

THE NEWS IN NEBRASKA.

NEBRASKA BRIEFS

Business men of Ashland have organized a commercial club.

Great Northern track-layers are now working four miles west of Oakland.

Mrs. George Keller, of Ashland, dropped dead from heart failure.

Delbe Kilsey is in jail at Broken Bow serving out a fine of \$25 for shop-lifting.

Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Snyder of Loup City, last week celebrated their golden wedding.

Ladies of the Presbyterian church at Plattsmouth realized over \$100 from a "rummage" sale.

After being closed nearly all winter the hotel at McCool has been again opened to the public.

The authorities of Tekamah closed the churches and schools for a few days on account of diphtheria.

Religious meetings in Fairbury continued five weeks, during which there were over three hundred conversions.

The Christian church congregation of Beatrice will soon begin the construction of a new edifice to cost probably \$12,000.

Blackleg has broken out among the cattle of western Cass county farmers, and a large number of the animals have perished.

The right-of-way contracts for the Union Pacific cut-off connecting with Stromsburg are about all secured and the line seems to be assured.

The fine new Congregational church at Ashland will be dedicated February 25th. The structure cost \$12,000 and is practically free from debt.

An artificial ice plant will probably be constructed at Central City in a short time, as it seems to be the only way of providing ice in that vicinity.

The Nebraska National guard will be inspected beginning February 23. Captain Frank A. Wilcox of the Thirtieth infantry will be the inspecting officer.

This promises to be an unprecedented year for building in Cambridge. There are now \$55,000 worth of buildings in prospect and under construction.

The Southwest Nebraska Teachers' association will be held in Arapahoe, March 30 and 31. William Hawley Smith and Dr. Ross will deliver lectures.

Governor Mickey received from the St. Louis exposition officials a handsome bronze medal, heart-shaped, and bearing an inscription commemorating Nebraska day at the exposition.

At Auburn Dr. James L. Grady, charged with attempting to corrupt a witness and to induce him to commit perjury, was held by County Judge McCarty to the district court for trial.

The Uptide Grain company of Omaha has completed the purchase of a large line of elevators in Nebraska and Kansas formerly owned by W. H. Ferguson of Lincoln, who is a stockholder in the Uptide firm.

Governor Mickey has honored the requisition of the governor of Oklahoma for the return to Logan county of G. W. Burton, "wanted" for disposing of mortgaged property. Burton is now under arrest in South Omaha.

At Seward John Cox of Uta, charged with selling liquor without a license, had his preliminary hearing and was bound over to the district court. His bond was fixed at \$500 which was furnished by Wallace Boon.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers' Grain and Live Stock company of Oakland, was held last week. The reports showed the company to be in a flourishing condition and a 10 per cent dividend was declared.

Frank Fulton of Wymore, has arranged for the publication of a monthly magazine in the interests of park and cemetery improvement societies. It is Mr. Fulton's intention to perfect a national organization of these societies.

Engineer Al Shearon of the Rock Island, while oiling his engine in the yards at Fairbury, slipped and fell with his left arm across the rail. The engine was moving slowly and the drivers cut off his hand and lacerated the flesh to the elbow.

Milo Draemel, who graduated from the Naval academy at Annapolis, has returned home to Fremont, until March 10, when he leaves for Seattle to report duty at the Philippine station. Mr. Draemel is the first Fremont boy to graduate from Annapolis.

Fred Hinz, the sugar manufacturer of Chippewa Falls, Wis., who had previously made a proposition to the industrial company at Norfolk, looking to converting the old sugar factory into a new plant, with local capital invested along with outside funds, arrived in Norfolk, looked over the plant, expressed himself favorably and then made a proposition which the company immediately declined.

Rev. Knox Boude, pastor of the Osceola Presbyterian church, has accepted a position in California, and resigned his pastorate with the Osceola organization. He will leave with his family to assume his work on the coast March 10.

An effort is being made by several leading citizens of Nebraska City, to have the Mattes Brewing plant, which was recently badly burned, pass into new hands. An effort is being made to form a new stock company and place the management of the plant in the hands of ex-Commissioner Theodore Webering.

J. J. Lynch, the Northwestern fireman who is alleged to have left Scribner with \$400 belonging to a widow, has concluded to fight the case that will be filed against him in district court and has employed an attorney to look after his interest. Lynch is in jail.

Last year the Farmers' Elevator company at Odell bought 127,000 bushels of corn, 46,000 bushels of wheat and 18,000 bushels of oats. At a recent meeting of the stockholders a liberal dividend was declared in addition to paying the highest market price for grain.

AS TO INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Deputy Pierce Believes They Will All Pay Up in Time.

LINCOLN.—Insurance Deputy Pierce does not know officially that fire insurance companies are doing business in Nebraska without a license, though he suspects it as an individual, consequently he will not take any steps at the present time to have the companies prosecuted. The licenses issued to companies expired February 1 and those companies which have not paid the reciprocal tax in conformity with the decision of the state supreme court have not been released. As there are only two or three companies which have paid up, a great majority of the companies are doing business without a license.

"I believe all the companies intend to pay," said Mr. Pierce, "and I do not intend to be very technical in construing the law. It would be a bad thing for the state to shut out all of these companies, especially as there is little doubt they will all pay the tax. In fact, some of the companies have written to me for the decision and they said they would comply with the law in the matter."

"I don't know officially that any of the companies are doing business at this time. Of course if they are, they are technically violating the law, but I don't want to be too technical in this matter."

DRAWING LINE ON MILEAGE.

No More Vouchers to be Signed by Secretary of State and Auditor.

LINCOLN.—Vouchers for mileage books, filed by state officers, will no more be signed by Secretary of State Galusha or allowed by Deputy State Auditor Cook. This because Mr. Galusha asserts he has evidence in his possession that two at least of the state officers have used mileage bought by the state for private purposes. A voucher was filed by Land Commissioner Eaton for mileage books for himself and deputy and the secretary of state refused to sign. After a consultation with the deputy auditor the latter concluded to refuse to issue any more vouchers to pay for mileage books. Hereafter the state officer will have to pay his railroad fare and take a receipt from the ticket agent. Then if his transportation shows that he has gone to a town in which there is a state institution the officer will stand a good chance to get his money back, but if the ticket reads to some place where the officer would hardly go on state business the money will remain in the treasury.

SENT TO FEDERAL PRISON.

Lieutenant Homer Lewis Begins Serving Sentence.

FORT CROOK.—Lieutenant Homer Lewis of the Thirtieth infantry was taken to the Leavenworth federal prison to serve his sentence for duplicating pay accounts and embezzling funds entrusted to him. The sentence is eighteen months, which good behavior may reduce to fourteen months. Personally Lieutenant Lewis has been most popular and his downfall is attributed wholly to drink. About all of the enlisted men in the garrison were at the station to see him off.

No Licenses Yet.

LINCOLN.—Licenses to do business in Nebraska have not been granted by Insurance Auditor Pierce, though many of the foreign fire insurance companies withholding payment of their taxes applied for licenses immediately after opinion sustaining the reciprocal law was handed down by the supreme court. Members of the state insurance department said today that the companies doing business in the state without a license were violating the law.

Farmer Commits Suicide.

AURORA.—William Dart, a farmer living five miles south of here, committed suicide by shooting himself with a 38-caliber revolver. Death was instantaneous.

Buys System of Elevators.

HOLDREGE.—John W. Anderson, for seventeen years active manager of the farmers' elevator at this place, has bought out the system of elevators now owned by Titus Bros. of this city. This system embraces elevators at Funk, Sacramento and Ragan.

Train Kills a Jap.

CLARKS.—Union Pacific Los Angeles train No. 7 struck and instantly killed N. Shimizu, a Japanese laborer who was walking on the track, a mile east of the station here.

Addition to Peru Faculty.

PERU.—Professor G. W. Silvers has recently been elected by the state board of education as professor of manual and physical training in Peru normal. He will begin work at once.

Campen Will Come Home.

LINCOLN.—George L. Campen, water commissioner for the Isthmian canal zone, has announced to his friends in this city his intention of resigning his position. He sailed for home from Colon February 2.

Farmers Do Well.

SUTTON.—The Farmers' Grain and Stock company of this city has made a very flattering report of the business done the past year, showing a decided increase in business over any previous year.

Boy Is Attacked by Hog.

FILLEY.—Guy Tohe, 16 years of age, son of Wood Tohe, one of the prominent farmers of this section, was seriously injured by a hog while in a lot feeding the animals.

R. H. Miller of Nebraska City is making arrangements to head a party that state in June to attend the reunion of old residents. He will carry with him a register of the names of all natives of that state who are at present making their homes in that part of Nebraska.

American Chorus Girl Gets Matrimonial Prize



Frances Belmont, former American chorus girl, who was quietly married to Lord Ashburton in Paris, was one of the Maggie Doolans who scrubbed the floor in "Milladi" when Lord Ashburton first saw her. Later she was one of the "Floridors" sextet. When she became engaged to Lord Ashburton a year and a half

ago he took her off the stage and placed her in a convent near Paris, where she has been educated for the part of the wife of a British peer. Lord Ashburton is the owner of 60,000 acres of land in Great Britain, and has a London house and a country residence. It is believed he plans to enter public life.

THE WORLD'S WICKEDEST CITY

Many Great Centers of Population Have Been Thus Designated.

Oliver Ninmann, an enthusiastic religious preacher, has been telling how Berlin is the wickedest city in the world. The information will be received with surprise doubtless by all of the inhabitants of the German capital and with indignation by most of them.

The "wickedest city" however, has been named by different cities at different times, and probably no two of the critics agreed on the same city. New York, Chicago, London, Paris and others have been described each in its turn as "the wickedest city."

Once when a traveling Briton told a lady of New York society that he had found American manners atrocious, the lady merely lifted her eyebrows in sympathetic surprise and assured the gentleman that he must have had rather unfortunate letters of introduction.

In like spirit, anybody can find the "wickedest city" by acquainting himself only with its wicked features and by ignoring the fact that the great modern municipality in every case is a huge center of all kinds of the most beneficent influences and activities.

Characteristics of Gen. Grant.

Gen. Frederick D. Grant, who is in command of the department of the east, with headquarters on Governor's island, is making himself useful in a number of quiet ways entirely distinct from his military responsibilities. Gen. Grant is a good listener, as was his famous father, and when he has anything to say he says it clearly and in so direct a manner that every one can understand what he means. He seldom appears in uniform in public, but is always one of the best dressed men to be found in New York city, and while other men in a public meeting will lounge about in careless manner as to position and dress he always sits in his chair with a military erectness. His resemblance to his father increases every year.

Public "Shot" at Enemy.

Charles Hands of the London Daily Mail came to Washington to report the white house wedding and at once established himself as a good "mixer" and story teller. One of his yarns is about an Irishman named James O'Mahoney, who had been a lawyer in Dublin, who went to London and became a newspaper man.

After winning success in his new profession he went on a visit to Dublin, where his friends gave him a dinner. One of the guests at the dinner was a doctor whom O'Mahoney hated. The doctor made a speech at the dinner and O'Mahoney was called up immediately thereafter. "It is very disagreeable," he said, "to follow the doctor so closely. It makes me feel like the undertaker."

Had 21 Names for the Baby.

A farm laborer recently took his infant son to a rural church near Friendsville to be christened. He astounded the vicar by handing in a list of twenty-one Christian names, each beginning with a different letter of the alphabet.

The vicar remonstrated with the father, who then consented to dispense with fifteen of the names. The man, who was a stranger temporarily employed in the locality, is regarded as being a little eccentric.—London Daily Express.

Get Rid of Master.

A manufacturer in the north of England expected to be beaten at the polls by his own employes, with whom he was extremely unpopular. To his surprise he was returned. His puzzled agent sought for an explanation. "How is it," he asked one of the workmen, "you voted for your master when you all have such a bad opinion of him?" "Well, you see, we voted for 'm so he cud put himself away in Parliament in London. We don't want 'm here!"

The Wise Kingfisher.

That kingfishers possess a remarkable instinct to avoid those fish proving harmful to them is exemplified by the following incident. A correspondent informs us that being infested with these birds, he set traps for them in two or his ponds, one containing minnows and the other perch. A capture was effected daily where the minnows were placed, but on no occasion was a kingfisher caught near the perch pond. The latter fish are tributary to birds.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

CHINAMEN HAVE HARD HEADS

Visiting Celestials Made Records for Capacity for Liquor.

When the imperial Chinese commissioners departed from Washington after their week's stay the officials of the government and officers of the army and navy detailed to show the Celestials around sought the seclusion of Turkish baths and other restful places and remained under cover for a long time.

They had started out to make the pace, but had finished by following the clip set by the bland and wholly undisturbed Chinamen. Before the week's all hands around was over—long before they awoke to a realization of how grievously they had underestimated the Chinese capacity and the Chinese ability to stay the full cup distance, to employ a metaphor that yet in this connection has some literalness about it.

There were nights when the day's swirl with the Chinamen all over until the following morn, some members of the conveying party were found standing in shadowy corners, gibbering and feeling tentatively of their heads. One naval officer, a man famous throughout the country for his invulnerability at mess service, who has never been known to miss his part in the chorus of the last of the chantes sung around the board, dropped out altogether upon the party's return from Mount Vernon, a trip made on the Dolphin.

The Chinamen's invariably and inviolable custom of taking their neat, unmixed and unchased, wrought upon him so that out of pure regard for the proprieties and his inwards he was compelled to withdraw. The Chinaman views it as a profanation of the spirit to dilute the same with so contemptible and common a medium as water. To this view, bound by the etiquette of guests, the conveying party had at all times to give heed. Theirs, too, had to be gulped raw, and no wry faces, either, if proper deportment were to be observed. They made good, too, but when it was all over most of them were deeply glad.

But never a wry face made any of the Chinamen. Wiffall fitted them as snugly as their caps of silk. None of them ever became less florid. Hovering at or near the font through all the days and dipping thereof even oftener than their pantalooned escorts, they went to bed dainties with serene, unclouded minds, and woke in the morning with clear eyes and keen appetites. Anybody who doubts that the Chinamen of mandarin rank and above can go the full route should have been in Washington and with the imperial Chinese commissioners last week. Members of the conveying party willingly believe now the scientific suggestion that irrigation was invented in China.

IS CHOSEN FOR HIGH POSITION

Right Rev. James H. Blenke to Succeed Archbishop Chapelle.

Right Rev. James H. Blenke, who has been recommended to the pope for appointment as archbishop of

New Orleans, was born Aug. 6, 1857, and received his primary education in that city. He studied in France and in the Catholic University of Ireland, and for a time was professor of mathematics in St. Mary's College, Dundalk. After completing his theological education in the Marist House of Studies at Dublin, he was ordained in 1885, and upon returning to Louisiana was for a time president of Jefferson college. Subsequently Dr. Blenke held a pastorate at Algiers, La., and in 1899 he was raised to the episcopate and placed in charge of Porto Rico. He was held in the highest esteem by Archbishop Janssen and Archbishop Chapelle.

A Watch's Work.

In perfect running order, the balance wheel of a timepiece makes 18,000 vibrations per hour. The number of miles a year the movement of a correctly adjusted balance wheel will travel is 3,558. To make this run, less than one-tenth of a drop of oil is consumed. In order to keep a watch in proper condition it is advisable to have the timepiece thoroughly overhauled semi-annually. The life of a watch is lengthened by having it "house cleaned" every six months.

Youth's Hard Start in Life.

Thomas Eurt, who has been recently returned to the house of commons, went to work as a trapper boy in a colliery in Hazewell, in Durham, at practically 20 cents a day. "My home was two or three miles from the pit," he said in a chapter of autobiography some years ago. "I had to get up at 4 in the morning to walk the distance and the work was so hard during the day that I may really say that I spent my whole time absolutely between work and sleep."

Denmark's New Monarch.

Though Frederick VIII, the new king of Denmark, is 62 years old, he bears his years lightly. He has emphatically led the simple life and here is no other royal ruler living so democratic as he. This puts him in a marked contrast with his father, who at times was quite haughty. King Frederick is grand master of Masons in Denmark. He is a great admirer of this country and its institutions, which he knows better than any other monarch.

INSURANCE OF OLDEN TIME

At the October meeting of the Insurance Society of New York Morris P. Stevens, lecturer on insurance in the University of New York, gave an interesting review of the earliest forms of insurance. Life insurance lays claim to perhaps greater antiquity than marine insurance.

In a paper written by M. N. Adler before the Institute of Actuaries in 1864 he mentions a Latin inscription on a marble slab found at Lanuvium, an ancient town in Latium, a short distance from Rome, bearing date during the reign of Emperor Hadrian, A. D. 117-128, which inscription shows that a club had been formed ostensibly for the worship of Diana, in reality it was to provide a sum at the death of each member for his burial. It required an entrance fee and monthly payments and whoever omitted payment for a certain number of months had no claim on the society for his funeral rights.

Marine insurance was a regular business during the Roman empire, being started in the form of loans on cargoes for which a varied rate of interest was charged according to the hazard. In explaining the origin of the term "underwriters" he said that when a ship was about to set out upon a voyage from England, it was the custom to pass around at Lloyds a paper upon which was written a description of the vessel and its cargo, with the name of the master and the character of the crew and the voyage contemplated. Those of the merchants and others present desiring to become insurers would write thereunder their names, together with the amount which each was willing to take or be liable for as an insurer.

When the total amount of insurance desired had been underwritten the contract was complete. The term "underwriters" as now applied to insurers arose by reason of this custom of Lloyds.

A WIND-FALL FOR AUNTIE

She got wearily up from the Central park bench and shambled aimlessly westward toward the Mall. She was an old colored woman with patched habiliments kept in place by strings and pins. But there was a certain dignity in her face which those who knew life could scarcely miss.

Even the Gibson girl giving her Boston terrier its morning exercise, who did not know life, must have seen something of this dignity, for she paused to look after the weary figure. Then impulsively her daintily gloved hand went into her chateleine bag and brought out a dollar bill.

Despite the protests of the willful terrier the girl turned and followed the old woman; but as she came abreast of her her half-outstretched hand dropped.

"She might feel insulted," she murmured to herself, catching sight of the patrician dignity again. Then she touched the colored woman on the arm.

"O auntie," she said, "I think you dropped this." And she held out the bill.

Auntie gave a wistful look at the green bit of current specie, but shook her head decidedly.

"No, chile; no, chile," she affirmed with much politeness, "dat warn't mine nohow. I didn't drop it, chile."

"I reckon you didn't know it," persisted the girl, struggling more with the Boston terrier than with the bill, "but you dropped it just the same," and pushing the bill into auntie's hand she allowed the impatient dog to lead her a run the turn of the path.

The old colored woman stared in a dazed fashion at her hand for a full half-minute. Then she turned slowly toward a sympathetic woman onlooker.

"Fo' de Lawd, I DID need dat money. An' He done sent dat chile, like an angel to pick it up for me, I reckon."—New York Press.

HONEY A VALUABLE FOOD

Honey, which is described as "one of nature's best foods," is the subject of a report by the Ontario department of agriculture. In this it is pointed out that it is only within the past few centuries that sugar has become known, and only within the last generation that refined sugars have become so low in price that they may be commonly used in the poorest families. Formerly honey was the principal sweet, and it was highly valued 3,000 years before the first sugar refinery was built. "It would add greatly to the health of the present generation," it is declared, "if honey could be at least partially restored to its former place as a common article of diet."

Excessive use of sugar brings in its train a long list of ills. When sugar is taken into the stomach it cannot be assimilated until first changed by digestion into grape sugar. Only too

often the overtaxed stomach fails properly to perform this digestion, and then come sour stomach and various phases of indigestion and dyspepsia. In the laboratory of the live honey has been fully prepared by the bees for prompt assimilation without taxing either the stomach or the kidneys, so that in eating honey the digestive machinery is saved work and health is maintained.

Moreover, the same report says that "in many cases it will be a real economy to lessen the butter bill by letting honey in part take its place. One pound of honey will go as far as a pound of butter, and if both articles be of the same quality the honey will cost the less. Honey is strongly recommended for children, while for persons of all ages a pleasant and wholesome drink is called "German honey tea." This is made by pouring a teaspoonful of hot water on from one to two teaspoonfuls of honey."

LOVES THE MOTHER WEST

I have lived too long with my Mother West.

To care for the eastern land
For I drew life's milk from her mighty breast;
She taught me to creep and stand;
And my baby eyes looked out and saw
Her spaces serene and vast.
For God carved deeply, the soul to awe,
When the mold of our west he cast.
Plains that merge in a limitless plain,
Mountain on mountain hurled,
Infinite leagues of an infinite main,
For giants a giant world.
These I have loved since my heart was young,
And ever I paid them toll,
And their praise I breathed with a lisp-
ing tongue,
For they were my life and soul,
Ay, I hid my face on her great, warm
breast,
And I loved right well my Mother West.
The east has mountains, I hear them say,
But the mountains are only hills—
Wee hillocks that children might use in
play;
And plains that a hillock frills;
And the ocean is only a stage effect,
Or so it seems to me;
But what would you have or what expect
of a
peet?
'Tis a tiny world and I've sometimes felt
That its people grew tiny, too.

Content as they've still to the gold god
West,
And maddened his will to do,
For the soul needs depth and the soul
needs height,
And it needs the spaces of God,
And it smaller grows when it ceases
to see
Where Mammon doth hold the rod,
But here we are taught by our Mother
West,
That the soul is all and vain is the rest.

Unto him who was born where the world
is great
The duty is clear and stern
To stand as to the heir to a god's estate
Nor e'er to the petty turn,
He dare not walk with the shoddy crowd
Whose lives are hollow pretense,
Whose clamor, "See me!" forever is loud,
Whom editors of solid contents,
For the mountains' murmur, "Stand
straight and tall!"
And the wide plains whisper, "Be
broad!"
And the ocean mutters, "Be not the small
Whom only the small applaud!"
And he who doth turn from these regal
things
To the folly and sham of life
Shall never stand with the uncrowned
kings
Who capture the prize of strife,
Ay, a thanks be to him, at last,
To our mother's mothers, the great,
broad West.

—San Francisco Call.

COSSACK ONLY A COWARD

Originally the Cossacks were bandits and they seem to have retained the worst qualities of that disreputable class and to have lost all trace of the rough kindness which sometimes characterized brigands in reality as well as in romance.

They have by no means always supported the czars, but often fought against them, and it was not until 1814 that they gave up their brigandage and became a kind of irregular horsemen, who, in return for a grant of land and freedom from taxation, came out to fight when called upon and brought their own horses, arms and equipment. Nothing about them resembles the smart cavalry of other European countries, for both they and their ponies are small and insignificant and neither is properly groomed.

Their reputation as fighters was earned chiefly during the Napoleonic invasion, when the French cavalry repeatedly charged them without effect. Under the conditions of modern warfare they have proved useless and since they have been brigaded with the regular cavalry they have lost their chief source of strength—their irregular method of fighting.

In the war against Japan they were a lamentable failure. On no occasion did they live up to their reputation of possessing the single virtue—courage. During the present crisis the Cossacks have only proved themselves to be bullies and cowards of the lowest kind. They respect neither age nor sex, but destroy their unfortunate victims as relentlessly as a hungry tiger kills an antelope. They appear to obey the orders of their officers and observe some discipline in behavior if not in appearance, but when once set upon their deadly task they do not appear to be checked until they have finished it.—Philadelphia Record.

GREAT POET WAS BASHFUL

There is an interesting picture of Al-gerne Charles Swinburne in a new book by Laura Hain Friswell. Mr. Swinburne was among the celebrities who took tea at the Friswells'. He was young and rather shy with women. "Mr. Swinburne sat down on the edge of a chair. He bent slightly forward, his arms resting on his knees, and he kept swinging it backward and forward, just as I have seen Mr. Toole do in a farce; he dropped it and picked it up several times. I think he was about 29 or 30 years old at that time—no more than 5 feet 6 in height; and he had that peculiar pallor which goes with auburn hair; and this paleness was heightened by restless, enthusiasm and the fierce, rebellious spirit which seemed to animate that fragile body, and which glows and burns in his writings.

"My mother and Miss — did all they could to put him at ease, and I sat and repented that I had ever wished to see him, for I pitied him intensely, he seemed so very nervous. He dropped his hat so many times that Miss W—, when he rose to hand me some bread and butter, took the hat and hid it in a recess. My father now appeared, and by his conventional powers and tact soon set Mr. Swinburne quiet at his ease.

"He ceased toidget and talked of Coleridge and other poets in a most interesting manner—to hear him and my father was an intellectual treat. Mr. Swinburne became all fire and enthusiasm, and looked and seemed quite a different man; we were all charmed with him. He stayed from two to three hours and it was not at all too long, and he left saying he would soon come again."