedure for a combination of the Ohio soft coal railroads to maintain freight rates. It was reported that the representatives of all soft coal carrying roads reached an understanding whereby uniform carrying rates from the mines to market were to be established.

Assets Not Worth Much.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—By order of the United States court the remaining assets of the defunct Maverick National bank were sold at auction. The securities which were in the nature of unpaid notes, executions and judgments, amounting to \$1,065,000 brought just \$429. Some of the notes ranged as high as \$40,000 and many of them were signed by office boys and persons of no financial responsibility. The depositors of the bank have received 75 per cent of their claim.

SIX MEMBERS OF THE REINSCH FAMILY KILLED IN A SUNDAY FIRE

New York, Jan. 3.—Six members of one family were killed by flames and smoke in a fire that occurred early yesterday morning in Jersey City. The dead are:

Adolph Reinsch, forty-two years old, head of the family.

Emma Reinsch, forty-two years old, mother.

Tillie Reinsch, twenty-two years old.

Minnie Reinsch, aged fifteen.

Albert Reinsch, aged fourteen.

Gustav Reinsch, aged eight.

Others were injured and it may be that Sigmond Reinsch, nineteen years old, will die, as he is badly burned.

John Conway, chief of the Jersey City fire department, was very badly burned. He fell through a burning floor which was very badly burned and was rescued with difficulty.

Henry A. Reinsch, aged seventeen, escaped with bad burns on the neck, face and hands, but he is not seriously injured.

Adolph Reinsch was a real estate agent and well-to-do, living in a pleasant house of three stories at 317 Germania avenue.

STARTED IN THE BASEMENT.

It is believed that the fire broke out from a heater in the basement, and it worked its way up to the third floor where the sleeping apartments of the family were located.

Henry A. Reinsch said it was late when the family retired, the evening having been spent in entertaining New Year's callers. Early in the morning he was awakened by shouts. Running into the hall he saw the smoke and flames in the lower hall. His father was there and they managed to get out of the house in their night clothes. Young Reinsch ran down the street and gave the alarm. When he returned his father was nowhere to be seen, but one of his brothers, Sigmond, was there, but badly burned. Several companies responded promptly to the alarm and ten minutes later the fire was out. Then began the search which disclosed three charred bodies against the wall at the foot of the stairs. They were those of Adolph Reinsch, his daughter Tillie, and little Gustav. The father had fallen upon the daughter and his son was in his arms. They were burned almost beyond recognition.

In the basement of the house the sleeping party stumbled over the remains of Minnie and Albert, two blackened corpses with arms entwined. Portions of the limbs had been entirely burned away and the faces were horribly distorted.

The mother was found in the dining room. She was but slightly burned. She undoubtedly died from suffocation.

A Hopeless Task.

HAVANA, via Key West, Fla., Jan. 3.—The insurgent general, Francisco Carrillo with 1,900 men, has entered Matanzas province, near Hansbama, and is supposed to be on the way to unite with the concentrated insurgent forces under Brigadier-General Suarez and Separo in Havana province.

The Diario de la Marina calls the attention of the authorities to the pitiable conditions of the people in the town of Alonzo Rojas, in Pinar del Rio province. During the first ten days of December 1,000 persons died. Whole families of eight and ten persons have perished. Of ninety-two volunteers only nineteen are fit for duty, the remainder being sick with small-pox.

At Santo Domingo, Santa Clara province, and in districts of Jicotea Menacas and the central plantation of Esperanza smallpox is raging among the concentrated, many of whom have died. Most of the concentrated are without medical attention, food and other necessities of life. The government has for a second time sent \$10,000 for the relief of the concentrated in Matanzas province.

PANDO DISHEARTHENED.

It is reported from Santiago de Cuba that General Pando is greatly disheartened on account of the obstacles which prevent a successful campaign against the insurgents in that province. He declares that he has no base of operations, the insurgents' control being so complete that it is impossible to convey supplies to Spanish columns operating in the interior of the province. General Pando is said to be convinced that the insurgents of Santiago de Cuba province will not accept autonomy.

It is reported that General Sagua, operating in Santiago de Cuba, has been unable to agree with his superior officers and will return to Spain by next mail steamer.

Senor Canalejas, the editor, who has been investigating the situation in Cuba is said to be thoroughly discouraged with the outlook. He will return to Spain shortly.

Senor Amblard is said to take the same hopeless view of the situation as Senor Canalejas and it is stated that he will decline the proffered appointment of secretary of the Cuban autonomist cabinet.

Senor Capules, governor of Santiago de Cuba, has resigned, being unwilling to make appointments dictated to him by the government.

Flag Insulted.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 3.—The American flag that is reported to have been hauled down by the Mexican marines at Clipperton island is the one that was taken from this city by Paul K. Hennig, an employe of the Oceanic Phosphate company. It was hoisted above the coral rim by Hennig and two other men by direction of the company that has for several years been marketing the phosphates. The American claimants will ask their government to protect their rights.

FOUR THOUSAND CUBANS DIE IN THE STREETS FROM STARVATION

HAVANA, (via Key West, Fla.) Dec. 31.—The correspondent of the Madrid Imperial, who has ridden over the greater part of the island, writes to his paper that he saw at San Jose Lajas, this province, 4,000 reconcentrados thrown into the streets or dying in wretched huts, mere living skeletons. He stated that 10,000 have died within a year.

Several correspondents of El Diario de la Marina describe the horrible misery due to fever and sickness, in different towns in the provinces of Santa Clara. They are abandoned without shelter or medical assistance. The winter season increases the suffering among them. The women are half nude, with their naked infants wasted with cold and hunger.

The insurgents have burned 30,000 tons of sugar cane on the plantations in Santa Rita, Andrea and Bermejo, Matanzas province.

General Berral, in the province of Alinar del Rio, ordered several companies to reconnoiter and to engage groups of insurgents, but the troops met bands of some 150 and others 250 strong and experienced unusual loss. The bands are augmented by pacifists and concentrated who have lately joined the insurgents.

On Sunday in this province, Leader Louis Delgado was assassinated by two of his neighbors, who had induced him to confer with him. It is supposed they were government agents.

Judge Asks Them to Fight.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 31.—If Judge Wofford adheres to his intention that he has announced from the bench there will be an edifying spectacle of prize fights between belligerent attorneys of the criminal court in future.

Opposing attorneys in this court lately have been using uncomplimentary language toward each other and yesterday, after a tilt of this nature between the prosecuting attorney and Attorney McCoy, Judge Wofford, calling them to order, said:

"Hereafter when lawyers talk about fighting in this court I shall adjourn court and let them fight it out. If you fellows want to fight I'll just adjourn court and you can come in this room and fight it out. I'll see that there's air play. Now, if you are in earnest come right along and let's have it over with."

They didn't accept the judge's offer, however, but apologized instead.

Trial Will Be Long.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—Unable to convince the court that the prosecution in the Luertger case should furnish the defense with a duplicate stenographer's report of the evidence on account of the inability of Luertger to pay for stenographers, the attorneys for the big sausage manufacturer have commenced trying to take a verbatim report of the testimony in longhand. The consequence was that very little progress was made. Mr. Harman says he will take the proceedings verbatim if it takes six months, and in case Luertger is unable to make arrangements for stenographers to do the work the trial, from present indications, may be stretched out indefinitely.

After a Wall Street Man.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—A warrant is out for the arrest of Henry Oliver Goldsmith, one of the best known men of wall street. The specific charge against him is grand larceny in the first degree for appropriating a check for \$3,000, the property of Oscar A. Wiesner of Brooklyn. The officials of the district attorney's office say that Goldsmith has managed to get away with something like \$500,000. Goldsmith was indicted Tuesday last. Detectives have followed him all over New Jersey, Pennsylvania Boston and other places, but Goldsmith has eluded them. He and a man named Webster operated under the name of Hoyt & Co.

Four Murders.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., Dec. 31.—James Kirkley, the treasurer of Benton county, was found dead in his office at Fowler at 1 o'clock Wednesday morning. He was shot through the temple. A pistol was lying by his side, his revolver being found in his desk. The drawers of his desk and safe were opened and contents scattered about the office. There is great excitement and a posse of citizens are out searching for the murderers.

Threatened With Lynching.

EL RESO, O. T., Dec. 31.—Gustav Thejan, president of the Stock Exchange bank; Michael Eichoff, cashier; Charles A. Newman, assistant cashier and Louis Eichoff, director, have been arrested on the charge of receiving deposits when the bank was known to be insolvent. A meeting of the stockholders was held, at which several of the speakers declared they were ready to lead a lynching party.

A Fatal Runaway.

ST. JOE, Mo., Dec. 31.—Miss Jennie Edwards, aged nineteen, and Arch McWalters, aged twenty-four, members of wealthy families living near here, were killed in a runaway near this city.

Carnegie Leases a Mine.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 31.—The Oliver Mining company, owned and controlled by the Carnegie company, has just secured control of a newly developed iron mine near Ely, Minn., on the Vermillion range. The terms are not yet fully known, but it is believed in mining circles that the Oliver company has secured a twenty-year lease of the mine, upon a royalty of 30 cents a ton, with a bonus for the lease of \$200,000. The Carnegie interests, it is said, will assume control on January 1.