

There is only one way to get ready for immortality, and that is to love this life and live it as bravely and faithfully and cheerfully as we can.—Van Dyke.

Release of Pinned Man Is Blocked

Section of Wall and Roof Falls in Cave, Sealing Floyd Collins in His Natural Prison.

Rescuers Are Desperate

By Associated Press.
Cave City, Ky., Feb. 4.—Without a rumble to forecast its coming, a section of the sidewalk and roof of Sand Cave fell today and sealed Floyd Collins, 35 years old cave explorer, in his underground prison, just as rescuers felt they were about to effect his release.

Tonight Collins lies in exactly the same place where a boulder left him when he caught his leg at 10 o'clock this morning as he was crawling toward the entrance. But volunteer workers are pecking away from the outside and hope to reach him within a few hours with a chisel and an acetylene torch. The torch will be used to heat the rock which holds his legs. It was unable to say definitely whether he was free or not, having told rescuers first that he could move both legs and later that he could move neither.

After the heat has dried the rock, the smallest member of the party will be enough to permit Collins to withdraw his foot, or others to withdraw it for him, has been made. Only one man can approach the cave prisoner at a time. Whatever work he does must be limited to what force he puts behind short strokes, as the passage-way will not permit freedom of arm movement.

Timbering Essential.

If this slow, primitive method is successful and Collins' feet are freed, it probably will be necessary to place the leather harness about his waist again and drag him from the point of imprisonment. Collins is so enfeebled that his own efforts in all likelihood will be fruitless under most favorable circumstances.

All members of the party agreed, however, that further timbering was essential before they should venture in to Collins. The debris of the slide has been somewhat cleared and small stones and sand which caved in during the afternoon while several men were working in the cave, also had been cleared. The afternoon cave-in was a minor affair, it was said. Small rock fell behind one of the rescuers, but he squirmed out safely.

For three hours this afternoon all work was devoted to bracing the ceiling with short props. Timber around the cave was cut and men with saws dotted the hills turning out short logs.

Two white tents near the cave entrance have taken on an aspect of permanence. Hot coffee and food are served from here to men who emerge weakened and cold from Sand cave. It is a strenuous task to reach Collins and return, regardless of whether any other work is done en route. One way passage requires 20 minutes to half an hour and several men have collapsed when reaching the surface.

Surgeon Takes Plane.

A group of national guardsmen, some from Bowling Green and some from Smith's Grove, have roped off the entrance to the cavern and on-lookers are kept at a distance.

Dr. William Hazlett arrived today from Chicago, where Mrs. Emmons Blaine commissioned him with funds and necessary equipment to perform an amputation operation, if necessary to liberate Collins. The Collins family, however, will agree to amputation only as a last resort. Considerable doubt has been expressed as to whether a man of Dr. Hazlett's size could proceed far enough in the narrow passage to reach the prisoner.

SECRETARY FOR JUNIOR C. OF C.

The junior division of the Chamber of Commerce is to have a paid secretary to take care of its affairs. This was decided at a meeting of the board of directors and the executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday noon.

No one has been selected yet for the position, according to Clarke G. Powell, commissioner of the Chamber. He said the Chamber is looking for a high-grade executive.

Court Measure Passed.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The bill altering the jurisdiction of the higher federal courts with a view to decreasing the number of cases which reach the supreme court was sent to the president, the house accepting senate amendments.

We Have With Us Today

Winslow Russell, Vice President and Agency Manager, Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co., Hartford, Conn.

Mr. Russell is one of the best known life insurance executives in the United States. He has been in the business for 25 years, and for the last 20 years he has held his present position of vice president and general agency manager for the Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance company.

He is known particularly among life insurance men for his part in the development of agency work.

Mr. Russell will be the principal speaker at a dinner which has been arranged in his honor by the insurance division of the Chamber of Commerce, at the chamber Thursday evening.

Three Escape Hurts When Horse Is Hung

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.
Beatrice, Neb., Feb. 4.—Beatrice almost went back to ancient history for an accident which would not implicate in any way the automobile.

Elmer Hennings and two residents of Liberty were on their way home, riding in Hennings' buggy, drawn by a team of horses.

In some manner the team slipped from the road and crashed into the ditch. One horse was killed, the other hung by his neck to a post, the buggy was wrecked and the three men escaped injury.

2 Students Dead, 5 Critically Ill, in Poisoning Plot

Strychnine Found in Stomachs of University Boys; Believe Put in Cold Remedy Capsules.

By Associated Press.
Columbus, O., Feb. 4.—Definite traces of strychnine, found late today in the stomach of David I. Pusken of Canton, O., Ohio State university student, who died suddenly Sunday, strengthened the belief of university officials that the sudden death of Pusken and another student in the last four days and the violent illness of other students, was due to poison, probably intentionally placed in medicine prescribed on the campus.

As a result, university officials this afternoon turned the official investigation of the situation over to Columbus police authorities.

University officials placed every faculty of the institution at the disposal of the police and pledged heartiest co-operation.

President W. O. Thompson, after issuing a statement insisting that there was no cause for alarm or for parents withdrawing their children from the university, did these things:

1.—Directed that a complete chemical analysis of all remaining medicine on the shelves issued to the students affected should be made.

2.—Ordered that all further issuance of such medicine remaining in the college pharmacy dispensary where it was made up should cease.

Columbus police officials tonight questioned Dean E. F. McCampbell of the college of medicine, George D. Thompson, also of Canton, the last student taken violently ill, and advised tomorrow to question all students in the college of pharmacy who have been on duty in the dispensary in the last two weeks.

Discovery of definite traces of strychnine in the stomach of Pusken made it certain that the poison was involved in at least three of the fatal cases. More serious cases which have developed since last Thursday. But chemical tests of nearly two-thirds of the capsules issued for treatment of colds failed to reveal any trace of the poison, except in one capsule. This capsule, one of a number issued to Timothy J. McCarthy of Fremont, O., varsity football player, last week, was said to contain nothing but cod-liver oil.

It is believed to have been a similar capsule which caused McCarthy to become violently ill last Thursday.

Poison in Capsules.

Poison also was found in the contents of the stomach of Thompson, who was taken suddenly ill yesterday under circumstances similar to those in the other cases. But other capsules in Thompson's possession were found to be free from poison.

Exact cause of the death of Charles H. Huls of Logan, O., who died last Saturday in convulsions, and of the violent illness of Harold E. Gillig of Tiffin, O., a sophomore, has not been determined. Capsules of the kind given the other three students named were prescribed for these students.

Huls' death was at first ascribed to tetanus. That of Pusken, after a post-mortem, was laid to meningitis of a virulent type. Dean McCampbell today explained apparent conflict by saying that the symptoms in all three diseases are similar and any one of the three might be mistaken for the other, unless all the facts in each case were definitely known.

Plot, Says President.

How or why the poison was included in the medicine so far is a mystery upon which the investigators have been able to shed no light. Students who are treated at the university health service office are only given prescriptions there. The prescriptions are filled at the college pharmacy dispensary. Medicine compounded at this dispensary is always made up under the direct supervision of faculty members in the college of pharmacy, all of whom are registered pharmacists, officials pointed out.

A number of supplies of the poison were found this afternoon to be in the possession of various departments of the university. But in each instance, it was learned, that faculty members personally keep it at all times under lock and key and could account for practically all that had been in their possession for some months.

As if to strengthen the probability of deliberate intent, in the admittance of poison into the dispensary, a dean of the college of pharmacy, who is in direct charge of the dispensary, pointed out that if the poison had been added by mistake it would have been mixed in all the capsules. He further demonstrated this afternoon that the poison, being heavier than the cod-liver oil, could not have been made up into an ordinary capsule by mistake.

THE COPPEL GET YOU

if you break over working night. An authorized representative of the Coppel Station will inspect, adjust and clean your car. The price charged. Reliable Tire Repair Co., 415 S. 24th St.—Advertisement.

Trolley Bill Necessary, Senate Told

Omahans Plead for Measure; Both Tram Comp. Represented.

By P. C. POWELL.
Staff Correspondent The Omaha Bee.
Lincoln, Feb. 5.—Interest in today's legislative session centered around committee hearings on three bills. The Omaha tramway franchise measure before the senate judiciary committee, the Sarpy county annexation bill before the house committee on privileges and elections, the national electric and telephone medical society committee. Continuance of hearings were granted on all three measures.

F. A. Brogan and Harley Morehead, representing "Omaha business interests"; A. V. Shotwell, representing the city of Omaha and R. A. Leusser, representing Omaha and Council Bluffs Street Railway company appeared in behalf of the tramway company. The entire delegation asserted passage of the bill was absolutely necessary in order to insure a proper tramway franchise election in Omaha.

"Isn't it true that the city of Omaha, in introducing this bill through Mayor Dahlman, is merely pulling the tramway's chestnuts out of the fire?" Senator John W. Cooper, chairman of the judiciary committee, asked Shotwell.

"Not necessarily," Shotwell replied. "The bill was prepared by W. C. Lambert, corporation counsel for the city, who is now ill, because he believed its passage necessary for the well-being of the city of Omaha."

Representative Dick Wood, of Omaha, did the fighting for the Sarpy county annexation bill. Wood stated he would gladly consent to an amendment which would make the annexation election occur at the holding of the next regular election in order to cut the expense of a special election.

"I want to ask those opposing the bill to answer one question," Wood said. "Why are they opposed to permitting residents of both counties to express their desires on annexation at the polls?"

None of the Sarpy county opponents answered the question. Wood promised to present petitions indicating annexation and desired to settle the drawn-out fight by an election.

Manicurists Appear.

Fully 100 manicurists for and against the manicuring bill filled the committee room when their bill came up for hearing. A number of male barbers, fearful something was being "slipped over" on them were present.

Fully 75 per cent of the women present are residential operators who understood the bill intended to deprive them of business. When it was explained that the bill merely forbade practicing any of the beauty arts in rooms used for sleeping and eating opposition of residential operators disappeared.

Kelso Morgan, Omaha attorney, represented the manicurists; William Randall, another Omaha attorney, appeared in opposition to the bill. Randall stated that at present he preferred not to make public his held two weeks from today and his request was granted. Irene Gray, owner of three beauty parlors in Omaha, was present in behalf of Omaha backers of the bill.

Reed Bill Killed.

Committee members voting against a favorable recommendation were Denmore, McMaisters, Byrum, Aundrand, Johnson of Douglas.

Byrum, author of the bill to increase taxation of intangible property to 75 per cent of the tax on tangible, requested that the house refer his bill to the revenue and taxation committee. Lee of Adams county, author of the bill to cut auto license fees in half, asked that his bill be referred to the same committee. Both bills had originally been referred to the judiciary committee, which had reported them out with a favorable recommendation. The authors explained that numerous other bills on the same subject were in the revenue and taxation committee and they believed this committee should make a decision on how to handle these two propositions.

Danbury Pioneer Dies.

Danbury, Feb. 4.—Joel B. Dolph, pioneer homesteader of Danbury, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. W. Dewey, of Cook, February 1, at the age of 85. He came to Danbury in 1875 and made his home on his homestead near Danbury until recently. His living children are Mrs. C. W. Dewey of Cook, Mrs. J. M. Wicks of Boulder, Colo.; Sam Dolph of Denver, and Burnett Dolph of Danbury. His wife and one son had preceded him in death.

John Davis, 84, Dead.

Geneva, Feb. 4.—Joseph Davis, 84 died Monday at his home in Geneva. He was the father of former Representative John P. Davis. Other children surviving are D. J. and Harry L. and Miss Mary Davis. Mrs. John C. Davis of Geneva and Mrs. A. B. Griffith and C. J. Griffith of Salem, Ore.

Stokes Defense Fails to Quash Charges Upon Here Technicality

Court Refuses to Split Hairs Over Term, "Character" Used in Indictment; Aged Millionaire Says Prove Sensational Charges Against Wife.

By A. J. LORENZ.
Special Service Staff Correspondent.
Chicago, Feb. 4.—Just what is character?
The court today refused to stand on strictly legal and philosophical grounds in deciding it.
Courts are no longer sticklers for grammatical accuracy. They have become popularized as evinced by Judge William M. Gemmill's decision today to refuse to accede to the plea of attorneys for W. E. D. Stokes to quash the conspiracy charges because of an etymological error in the indictments.

The indictments charge the millionaire New York hotel man, his wife, Dan Nugent of New York, and two negroes, with conspiracy to defame the "character" of Mrs. Stokes.

Attorney John J. Healy, representing Mr. Stokes, sprung the grammatical surprise move when the trial opened today.

"It is impossible to injure a person's character, just as it is impossible to harm a person's soul," stated Healy by way of premise. "A man or woman's character is what he or she is. It cannot be harmed by any outside agency."

Completing his syllogism, much in the manner of a debate in logics, the attorney argued:

"Therefore, W. E. D. Stokes could not have engaged in a conspiracy to harm his wife's 'character,' although it might be possible to injure her reputation."

It was court procedure of the old school, one rarely meets in these days.

But Judge Gemmill dismissed the technicalities by saying: "I overrule your motion. The record will show your argument."

A moment later began the selection of the jury to try the aged New York millionaire, who twice has attempted to divorce the wife he married in a winter and summer romance—when he was 58 and she was 21.

The state made it apparent that married men would be sought on the jury which, it was agreed, would be locked up during the course of the trial.

New Evidence Promised.

The clearest, which affords the spectacle of a husband seeking to prove his charges that his pretty wife and mother of his children had once been a habitue of the gay night life of Chicago's levee district, is expected to spring sensation after sensation. The aged millionaire declared that he had new evidence to prove his charges.

State's Attorney Smith, in outlining the case, declared that the state had found new proof that photographs which were introduced in the two divorce trials of Stokes against his wife, had been misrepresented.

One of the photographs showing Mrs. Stokes as a young girl in pajamas, which Stokes is declared to have maintained was taken in the notorious Everleigh club, was in reality taken in the home of Mrs. Stokes' mother in Denver, Smith declared.

Mrs. Stokes is expected to be in Chicago to take the stand Monday, having been notified today that the trial had gotten under way in earnest.

Court Overrules Move.

"It is impossible to injure a person's character, just as it is impossible to harm a person's soul," stated Healy by way of premise. "A man or woman's character is what he or she is. It cannot be harmed by any outside agency."

Completing his syllogism, much in the manner of a debate in logics, the attorney argued:

"Therefore, W. E. D. Stokes could not have engaged in a conspiracy to harm his wife's 'character,' although it might be possible to injure her reputation."

It was court procedure of the old school, one rarely meets in these days.

Irrigation Bill Is Making Progress

Efforts Made to Get Measure Submitted to Present Legislature.

Washington, Feb. 4.—With one hearing on the tricounty subsoil irrigation project finished before the senate committee on irrigation and another scheduled for the near future, favorable progress is being made on the bill introduced in the house by Senator Norris and in the house by Congressman Shallenberger, which will reclaim 500,000 acres of semiarid Nebraska land.

Congressman Shallenberger expects to have a hearing on the project before the house committee on irrigation and reclamation this week. Just now the hearing is being held up under the bill now pending in the house and senate, the committee here, representing the project, is desirous of final action on the bill at this session, which will permit the Nebraska legislature to take necessary action at its present session. Otherwise the bill will have to wait for the next meeting of the senate.

The project from the first, having lived in the vicinity of the project for 35 years, and in his talk before the senate committee on irrigation he told what the project will do when completed toward reclaiming annual lands and in assuring annual crops in that portion of Nebraska, which now affords but one crop in five years.

TRAIN RACES WITH STORK TO VICTORY

Milford, Utah, Feb. 4.—The stork and a Union Pacific passenger train raced for Milford with the latter winning, so the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Edward of Hollywood, Cal., entered the world with the aid of a local physician, and was clothed with garments presented by Milford residents with his own clothing could be brought from the train.

The parents had been with the concern which has been filming "Ben Hur" at Rome until called back by the turmoil in the Mussolini regime.

Rites to Be Held Today for Former Beatrice Mayor

Beatrice, Feb. 4.—Funeral services for William P. Norcross, former mayor of Beatrice and extensive land owner in Gage county, who died at a hospital here, will be held Thursday afternoon at 2:30 at the First Christian church. The sermon will be read by Rev. M. Lee Sorey of Salina, Kan., formerly pastor here, and burial will be in Evergreen Home cemetery.

Gering Pool Planning Explorations for Oil

Bridgeport, Feb. 4.—With 5,500 acres under lease for oil development purposes, the Gering Oil pool will make an effort to raise the holdings to 10,000, required to secure a systematic exploitation of the territory south and east of the river for oil discovery purposes.

Danbury Pioneer Dies.

Danbury, Feb. 4.—Joel B. Dolph, pioneer homesteader of Danbury, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. W. Dewey, of Cook, February 1, at the age of 85. He came to Danbury in 1875 and made his home on his homestead near Danbury until recently. His living children are Mrs. C. W. Dewey of Cook, Mrs. J. M. Wicks of Boulder, Colo.; Sam Dolph of Denver, and Burnett Dolph of Danbury. His wife and one son had preceded him in death.

Horses Bring Good Prices.

Beatrice, Feb. 4.—At the Charles Roth farm near Wynmore horses sold on an average of \$125 and mules \$110 a head. Thirty-four head of milch cows brought from \$44 to \$77 a head and feeders averaged \$42 a head. Mr. Roth and family will soon locate at Wynmore.

Sister Tells of Death of Galvin Babe

Unwed Mother, on Trial for Life, Breaks Down and Sobs as Witness Tells of Finding Child.

Bright Lights Blamed

Spectators in Judge Peter's courtroom in Council Bluffs gasped and straightened in their seats yesterday when the sister of the babe, who was named Mrs. Clarence L. Anderson, testified against her sister.

Mrs. Anderson, sister of Blanche Galvin, 22, unwed mother, on trial for the death of her unnamed babe last October, had been called by the state to testify against her sister.

The testimony was, to an extent, disappointing. There was nothing brought out which had not been told before, at the inquest or during the investigation which followed the finding of the babe, abandoned on a sidewalk at the rear of the Anderson home.

Mrs. Anderson told how she had had a telegram from her sister saying that Blanche would come to Council Bluffs from Atlanta that day. Blanche had arrived, and with her mother and her sister, had spent the afternoon in Omaha shopping.

Tell of Finding Child.

That evening Blanche assisted her sister in preparing supper, but when the family suggested going for a motor ride after supper Blanche pleaded illness and was left at home. Nothing had been said of Mrs. Galvin expecting the arrival of a child at that time and Mrs. Anderson had no anxiety of leaving her alone.

When she returned home, Mrs. Anderson said, Blanche was very ill and was lying on aavenport. Mrs. Anderson went out the back door and noticed a group of neighbors on the sidewalk. She heard one man say that he would "get a club and put it out of his misery."

Upon her return to the house her sister admitted that the babe had been born and that she had left it outside the house. When the police arrived she met them at the door with the information that the babe was her sister's.

Case Moves Rapidly.

As she finished testifying, Mrs. Anderson turned to the attorney for the defense and asked that she might stay in the courtroom to comfort her sister. The attorney referred the request to the judge who overruled the motion and ordered Mrs. Anderson to wait outside with the other witnesses.

Clarence Anderson, who was then called and gave testimony which supported the story of his wife. The Andersons moved from Council Bluffs after (Turn to Page Three, Column One.)

POISON CAPSULES COST TWO LIVES

Columbus, O., Feb. 4.—The startling discovery that poison unknowingly taken and not spotted fever (cerebral spinal meningitis) caused the deaths of two Ohio State university students, Charles H. Huls and David Pusken, last night of George H. Thompson, also of Canton, O., seemed apparent here today.

Information in the hands of medical authorities today indicated, it was stated, that Huls, Pusken and Thompson and three other students, all studying in the college of commerce and journalism, obtained capsules from a local pharmacy as treatment for colds, and that some of the capsules contained strychnine.

HOUSE HAS NEW POSTOFFICE BILL

Washington, Feb. 4.—A postal pay and rate increase bill, differing in some particulars from the measure passed by the senate and returned to that body by the house, was reported today by the house postoffice committee.

The salary increase provision is similar to that in the senate bill and to the measure vetoed by President Wilson, but rate provisions depart from the increases proposed in the senate bill. They would produce, in the opinion of committee members, enough revenue to cover pay advances.

Rural Mail Carrier in Service 21 Years

Pawnee City, Neb., Feb. 4.—Twenty-one years as a rural mail carrier in Uncle Sam's service is the record of R. W. Bobst, route 1, of DuBois, Neb. When Mr. Bobst started his career as a carrier 21 years ago he drove a team of mules and a horse, and sometimes went over roads that were nearly impassable. His salary was \$40 a month. Today he is driving over good roads, some of them maintained highways, and carries his mail in a car.

Mrs. Laura Lightfoot Dies After Two-Hours Illness

Blue Hill, Feb. 4.—Mrs. Laura Lightfoot died of apoplexy Tuesday, after only two hours' illness. She was just president and president vice president of the American Legion and a diligent worker in that organization. She is survived by three sons.

Wakeup Schools Reopen.

Wakarusa, Feb. 4.—After having been closed several days on account of a threatened epidemic of diphtheria, the Wakarusa public schools have opened again. With only one case now quarantined, the authorities believe that there is little danger of the spread of the disease.

Farmers Marketing Wheat.

Beatrice, Feb. 4.—Considerable wheat has been marketed at this point in the past few days, the price being \$1.79 a bushel. Farmers and grain dealers expect the price to reach \$2 a bushel by spring. Practically no corn is moving, most of the farmers holding the grain with which to feed their stock.

Race of Cops to Aid Wounded Man

Him Only Half-Shot

Six detectives in an emergency car and another half dozen officers and doctors in the patrol wagon dashed up to the curbing at Sixteenth street and Grand avenue Wednesday morning, looking for the body and the murderer.

A woman had called the police station and screamed into the telephone: "Send help to Sixteenth and Grand, quick! There's a man shot out here. He's lying in a pool of blood, dying."

The officers found Clark Allen, 308 1/2 North Sixteenth street, lying in a snow bank. Blood stained the snow.

"How did you get shot?" the officers demanded, helping Allen to his feet.

"Shot," muttered Allen thickly. "I ain't—hic—shot; just—hic—half shot."

He was taken to the police station and booked on a charge of drunkenness. His forehead was crumpled when he fell on the sidewalk.

Railroads Fight Plan to Decrease Rates on Freight

Defend Schedule Against Attack of Livestock Raisers Before Interstate Commerce Board.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 4.—Railroads opened their defense in the Interstate Commerce Commission hearing today with an array of figures designed to show that railroad expenses are justifying existing livestock freight rates and that these rates are lower in comparison with other commodities than in 1914. Western livestock men have petitioned the commission for a freight rate reduction.

L. E. Wattles of Chicago, who is employed by the statistical bureau of the western roads, was the first railroad witness. Railroad expenses, he said, "have increased tremendously along with the increase in revenue. He cited taxes for example, which he said were three times as large in 1924 as in 1911."

Producers Tables.

The witness produced tables to show how the roads have increased their cattle transportation equipment in recent years.

Despite the higher level of rates prevailing in 1924 than in 1914, Wattles reported, net returns to railroads are slightly greater. His tables showed that the net return on western lines in 1914 was 4.17 per cent and that in 1924 it was 4.32 per cent.

"Did freight rates have anything to do with the deflation of the last four years in the cattle business?" asked K. P. Burgess, chief counsel for the railroads.

"No, they were in no way responsible," the witness responded.

Wattles' figures showed 2,600,000 fewer beef cattle in the United States today than a year ago and that monthly farm prices of cattle were about equal to prices in 1914. They indicated an increase of a dollar per hundred pounds in the price of fat steers, but a decrease of more than that amount in the stocker and feeder class.

Rewards Were Offered.

Headed by police officers, possees went over the ground thoroughly. Funds were raised by public subscription and offered as rewards for information which would lead to tracing May and Nina. But there was no result.

Two little girls had dropped from sight in a thickly populated neighborhood of a city in broad daylight without leaving a trace behind.

Today Leo P. Saul and Frank West were crossing the Clara Baldwin estate west of Exposition boulevard. They saw a bit of cloth protruding from a brush pile and investigated. Underneath were the bodies.

County Autopsy Surgeon Wagner is performing a post-mortem examination to determine, if possible, the manner of their death.

William Bright, chief of the homicide squad of the sheriff's office, announced tonight that a dragnet had been spread for a degenerate who had been annoying women and children last summer in the neighborhood from which the Martin girls disappeared.

WOUNDED YOUTH GIVES STATEMENT

"I did not intend to kill any one," was the first statement made to police by Guy Parker, Omaha youth who was shot in an alleged attempted holdup at Twenty-first and Douglas streets two weeks ago. Parker was taken from Lord Lister hospital Wednesday afternoon to the police emergency hospital. Detective Bill Gurnett, secretary to the chief of detectives, asked Parker if he wished to make a statement. When Parker was confronted by the signed statement made by George Gillespie, who had said that Parker was his pal in a number of Omaha holdups, Parker said: "It is all a lie."

"I did not intend to hold up any man," Parker continued. "I had no reasons which I do not care to tell."

Parker will be held at the emergency hospital.

School Head Retained and Salary Increased

Fairbury, Neb., Feb. 4.—A. M. Nelson, who was serving his first year as superintendent of schools here, was unanimously re-elected Monday evening for a three-year term at a raise of \$2,300 a year. This year his salary was \$2,300. He resigned at Auburn to head the Fairbury system.

Mrs. Laura Lightfoot Dies After Two-Hours Illness

Blue Hill, Feb. 4.—Mrs. Laura Lightfoot died of apoplexy Tuesday, after only two hours' illness. She was just president and president vice president of the American Legion and a diligent worker in that organization. She is survived by three sons.

Wakeup Schools Reopen.

Wakarusa, Feb. 4.—After having been closed several days on account of a threatened epidemic of diphtheria, the Wakarusa public schools have opened again. With only one case now quarantined, the authorities believe that there is little danger of the spread of the disease.

Farmers Marketing Wheat.

Beatrice, Feb. 4.—Considerable wheat has been marketed at this point in the past few days, the price being \$1.79 a bushel. Farmers and grain dealers expect the price to reach \$2 a bushel by spring. Practically no corn is moving, most of the farmers holding the grain with which to feed their stock.

The Weather

For 24 hours, ending 7 p. m., Feb. 4: Precipitation, inches and hundredths: Total, 0.21; total since January 1, 6.85; excess, 6.62.

Hour	Temp.	Wind	Clouds
7 a. m.	35	W	100
8 a. m.	35	W	100
9 a. m.	35	W	100
10 a. m.	35	W	100
11 a. m.	35	W	100
12 noon	35	W	100
1 p. m.	35	W	100
2 p. m.	35	W	100
3 p. m.	35	W	100
4 p. m.	35	W	100
5 p. m.	35	W	100
6 p. m.	35	W	100
7 p. m.	35	W	100

Bodies of 2 Lost Girls Recovered

Sisters, 12 and 8, Missing From Home in Los Angeles Since August, Had Been Attacked, Police Say.

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 4.—Two little girls, who wandered away from home here on August 23, last, with 55 cents taken from a baby sister's bank, were found today, dead, in a shallow brush-covered grave in the suburbs with indications pointing to the conclusion that they had been attacked and then slain.

Their names were May Martin, aged 12, and Nina, aged 8.

They were the daughters of Mrs. Paul Busch of Los Angeles. Their father is Eddie Martin, who was sought at the time of their disappearance and was located in Hoquiam, Wash., working in lumber yard.

Martin, when found at Hoquiam, September 15, said he was unable to throw any light on the mystery of their disappearance. He declared that he had not visited California, or his former wife, during the last six months.

Grandmother Identified Them.

Today the grief-stricken grandmother of the little girls, Mrs. Carrie Lovelace, for whose home they had set out on their last journey, identified the badly decomposed bodies by their clothing.

The girls dropped from sight shortly after they had left home during their mother's absence. As they walked down the street they met two playmates, Dorothy and Daisy Beville, and gave each a dime from their baby sister's bank. Then they walked on.

That night about 11 a neighbor, Mrs. Minnie Wideman, said she heard a child's scream. Another neighbor said that she had seen two children who looked like the little Martin sisters, leaving a school playground in a small automobile with two young men.

There the trail stopped.

Police and deputy sheriffs combed hills and ravines in the neighborhood and failed.

Railroads Fight Plan to Decrease Rates on Freight

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 4.—Railroads opened their defense in the Interstate Commerce Commission hearing today with an array of figures designed to show that railroad expenses are justifying existing livestock freight rates and that these rates are lower in comparison with other commodities than in 1914. Western livestock men have petitioned the commission for a freight rate reduction.

L. E. Wattles of Chicago, who is employed by the statistical bureau of the western roads, was the first railroad witness. Railroad expenses, he said, "have increased tremendously along with the increase in revenue. He cited taxes for example, which he said were three times as large in 1924 as in 1911."

Producers Tables.

The witness produced tables to show how the roads have increased their cattle transportation equipment in recent years.

Despite the higher level of rates prevailing in 1924 than in 1914, Wattles reported, net returns to railroads are slightly greater. His tables showed that the net return on western lines in 1914 was 4.17 per cent and that in 1924 it was 4.32 per cent.

"Did freight rates have anything to do with the deflation of the last four years in the cattle business?" asked K. P. Burgess, chief counsel for the railroads.

"No, they were in no way responsible," the witness responded.

Wattles' figures showed 2,600,000 fewer beef cattle in the United States today than a year ago and that monthly farm prices of cattle were about equal to prices in 1914. They indicated an increase of a dollar per hundred pounds in the price of fat steers, but a decrease of more than that amount in the stocker and feeder class.

Rewards Were Offered.

Headed by police officers, possees went over the ground thoroughly. Funds were raised by public subscription and offered as rewards for information which would lead to tracing May and Nina. But there was no result.

Two little girls had dropped from sight in a thickly populated neighborhood of a city in broad daylight without leaving a trace behind.

Today Leo P. Saul and Frank West were crossing the Clara Baldwin estate west of Exposition boulevard. They saw a bit of cloth protruding from a brush pile and investigated. Underneath were the bodies.

County Autopsy Surgeon Wagner is performing a post-mortem examination to determine, if possible, the manner of their death.

William Bright, chief of the homicide squad of the sheriff's office, announced tonight that a dragnet had been spread for a degenerate who had been annoying women and children last summer in the neighborhood from which the Martin girls disappeared.

WOUNDED YOUTH GIVES STATEMENT

"I did not intend to kill any one," was the first statement made to police by Guy Parker, Omaha youth who was shot in an alleged attempted holdup at Twenty-first and Douglas streets two weeks ago. Parker was taken from Lord Lister hospital Wednesday afternoon to the police emergency hospital. Detective Bill Gurnett, secretary to the chief of detectives, asked Parker if he wished to make a statement. When Parker was confronted by the signed statement made by George Gillespie, who had said that Parker was his pal in a number of Omaha holdups, Parker said: "It is all a lie."

"I did not intend to hold up any man," Parker continued. "I had no reasons which I do not care to tell."

Parker will be held at the emergency hospital.