

MORTON'S VIEWS

HIS IMPRESSIONS CONCERNING TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT.

HE FAVORS FEDERAL CONTROL

The Secretary Would Legalize Pooling, Favor Unification of Ownership and Punish the Giving or Accepting of Rebates.

WASHINGTON—Paul Morton, secretary of the navy and former vice president of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe company, is the author of an article on the railway rate question which will be published in the Outlook. He at the outset expressly disclaims writing as a representative of President Roosevelt's administration and says he speaks merely as one with a somewhat extensive experience pertinent to an important subject.

The secretary in the article says there are very few complaints against railroad rates per se in the United States, the chief trouble being with the "relation of rates as between markets."

He says there are as many rates that are too low as there are rates which a court would decide to be too high, and that either class of rates may be equally disastrous to communities. He expresses the opinion that federal supervision of railroads is necessary, but adds that regulation and protection should go together.

He says that one of the three things following is sure to take place in the conduct of our railways:

First—Legalization of pools, the rest of the railroads to make enforceable contracts between themselves as to a division of earnings, so that they can resist the temptations of big snipers and be assured a fair share of the business moving at stable rates, which shall apply alike to all patrons.

Second—The further unification of ownership, thereby delivering in time the entire railway ownership of the country in the hands of a few individuals or one syndicate.

Third—Government ownership, the worst of the three "evils," if such they may be called.

In the opinion of Mr. Morton government ownership of our railroads would be the beginning of industrial and political chaos.

He rather favors the first proposition, with adequate provision to assure rates being reasonable.

As to pending legislation Mr. Morton favors the continuance of the Interstate Commerce commission in substantially its present form, saying:

Let it go on making investigations and findings, if it finds a rate is unreasonable (either too high or too low, everything else being considered) let it order such rates as it deems reasonable and if the railroads do not make them effective in thirty days, then the entire matter to be referred to a central court of transportation, of say three to five members, to be created to especially consider and expedite all questions of interstate commerce so far as the transportation of the country is concerned, it being understood that this central court shall have power to adjudicate in all such cases except those involving constitutional questions and the findings of this court in interstate matters to be final.

Mr. Thompson for Brazil.

WASHINGTON—Brazil has finally determined on the elevation of her legation at Washington to an embassy and will send her minister to London, Mr. Nabuco, as her first ambassador to this country. This will necessitate similar action on the part of the American government, and Mr. Thompson, the present American minister at Brazil, will be named as ambassador.

OPPOSED TO PENDING BILL.

F. B. Thurber Argues Against the Quarles-Cooper Measure.

WASHINGTON—Opposition to the Quarles-Cooper bill extending authority to the interstate commerce commission to fix freight rates was made before the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce by F. B. Thurber, president of the United States Export association. Mr. Thurber stated that he had heard the statement made by Mr. Bacon and others at the St. Louis convention of the interstate commerce league that congress was owned by the railroads.

Mr. Bacon denied making such a statement.

Upon inquiry from Representative Stevens of Minnesota, Mr. Thurber admitted that he and the association he represented solicited funds from Governor General Leonard Wood of Cuba and Mr. Hagemeyer of the sugar trust to be used in the effort to secure Cuban reciprocity. In reply to a question by Mr. Bacon Mr. Thurber stated that he expected no pay from the railroads for opposing the bill under discussion. His testimony will be continued Friday.

Alva Adams in Office

DENVER—Standing beneath the draped folds of the American flag, while the walls about him and the floor beneath him trembled in response to cannon that roared a salute in his honor, Alva Adams was at noon Tuesday inaugurated as governor of Colorado. While he stood with uplifted hand taking the oath of office, administered by Chief Justice Gable, at his side stood the athletic form of the ex-governor, James Peabody, who will at once inaugurate an energetic contest for the place.

Indian Appropriation Bill Ready.

WASHINGTON—The house committee on Indian affairs completed the Indian appropriation bill. It carries a total of \$7,244,206. The appropriation for the current year is \$9,878,480. The principal item of decrease in the bill is that required by treaty stipulations, the reduction being \$2,000,000. The item of miscellaneous expenses is about \$1,000,000 less than the current law. Current law carries \$433,000 to meet agreements with certain Indians which is not required during the next fiscal year.

TARIFF REVISION.

President Roosevelt Favors Early Action.

WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt favors the earliest possible action looking to a revision by congress of the tariff. He so informed the senators and representatives who were in conference with him at the White house last Saturday and he has made plain his position to others since that conference. He will call the Fifty-ninth congress into extraordinary session as soon as the committees have indicated that they are prepared to submit a tariff measure for passage. One of those present at the conference on Saturday said, in view of the many conflicting stories published regarding the meeting, that the president informed them that, while he did not believe in any sweeping revision of the tariff and would abide absolutely by the judgment of the two houses of congress, in a matter that related so particularly to them, yet he did think the time had come when the schedules should be thoroughly examined and there should be a readjustment as to certain of them. The president added that his own view was that the special session should take place at the earliest date, at which the committees of the two houses could come to an agreement as to a bill. If they took this view, he said, he would hold himself ready to call the extraordinary session at whatever time the members of the two committees, and especially the house committee on ways and means, should inform him they would be ready with their report.

If congress should act on the tariff question in accordance with the president's desire it was made perfectly plain that the extraordinary session would be called to assemble the coming spring. It has been pointed out however, by the tariff experts of the house and senate it will require many weeks to prepare a bill for submission to the house.

It was said that there is not the least prospect of differences so radical arising between the president and republican leaders in congress over the tariff question as to cause a split in the party. While the president is deeply in earnest in his desire for tariff revision, he regards the question as one of expediency, in which no great principle is at stake.

On another question, however—that of legislation, relating to the interstate freight rates of railroads—his mind is quite made up. He will fight for that legislation and fight hard. He hopes to secure from congress some definite action regarding that legislation at the present session, but if he does not he will bring the subject again before congress at the proposed extraordinary session and will urge with all his power the crystallization into law of the recommendations he already has made to congress on that question. The freight rate question he does not regard as one of expediency. He holds that it is a subject in which a great moral principle is involved, and one very near to all the people of the country. He regards it, in fact, as the paramount issue at this time.

THE DOUBASSOFF INTERVIEW.

He Did Not Foreshadow Peace in Order to Gain Time.

PARIS—Owing to the continued discussion of the interview with Vice Admiral Doubassoff favorable to early peace, the Russian embassy has given out the following statement:

"It is quite true that the questions cited have been discussed, but it is quite probable that the Echo de Paris interviewer gave the admiral's circum-spect responses in a sense too categorical. In reality, the admiral has not foreshadowed immediate peace for the purpose of gaining time and then recommending the war under circumstances more favorable for Russia. The questions of peace or war devolve solely upon the supreme authorities in Russia, and no official personage would publicly express opinions unaccompanied by the resolutions of the imperial government. Moreover, Admiral Doubassoff's responses did not give a sufficiently solid basis to permit of exactly defining the admiral's confidential opinion."

FAVOR JOINT STATEHOOD.

Delegation From Oklahoma and Indian Territory at Capitol.

WASHINGTON—The senate end of the capitol was visited by a delegation of fifty residents of Oklahoma and Indian territory, who have come to Washington in the interest of that portion of the general statehood bill which provides for the creation of a state of these two territories. The leader, D. C. Lewis, said that his delegation is interested only in the Oklahoma bill. He said the people of Oklahoma and Indian territory want statehood, but want to come in on the same footing as other states.

It was learned that the delegation objects to the proposed regulation of liquor traffic in the bill.

Brady's Opponents Weaken.

WASHINGTON—The senate committee on territories on Friday authorized for a third time a favorable report on the nomination of John G. Brady to be governor of Alaska. The nomination has been called up in the senate for confirmation on two occasions, and both times opposition was made on the ground that commercial interests wanted to be heard before action was taken. The nomination was sent back both times, and Friday was set for a hearing of the protests against Governor Brady.

American Dentist Kills Self.

BERLIN—Dr. Alonzo H. Sylvester, Emperor William's American dentist, committed suicide here Tuesday. He shot himself through the head in his bed room. The emperor was fond of Dr. Sylvester. He created him a royal Prussian councillor, appointed him to the body of dentists and gave him many presents. Dr. Sylvester was the pioneer American dentist in Berlin, having come here thirty years ago. He had an extraordinarily large professional income, but had nevertheless financial difficulties.

CONGRESS EXTRA

NOT LIKELY THAT A SESSION WILL BE CALLED.

THE TARIFF TO BE POSTPONED

A Disposition to Let Matters Rest Until Fall—Congress May Be Called Together in October if Conditions Necessitate It.

WASHINGTON—The talk of an extra session of congress in the spring is gradually dying out. The leaders of the senate and house, after careful consideration with the president, of those questions which are very important in the minds of the people, tariff revision and railroad rates, are almost a unit in opposition to a spring session of congress. In fact, the opposition has crystallized through the efforts of Speaker Cannon and Senator Aldrich and there is a disposition now to postpone tariff revision until the extra session, which seems very likely to be called about the 15th or 20th of October. But while tariff revision talk is very perceptibly diminishing, the talk of rate readjustments is on the increase, and so vast is the agitation now going on that traffic managers, railroad presidents, general managers and railroad attorneys are coming into Washington almost in droves to ascertain at first hand what the scheme of railroad rate readjustments is. There are those in congress who enjoy the confidence of the president who are of the opinion that a bill giving larger powers to the interstate commerce commission could be passed at this session of congress if the leaders would so order, and if a conservative measure could be agreed upon. The passage of such a bill would do away with any extra session of congress and tariff revision, or at least a modification of schedules could be taken up in the regular session of congress, which convenes the first Monday in next December. It is admitted that the president does not advocate radical action that would bring disaster to the railroads. On the other hand, it is conceded that there is ground for complaint and room for reform. It is not a work that can be done in a day. The question is big and broad, with far-reaching effect, and must needs be handled with wisdom and deliberation. It is, therefore, believed that if an extra session is called at all it will be next fall, and not this spring.

On the 2d of March next William M. Stewart of Nevada will retire from the senate. Following the precedent set by Thomas Benton of Missouri, James G. Blaine of Maine, John Sherman of Ohio and George F. Hoar of Massachusetts, Senator Stewart will devote his attention to editing and revising for publication his "reminiscences," which will be published next fall. Senator Stewart took his seat in the United States senate in February, 1865, as one of the first two senators from the newly admitted state of Nevada. There are only two other men alive today who served with him in 1865, namely, George F. Edmunds of Philadelphia and John B. Henderson of this city.

LONG CALM MAY BE BROKEN

Kuropatkin Thought to Be Planning an Important Move.

ST. PETERSBURG—The war office does not admit that the appearance of General Mishchenko's cavalry southward in Liao Yang is more than an expedition designed to strike the railroad at several points and interrupt the transportation of General Nogai's guns from Port Arthur to Manchuria, but from certain indications it seems possible that it is preliminary to an operation of magnitude. General Mishchenko has over 20,000 horsemen and, moving rapidly, might be able to seriously damage communications in the rear of Liao Yang.

The tone of dispatches from some Russian correspondents vaguely hints at very important developments and the writer of the Novoe Vremya expresses the opinion that the long calm since the battle of Shalke is about to be broken. It is also noteworthy that there have been no official dispatches from General Kuropatkin for two days.

CUT OFF BY 8,000 JAPANESE.

Reported Fate of Mishchenko's Raiding Party.

LONDON—A dispatch to Lloyds from Yinkow, dated January 15, gives a report that General Mishchenko's raiding party was cut off on its way back by 8,000 Japanese, dispatched from Sianliho by General Oku. This report, however, is not confirmed from any other source.

The Daily Telegraph's Che Foo correspondent says the raid was only a divergence from the mass of cavalry now moving along the banks of the Liao river, and the exceptional mildness of the season affords the chance for the repetition of such operations.

Causes a Scare in Hayti.

PORT AU PRINCE—Mr. Powell, the American minister, has informed the government of Hayti that the United States government refuses to recognize the validity of the sentence in contumacy to fifteen years at hard labor pronounced by the Haytian court against Jaeger Huber, an American citizen, for alleged complicity in bond frauds charged against the administration of former President Simon Sam and officers of the Bank of Hayti. The demand has caused much excitement.

A Song Touched His Heart.

LONDON, Ky.—J. W. Bess, who murdered Mrs. Martha McQuinn Martin two years ago, was hanged here. Shortly before the execution the condemned man confessed that he intended to commit suicide with a knife blade which he had carried concealed in his mouth, but upon hearing a sacred song sung by children near the jail had changed his mind. He said he intended to cover his head with the bed clothes, pretending to the death watch that he was asleep, then open a vein and bleed to death.

Nebraska Ex-Governor Dead.

LINCOLN—Ex-Governor Garber of Red Cloud died on Thursday morning. Governor Mickey was informed by telegraph and ordered the flag over the state house to be placed at half mast.

QUITTS WITH SOME REGRET.

Bristow Talks of Trials in Postal Department.

WASHINGTON—Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, who has been appointed special commissioner to investigate Panama railroad and steamship companies, said:

"I suppose I have made some enemies since I undertook the duties of fourth assistant postmaster general, but I also believe I have made some friends. At any rate I know there are many men who have had business with this office who have said that notwithstanding their opposing opinion in some of the action I have taken, that I have tried to do my duty and have acted as I thought was for the best interests of the service and according to what I felt to be the right thing. It has been in many respects a hard office to fill, and in many other respects a pleasant one. I leave the office with regret, but feel that the appointment which the president has made will be a pleasant one to fill. I am going to try my best to meet the expectations of the president and Secretary Taft."

Mr. Bristow has not formulated any plans for his new work as yet, and will devote the remainder of the time between now and the date when his resignation becomes effective in closing up the affairs of his present office.

BUILDINGS FOR NEBRASKA.

York and Grand Island Likely to Be Thus Favored.

WASHINGTON—It is almost certain that York and Grand Island will get public buildings at the hands of this congress. Sites may be provided in North Platte, Columbus and Kearney, but the present session will not provide for buildings in the last named towns. Congressman Hinshaw has been indefatigable in his labors to secure for York one hundred thousand dollars for a building, but the chances are he will get but seventy-five thousand. However, that amount may be increased at a later session. No definite assurance has as yet been given by the committee that York will be included in the list, but Congressman Norris, who is a member of the committee, is making a hard fight for both Grand Island and York. Members of the committee intimate that inasmuch as Grand Island has the largest population and that congress is likely to pass a law providing for the holding of sessions of the federal court in Grand Island, the government building there should be a large one. Hence the committee is likely to appropriate \$125,000 for Grand Island.

PROGRAM OF JAPS.

Naval Station Will Be Established at Port Arthur.

TOKIO—The Japanese intend to establish a naval station at Port Arthur. Vice Admiral Y. Shibayama will probably be placed in charge of it.

The military administration will only retain a small garrison as soon as the prisoners are withdrawn and order is restored. The fleet is busily engaged in clearing mines, but owing to their great number navigation will be unsafe for a long time. Only government craft will be allowed to enter the harbor. It is probable that Dalny will soon be opened up to neutrals. Japanese companies are preparing to establish weekly services to that port. It is proposed shortly to float a fourth domestic war loan under the same conditions as the third was negotiated.

The transfer of prisoners was completed yesterday afternoon. The total number of officers transferred was 878; men, 23,491.

SWAYNE IMPEACHMENT CASE.

Many Representatives Desire to Speak on the Subject.

WASHINGTON—The important work before the house of representatives this week is the disposition of the Swayne case. It cannot be foretold just how much time will be consumed before a conclusion is reached, as there are a number of members who desire to speak on the subject before action is taken on the articles of impeachment reported by the select committee. As this is a question of the highest privilege it will have precedence over all other business undisposed of, Monday being suspension day, the probability is that some time will be given to the consideration of minor business under suspension of rules, after which argument will be resumed on the Swayne case.

NEW PENSION COMMISSIONER.

Congressman Warner of Illinois Given Appointment.

WASHINGTON—The president has appointed Vespasian Warner to be commissioner of pensions. Mr. Warner is from the Nineteenth district of Illinois and was re-elected last November. He was strongly endorsed by members of congress and a number of veterans.

Has an Infernal Machine.

PHILADELPHIA—A man who gave his name as Gessler Resseau was arrested at the home of John Kelly, brother of the missing Owen Kelly, and a telescope bag he carried was found to contain an infernal machine wrapped in a Washington newspaper. The man is believed to be demented. He was committed to prison. Kelly told the police that Resseau had offered for \$500 to take him to his missing brother, Owen, in New York. The man's peculiar actions aroused Kelly's suspicions and police were called.

Chance for Alaska Bill.

WASHINGTON—Senator Dietrich, in speaking of the bill which he introduced providing for a government board for Alaska to be constituted of seven persons, three to be appointed by the president and three by election by the people, together with the governor of Alaska, who shall be ex-officio president of the board, said that he expected a favorable report on the bill. It had the hearty support of Senator Beveridge, chairman of the territories committee, and other prominent men.

Boodle Fund Disposed Of.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Judge Ryan, in the St. Louis circuit court on Wednesday, ordered that the \$60,000 fund alleged to have been used in connection with the suburban railroad boodle deal, and now in a safe deposit box, be used in payment of a note on which it was borrowed by a former president of the railroad company. The money is held under an impoundment order issued by the criminal division of the circuit court, it having been used as evidence in trials of members of the municipal assembly.

HAS OTHER WORK

MR. BRISTOW TO INQUIRE INTO FREIGHT RATES.

IS A SPECIAL COMMISSIONER

To Accept the Place He Resigns Fourth Assistant Postmaster Generalship—Will Investigate Railroad Traffic Matters.

WASHINGTON—Joseph L. Bristow, fourth assistant postmaster general, tendered to the president his resignation as an officer of the postal service, to take effect on January 20. By an executive order President Roosevelt designated Mr. Bristow as a special commissioner to make an investigation into the present trade conditions and freight rates between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and between the west coast of South America and the east coasts of the United States and of Europe, to determine the best policy of managing the Panama railroad.

The announcement came at the conclusion of an extended conference Friday of the president, Secretary Taft, Mr. Bristow and Senator Long of Kansas. The order issued by the president says, in addition to the foregoing:

"He is authorized to employ for this purpose a stenographer at not exceeding \$5 a day, and his actual and necessary expenses, and to take evidence of all persons whose knowledge of trade conditions or rates will assist in reaching the necessary conclusion.

"The secretary of war will furnish to the special commissioner a letter of instructions, in detail, as to the course and extent of his investigation and as to the time when he shall report his conclusions.

"Until his report is forthcoming the commissioner will be allowed his actual expenses and \$15 a day. The president will finally fix his entire compensation. The isthmian canal commission is directed to provide the funds needed in the execution of the order."

After the conference at the White House Senator Long said that the transfer of Mr. Bristow from the post-office department to work in connection with the proposed isthmian canal had been under consideration for a long time.

"Secretary Taft," said the senator, "desired to utilize Mr. Bristow's services in connection with the work of constructing the canal and has had the idea in mind of appointing him a commissioner to investigate trade and freight conditions ever since he returned from the isthmus of Panama. The president readily acceded to Secretary Taft's suggestion, and as the work will be entirely congenial, Mr. Bristow has accepted the new position."

Mr. Bristow has had interviews with the president and Secretary Taft regarding the affair, but his final determination was not reached until Friday. His decision to accept the special commissioner's post was hastened, it is said, by the transfer Thursday of the division of postoffice inspectors from the bureau of the fourth assistant postmaster general to the direct control of the postmaster general himself. Mr. Bristow regarded the issuance of the order of transfer of the division as a reflection on him. That the order as to the inspectors' division was not issued with the idea of humiliating Mr. Bristow is evidenced by the president's action of Friday.

Mr. Bristow will continue as fourth assistant until January 20.

CONSIDER PEABODY CONTEST.

Adams Will Ask for a More Complete Investigation.

DENVER, Colo.—The house resolved to meet the senate in joint session next Tuesday for the purpose of taking action regarding the contest instituted by James H. Peabody for the governorship.

Governor Alva Adams will file an answer to the Peabody contest on Monday. He will demand that all the ballot boxes of Denver, of Las Animas and Huerfano counties be opened. Mr. Peabody asked for the opening of part of the Denver and Las Animas boxes, but none of Huerfano county. Mr. Adams will also ask for an investigation of the election at Leadville, Cripple Creek and several other cities.

Five informations were filed by District Attorney Stidger, charging election crimes in this city, among the accused are Joseph Ray and Charles Kofsky, who are now serving jail sentences imposed by the supreme court for disregarding the election orders.

They are charged with receiving illegal votes when acting as election judges. Altogether twenty informations for alleged violation of the election laws have been filed by District Attorney Stidger during the four days since he took office.

Has an Infernal Machine.

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WASHINGTON—Senator Dietrich, in speaking of the bill which he introduced providing for a government board for Alaska to be constituted of seven persons, three to be appointed by the president and three by election by the people, together with the governor of Alaska, who shall be ex-officio president of the board, said that he expected a favorable report on the bill. It had the hearty support of Senator Beveridge, chairman of the territories committee, and other prominent men.

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MUST BE ACTION.

President Again Confers With Members of Congress.

WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt continued his conferences with members of congress on the subject of tariff revision and of legislation providing for an increase of the interstate commerce commission. One statement, which stands out almost with the pre-eminence of an official announcement, is that, unless congress at the present session shall enact legislation looking to a regulation of railroad freight rates, an extraordinary session of the Fifty-ninth congress will be called by the president to deal with that problem.

It can be said that the president regards the interstate commerce question as the paramount issue now before the American people.

At the conference last Saturday he informed those whom he had summoned into consultation that, in his judgment, the question of railroad freight rates was far more important than that of the tariff and that, while he desired a readjustment of the existing customs duties, he would not expect any radical differences in the republican party on that question. He said definitely that he would call an extraordinary session of congress to consider interstate legislation unless definite action was taken by congress on the subject at the present time. At that session he hoped the tariff revision to be accomplished, but he made it perfectly clear that, in his mind, the overshadowing issue was that of railroad freight rates.

In a talk with Speaker Cannon who is recognized as being opposed at this time to any revision of the tariff, the president reiterated his statement made at Saturday's conference that, while he desired action on the question, he was willing to abide by the judgment of the republican leaders in congress, as he regarded the tariff matter as one which the chosen representatives of the American people should determine.

He indicated, in so many words, that, while fifty years hence practically nobody would be able to say whether the tariff duties on any given article at this time were 50 per cent ad valorem or 5 per cent ad valorem, and nobody would care anything about that, what the duties were, the interstate commerce question involved a principle dear to every right thinking and right minded American, precisely as the whole matter of dealing with corporations involves a principle, and he would fight for that principle with all the power that in him lies.

The president corroborated the statement attributed to him that the tariff question was one merely of expediency, which would be solved without friction between him and the congress. Any serious differences, he is known to have said, between him and the congress on the tariff revision matter are quite impossible.

MAY ATTACK ROJESTVENSKY

Japanese Fleet Is Off Chagos Archipelago.

LONDON—Japanese correspondents of the Morning Post consider it is not incredible that Japanese men-of-war have reached Diego Garcia (Chagos archipelago), and point out that although Admiral Togo is at Tokio, other admirals are not idle. Vice Admiral Uriu, it is stated, has been cruising in the vicinity of the equator for some time past. The number of vessels he has in kept secret, but doubtless he is ready to do battle with the Russian Baltic squadron whenever it appears east of the 17th meridian.

Vice Admiral Kamimura's whereabouts is somewhat of a mystery, the correspondent says, but possibly he is in the China sea, within easy distance of either the Malacca or Sunda straits, but, anyway, they declare, if Admiral Rojestvensky purposes to spend the ensuing weeks in cruising in the vicinity of Madagascar it is not improbable that he will find himself assailed by a torpedo fleet.

SPENDS DAY ON SWAYNE.

House Discusses Charges Against the Florida Judge.

WASHINGTON—The house of representatives on Thursday devoted its entire session to discussions of the impeachment charges against Judge Charles Swayne of the northern district of Florida. A dramatic incident occurred when Mr. Littlefield of Maine called on Mr. Lamar of Florida, who filed the charges against the judge, to admit or repudiate an alleged interview with the former claimed tended to incite the people to commit an act of violence against Judge Swayne.

Mr. Lamar admitted giving an interview, but emphatically denied any suggestion from him that could be construed into advising assassination or murder. He said that although Judge Swayne was known to be the most lawless man in Florida, he had remained secure from bodily harm.

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News in Nebraska

A series of evangelistic meetings are in progress at Pawnee City.

Frank Parker and wife of Silver Creek have eight children under 18, years of age.

Scarlet fever is epidemic at Summitfield, a Kansas town eighteen miles from Pawnee City.

W. Plum, a farmer, had his horse and buggy stolen in Hastings while attending church in that city.

The Polk County Fair association is said to be in a very prosperous condition.

An agent of the Grand Island beet sugar mill was in Ogallala making contracts with the farmers for crops of beets this season. About 400 acres were contracted for.

The Success (Neb.) Creamery company of Seward, held its annual meeting and decided to close up its affairs after settling with the Beatrice company at \$16 per share. Shares were \$25 each.

Mrs. G. A. Folsom of Beatrice sustained three broken ribs and numerous bruises about the body by falling from a small box on which she was standing and which gave way from under her.

Panic among 100 little girls in the Catholic academy at Creighton, was narrowly averted. The building was partially burned, but not destroyed. The fire was caused by spontaneous combustion in the slack coil.

The Young Men's Christian association of Chadron has secured A. M. Gould to take charge of its gymnasium as director for the coming year. He has the reputation of being very competent and has had many years' experience.

The board of county commissioners of Otoe county have made their annual estimate of expenses. They estimate that it will cost \$14,000 to meet the expenses of the county for next year. This is \$19,000 less than the estimate made last year.

The dead body of R. A. Swift, 78 years old, was found in his room in the Schmuck block at Beatrice. He had been missed for several days from his accustomed haunts and investigation led to the discovery of the body.

At the regular meeting of the Cass county board of commissioners that body decided that the sum of \$98,700 would be sufficient to pay the county's expenses for this year, although last year's estimate was \$12,700 more than that amount.

The pelt of a red fox was brought to Papillion by John Hughes of near South Omaha. During the last few years these animals have been rare, but lately their numbers are increasing and very often they are seen on the highlands adjacent to the Missouri river, near Bellevue.

A legal battle was fought at Hebron before County Judge Whitney, this being the second trial. In the first the jury disagreed. It was all over a whip that cost just exactly 10 cents. J. Willmore charged A. Tibbets with stealing his buggy-whip. The cost of both suits is \$30 besides the defendant's attorney fees.

The record of Red Willow county for the year 1904 as to mortgage filings and releases is as follows: Farm mortgages filed, 199, \$145,848.07; released, 259, \$150,789.31. City and town mortgages filed, 104, \$64,310.35; released, 114, \$100,101.90. Chattel mortgages filed 978, \$244,