

BANK IS ROBBED

BURGLARS BLOW SAFE AND GET AWAY WITH CASH.

\$3,500 SECURED BY BURGLARS

Noise Attracts Citizens, Who Gather Around the Building, but No One is Hurt in an Exchange of Shots with Robbers.

WATERLOO, Neb.—The Citizens' state bank of this place was robbed at 2 a. m. Tuesday. The robbers secured \$3,500. Of this sum \$2,700 was in currency and the balance in gold and silver. The damage to the safe and furniture is estimated at \$600. The bank is fully protected by insurance.

The robbers, of whom there were at least three, and perhaps four, gained an entrance through the front window by removing a pane of glass. They carefully avoided disturbing the burglar alarm.

Their work inside the building was easily and quickly accomplished. The safe stands outside of the vault and it was completely wrecked by a charge of nitroglycerine.

The noise of the explosion awakened the people in the vicinity of the bank and they soon gathered around but were kept back by the robbers. A number of shots were exchanged, but no one was hurt.

In the confusion and darkness the burglars made their escape with their booty and although a posse was soon assembled, there is little clue upon which to work.

Several strange men in a wagon were seen north of town Wednesday. It is thought that they may be the robbers. It was said the outfit had gone towards Omaha and the officers there have been notified to be on the lookout for it.

Detective Franklin and posse, with bloodhounds, took the trail from the wrecked bank. The hounds seemed somewhat confused and were unable to get a start.

After an hour J. W. Miller, one of the posse, found a roll of bills tucked under a plank in a barn one and one-half miles from Waterloo. The dogs were taken to the barn. At noon they were in full chase to the north of Waterloo. The trail is fresh and the race will be hard.

NEBRASKA IRRIGATION PROJECTS

Much Inquiry as to What is Going to Be Done.

WASHINGTON.—The Nebraska delegation in congress is receiving numerous inquiries from constituents as to what has been, or will be done, in the matter of irrigation projects in that state, their object being principally to ascertain the contemplated sites of reservoirs in order to secure homesteads in that vicinity. In order to secure some definite information upon this subject, Congressman Shallenberger called upon the irrigation expert, Elwood Mead of the geological survey, and was informed that nothing has been done in Nebraska up to the present time, except the measurements of certain streams and the sinking of a few artesian wells, but that during the next season, which will commence in the spring, experiments with these wells will be carried out quite extensively, but that no definite plans had been made as to the probable locations of the wells. This means of securing water from irrigation, so Mr. Mead stated, was more adaptable to Nebraska than any other system. Nebraska is what is known as the Dakota sandstone belt, and the expert says there is plenty of water under the soil to carry on all needed irrigation projects in that state.

FARMERS SEEK BETTER RATES.

The Wants of Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma Agriculturists.

TOPEKA, Kan.—A call has been issued for a meeting of the Farmers' Co-operative Shipping association to be held in Topeka at an early day.

The purpose is to form a close arrangement for mutual protection among the farmers of Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. The farmers seek the same treatment from the railroads in the matter of shipping as the elevator owners.

Elevator Destroyed by Fire.

HURON, S. D.—At Sheffield, a station eight miles east of Huron, on the Great Northern railroad, at 5 o'clock Monday morning, fire totally destroyed John Blair's elevator, containing 11,000 bushels of wheat and other grain. Loss on the building, \$4,000; insured for \$890. No insurance on fixtures or grain.

Elkins Bill is Favored.

WASHINGTON.—The senate committee on interstate commerce Monday unanimously agreed to report the Elkins anti-trust bill with some amendments that a subcommittee are perfecting.

PRACTICE USURY.

President Stickney Says Stockmen Are Shylocks.

CHICAGO.—At the meeting of the Interstate Commerce commission, A. B. Stickney, president of the Great Western, appeared to defend his action in making a seven-year contract with the big packers on the basis of greatly reduced rates.

Mr. Stickney's defense was coupled with an attack upon the Chicago Live Stock exchange and his competitors, classing the former as barnacles and the latter as Oriental savages.

In his criticism of the Chicago Live Stock association he declared that company, whose assets were a few chairs and an office desk, collected commissions during 1901 amounting to \$3,151,000 against an income of \$2,451,256 received by the Union Stock Yards company. These commissions amounted to over 40 per cent of the total freight charges upon the stock brought into Chicago.

Mr. Tomlinson of the exchange showed that the commissions collected amounted to \$2,154,286, while the freight charges were \$14,263,400, about 15 per cent instead of 40. In speaking of the 20 per cent contract packing house rate made by the Great Western, Mr. Stickney declared that as soon as it became known three of his competitors, in order to wreck a sort of Oriental vengeance, made a 12-cent rate on livestock between the Missouri river and Chicago, which left them a net rate of between 7 and 8 cents per 100 pounds for hauling the traffic 500 miles, and which injured no one but themselves.

He followed the lead of other railroad officials in asserting that the rates as at present adjusted favored Chicago, and went further by giving figures to prove that the Missouri river points and St. Paul were entitled to slaughter about 40 per cent of all the hogs and cattle raised in the country.

A. C. Bird, third vice president of the St. Paul road, declared that rates on live stock were too low and did not bear a just share of transportation charges.

FIFTY LOSE LIVES IN FIRE.

Horrible Catastrophe Occurs at Insane Asylum in England.

LONDON.—About fifty insane patients were burned to death by a fire at the Colney Hatch asylum Tuesday morning.

The outbreak occurred in the Jewish wing of the institution. The flames spread with great rapidity and before they could be got under control five wooden buildings, including dormitories and the doctors' apartments, were gutted.

All the efforts of the officials were directed to removing insane patients, but the latter became wild with excitement and so panic stricken that not only were they unable to help themselves, but greatly impeded the operation of those trying to save them.

There were nearly 600 women in the burned annex at the time the fire was discovered and most of them were safely transferred to the main building, which was uninjured. Some, however, escaped and are still at large, rendering it difficult to ascertain the exact number of those burned to death. It is believed that at least fifty perished.

Child Saving Institute.

The Child Saving Institute of Omaha is distinguished from any other institution in the west, because of the aid department. This institution endeavors to assist in keeping families together and has prevented many families from being broken up. A recent case of the sort occurred in the central part of Nebraska, where a woman died, leaving four little children. The father of the children was away from home at the time and was in search of a position where he could support the family. When the mother died it was found that no relatives nor friends could take care of the children and that the father was in a helpless condition, but a good man and loved his children. An appeal was made at once to the Child Saving Institute. The little ones were taken in and tenderly cared for for nearly three months. In the meantime the father secured a position and made arrangements to re-establish the home and now they are reunited as a family and prospects are bright before them.

Child Whipped to Death.

SMITH CENTER, Kan.—Albert Jordan, a wealthy farmer, and his wife, of Crystal Plains, are in jail here, charged by a coroner's jury with whipping to death Harry Kipers, 4 years old. The boy with an older brother and sister, were entrusted to the care of the Jordans a year ago by their guardian.

Farmers Organize at Bellwood.

BELLWOOD, Neb.—The farmers to the number of several hundred met at Bellwood and organized a Farmers' Co-operative Grain and Live Stock association. Subscribers to the capital stock are rapidly being secured.

SETTLERS WIN IT

DECISION OF COURT AFFECTING LAND GRANT.

TITLE BETTER THAN RAILROAD'S

Opinion Reverses the Judgment Rendered Some Twenty Years Ago Regarding the Case of the Northern Pacific.

WASHINGTON.—The United States supreme court Monday rendered, through Justice Harlan, an opinion affecting the Northern Pacific railroad land grant.

The case was that of Peter and Henry Nelson, who located upon unsurveyed land within the Northern Pacific grant in the territory of Washington in 1881. This was after the railroad company had filed its general map showing its proposed line, but before it had filed its map of definite location.

In the opinion handed down Monday it was held that the title of the settlers was better than that of the railroad company, and that until the definite map was filed congress had control of the lands within the grant regardless of the general map.

In a dissenting opinion Justice Brewer said the opinion reverses the judgment of the court of twenty years ago, by which the interior department had ever since been controlled in dealing with disputes between the railroad company and settlers like the Nelsons.

The supreme court, through Justice Holmes, delivered an opinion in the case brought by Isabella F. Blackstone to test the legality of a tax assessment levied by the New York authorities under the state succession tax law on personal property left by the late Timothy B. Blackstone and deposited in New York and deposited when Blackstone was domiciled in that city. It was shown that the money so deposited amounted to \$4,943,456. The surrogate court of New York county held the assessment to be legal and the opinion affirmed that decision.

President Roosevelt will leave shortly after midnight for Canton, O., to attend the banquet in commemoration of the birthday of the late President McKinley to be given tomorrow night. The president will respond to the toast "William McKinley." Secretary Root will speak for "The Army."

The president has commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence pronounced against George Barclay and James Brummett, who were convicted of murder in Oklahoma, and sentenced to be hanged February 12. In the case of Homer Bird, convicted of murder in Alaska, the president has declined to interfere and he will be hanged within a few weeks.

A joint exhibition of the Canning Machinery and Supplies association of America and Canada will be held in this city during the week beginning February 9. President Roosevelt has promised to press an electric button in the white house which will start the machinery of the exhibition.

The senate committee on inter-oceanic canals authorized a favorable report on the bill prohibiting the granting of contracts in relation to the proposed Panama canal to any but American citizens.

The United States is awaiting official advice from the nations of Europe regarding their attitude on the question of parcels post relations. This government, through the state department, recently gave notice generally to the European governments that it was ready to open negotiations for parcels post treaties. None of the countries approached has responded.

The question of the liability of Andrew M. Smythe, late superintendent of the United States mint at New Orleans, for \$28,000 in treasury notes, which were lost by him while in his custody, was decided by the United States court adversely to Mr. Smythe. The claim was made on his behalf that the notes were burned and urged that as the notes were only promises to pay, the government had in reality lost nothing by their destruction. The court, however, refused to accept this view, holding Smythe and his sureties for the entire amount lost. Justice Packham dissented.

The executive committee of the National Afro-American council here passed a resolution urging confirmation by the senate of the nomination of Dr. W. D. Crum, to be collector of customs at Charleston, S. C., and adopted an address to the country on the race question in general.

Solution May Be Peaceful.

LONDON.—The Brazilian legation in London announced that the Bolivian minister at Rio Janeiro has notified the Brazilian government that President Pando has given him power to enter a formal agreement with Brazil concerning the Acre dispute. These negotiations are expected to lead to a peaceful solution of the difficulty. The Brazilian government has ordered a naval and military mobilization to meet the eventualities of the situation.

KILLS THE LEASING BILL.

Message of Governor Puts Finishing Touches to the Measure.

WASHINGTON.—Governor Mickey's message to the legislature of Nebraska regarding Senator Dietrich's land lease bill has practically defeated any legislation on the part of congress at this session. There is little chance of any new bill, should it be introduced, receiving consideration on account of matters of greater importance pressing for consideration. The only possibility of the bill receiving any attention whatever would be through a memorial from the Nebraska legislature asking congress to consider Senator Dietrich's bill favorably.

In the event that the legislature should not take kindly to Senator Dietrich's bill it has been suggested by members of the Nebraska delegation that the legislature memorialize congress to create a commission to be appointed by the president to investigate the public land question and report to congress at its next session. The president evidently anticipates the present condition continuing, for he referred directly to this matter in his last message to congress as follows:

"In view of the prime importance of these matters I commend them to the earnest consideration of congress, and if congress finds difficulty in dealing with them from lack of thorough knowledge of the subject, I recommend that provision be made for a commission of experts specially to investigate and report upon the complicated questions involved."

MAMMOTH GUN BLOWS UP.

Explodes on Proving Grounds and Scatters Sea with Fragments.

NEW YORK.—One of the mammoth guns exploded at the far end of the proving grounds Thursday. The gun was valued at \$40,000.

The big gun had been through every trial and was soon to have been placed on its carriage. It was wrecked in the course of experiments in throwing high explosives under conditions that might have happened in actual engagement, but which are spoken of by officers as "abnormal." No one was killed, because of the elaborate precautions for the safety of officers and men. A shell bearing a large charge of gelatine was fired successfully under abnormal pressure. The gun was loaded for a second shot with the explosive shell and a large amount of brown powder put behind it. The wires were fixed to fire the detonation cap and the officers went a mile and a half away for protection. A lieutenant turned on the current. There was a great cloud of yellow smoke and the sea was whipped up a mile off shore with fragments of the gun.

DISLIKE THE CUBAN TREATY.

English Interests Protest Against Its Adoption by United States.

LONDON.—The reciprocity treaty between Cuba and the United States threatens to raise one of the most serious differences of opinion between Great Britain and the United States that has occurred for years.

So much importance is attached to the matter that a special meeting of the cabinet has been called to see what action should be taken. There is, of course, nothing to cause alarm in diplomatic circles, but Great Britain's entire commercial policy is believed to be vitally concerned.

The matter came to a head by the action of the Chamber of Commerce of the United Kingdom, which waited on Secretary Lansdowne. It included several members of Parliament and represented the most powerful business interests from all the British industrial centers.

ROSEBUD AGENCY LANDS.

May Yet Be Thrown Open to Settlement This Year.

WASHINGTON.—The chances of the passage of the bill opening the Rosebud Indian reservation in South Dakota to settlement have been somewhat enhanced within the past few days. The community of interests plan is to be tried on this measure and if the contemplated program can be carried out, there is some hope that the Gregory county lands may yet be thrown open to settlement during the present year.

The members of the South Dakota delegation in the house are laboring diligently to bring about this desired result and at the suggestion of Congressmen Burke and Martin a conference was recently held in the committee rooms of the public lands committee to discuss ways and means of putting the bill through.

Many Banks Are Interested.

NEW YORK.—About a dozen of the banks and other financial institutions, including several insurance companies, are interested in the loan of \$40,000,000 negotiated by Kuhn, Loeb & Co. for the Pennsylvania railroad. The statement comes from a member of one of the firm that the money was loaned at 4½ per cent, no commission being paid.

DEADLOCK LIKELY

STATEHOOD OPPONENTS TO DELAY APPROPRIATIONS.

TREATIES MAY SUFFER DELAY

Cullom Wants Cuba and Canal Protocols Called Up, but Fears Are Entertained that This Will Not Be Possible.

WASHINGTON.—The feature of the week in the senate will be the contest over the statehood bill. The lines are now more closely drawn than they have ever before been since this measure was introduced. They are, indeed, so taut that all onlookers realize that they are about to break, but few unprejudiced persons would undertake to say positively which side will meet disaster.

The advocates of statehood were much encouraged by the vote of last week, and contending that it has been demonstrated that there is a majority of the senate favorable to the bill, they declare that it is preposterous to ask them to yield, while the opposition urge that the vote was not a test at all and no real indication of the attitude of the senate. They say the bill is standing in the way of other legislation and contend that it must get out of the road and remain out when the appropriation bills begin to press to the front, as they will soon do. It is probable, however, that with some exceptional times, the bill will hold its place in the front ranks during the week.

If night sessions are attempted the opponents of the bill will resort to the usual methods to kill time. On the other hand it is admitted the supporters of the bill will take a bold stand against allowing any other business to proceed until a vote is secured on the statehood bill. Some would even go to the extent of excluding appropriation bills.

There is some apprehension on the part of the bill's supporters that there may be an effort to unduly discuss and delay the statehood bill and such a course will be resented.

The work of the week will begin with the diplomatic appropriation bill on Monday. This measure is in charge of Senator Hale (Me.), who will attempt to put it through with despatch.

As the bill stands it is not calculated to provoke much debate, but there is a probability that there will be an effort to attach to it Senator Lodge's (Mass.) consular reform bill as an amendment. If this should be made considerable discussion is probable.

There are several special orders for the week which will consume more or less time. The memorial exercise ordered for Friday at the conclusion of the morning business in honor of the memory of the late Senator McMillan of Michigan, is, indeed, expected to last a whole day. As usual in such cases the senate will adjourn after the conclusion of the memorial addresses.

Senator Cullom (Ill.) will make an effort whenever the opportunity offers to secure consideration of the Cuban treaty and he said that he would again move, if necessary, to have the senate go into executive session during the week for the purpose of taking up the treaty. Senator Cullom also has in charge the Panama canal treaty and expresses a desire to secure early consideration, but as several of the members of the committee on foreign relations, which is now considering the treaty, find it necessary to be out of the city during the week, it does not now seem probable that the canal treaty will be reported during the week.

UNCLE SAM AT ST. LOUIS.

His Exhibit Expected to Surpass All Previous Efforts.

WASHINGTON.—The government exhibit at the St. Louis world's fair promises to excel all past exhibits of that nature. It is said that every department will be amply represented in an effort to show up-to-date methods. For instance, the scientists of the agricultural department will make an exhibit of the most recent results attending their labors in soil culture, horticulture, bureau of animal industry, etc. The national museum will contribute from its rich store of highly interesting objects, chief among which are primitive vehicles of all kinds. The first locomotive will be shown. In this connection it may be stated that the Baltimore & Ohio railroad is expected to make an interesting showing, illustrating the evolution of the types of rolling stock used upon its tracks from 1830 to the present day perfection of its equipment for passenger traffic.

Life Sentence for Lynch.

LONDON.—It is now generally conceded that the death sentence passed upon Colonel Lynch will be commuted to penal servitude for life, subject to further consideration after a term of years.

DIX MAY BE LOST.

Rumor that the Vessel Has Sunk with All on Board.

SEATTLE, Wash.—An unconfirmed rumor was current among shipping men to the effect that the transport Dix had gone down this side of Yokohama with all on board. No details were given of the wreck, and it was impossible to locate any credible origin for the story.

Dix sailed from this port December 31, bound for Manila, via Nagasaki, where it was not due for two days yet. The cargo consisted of 3,500,000 feet of lumber and 998 tons of forage.

Captain Hopkins was in charge of the transport, with Captain Theodore Sternberg, U. S. A., in command of the vessel. Dix was acquired by the government during the war with Spain and is one of the largest freighters owned by the United States.

Major G. S. Bingham of the quartermaster's department stated early this morning that he had received no word of the wreck. He stated that when he gave the sailing orders to Dix it was to proceed directly to Nagasaki. There was coal sufficient for the trip to Manila and return. On the return to Nagasaki ballast coal was to be taken aboard and the transport was to come directly to Seattle.

The course to Nagasaki would bring the transport in the route of the Japanese steamers, and it is possible that the report may have come from this source.

ELLSWORTH, Kan.—Captain Theodore Sternberg's wife and daughter, who reside here, reached Ellsworth last week from Seattle, where they had gone to bid the captain goodbye. The only news so far received by the family of the reported sinking of the transport Dix was the Associated Press dispatch from Seattle today.

PLAN FOR BIG GAME PRESERVE.

Boston Men and Judge Baxter of Omaha Among Incorporators.

BOSTON, Mass.—Boston and Omaha men have incorporated the Rocky Mountain Country club under Wyoming laws, for the purpose of establishing a big game preserve fifty miles square, with a club house at Centennial, Wyo., at the base of the Rocky mountains and bordering upon the Laramie plains. The tract adjoins a great government forest reserve. M. F. Dickinson of Boston is president; DeForest Richardson, governor of Wyoming, vice president; Charles Dickinson, Boston, secretary; and Isaac Van Horn, head of the Laramie & Hahn's Peak railroad, treasurer. Judge Irving Baxter of Omaha and Hon. Graum are trustees.

RISKS LIFE TO PROVE SAFETY.

Foolhardy Man Climbs Brooklyn Bridge Cable.

NEW YORK.—Traffic on Brooklyn bridge Friday night was blocked while a big crowd watched a man climb one of the big supporting cables that extends from the shore to the top of the Manhattan tower, 130 feet above the roadway of the bridge.

The crowd of several thousand persons who gathered to watch the daring feat expected to see the man fall to his death, but he gained the top of the tower safely.

A policeman was then sent up to bring the performer down, and a desperate fight was expected. However, this was averted, for in a moment both men were seen making the descent. Half way down the man nearly collapsed. He threw up his hands, caught the smaller cables and clung to them, sliding down the remainder of the distance. He was arrested at once, but all he would say was: "I just wanted to see if the tower was safe."

MAY WHEAT GETS SETBACK.

Price Declines Over Two Cents on the Chicago Board.

CHICAGO.—The bull campaign in May wheat received a severe setback Tuesday and a decline of over 2 cents was registered in that delivery.

The main reason for the decline was the disappointing foreign advices, which caused considerable disappointment among the longs in unloading of heavy lines on an already weak market.

The letup in the export demand was the principal bear factor, advices from France being to the effect that the wheat which has been sold here during the last few days, presumably for French consumption, was intended for grading bond, and to be exported again as flour.

FEAR FRISCO PLAGUE SPOT.

Ecuador Shuts San Francisco Steamer from Port for Fear of Infection.

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador.—The board of health has resolved not to admit into port the Kosmos line steamer Hermonthis, from San Francisco, December 31, for Hamburg, which has arrived here.

The board also asks President Plaza to recall the Ecuadorian consul at San Francisco and to request Dr. Felcimo Lopez of New York to go immediately to that city and act as consul until the plague disappears from California.