

Telegraphic

BOTH LEGS FROZEN STIFF

Awful Flight of Aged Man Near Fremont—Wanders Outside in Night

An aged man named John Fedora, who lives at Ottumwa, Ia., and his young son, Fred, has portions of their bodies frozen near Leavitt, several miles northwest of Fremont, Neb. They were travelling to Wood Lake, Neb., where Mr. Fedora has a son and daughter. The two were to change cars from the Union Pacific to the Elkhorn at Fremont, but for some reason were carried past to Ames. They got off the train there and, as the hour was early, were forced to walk around with the temperature at thirteen degrees below zero, in order to keep warm.

The father was found lying helpless in a field near Leavitt, some time later, both his legs having been frozen stiff. The boy was close by, and his had been bitten by the frost. Neither of the pair had been able to secure any shelter, as the depot was locked up and people were not yet astir for the day when they arrived at Ames. They had walked along the road toward Leavitt until they could go no further.

Mr. Fedora and his son were taken to Fremont during the day and are being cared for there. The Cherry county relatives of the two have been informed of the affair.

FALL RESULTS IN DEATH

Tree Harvester at Ashland, Neb., Almost Instantly Killed

A man by the name of Kelly, working on the Armour ice house fell from the runway last night and was so badly injured that he died in a short time. He came from Omaha and it was his first day at work. He slipped on the runway and fell twenty-four feet, striking a cake of ice and rebounded several feet in the air.

He was a single man, coming from Omaha, but his relatives, if he has any, have not been found, and he will be buried in the Ashland cemetery. A coroner's inquest developed the fact that in attempting to turn a cake of ice into the proper room his feet slipped and he fell off the platform under the guard rail. The fall was twenty-four feet and crushed his body very badly. The coroner's jury decided that no blame attached to the company for the accident.

IN FEAR OF MOB

Alleged Wyoming Murderer at Crawford, Nebraska

Chadron, Neb.—Sheriff Tubbs of Natrona county, Wyoming, is in Crawford with Chas. Woodard who is charged with the murder of Sheriff Ricker. The sheriff is on his way to Osiper. It is believed the sheriff and his prisoner are being shadowed by friends of the murdered sheriff who will attempt, should the opportunity present itself, to lynch Woodard on his arrival at Casper, or en route there tomorrow. The train leaves Casper at 9 o'clock tomorrow. Woodard fears a mob.

Sheriff Tubbs stated that all necessary precautions to prevent a lynching are being perfected. He is confident that the law will be permitted to take its course. He admitted that there was a strong feeling against Woodard in Casper and Natrona county, and he realized that when he arrived there with the prisoner as a tempt might be made to lynch Woodard, but he thought cooler heads would persuade Ricker's friends to let the law take its course.

The sheriff was asked if he feared an attempt would be made to take the prisoner off the train en route. He refused to say anything, only that all necessary steps should be taken to prevent this.

"DICK" GOULD THREATENED

Brother of Cashier Arrested and Harried off to David City

"Dick" Gould of Bellwood, Neb., cashier of the Platte Valley state bank, has been placed under arrest. He was taken to David City on an evening freight train. On his way to the depot he was followed by a large crowd of the devotees of the bank. He bore up bravely until he reached the depot platform, when some one in the crowd called for a rope, when he jumped into the train with all possible speed. The crowd pushed its way onto the train and it was with difficulty the angry men were driven back.

Earthquakes in Olympics
According to a report which has just reached here, an earthquake and landslide occurred in the Olympic mountains in the western portion of Jefferson county, Washington, just prior to the big storms of last week. The news was brought here by a passenger arriving from down the straits, who stated that Indians report that a number of earthquake shocks were felt, which were followed by a crashing noise.

MURDRERS SAFELY LANDED.

The Tragic Sequel to Pittsburg Pa. Jail Delivery

Edward Biddle and John Biddle, who escaped from the Pittsburg, Pa. jail, have been captured and are in a dying condition, and Mrs. Peter K. Soffel is lying in the hospital with a self-inflicted wound in the breast, is the sequel of the sensational escape of Biddle brothers from the Allegheny county jail, aided by Mrs. Soffel, the wife of the jail warden.

The story of the close of the Biddle tragedy, which came this afternoon, is a thrilling one. The scene was a snow covered road two miles east of Prospect, Butler county near Mount Chestnut and the exact place was at McClure's barn, where two double team sleighs, filled with eight officers, three of them Pittsburg detectives: John Roach, Albert Swinehart and Charles McGovern, met the two Biddles in a one-horse sleigh, stolen at Pottsville, and at once opened fire on the trio.

The Biddles returned the fire after jumping out of the sleigh. Mrs. Soffel's wound was through the breast. Edward Biddle was shot in the left arm, in the breast and in one leg. John Biddle was riddled with buckshot in the breast and head.

The officers were armed with Winchester rifles and revolvers of large caliber. They shot to kill and their aim was perfect. The Biddles tried to kill, to the last of their strength, but not one of the eight officers has a wound as a result of the battle.

When the detectives came to within about sixty yards of the fugitives they opened fire. The Biddles promptly answered with shotgun and revolvers. Mrs. Soffel, too, stood up in the sleigh with a revolver in each hand and blazed away at her pursuers. When Ed Biddle fell, and she saw she was about to be captured, she fired a bullet into her breast. An examination by physicians shows that she will recover, as the bullet was deflected by her corset and the wound is comparatively slight.

Ed Biddle received a bullet in the breast which penetrated his right lung and probably will end his life before morning. John Biddle may recover, his wounds though numerous, failing to reach a vital spot.

The escape of the officers is miraculous. The Biddles have demonstrated on several occasions that they are good marksmen, and why they should have failed today to bring down their men is a mystery.

After the Biddles fell to the snow covered ground the officers picked up the apparently lifeless bodies of Mrs. Soffel and the Biddles and came back to Butler, bringing the stolen sleigh, patched up harness and worn out horse that the trio had tried so strenuously to get away with toward Canada and liberty.

GRAND JURY STILL GRINDING.

Investigation of St. Louis Crookedness to Be Thorough

When the grand jury of St. Louis, resumed its investigation of the suburban bribery scandal today, T. C. Kimball of the Sunray railway, who was examined yesterday, was the first witness called. With his aid the examination of the books of the suburban was continued, in the endeavor to find proof of the payment of the \$125,000 placed in the safe deposit boxes.

The grand jury will remain in session until a late hour Saturday night. Even then its work will not be completed and a heavy burden of investigation will fall on the next set of grand jurors impinged.

A subpoena has been issued for Chauncey Lee Piley, formerly chairman of the republican central committee.

REFUSES A SECOND TIME

Governor Yates Will Not Honor South Dakota Requisition

Today for the second time Governor Yates of Springfield, Ill., refused to honor a requisition from the governor of South Dakota for the extradition of John Stow, now under arrest in Chicago, and wanted in Waterloo, S. D., on a charge of obtaining signatures to documents by false pretenses.

J. W. Eiler, attorney for Police Judge Gordon commenced suit today to restrain the city treasurer from paying salary to Mayor Moores of Omaha, on the ground that the mayor had not taken the oath prescribed by the constitution and therefore he had never legally filed the office. A similar objection was made to the payment of \$1,000 back salary to Judge Gordon last week and the suit filed today is a retaliatory measure.

TUNNEL IS TORN UP

PART OF NEW YORK CITY SHAKEN AS BY AN EARTHQUAKE

Many Explosives Ignited—Six Known to Be Dead and a Hundred Injured—Murray Hill Hotel Shattered and Abandoned as Unsafe

New York, Jan. 28.—The reserve supply of high explosives stored at the Park avenue shaft of the Rapid Transit Tunnel, now in course of construction, blew up shortly after noon today. The giant blast killed six persons, injured a hundred others and seriously damaged all the property reached by the flying debris and the vibration of the shock.

The irregular square formed by the Murray Hill hotel on the west, the Manhattan eye and ear hospital and the Grand Union hotel on the east and the Grand Central railroad station on the north was the scene of the explosion. The buildings named sustained the greatest damage, but the area affected extended for several blocks in the four directions from the center.

OCCURS IN STORAGE HOUSE.

The sunken approach to the street railway tunnel used by the Madison avenue line cuts through Park avenue, and the shaft for the rapid transit subway was run down beside it at the intersection of East Forty-first street. The street railway approach was housed over with a superstructure used for the operating plant of the rapid transit contractors. Temporary buildings for storage purposes were thrown up against the superstructure at the mouth of the shaft and there the explosion occurred. It tore a great gorge in the street, demolishing the temporary buildings and part of the superstructure, and sent a mass of earth, splintered timber and twisted iron high in the air. Much of it went battering against the front of the Murray Hill hotel, and although the walls and main structure of the building stood the shock, nearly every room in the front was wrecked.

The Manhattan eye and ear hospital on the east side of the avenue fared nearly as badly, and had to be abandoned by the management. The Grand Union hotel lost all of its windows and glass partitions and practically every front window in the Grand Central station was shattered. The great clocks on its front towers were blown from their frames. Thousands of windows, some of them seven blocks from the tunnel shaft, fell in fragments. It was the shower of broken glass and falling debris that injured the greatest number.

General alarms brought firemen, police reserves and every available ambulance to the district, and the injured were splendidly cared for. A majority of the injured were treated on the spot and the ambulance surgeons worked for an hour in debris strewn streets. Police lines were thrown across either end of Park avenue and across the intersecting streets. Several times the police cleared the street of people in front of the Murray Hill hotel. Torrents of water from broken mains poured into the tunnel shaft while the wreckage was being cleared from the street railways sub-way and it was feared that the street might cave in.

CAUSE NOT DEFINITELY KNOWN.

The cause of the explosion and the quantity of explosives that blew up are not definitely known. Several causes have been advanced. One was that a fire started near the powder room, and that Master Mechanic William Tubbs lost his life in a desperate attempt to quench it before it reached the deadly fuel. Another was that it started from a spark produced by a stray current of electricity. A third placed the blame upon a blast in the tunnel. Still another gave a gas explosion from electrical contact in the trolley conduit of the street railway sub-way. It will probably take an official investigation to reveal the true explanation. Several men who were very close to the shaft escaped while others hundreds of feet away were knocked down and seriously injured.

District Attorney Jerome visited the scene and made an investigation to guide him in the official inquiry and possible criminal prosecution that will follow.

Ira A. Sinder, engineer in charge of the work at Park avenue; John Bracken, a foreman; and Martin McGrath, an assistant foreman, were placed under arrest and charged with homicide. William Wesley Parsons, chief engineer of the Rapid Transit company, said that Sinder was one of the most competent and careful engineers he ever knew.

More Talking on the Sea.

New York, Jan. 28.—The Canadian Umbria, which has just arrived from Liverpool, talked by means of the "wireless" with her sister ship, the Etruria, proceeding eastward. Operator Franklin on the Umbria caught the Etruria's call at 1:40 last Wednesday. The conversation was continued for three hours and thirty minutes. The shortest distance at which conversation was carried on was thirty-two miles and the longest 118 miles.

WARDEN'S WIFE IS FALSE

NOTORIOUS BIDDLE BROTHERS ESCAPE

Helps to Free Murders—Easily Overpowered—Furnished Saws with Their Acquiescence—Later Intimated with One of the Prisoners

Pittsburg, Jan. 31.—Edward and John Biddle, awaiting execution in the county jail for the murder of Grover Thomas D. Kahney, of Mount Washington, overpowered the guards at 4 o'clock this morning and escaped.

Both prisoners had been provided with saws, with which they cut the bars in their cells and were ready at any moment to make an opening sufficiently large to pass through. The prisoners occupied adjoining cells on the second range. They had evidently been preparing for escape for some time and had assistance from the outside, as both were armed with revolvers.

Shortly before 4 o'clock one of the Biddles called to James McGeary, who had charge of the outside gates, and asked for some cramp medicine in a hurry, saying his brother was dangerously sick.

McGeary hastened to the cell with the medicine, when John Biddle sprang through the opening of the cell and, seizing the guard around the waist, hurled him over the railing to the stone floor beneath, a distance of sixteen feet.

FIGHT THEIR WAY OUT.

Edward Biddle joined his brother immediately and both, with drawn revolvers, hurried to the first floor, where they met Guard Reynolds and shot him. There were but three men on duty and the third was on one of the upper ranges. He was ordered down at the point of the revolvers and the three guards were put in the dungeon.

The keys were taken from Keeper McGeary and the two desperate prisoners had a clear field. The persons who witnessed the escape were prisoners who could not interfere or give an alarm. The Biddles went to the wardrobe, where the guards keep their clothing, and each put on a new suit. They then unlocked the outside gates and passed out into Ross street.

The escape was not discovered until the daylight guards came on duty at 6 o'clock. They were informed by prisoners where the night guards had been put and they were soon released from the dungeon and sent to the homeopathic hospital.

CRIME OF THE BIDDLES.

For several months preceding the Kahney murder daring burglaries were of almost nightly occurrence. The police seemed powerless to prevent them and nervous citizens retired at night in fear and trembling. On the morning of April 12 Mrs. Kahney was awakened by burglars and called to her husband, a cripple, who was sleeping in an adjoining room with one of the children.

As he entered the door of his wife's room he was shot dead. The burglars then fled. A few hours later Detective Patrick Fitzgerald and two officers surprised the Biddle brothers at their home on Fulton street, but before they were captured Fitzgerald was killed and Edward Biddle, who shot him, was dangerously wounded. Walter Dorman, another of the gang, and two women, Jessie Bodine and Jennie Seebers, were also arrested. Dorman turned state's evidence and the two Biddles were convicted of Kahney's murder and sentenced to be hanged, John on the 14th of this month and Edward on the 16th, but three days before the date set for John's execution they were respited until February 25 and 27 by Governor Stone, so that their cases could be before the pardon board at its coming meeting. Dorman is still in jail, awaiting sentence. The women were released.

WOMEN IS RESPONSIBLE.

The escape of the Biddles has been explained. Warden Peter K. Soffel has authorized his publication. It is the allegation that his wife is responsible for the furnishing of the revolvers and saws to the Biddles which enabled them to escape. In her infatuation for the handsome desperado, Edward Biddle, it is alleged that she left her husband and her four children and, it is supposed, is to meet the escaped convict at a place agreed upon.

The story of the matter is brief. Mrs. Soffel was the only person admitted to the jail since last Sunday.

WIFE FURNISHED THE WEAPONS.

Warden Peter K. Soffel, in discussing the escape of the Biddles, today in the office of the jail said: "I believe my wife furnished the weapons to the Biddles and assisted them to escape. This is an awful thing but I am only telling the whole truth. My wife was not in bed when I was awakened this morning and I have not seen her since. She is gone—God only knows where. I said I would lay everything bare and I am doing it."

BANK DOORS ARE CLOSED

SMALL BELLWOOD INSTITUTION TAKEN IN CHARGE.

Cashiers Under Arrest—Charge of Forgery Preferred Against him—State Banking Board Suspicious Since Last Examination

Bellwood, Neb., Jan. 29.—The Platte Valley State Bank closed its doors at about noon today. The suspension has created considerable excitement among citizens, especially the depositors. The bank is now in the hands of a state bank examiner.

A. N. Gould, the cashier, is under arrest, charged with forgery.

BANKING BOARD SUSPICIOUS.

The conditions existing in the Platte Valley bank at Bellwood have been known for several days. The institution was examined by Bank Examiner Hartwell at the close of last year. Nothing out of the way was discovered then, except that the amount of paper on hand was apparently great in comparison with the capital, which was \$15,000. Mr. Hartwell was in the city recently and he called at the First National bank in Lincoln and asked the bank to inspect the paper it had on hand from the Bellwood bank. There was about \$5,000 of this and inspection revealed that many of the signatures on the notes were strikingly similar. A man was sent up to Bellwood at once to investigate the reliability of the paper and this resulted in the banking board taking active charge.

Bank Examiner Hartwell telephone yesterday morning that he has taken charge of the bank and Secretary Royce hastened to Bellwood. Attorney General Proust was called in early to advise as a member of the state banking board and yesterday, when the investigation was in progress, he wired instructions to the county attorney of Butler county to commence criminal proceedings against the cashier of the bank, who had acted in a very peculiar manner.

THINK PAPER NOT GOOD.

Mr. Proust said last night that he believed there was \$10,000 or \$15,000 of paper on hand in the bank, some of which he believed was a good deal. He said he understood a good deal of the paper was in debt in sums that were even and had no odd cents to indicate that they had been arrived at in business operations. This, coupled with the apparent likeness of signatures, indicated that something was wrong. The cashier, when the bank examiner took charge yesterday, declined to give up the cash on hand, which amounted to about \$1,000. He took the money to his house and placed it in hiding. When this news was wired to Lincoln, Mr. Proust at once asked the county attorney to commence proceedings and prevent the cashier from leaving the county. Later he learned that the officer brought the money back of his own will.

S. H. Burnham, president of the First National bank, said last night that it was true the bank had taken paper to the amount of about \$5,000 from the Platte Valley bank. The bank had no suspicion about the worth of the notes until the bank examiner called attention to the manner in which they were rendered. A man was immediately dispatched to Bellwood and was unable to find farmers in the vicinity bearing the names signed in many instances. Mr. Burnham had heard no more details than this at a late hour last night.

State Treasurer Stue or said last night that no state funds were on deposit in this institution.

Sterling Pastor Threatened.

Sterling, Neb., Jan. 29.—The latter part of the week Rev. H. Wendt, pastor of St. John's Lutheran church at this place, received through the mail a letter that sounds as though a comrade of Leon Czolgosz was in the country. The letter reads in part as follows:

"You know how it stands with you, and what happened in your meeting. What have you done as long as you have been here? How much strife? You are the originator. Three months' time will be given you to consider, and if you are not away then you know what happened to McKinley, and a like fate awaits you. Remember the three months."

"Your Enemy."

The Rev. Mr. Wendt says that he is not at all alarmed, and nobody should be; that he does not go or stay according to the desire of any individual, but does as the desire of St. John's church, which has called him, and again lately declared that he should continue to serve the church.

David City Fire

David City, Neb., Jan. 29.—The meat market of William Needham, on the south side, was discovered to be on fire at about 10:30 this morning by Night Policeman Taddiken. The fire department responded quickly and soon had the fire under control. The fire was confined to the one building. The loss of Mr. Needham is fully covered by insurance. The building is slightly damaged. The insurance is sufficient to cover the loss.

NEBRASKA NOTES

A creamery is to be started at Memphis.

The Tilden Citizen has started in its tenth year with every sign of prosperity.

The Frontier Monthly is the name of a bright magazine, the first number of which has just been issued at Bloomington.

While engaged in a friendly boxing match J. A. Bailey of Springfield fell and broke both bones of his right leg just below the knee.

Albert Johnson, who works in the mill at Arcadia became entangled in the shafting and was seriously injured before the mill was stopped.

The largest mortgage of real estate ever recorded in Cuming county was placed on file this week. It was given for \$110,000 by the Nebraska-Iowa Creamery company to F. H. Davis, trustee, and covers numerous pieces of property in that part of the county.

The question of building a new courthouse is being agitated in Saunders county. Many of the people think the old one has served out its day of usefulness and that the public records should be better protected as well as the county offices better housed.

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Two pupils of the Lea school in Pierce county became angry at the teacher, C. D. Loudernick, and proceeded to give him a thrashing. Although the teacher weighs 200 pounds the boys were equal to the task, but they will have to answer for their fun in county court.

About fifty Nemaha county farmers held a meeting at the court house at Auburn to form a society for mutual protection from petty thieving. The farmers of that county have suffered considerably of late from this class of depredations and it is proposed to go after the offenders in earnest.

The citizens of Tilden are making a move to have the name of the corporation changed from Burnet to Tilden. Several years ago the town was known as Burnet, but the post-office department changed it to Tilden to avoid confusion owing to the similarity of the name to an older town. The incorporated town has continued to be known as Burnet, however.

Considerable excitement was caused at Papillion one day last week by the evident intent of a stranger to kidnap Miss Mayme Lillie, a student of the high school. A stranger called for her and said that he had a good position for her in Chicago and that the girl's mother had been seen and consented to have her go, but that it was necessary to take a train which left immediately. The suspicions of the principal of the school were aroused and he advised an investigation to which the girl consented. The stranger took the alarm and skipped.

The main part of Crab Orchard was destroyed by fire, the origin of which has not been discovered. The bank of Crab Orchard, A. O. U. W. hall, Richardson Mercantile company, F. M. Sharrett hardware company, post-office and numerous smaller buildings were ruined. The loss is estimated from \$30,000 to \$50,000; partly covered by insurance.

The fatality among horses in the northern part of Platte county during the last ten days or two weeks has been quite alarming. The disease being something with which the veterinary surgeons seem wholly unable to cope. County Superintendent L. H. Leavy, of Columbus, visited four ten schools in the village of Humphrey, Creston and Cornelia last week. In each district making inquiry among the farmers as to the loss of horses, and in this way learned that twenty-two men had had forty-seven fatalities from the strange disease, which manifests itself in at least some cases in blindness and loss of consciousness to pain or insanity, the animal plunging into barbed wire fences and not being repelled by severe cuts, but with the coming out of cold sweat quickly dying. One seemingly significant fact mentioned by a farmer and corroborated by Mr. Leavy's subsequent observation, is that the half dozen farmers in the county supplied with flowing walls are free, not only from this disease among horses, but have also been free during recent years from cholera among hogs.

Citizens of Nebraska City will raise a fund of \$5,000 to pay the expenses of sinking a well in search of coal, oil or gas. Hon. J. Sterling Morton subscribed \$500, 10 per cent of the amount needed. Business men of that city will subscribe the remainder. The well boring machinery is already on the ground and active work will be begun at once. The first test is to be made in Nebraska City within one mile of the city limits.