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THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

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WENT UP IN SMOKE.

The Little Village of Inavale Almost Wiped Out.

About half past 2 Thursday morning fire was discovered in Al Strohm's drug store at Inavale, and before the flames could be checked the principal business houses of the little village were laid in ruins.

Chauncey Miller, who lives some distance north of the business section of the town, was awakened about 2 o'clock in the morning by a strong smell of burning wood, and arose to see where it was coming from. However, as he could see no sign of flames he again retired, but the smoke soon became so thick he arose, dressed himself and went down town to investigate. It took but a short time to locate the fire burning briskly in Al Strohm's drug store. He summoned assistance and the store was broken open, but the fire had gained such headway that it was impossible to check it, and it quickly burned through into Waldo & Co.'s general store, on the east, and from there it spread to Sawyer & Knight's hardware store. To the west of the drug store the flames were communicated to the small frame building occupied by Dr. Phillips as an office. An attempt was made to tear down this building to prevent the spreading of the flames to Charles Hunter's store, but the heat of the fire was so intense that notning could be done, and the building was soon in flames. How- , most of the stock was removed with the exception of perhaps a ton of flour.

All of the burned buildings, with exception of that owned and oc- ed by Charles Hunter, belonged to state of Wesley Wilson.

he losses, with the insurance, are as follows:

Charles Hunter, loss on building and stock, about $1,500. Insurance on building and stock, $4,100.

Waldo & Co., general merchants, were the heaviest losers. Their stock was valued at $6,500 and they carried $4,500 insurance. Loss, total.

The contents of Dr. Phillips' office were saved.

Strohm's drug stock was valued at $1,500 and was insured for $1000. The loss was total.

The stock of Sawyer & Knight, hardware and harness, valued at $3,000, was almost entirely destroyed. Insurance, $2000.

The buildings belonging to the Wilson estate were valued at about $3000 and were insured for $1,500.

The origin of the fire is unknown, though the opinion of the majority of the people up there is that the fire was of incendiary origin.

Charles Hunter will rebuild as soon as the foundation of his old building is cleared of rubbish.

Commissioner Sawyer will probably build, but on the south side of the street.

There is no likelihood that the buildings belonging to the Wilson estate will be rebuilt.

There was a strong wind blowing from the south, and it was with the greatest difficulty the fire was prevented spreading to the north. Those who saw the fire say the corrugated iron roofing and walls kept the sparks from flying, to a great extent, and this is what enabled the workers to confine the flames to the row of buildings which burned. Of the five buildings nothing is left save a pile of warped and twisted corrugated iron sheeting.

This is the first serious blaze Inavale has experienced since the burning of Jim Vance's general store some ten years ago.

Another Fire Thursday Night.

About 9 o'clock Thursday night the home of Fred Stoner, in the northwest part of Inavale, was discovered to be on fire. The fire started in the southwest corner of the house and had apparently been lighted from the outside. There was no one at home at the time, and the blaze gained such headway that the house could not be saved. However, most of the furniture and other household goods were gotten out. The house was formerly owned by Mrs. G. W. Knight of Willowbrook, California.

The Tabitha Home Quarrel.

Some one is writing editorials for the Webster County Argus, published at Red Cloud, about the Tabitha home unpleasantness in Lincoln, and these editorials are so exrtemely absurd that they are almost more amusing than vicious. Yet the publication of such articles should not be passed over without a word of protest from this city, where the alleged facts took place and where the accused persons live.

There is no earthly reason for carrying this quarrel to the limit that it has been carried by the writer for the Argus. Governor Mickey is accused, Attorney General Brown is accused, the opposition faction in the fight for control of the home is called a band of cut-throats and the "Tabitha proposition" is pronounced "the greatest scandal in the nation today."

Such declarations are positively silly. The person who is going to such nonsensical extremes for the purpose of giving vent to anger or seeking an opportunity for revenge is very clearly a person who should not be a participant in a fight for the conrrol of any institulion like the Tabitha home.

This Tabitha home upheaval is serious enough, and the people of Lincoln want to have the case probed to the bottom in order that the truth may be known. But there is nothing in the quarrel to justify the use of such extravagant and ill-tempered words as are employed by the overheated writer for the Webster County Argus.—Wednesday's Lincoln Star.

Fourth of July Rates, 1906.

Round trip tickets may be sold at all Burlington route stations as follows:

Rate—one and one third of the standard first class rate from selling station to destination "Minimum rate 25 cents" for adults and 15 cents for children. Dates of sale—July 3 and 4. Final limit July 6. J. F. Edwards.

LIGHT CONTRACT LET.

And Work Upon the Plant Will be Immediately Begun.

The city council met last Friday afternoon and opened the bids for furnishing the apparatus for the electric light plant. Representatives of twenty-three supply companies were present and the competition was very sharp. The council held an almost continuous session until nearly midnight Saturday and when the work was finally completed the contracts were divided up between five different firms and Red Cloud had made arrangements for one of the best small lighting plants to be found anywhere, at a cost far below what other towns have had to pay for their plants. The total amount of the contracts for supplies is slightly over $11,888.

The contract for the engine went to the Atlas Engine Co., of Indianapolis, and calls for a 150 horse-power Corliss engine. The Westinghouse Electric Co., will furnish the generator and other electric apparatus. Korsmeyer & Co. of Lincoln will furnish the wiring, while the Nebraska Telephone Co. will supply the poles. In each case the bids accepted were the lowest offered.

While some members of the council were favorable to the gas producer power system, it was thought the system was too much in the nature of an experiment and the old reliable steam engine was finally adopted.

The plan adopted for placing the lights will give a street light at every street intersection in the city. Of late years the incandescent lamp has been so perfected that it makes an ideal street light for residence districts.

A 32-candle-power incandescent street light will be placed at every street intersection in the city. If in the future it should be found that these lights are unsatisfactory they can be changed to arc lights. In the business district the streets will be lighted with a half dozen arc lights.

Work on the plant will be immediately begun and it is thought the system will be in operation inside of ninety days. Before that time rolls around the water problem will have been solved, and Red Cloud will be in better shape, so far as water and light are concerned, than it has been in the past.

WHAT *The* LIGHTS WILL COST.

To The Citizens of Red Cloud:

As inquiries are being made in regard to the new City Light Plant, the council has taken this method of explaining what is contemplated in regard to cost of lights, wiring, etc. The new plant will be in operation about October 1st. All current will be sold at meter rates as follows;

COMMERCIAL RATES.

1 to 25	Kilo-Watts	at 15 cts.—1 16 C. P.	lamp	burning	17	hours	at	15 cts.
26 to 50	"	" 13 cts.—1 16 "	"	"	"	"	"	13 cts.
51 to 75	"	" 10 cts.—1 16 "	"	"	"	"	"	10 cts.
76 to 100	"	" 9 cts —1 16 "	"	"	"	"	"	9 cts.
101 up	"	" 8 cts.—1 16 "	"	"	"	"	"	8 cts.

RESIDENCE RATES.

1 to 10	Kilo Watts	at 15 cts.—1 16 C. P.	lamp	burning	17	hours	at	15 cts.
11 up	"	" 12 cts.—1 "	"	"	"	"	"	12 cts.

One kilo-watt equals 1000 watts. One 16 candle power lamp consumes 57 watts per hour. Meters will be sold to the consumers at the following prices: 1 to 15 lights, $11.50; 15 to 30 lights, $13.00; 30 to 50 lights, $16.00. Consumers not wishing to buy meters may rent meters at 20 cents per month.

All wiring will be done by the city at a cost which is approximately as follows: Concealed wiring, $2.00 per opening. An opening means wires brought through the plastering ready for fixtures to be attached. Open wiring, $1.75 per drop; this includes everything ready for the globe. Main line switch and cut out is also included in the above prices.

Ten per cent discount will be allowed on all monthly light bills for cash paid the light commissioner at his office on or before the third day of each month. All consumers who are connected up and ready for the lights when the plant is started will be furnished one month's light free of charge.

During the next three or four weeks, or until material for construction arrives, it is desired that as much of the private wiring as possible be done and this circular is issued to give all prospective customers an idea of the cost of same. The Council asks the co-operation of the citizens and urge that those intending to install light have their wiring done early as possible and thus help avoid the rush of work when men are busy installing the plant. Any information will be cheerfully furnished by the engineer or any member of the Council.

The superintendent of construction, Mr. John Martz, will cheerfully make individual estimates of the cost of installing the lights on application.

A representative of the City will call on you in a few days. Please be ready with your order.

C. F. CATHER, Mayor.

Got Away With the Cash.

Frank Waugh, cook, and Grover See, waiter at Bense's restaurant, jumped town Friday night and took with them a pocketbook containing $32 belonging to Hans Nicholson, the baker. These two worthies are of the roving class that seldom stay long in one place and make it a point to do up everyone with whom they come in contact. Besides the money which the stole from Nicholson, both had taken advantage of the confiding and trustful nature of "Billy" Bense and secured a portion of their wages in advance.

Waugh and See were arrested at Holdrege Tuesday and were brought to Red Cloud Wednesday morning by Sheriff Hedge. They were arraigned before Judge Reed Wednesday afternoon, on a charge of petty larceny, but the jury disagreed. They were tried again Thursday, and the jury returned a verdict of guilty and they were sentenced to ten days in jail.

Strohm Again Arrested.

Sheriff Hedge and Marshal Kinsel made a quick trip to Inavale Wednesday evening and again arrested Al Strohm, the Inavale druggist, who has been giving the officers so much trouble of late. The charge against Strohm is the same old thing—illegal selling of liquor. He was arraigned before Judge Edson Wednesday evening and was put under $1000 bond to appear for preliminary examination next Tuesday. M. H. Farnham put up the required security and Strohm was released. Sheriff Hedge brought back with him a wagon load of the wet goods with which Strohm was want to quench the thirst of the dry ones at Inavale. The raid netted a barrel and a couple boxes of bottled beer, a barrel or two of bottled malt and a barrel of whisky, the latter having been concealed in a large box in the cob shed at Strohm's home.

The people of Inavale are evidently determined that Strohm shall either quit business or quit the town.

Assessment Figures.

County Assessor Richard Turner has completed his abstract of the assessment of Webster county. Lack of space and time prevents our giving a detailed analysis of the assessment this week, but for the benefit of our readers we give a few of the important items.

The total assessed valuation of the county is $3,269,642, an increase of $188,000 over last year. The personal property assessed valuation is $1,556,334; real estate value, $1,507,285. On the basis of the assessed valuation being one-fifth of the actual value, this would make the total actual value of property in Webster county $16,348,210. The assessors' returns show the following number of animals and bushels of corn and wheat, with their assessed valuation: Horses, 10,693, value $168,499; cattle 36,972, value $158,941; sheep 157, value $135; hogs, 44,501, value $62,387; wheat, 104,036 bushels, value $11,609; corn, 883,548, value, $51,999.

A Correction.

In correction to Mr. R. J. Skeen we wish to correct an error in our last week's issue concerning the judgment in the Lippincott road case. While in his original claim for damages Mr. Skeen asked for $3,200, he filed an acceptance of the appraisers' allowance of $340. The petitioners were not satisfied with the allowance, and the county commissioners reduced it to $200. In our item last week it was made to appear that Mr. Skeen was asking for more than the appraisers allowed, which was not the case. While he feels that the damage suffered by him is far in excess of the amount allowed by the appraisers, he was willing to accept the estimate.

REVIVAL MEETINGS CLOSE.

Their Large Audiences. Generous Offerings. Over 200 Converts.

The evangelistic meetings conducted during the month by Evangelists Honeywell and Bilhorn closed on Sunday with three big meetings in the tabernacle and when the last strains of the hymn "God be with you till we meet again" sounded through the building and the final benediction was spoken on Sunday evening the large audience went to their homes saying that the meetings were the best ever held in Red Cloud. The evangelists labored faithfully, and while they did not try to please and many found fault with their methods, they left behind them results that will make for the permanent betterment of the community. Much of this good, however, is due to the cooperation of the local pastors who were tireless in their efforts in soul winning, and large credit should also be given to the laymen in the various churches, who entered into every part of the campaign with a unity of purpose and earnest persistency that demands success.

During the closing Sabbath services enthusiasm ran high. Every utterance of the speaker which especially caught the audience was applauded, while the solos of Mr. Bilhorn caused the people to demand an encore both morning and evening. The chorus also received its full measure of appreciation. This applause in a religious service, while it may be offensive to some whose ideas of propriety in worship have come down from their childhood, is nevertheless due a preacher or evangelist just as much as a political or other platform speaker if he says things worthy of applause. The man behind the pulpit has always had the hardest task of any public speaker just because he has been denied these tokens of appreciation.

But perhaps the best token of appreciation given the evangelist was the generous offering made by the people during the Sunday services. Rev. Rice had charge of the financial affairs of the day and when the cash and pledges had been counted it was found that the people had given $428 of their money as an evidence that they appreciated the efforts put forth to help them. The current expenses of the meetings were met by an offering the previous Sunday and altogether nearly $1,000 was given by those interested in making the meetings a success.

Dach of the churches interested received considerable accessions to its membership as a result of the work, and organizations in other towns were also benefited by having converts turn to them for a church home. Add to this the large impetus given to those already working in these churches, the better knowledge of methods gained, and it is easy to see that Red Cloud has been benefited in a very permanent manner by the work of the evangelists.

"Baldy" In Trouble Again.

Deputy Sheriff Art Walrath of Franklin county came down to Red Cloud yesterday with a warrant for the arrest of "Baldy" Vest, on the charge of forgery. The crime for which "Baldy" was arrested was the alleged raising of a check for $2.60 to $10.60. The charge is preferred by Hugh L. Duncan, a farmer living aboul 4 1-2 miles northwest of Riverton. Duncan claims that Vest was working for him last winter up to the 11th day of January, at which time he quit and was given a check for $2.60 in payment for his work. "Baldy" claims that he was working near Guide Rock at the time the alleged crime was committed. The warrant is made out for "John" Vest, and as "Baldy's" name is "William" there may be some mistake. He was taken to Bloomington last night.

Bulletin.

Forepaugh & Sells Bros. circus at Hastings, July 13. Rate one and a third for round trip. Tickets on sale July 13, good returning July 14.

J. F. EDWARES, Agent.