

NEBRASKA NEWS NOTES.

The license men went out in the Ainsworth elections.

Rain and snow were reported from Kimball and Sidney.

The supreme court heard arguments in the Omaha National bank case.

Lee Herdman appointed E. W. Nelson as deputy clerk of the supreme court.

Civil service examinations were held at Beatrice. Twelve persons took the test.

By the explosion of gasoline at Holdrege Roy Kinner was severely burned about the face and hands.

An inquest was held over the body of Charles Selby, who was killed near Cullom. The verdict was that he came to his death by accident.

Robert Davis of Fairbury, a state university student, has mysteriously disappeared. The police are trying to locate his whereabouts.

Chester A. Adams died at his father's home in Fullerton of chronic diarrhoea, contracted while in the army in the Philippines. Young Adams was among the youngest members of company B, First Nebraska.

Charles Selby, a teamster for N. Hansen, who has a contract of grading for Newell & Atwood, was struck by train No. 4 from Schuyler a short distance from Cullom, near Plattsmouth, and instantly killed. The body was brought to Plattsmouth and an inquest held.

A German farmer named Henry Kasstons and his daughter were crossing the Burlington tracks at Grand Island, when a train from Broken Bow struck the rear end of their wagon and threw them about twenty feet, fracturing the team, which ran away. The man's leg was broken and he suffered several bruises. The daughter was badly cut in the face.

Judge Vinsonhaler of Omaha has received a letter from Lieutenant Edgar F. Koehler, written from the Philippines, February 11. In the letter the writer predicts that the fighting was over and that there would be nothing further than a few skirmishes. Lieutenant Koehler was killed in a battle with the Filipinos on March 4. He will be remembered as a former attorney of Omaha.

The stockholders of the proposed Ainsworth Creamery association met and incorporated, with the following officers for the ensuing year: President, R. S. Rosing; secretary, H. O. Paine; treasurer, C. L. Briggs; board of directors, George Carpenter, W. H. Coltrin, Dr. W. B. Loomis, J. W. Shaver and C. M. Hutchinson. The plant is expected to be in operation within sixty days. Much interest is felt in the enterprise.

A man named Swanson, aged between 25 and 30 years, employed as a section hand on the Union Pacific railway, was run down by a local freight train at Millington and so severely injured that he thought he would die. Both legs were cut off, one below the hip, and he was bruised about the head and neck. He was taken to Omaha and St. Joseph's hospital. Little is known of Swanson personally save that he is a brother in St. Louis.

After a well-to-do Swiss farmer near Columbus, met his death in a manner. He set fire to his barn to back fire around his property and got beyond his control. He exerted himself and fell and suffocated. He had a number of hours when he was 67 years old, was in the Grand Army, had lived in the army for thirty years, and several children.

Richard Helmer, aged about 18, member of the senior class of the high school and oldest son of a prominent farmer, accidentally shot himself with a revolver. He was shot in the chest from the waist. The bullet struck his left lung, and he was lying on the floor of the barn looking no better than a dead man. A very stiff breeze blew from the east, and as the elevator was in the eastern part of the barn, the wind was very large, blew into the principal business houses, the roofs often catching fire and the men had hard work to save the buildings.

The firemen did nobly, but could not save the elevator. There were 5,000 bushels of corn in the building and about 1,000 bushels in the cars. The cars were all saved. The elevator was worth about \$5,000 and carried \$2,000 insurance in the Phoenix insurance company, but it burned on the grain. It is not known from what source the fire originated, but in all probability it caught from the machinery.

TO BE FREE.

WHY WEBSTER DAVIS RESIGNED HIS POSITION.

WILL PLEAD FOR BOERS

Promised the Brave Little Nation To Present Its Cause to the People of Our Country.

By Webster Davis, Late Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Washington, D. C.—My resignation of the office of assistant secretary of the interior is simply a matter of conscience and sympathy for the Boers.

Shortly after the close of the last campaign in Ohio I found myself worn out with continuous speaking for several weeks during that campaign, and my physician told me it was absolutely necessary for me to take a long sea voyage.

My old friend and neighbor, Colonel J. G. Stowe, now United States consul general at Capetown, Africa, had been importuning me for two years to visit South Africa. I concluded the proper time for me to make such a visit had arrived.

Not having had any vacation for three years of my official term, I asked leave of absence, which was kindly granted by the president and secretary of the interior.

First, I went to Capetown and was treated very nicely there by my friend, and also by his excellency, Sir Alfred Milner, governor of Cape Colony, and other officials, and this, too, when it was well understood that I was on a visit simply for health and recreation, and not on any government mission whatsoever.

HIS VISIT TO THE BOERS.

After this I went to Lorenzo Marques, for the purpose of trying to get into the South African Republic, as I had great anxiety to see and hear the Boer side of the controversy, for I had a suspicion that their side was not getting properly before the public, as it was well known that all cable lines were under the control of the British, and the censor made it absolutely impossible for the Boers to get anything favorable to them either over the wires or through the mails.

At Lorenzo Marques, after a most cordial reception tendered me voluntarily by the governor and governor-general of the Portuguese province of Mozambique, I received a telegram from Secretary Reitz of the South African Republic inviting me to become the guest of the government, and saying that President Kruger would send his private car to take me to Pretoria. I accepted this hospitality just as I had accepted the hospitality of the British officials at Capetown and of the Portuguese officials at Delagoa Bay.

At Pretoria I was given a most hearty reception. Secretary Reitz and the other government officials met me at the station and conducted me to the hotel.

BURGHERS MISJUDGED.

I spent considerable time in the Orange Free State and South African Republic, saw much of the Boer people in the cities, on the farms, in public and private life; saw them in laager, on the way to the front and on the battle fields, and I soon concluded that no people in the world had ever been so badly abused, and so badly misrepresented, for a kinder hearted, a more generous or nobler people cannot be found anywhere.

Not wishing to embarrass the administration in any way, I have resigned my office in order that I may feel free to give expression to my views. My heart bleeds for those poor, unfortunate Boers, who, without money and without resources, are making the most gallant fight for liberty and justice yet recorded in the histories of nations, and I feel that if I were standing absolutely alone in America for their cause, yet I would do so with courage and firmness. WEBSTER DAVIS.

WHY MR. DAVIS RESIGNED.

The New York Journal First Told of His Intention.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The Journal of the Interior, before Mr. Davis resigned his position as assistant secretary of the interior, published a long article in which Mr. Davis sent his reasons for resigning to the public. The reasons are exactly those given in the Journal. He desires to present the cause of the Boers, and to support his present position by embarrasing the administration and has resigned public office so that he may devote himself to the cause.

Secretary Davis promised the people of the Transvaal that he would tell the people of the United States the existing situation in South Africa, and he proposes to redeem his promise.

When he returned to this city a week ago he found that the administration was hopelessly committed to a policy of non-intervention, and for that reason he, as a member of the administration, was debarrued from speaking his mind.

Rather than break faith with the people of the Transvaal he determined to give up his position in the administration.

HE MAKES HIS PROMISE.

He went to the front, where he saw the brave fighting side by side with grandness of spirit. On his return to Pretoria he met President

Kruger again, and, while Mr. Davis does not say so, it is understood that the venerable Dutchman asked the assistant secretary of the interior to tell the people of the United States that the Transvaal looked to this country for moral support in this supreme hour of trial for the cause of liberty.

The people of Pretoria are interested in Mr. Davis' visit. The hustlers about his stopping place while he was in the city. At the depot, 2,000 strong, prattling children, tearful maidens, sorrowing mothers and wives and white-bearded men, saw him depart.

"Tell the people of the United States, just how we are, whether or not we have cause for sorrow, whether or not a sister republic should stand by us, whether or not our land should be taken away from us, and if the little Dutch Republic of South Africa should be effaced from the map. You and your people gained your freedom from England when we were British colonists. Surely we should not be taken away by that monarchy when we have our independence."

The train was about to depart. Mr. Davis, deeply touched, desired to express his sympathy and clamoring crowd. The colored hands, at least, held out in feeble remonstrance. Tear-stained feminine faces looked beseechingly into his.

TEARS WON THIS CHAMPION.

"Promise us that you will tell the United States that we should be saved," piped the treble voice of an octogenarian.

Davis looked at the crowd, practically everything that was left in Pretoria except the home guard, which was on sentry duty in the outskirts. These were grandmothers, mothers, sisters and brothers, begging for at least his voice and his influence in behalf of their homes and such of their men as might return to them.

Mr. Davis promised. To do this promise he must lose his place as assistant secretary of the interior.

"It is a matter of sympathy on my part," said Mr. Davis. In South Africa I visited both armies. I saw much of the British and saw much of the Boers. I concluded that the cause of the Boers was just, and that when the two smallest republics in the world are struggling against a great empire in the world for justice and independence, it was at least my part to speak my mind.

"All the Boers, including men, women and children, do not constitute a greater population than that of the city of Washington. These brave and simple people are making a stand to make the greatest fight in history against an empire of four hundred millions. Surely, I should have courage enough to express my opinion.

"My sympathies are with those people, and I believe that the American people should sympathize with them. I think we should do anything and everything within our power to let Great Britain and the world know that the American people are sympathetic with the Boers, but with the British, but with the Boers. We should let the world know that in our judgment such an unholy war should stop, and stop quickly.

"THEIR CAUSE WAS ONCE OURS."

"As sons of our forefathers, who fought British tyranny and established religious and civil liberty in the western hemisphere, we are naturally bound to support the Boers. They are fighting for what we fought and they are dying for the same principles for which many Americans have died, and for which every true American is willing to sacrifice his life.

"As assistant secretary of the interior I could not embarrass this government by talking as I felt. That is my reason for resigning. I will in all addresses I make, the American people acquainted with the truth as I know it and as they should know it. It is my duty—my moral duty—to do so.

"A gross injustice is being perpetrated on our own people, and they are being misrepresented before the whole world. Aside from the question of liberty, which is sacred and dear to all of us, the humanitarian principle involved is almost of equal importance. It is incumbent on the United States to renounce its support of the Boers, as it did with Spain when at war with the struggling Cubans.

"We do not get the truth from South Africa. The English correspondents are enabled to get their dispatches over the wires, because the lines are controlled absolutely by the English, but the American people never hear the Boer side of the war.

"If I did not keep the promise I made to those suffering people, as brave and as noble as any made in any land, my conscience would burn and they would haunt me as long as I lived.

"Their cause is just. God is their trust, and in the light of the past history of the American people, who went through the same heroic fighting struggle, I believe the Boers will win."

FIRST SPEECH NEXT SUNDAY.

Mr. Davis will speak before a Washington audience next Sunday night. The pro-Boer sympathizers of Washington have invited the speaker to the Wellington of Maryland, Senator Charles of New Hampshire, and Representative Littlefield of Maine, all republicans.

The administration, of course, can do nothing but accept Mr. Davis' resignation. Mr. Davis desires no quarrel with the administration, as he believes a man may be a republican and still enjoy the right of free speech. As in the case of Macrum, however, who was a good republican of the state department, and did effective work for McKinley in 1896, he has a strong personal following and is much esteemed by those who know him.

TRIBUTE TO DAVIS BY PATRICK EGAN.

Patrick Egan, former United States minister to Chili, and for many years a prominent Irish republican, sent the following dispatch to Webster Davis: "Hon. Webster Davis, Washington, D. C.: Your resignation does eternal honor to your methods and courage and must command the approval of all true Americans. PATRICK EGAN."

INSTRUCT.

THE GOLD DEMOCRATS HAVE A METHOD IN THEIR MADNESS.

W. J. ABBOT SPEAKS.

A Hero in the Strife Cautions the Friends of the People Everywhere To Be Cautious.

Chicago, Ill.—(Special.)—Mr. Willis J. Abbott, who has charge of the democratic national press bureau, says:

"It will be wise for democrats in all parts of the country to take an active interest in the welfare of their party, to consider with care and scrutinize circumstances the motives of the men who after deserting and bitterly antagonizing the party in 1896, are now returning to its fold and asking permission to participate in its actual management.

"Many of these men returned to the democratic party with the best of purposes. Many of them have seen that their action in 1896 was ill-advised and that however much evil they may have unwisely apprehended from the recurrence to the ancient system of bimetallic currency, those evils have been vastly outdone by the delivery over to the forces of monopoly and militarism of the national government as a result of McKinley's election. They come back perhaps unconvinced of the wisdom of the financial policy urged by the democratic party, but willing even to accept it rather than longer subject the nation to the dominations that have sprung from McKinleyism.

"But there is another class of men upon whose movements it behooves the democrats to keep a vigilant watch. They come with smooth promises and fair words upon their lips, but in their hearts a determination to seize control of the national convention, to defeat the reiteration of those deathless principles enunciated in 1896, and to block the nomination of a man of the people for president. These are not mere idle speculations herein set down, but well discovered facts. In certain states, not now necessary to enumerate, the remnants of '96 professing the utmost loyalty, are now seeking to regain control. They understand all the methods of back stairs politics, and they can draw on the same financial support which Mark Hanna has at his command. The trusts and monopolies own the republican party. They are trying to get their lieutenants back again into the democratic party that they may own it once more. There is one simple and effective way to defeat these plotters—that is to have no delegation to Kansas City that is not pledged to a reaffirmation of the Chicago platform and to the nomination only of candidates who in 1896 were and still are wholly loyal to it in letter and in spirit. The chain of instructions should be complete from the district to the state convention, and from the state to the national convention.

"It may be said with the utmost confidence to the democratic voters of the nation that the newspaper which announces a project in any district or state to instruct the delegates, is at bottom desirous of taking the democratic party out of its present position of loyalty to the people, and that the man desiring to go to the national convention who opposes an instructed delegation, wishes to go, there in order to betray his party.

"The motto of every democratic convention which has to do directly or indirectly with the selection of the democratic national delegates, should be 'Instruct, instruct, instruct.'"

OTHER CITIES WANT IT.

Cincinnati Wants the Democratic Convention.

Cincinnati, O.—(Special.)—Colonel W. B. McElch, who was at the head of the movement to secure for Cincinnati the national democratic convention, when informed of the destruction of the Kansas City hall, said it was an unjust thing to attempt to profit by the misfortune of a sister city, but if the situation made it necessary for the democrats to look elsewhere for accommodations, Cincinnati stood ready with her unrivaled Saengerfest and Music halls to offer her hospitality to the homeless.

Milwaukee, Wis.—Mayor D. S. Ross, on hearing of the burning of the convention hall at Kansas City, wired the chairman of the national democratic committee, asking that if the conflagration resulted in a change of the plans already arranged, that Milwaukee be considered. Milwaukee has a

The contemporary review is responsible for the statement that, though during the middle ages women had not even the right to make clothing for money and it was not until 1675 that a corporation society of women dress-makers was organized, now women's labor produces more than a third of the industrial products of France. In 1861 the proportion of women to men in manufacturing was 21 per cent. In 1873 it was 32 and today it is 38. The proportion of men has fallen steadily, they preferring clerkships and official posts when procurable. During the last ten years the number of women in factories has risen to 129,000. That of men has fallen to 72,575. Women are almost the only operatives in artistic crafts, such as flower-making, fans, toys, etc., and in the dressmaking trade there are 400,000 employes and hardly a man in the multitude.

PORTO RICO'S TROUBLES.

Think Their Island is Destined To Be Another Ireland.

(By James Crookman.)

Ponce, Porto Rico.—(Special.)—The suffering here is increasing and the feeling of despair is spreading. There is no hope that congress will do justice. Thousands of Porto Ricans are preparing to leave their native land to escape the semi-slavery of the McKinley colonial system, which offers no opportunity for development.

Three hundred Porto Ricans have just sailed from Ponce for Cuba, where the prospect of independence seems plain. The parting scenes were sorrowful and touching. Imperialism is rapidly filling the cemeteries, and now the living victims are seeking safety in flight to make homes under some other flag. The people here are convinced that Porto Rico is destined to become another Ireland.

WOMEN DIE OF STARVATION IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE.

Women have been dying of starvation in the public square of this large city. Last night in a rain storm I saw homeless men, women and children sleeping in the public square. One starving man was barely saved from death by a cupful of soup. He was a terrible object to look at.

"I have no friend left," he said. "Is that true? Has this poor, white-faced, hungry man no friend in congress?"

A feeling of desperation is produced by the military government deliberately ignoring and ostracizing the federal party, which represents forty-four out of sixty-six towns in the island. Hernandez Lopez, vice president of the federals, has left the party. He was the representative of the federals on the judiciary board of the military government. Lopez offered his resignation to General Davis on the ground that he was no longer a member of the federal party.

MAJORITY HAS NO REPRESENTATION IN THE GOVERNMENT.

The general refused to accept, saying that Lopez was a member of the bond not as a federal, but as a Porto Rican. This leaves the federals, who represent four-fifths of the wealth and education of the island, without representation in any branch of the general government.

The republican party, largely composed of ignorant radicals and negroes led by a few intelligent men, is exclusively recognized by President McKinley's military government.

The persecution of the federals has increased since the federal party sent out a message of gratitude to the democracy through William J. Bryan. It was the republican party of Porto Rico which promised in its platform to always honor the names of Washington and Lincoln and McKinley. The federals stoutly refuse to tolerate imperialism and demand the recognition of Porto Rico as a part of the United States.

A UNIQUE CELEBRATION.

Gov. Mount's Suggestion to the Indiana People.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 5.—The very unique suggestion of Governor Mount that the people of each county in this state celebrate the next Fourth of July by holding meetings to commemorate the history of the counties and the state, has apparently met with enthusiastic response, for after a conference with leading citizens, the governor has issued the following proclamation:

"At a meeting of representative citizens of Indiana held in the governor's office on the 26th day of March, 1900 it was decided to call the attention and enlist the interest of the people of the state to the pressing need for the collection and preservation of early historic incidents connected therewith. This important work has already been delayed too long. Many of our pioneers who had witnessed events and were participants in scenes of thrilling moment have passed away with their valuable experience unexpressed. It was the consensus of opinion and expression at the meeting aforesaid that it would be wise for the chief executive of the state to formally invite the cooperation of all citizens of Indiana in putting into effect the purposes herein outlined, the appropriateness of the occasion being emphasized by the fact that this is the centennial year of our territorial organization, and therefore an opportune time for the taking up of the long-neglected work of systematically collecting historic data. It was further agreed that our national holiday could be observed in no more appropriate way than in reviving and gathering facts appertaining to the early growth of our state and its subsequent progress in splendid achievements."

An English woman by the name of Margaret Noble is about to open a school for native girls in India on such plans as shall not offend their caste prejudices. The school will be perfecting Hindu in character, preserving the pentite form, and will be presided over by Sarada Devi, a Brahmin lady of high caste. There will be positively no attempt made to influence the pupils in favor of the Christian religion, the object of education being all that Miss Noble wishes, confident that changes will necessarily follow.

A Georgia Story.

A prominent Georgia lawyer is responsible for the following: He overheard a conversation between his book and a nurse, who were discussing a recent funeral of a member of their race, at which there had been a great profusion of flowers. The nurse said: "When I die, don't plant no flowers on my grave, but plant a good old watermelon vine; and when it gets ripe, 'spos come dar and don't you eat it, but jes' jus' it on de grave and let dat good old juice dribble down through de ground."

A CHARMING CALLING.

The Lavender Industry, as Carried on in England—Care in Harvesting.

There are few more delightful scenes than a field of lavender, with the morning sun lighting up the ever-changing colors of the swaying stems. As fleecy clouds move across the sky the blue tinge of the field takes a darker tinge, and then, as the sun's brilliant light plays again without hindrance on the great patch of scent-laden flowers, the hue becomes almost a Cambridge blue. But only for a moment; the variations are ceaseless. The color of a lavender field has baffled the brush of many an artist, and none that we can recall has ever been able to catch these wondrous shifting tints with anything like truth. Just now the lavender cutters are hard at work, deftly reaping, with sickle in hand, the fragrant crop, cutting in the early morning the bunches which find their way into shops and the hands of the hawkers by way of Covent Garden market, and devoting what is literally the heat and burden of the day to reaping for the still.

The lavender which is destined for sachets and the linen press will constitute but a small proportion of that which is now being reaped with quite feverish energy, for it is to the oil of lavender that the grower looks for his chief profit.

This has been a good season for the lavender grower, and if he is now up with the lark, and by no means to bed when the birds go to roost, it is because of the necessity of making scent while the sun shines, or, rather, extracting the essential oils which go to the making of the scent. And if he is reaping an abundant harvest he deserves it, for the cultivator of lavender, be he "pharmaceutical agriculturist" or herb grower, suffers all the risks and disappointments attending the tilling of the soil. The good rains in May, coupled with the abundance of sunshine since that time, have resulted in a lavender crop excellent alike in quantity and quality.

Spring frosts often do considerable damage to the lavender plants, but although the frosts this year were keen enough to cut down the potato harlots they seem to have spared the lavender. The net result is that, while the bunches of so-called "Mitcham lavender" which find their way to Covent Garden are full and well flavored this year, the yield of essential oils is also excellent, for the long spell of sunshine has enriched the little cups which constitute the sprigs of bloom. It may surprise a good many people to learn that there is not, nor has there been for many years, such a thing as Mitcham lavender. There was a time when Fig's Marsh boasted as many as five stills, and when Mitcham was certainly the center of the lavender industry, but the scene of operations has shifted, and now Bedlington, Wallington and Cussholton constitute with a radius of about six miles Surrey's lavender growing area. There are something like one hundred and fifty acres under cultivation in Surrey (notably at Cussholton), and if the retailers maintain the Mitcham legend it is because the Surrey lavender is noted for its quality, and Mitcham is also grown at Ilcheln (Berks), Grove Ferry, near Canterbury, and in Bedfordshire—London Globe.

VALUE OF CORNSTALKS.

One of the Most Important Discoveries in Industrial History.

There is now a home market where the farmer can get from \$1 to \$5 a ton for cornstalks; that is from \$5 to \$12 an acre for what has hitherto brought him in sixty cents at best. The American Agriculturist, which treats of this new industry in a leading article, declares it to be one of the most important departures in industrial history. It gives the following list of what is made from cornstalks:

1. Cellulose for packing cofferlans on battleships, thus preventing them from sinking when pierced by balls or shells.
2. Cellulose used for nitrating purposes for making smokeless powder and other high explosives, for both small and great arms as well as purposes for which dynamite or other explosives are required in various forms and degrees of strength.
3. Cellulose for packing, it being the most perfect non-conductor known against heat or electricity, jars or blows.
4. Paper pulp and various forms of paper made therefrom, both alone and mixed with other grades of paper stock.
5. Stock food made from fine ground outer shells or shives of cornstalks, and also from the nodes or joints. The leaves and tassels also furnish a shredded or haled fodder.
6. Mixed feeds for stock, containing fine ground shells or shives as a base, and in addition thereto various nitrogenous meals and concentrated food substances, or blow, molasses, distillery and glucose refuse, sugar beet pulp, apple pomace and other by-products.
7. Poultry feeds of two types, namely—type 1, containing a dominant nitrogenous factor for laying hens, and No. 2, containing a dominant carbohydrate factor for fattening purposes.

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A revolt has broken out in Panama against the Colombian government.