

BIG FIRE AT CERESCO

TWO MEN INJURED, ONE PERHAPS FATAL.

The Little Village Again the Victim of the Fire Element—Roberts' Elevator Burns and Manager Hunter and Engineer Kelly Hurt, the Former Dangerously So.

Ceresco has again been visited by a disastrous fire, which completely destroyed R. E. Roberts' elevator, office, the large outside wheat bin, corncrib, coal sheds and contents, together with 8,000 bushels of corn stored in the elevator.

The fire was discovered Sunday morning about 8:30 in the chaff room and was no doubt the result of spontaneous combustion. Every effort was made by citizens to conquer the flames but without success.

As soon as it was seen that the property could not be saved, the attention of citizens was turned to the saving of the Nye-Schneider elevator, corn cribs, lumber yard, stock yards and ten cars which stood on the side track, all of which were saved by the hardest of work. While fighting the flames an explosion of gas occurred in the elevator which badly injured E. F. Hunter, the manager, and J. S. Kelley, the engineer. Mr. Hunter's injuries are face, neck and hands badly burned and badly injured from being thrown by the force of the explosion to the driveway, fifteen feet below. His injuries may prove fatal. Kelley's injuries are not so serious, but are quite painful, his face, hands and back being badly blistered. Mr. Roberts' loss will be about \$6,000. He has some insurance.

The Fremont fire department was telegraphed for and responded promptly, but the people had succeeded in getting the fire under control before their arrival, but the thanks of the village are due them for their prompt response to the call in a time of need. The loss of this elevator will be keenly felt by the farming community, as well as the citizens of the village, as it leaves no competition in the grain business at Ceresco, unless Mr. Roberts should conclude to rebuild, which is not assured at this time.

MISS BURTON HAS A HOME

Beatrice Girl Need Have No Further Fear of Winebrenner.

Clara Burton has at last found a home where she will have every advantage due her and the watchfulness of kind and gentle foster parents. N. H. Olmsted, member of the board of supervisors from Liberty, became interested in the Beatrice girl's fate and said he would take her to his home if allowed to do so. Mrs. Winebrenner was sent for and made application for a guardian for the girl. Mr. Olmsted was at once appointed and Miss Burton was entrusted to his care. She felt greatly relieved when told what had been done and said she would try hard to please her new parents.

TALK OF FOUL PLAY.

Investigation to Be Made of the Nebraska City Drowning.

The drowning of George McKee, the colored man who was found in the slough opposite Nebraska City Thursday last week, has caused some excitement among the colored people, some of whom are inclined to believe that there was foul play in connection with his death.

Horticultural Society Meeting.

The state horticultural society met at the Unland hall, Arlington, July 15. The display of fruit consisted of early apples, cherries, apricots, raspberries, blackberries, currants and gooseberries. Branches of cherries were also hung on the wall, showing the fruitfulness and characteristics of different varieties. Quite a variety of cherries that were new to the public were also on exhibition, and by comparison and testing the effort was made to see that all were correctly named.

To Issue Life Certificates.

Lieutenant-Governor Harris, president of the Lincoln Normal, has made the necessary showing to the state superintendent to entitle his school to issue life certificates to teachers. One of the requirements is \$100,000 worth of property. A course equal to the course at the state normal school will be required. Superintendent Jackson has the showing under consideration.

Child Injured.

The seven-year-old daughter of Jas. Robertson of Elmwood was playing by the pump when in some manner she caught her hand between the pump and handle and almost severed the third finger between the end and the first joint.

Cloud-Burst at Lodge Pole.

A cloud-burst six miles west of Lodge Pole washed out one mile of railroad track. All trains are tied up. Every dum between that place and Sidney is washed out. It is the worst flood ever experienced in that neighborhood.

BREVITIES.

The city of Bertrand will have no saloon this year. A daughter of Peter Stafford of Norfolk at some poisoned fly paper and died from the effects. Willie, the eight-year-old son of Fire Chief Mercer, was killed at Fremont Sunday in a runaway accident. Fritz Beckord, four miles east of Waco, lost his barn, six head of cattle, several sets of harness and a lot of feed fire recently. Mrs. Johanna Horrigan died at Exeter Sunday. Her exact age is not known, but she is supposed to be at least ninety years.

LAND LEASES CANCELLED.

Delinquents in Eight Counties Compelled to Give Up Land.

The board of educational lands and funds met Monday in the office of Land Commissioner Wolfe at the state house, Lincoln, and cancelled leases on lands in eight different counties. The cancellation was made because the lessees were delinquent in payments. The number of acres cancelled were as follows: Antelope county, 9,680; Cheyenne, 48,450; Dakota, 200; Deuel, 53,020; Garfield, 13,790; Hayes, 13,640; Nemaha, 240; Scotts' Bluff, 12,380.

In addition to the cancellation the following number of acres in the same counties are vacant: Antelope, 1,240; Cheyenne, 46,040; Dakota, 476; Deuel, 17,840; Garfield, 5,140; Hayes, 2,360; Nemaha, 128; Scotts' Bluff, 8,558.

The total number of acres of state lands in each of the said counties now open to lease is as follows: Antelope, 10,920; Cheyenne, 94,490; Dakota, 676; Deuel, 70,860; Garfield, 18,930; Hayes, 17,000; Nemaha, 368; Scotts' Bluff, 20,938.

KICK ON STATE TAXES.

Certain Counties Ask to Have Their Valuation Lowered.

The state board of equalization was in session at Lincoln Monday hearing complaints from representatives of counties who think that the valuation of their property is too high in proportion to that of others, and that they are called upon to pay too large a proportion of the state taxes. Holt and Bart counties made their "kick" on this line. The board passed upon the returns from half a dozen counties and adjourned until Tuesday. The whole list will be gone through with and the work completed by the end of the week.

The state auditor's record show that the total valuation of the property of the state is about \$1,500,000 less this year than last. The auditor says that the bulk of the decrease is shown to have been in Douglas, Lancaster and Lincoln counties. Several counties show an increase, which has been caused by an agreement of local assessors for the purpose of raising more money for local purposes. Afterward the counties find that if they get this benefit they are charged up with the larger valuation for state taxation. This they are now seeking to avoid.

Death of Mrs. Sheldon.

Mrs. Jennie D. Sheldon, wife of Representative A. E. Sheldon, died at Chadron Tuesday afternoon of consumption. Mrs. Sheldon has been falling for some time and she was brought back to Chadron, not with the hope of saving her life but of prolonging it. She took a short drive with a friend in the morning but after returning began to sink rapidly and died at 2 o'clock. Her body rested in the Signal building, the scene of her labors, where she assisted her husband in the publication of that paper.

Consumptive Dies En Route.

Clarence E. Burton, ticket agent at Sedalia, Kas., died on Burlington passenger train No. 3 Monday night between Oxford and McCook. The remains were brought to McCook and prepared for shipment, which was made to Louisville, Kas., Tuesday morning. Deceased was bound for California in care of his mother. He was a victim of consumption at twenty-two years of age.

After Glass Thrown.

The bicycle police of Omaha are watching for the persons who have been throwing glass in the streets. In front of the saloon at Twentieth and Castell streets several pop bottles were thrown on the pavement and Sunday night two Omaha wheelmen on their way in from South Omaha found their tires punctured at that spot and were compelled to walk home.

Hurt By Runaway Horse.

Mrs. Shabuck Gabert, who lives at 1320 Pierce street, Omaha while passing near Twelfth and Jackson streets last evening, was knocked down and run over by a runaway horse. The woman was badly bruised about the head and face and Dr. Ralph was summoned and attended her. She was taken home in a hack.

Funeral of the Runaway Victim.

The funeral of Master Willie Mercer, who was killed in a runaway accident Sunday, was held at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon from the family home, corner First street and Maple avenue, Fremont and was attended by a large number of friends and firemen. Rev. Mr. Chestnut officiated.

Talmage Forced to Retire.

WASHINGTON, July 21.—The Rev. Dr. Talmage has been forced to sever his connection with the First Presbyterian church owing to dissension among its members. Dr. Sanderland is now in charge of the church and he has announced that Dr. Talmage will not return.

An American Flag Torn Down.

TORONTO, Ont., July 17.—An American flag flying at the city hall in honor of the visiting delegates to the Epworth league convention was torn down by an ultra British artisan today. The man was at once arrested and locked up.

Currency Action Delayed.

WASHINGTON, July 21.—It was semi-officially announced today that President McKinley would withhold his currency message until after the conference report on the tariff bill should be adopted by the Senate.

NEW VOTING SYSTEM

FEATURES OF THE BLANKET BALLOT LAW.

It Will Be Easy to Vote Straight—Voters Required to Use Indelible Pencils Instead of Ink—New Power Given to the Secretary of State.

The blanket ballot law passed by the recent legislature is now receiving attention, and voters will this fall have an opportunity to practice some of its provisions. The law is a modification of the Australian ballot law passed by the 1891 legislature.

Some of the changes made by the law are: the form of the ballot, the substitution of an indelible pencil for a pen and ink in marking, a mark for voting a straight ticket, a provision authorizing the formation of new parties, regulations governing decisions of the secretary of state relating to certificates of nominations, use of party names and emblems, together with a few precautionary instructions which

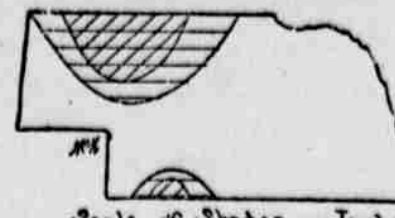
SCHEDULE A table with columns for 'By Position', 'For a Straight Ticket', and 'Within this Circle'. It lists candidates for various offices like President, Vice President, Governor, etc., with checkboxes for voting.

SCRAPS.

The agricultural department of a Texas newspaper is conducted by Green Meadows Brown. The porch of a temple in the Interior of Japan has this inscription: 'Neither horses, cattle nor women admitted here.' Transportation of soft-shell crabs alive from the east to Portland, Ore., has just been successfully accomplished for the first time. The distance from St. Petersburg to the Pacific terminus of the Siberian railway is about twice as great as that from New York to San Francisco. Alexandria, Va., has raised the ban which from the early days of the settlement made it unlawful to bring in oysters between April and September. The West Sullivan (Me.) base ball nine sawed a pile of wood for a resident of the place and put the money received for the work in the treasury. A Kansas City woman who tried in vain to make an honest living gave it up recently and turned fortune teller. Now she has money to burn.—Exchange. Already grasshoppers are hatching in such numbers in the region of Oakesdale, Wash., that the inhabitants are alarmed over the threatened injury to crops. Lightning struck two hoes that a negro was carrying over his shoulder near Millington, Md., and passed through him from his shoulder to his feet, killing him. Mrs. Dahlgren—Ah, Mr. Phipps, I saw you in church last Sunday. Mr. Phipps—Yes; it rained, you know. Was that the reason you were there, too?—Cleveland Leader. There is a family of twenty-six persons in Strasburg, every one of whom rides a bicycle. The oldest is sixty-two, the youngest six months old.—Foreign Letter New York Post. Sycamore trees which for several years have flourished where they were planted in various sections of Portland, Ore., are dying of some disease which the citizens do not understand. The Heiress—Papa, but that Watteau for me. The Hundred Millionaire—But, my dear, this is the Louvre. It belongs to the government. The Heiress—Then buy the government, papa. The Hundred Millionaire—But, my child, the government represents the whole of France. The Heiress—I say, papa, I want that picture; buy France!—New York Truth.

WEEKLY CROP BULLETIN.

Furnished by the Government Crop and Weather Bureau.



Lincoln, Neb., July 20, 1897.

The temperature has been below the normal every day during the past week. The average daily deficiency has been 5°. The maximum temperatures have been about, or slightly above, 90°. The rainfall has been below the normal in the northwestern counties and a very small area in the southwestern section. Throughout the remainder of the state either no rain fell or the amount was less than .05 of an inch. Later—a good general rain fell throughout the state Monday night, ranging from .25 of an inch to over 2 inches and generally exceeding .50 of an inch.

The past week has been an unusually favorable one for haying, harvesting and thrashing. In the southern counties harvesting is about completed and thrashing is in progress. In the central counties oats and spring wheat are being cut and in the extreme northern counties rye is being cut. Haying has made good progress; in all sections the crop is reported as good. The second crop of alfalfa is being cut. Reports from winter wheat and rye that have been thrashed are meager, but indicate a good yield of excellent quality. Corn has grown well and in several southern counties is reported as fully up to the average in condition and advancement at this season of the year. Generally, however, it is considered backward. Corn is generally tasseling and averages about a week later than usual. At the end of the week corn was beginning to feel the need of rain in many sections. The general rain of Monday night was very opportune and places the crop in a very promising condition. Apples are dropping considerably.

REPORT BY COUNTIES

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION. Butler—Winter wheat, rye and barley in shock and some thrashing done; average yield and quality; corn making rapid growth, most fields laid by in clean condition; oats not up to the average. Cass—Spring wheat below the average; winter wheat and rye excellent in yield and quality; corn in fine condition; early planted in tassel. Clay—Harvesting completed except late oats; thrashing commenced; wheat turning out well; oats heavy and lodged in places; good rain needed for corn. Filmore—Thrashing commenced; yield generally fair to good with some extra fields; potatoes light; corn very fine, mostly laid by. Gage—A fine week for harvesting and thrashing; oats are only fair and are nearly all in shock; corn is looking fine. Hamilton—Corn doing well; spring wheat and oats ripening fast and filling well; some early oats harvested; wheat yielding well. Jefferson—Harvesting almost done, thrashing commenced, yield good. Johnson—Harvest about completed and weather fine for saving the grain; corn is tasseling out; early apples and peaches are on the market; some corn not laid by; good week for haying. Lancaster—Oats and spring wheat in shock and are very short; corn is doing well but is small for the time of year. Nemaha—Oats half in shock; haying mostly done; blackberries ripe; thrashing in progress; corn tasseling; peach crop promises to be good. Nuckolls—Some wheat thrashed, yielding well some are plowing corn yet, it is growing very rapidly in fair shape, it is tasseling. Otoe—Winter wheat being thrashed; yield and quality good; early oats cut and commenced cutting late oats; early corn in tassel. Pawnee—Wheat and oat thrashing has begun; wheat yielding well, oats only moderately and quality not extra; corn has made a remarkable growth and is now up to normal. Polk—Corn has made a good, healthy growth and is mostly laid by; oats seem to be filling well, some fields have been cut. Richardson—Oats nearly all cut, good crop; apples dropping badly; corn doing well except some fields injured by a worm that enters the stalk and eats its way upward. Saline—Wheat yielding fairly well; harvesting completed except late oats; corn has made fine progress; apples are falling off. Saunders—Rye and winter wheat harvested and some thrashed; spring wheat and oats will be ready to cut next week; corn has made rapid growth; early corn tasseling; apples dropping badly. Seward—Stacking and thrashing wheat is being pushed, wheat yielding well; oats quite green yet and are filling well; rain is needed for corn, which is now beginning to tassel. Thayer—Oat harvest well advanced; wheat in shock; corn doing well, the early planted tasseling and silking well; potatoes better than for several years; apples falling off badly. York—Spring wheat and oats being cut; corn doing well but needs good rain; apples dropping badly; second crop of alfalfa being cut. WESTERN AND NORTHWESTERN SECTIONS. Cherry—Wheat almost ready to harvest, a good stand and will yield largely; corn doing nicely; haying commenced, crop good. Keys Paha—Hot and windy; crop looks well; grass good. Rock—Corn being laid by; field corn in tassel; rye being cut, a fair crop; range fine; wild hay improving. Scotts Bluff—Winter wheat being cut; spring wheat looking well; irrigated pastures needing rain but stock doing well still. Thomas—A good week and crops doing well. G. A. LOVELAND, Section Director, Lincoln, Neb. Learned Talk About Dress. It is related that the learned astronomer, Mary Somerville, was once overheard earnestly discussing with the almost equally learned Harriet Martineau as to whether a certain gown should or should not be dyed to match a certain shawl. It somehow seems incongruous to learn of such trivial interests on the part of two such women. And yet, why should it follow that because women educate the brain they must therefore forebear to attempt pleasing? Why, because they learn science, must they unlearn the arts, and especially the art of being beautiful and well dressed? There really isn't the remotest logical sequence. It is now conceded that even a woman suffragist may be beautiful. A delightful woman, speaker of high repute among friends upon one occasion declared it to be her conviction that God meant women to adorn the world as much as he meant the birds and flowers to serve that end, and that so far from sin, there was positive virtue in attractive dress. The sin lay in giving time, money and thought to it which rightfully belonged elsewhere. Senor Dupuy de Lome, the Spanish minister, entertained at dinner the Hon. Stewart L. Woodford, the newly appointed minister to Spain, and Mrs. and Miss Woodford.