

# Telegraphic

## BOTH LEGS FROZEN STIFF

**Awful Plight 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, had portions of their bodies frozen near Leavitt, several miles northwest of Fremont, Nebr. They were travelling to Wood Lake, Nebr., 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 feedyard 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

**Ice Harvester at Ashland, Nebr. 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 Casper. 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 an attempt 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 depositors 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.

**Earthquake 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.

## MURDERS 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 Perrysville, 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 string, 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 Sauran 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 \$135,000 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 impaneled.

A subpoena has been issued for Chauncey Ives Filley, 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 Stowe, now under arrest in Chicago, and wanted in Watertown, S. D., on a charge of obtaining signatures to documents by false pretenses.

**Gordon Retaliates.**  
J. W. Eller, 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 filled the office. A similar objection was made to the payment of \$1,600 back salary to Judge Gordon last week and the suit filed today is a retaliatory measure.

## SURRENDERS TO THE POLICE

**Fugitive From Justice for Twelve Years Gives Up.**

Kansas City, Feb. 3.—Rollins Bingham, a member of one of the first families of Missouri, has surrendered to the police at Dallas, Tex., and asked to be returned here to stand trial on the charge of forging deeds to property in Kansas City twelve years ago. Bingham has been a fugitive from justice since November, 1890. His whereabouts was made known to County Prosecutor of Hadley, to whom he sent a letter offering to surrender. Bingham, according to his letter, is penniless and ill. Officers will leave for Texas tonight to bring him here.

Rollins Bingham before he fled from Kansas City was prominent in politics and was a leader in society. He is the son of Gen. G. C. Bingham, artist, writer, politician and one of the best known men in Missouri. Bingham forged the name of his step-mother, securing \$20,000. He had spent his money recklessly in speculation and in other ways.

Bingham, in the course of his letter, admits the forgeries and makes the unusual statement that he committed them to save his step-mother's property. He says:

"She was defendant in a suit that as a lawyer I knew must, if followed up, go against her and make her poor. I never had much myself really, but was so anxious to save her that I thought probably I could by some coup make a great deal of money so that a judgment against her would not cripple her.

## SIX THOUSAND THROWN OUT

**Complete Shutdown Follows Strike in Woolen Mills.**

Providence, R. I., Feb. 3.—A strike of the double loom weavers at the Riverside mills of the American Woolen company today, following a strike of the Weybossett mills weavers some time ago, caused the issuance of orders to close all the mills of the company in Providence and vicinity until further notice. The general shutdown throws six thousands persons out of work. The mills affected by the order are: Providence worsted, Riverside, Weybossett and Manton mills.

The strike at the Riverside and Weybossett mills was caused by dissatisfaction over the two loom system.

## GROWING WORSE EACH DAY

**Wrecking of Bellwood Bank About Complete.**

David City, Neb., 3.—As the examination of the books of the Platte Valley state bank at Bellwood progresses the condition of the bank becomes more and more deplorable. Bank Examiner Hartwell has expressed the opinion that the assets will not pay 5 percent to the depositors.

Up to this time about 150 notes have been presented and found in the bank that are forgeries. During the last two days holders of notes and securities residing in the east have been arriving, and so far, without a single exception, these papers are found to be all forged. Some of those forged apparently were secured by mortgages on Butler county real estate, when show on their face that they were filed, indexed and recorded, giving the book and page, all regular in every way with the name of the county clerk attached to the certificate of record, etc. All of those that have examined the records discover that the mortgage and certificate of filing and recording are also forged. Certificates of deposit are being presented every day, but the bank's records do not show that any such certificates were ever issued, but the holders deposited the money and all they have is a worthless piece of paper. In addition to the forged notes, mortgages—and time will only tell what else—a large number of drafts are being reported protested.

Several widows residing in and near Bellwood, who had a few dollars, perhaps left them by their husbands as life insurance, have lost every cent of their money. Some of them had left their money with A. H. Gould for investment for them which he failed to do, but speculated, it is charged, on the board of trade, and the widow's mite is now, presumably, in the Chicago wheat pit.

R. C. Gould, brother of A. H. Gould, assistant cashier of the defunct bank, who was arrested yesterday afternoon, was brought to this city and lodged in jail. The complaint filed against him is similar to the one filed against the cashier, with the addition of making and verifying false statements to the state banking board, and with having knowledge of all the forgeries committed by the cashier, A. H. Gould, as being an accomplice in all of the crooked transactions. He has, it is alleged, confessed his guilt, and now occupies a cell in the county jail. From the best information obtainable one or two more arrests will follow in a very short time.

**Jail-Breakers Rearrested.**  
Wilber, Neb., Feb. 3.—On the expiration of their thirty days' sentence Dillon and Bennett, the jail-breakers who were recaptured at Fairbury, were again arrested on complaint of Sheriff Sawyer on the charge of aiding Frank Thomas, the alleged friend burglar, to escape. Before County Judge Hendee this forenoon they entered a plea of guilty and were sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment and to pay a fine of \$500 each.

## MORBID KEPT OUT

**CROWD OF CURIOUS SEEK JAIL WHERE BIDDLES LIE.**

**Tragedy is the Sole Topic—Caused Death of Edward Biddle, But Bullets of Officers Killed His Brother—Priest Scores Man-Hunter.**

Butler, Pa., Feb. 4.—The terrible fate of the Biddles is the sole topic of conversation here today, and a curious throng of people have been defying the storm, hanging about the jail entrance in vain attempts to get in to see the bodies of the dead murderers. A great deal of sympathy for the boys is expressed on all sides, and not a few of the female portion of the crowd expressed a desire to see what manner of a man Ed Biddle was that he should exert such a wonderful influence over men and particularly women. The jail doors were closed all day and no one got in, but the doctors who attended the autopsy and the coroner's jury. Even newspaper reporters were excluded from the inquest, which was held in the jail, and nothing concerning their deliberations could be learned till late in the afternoon. Coroner John L. Jones conducted the inquest.

The testimony of all the officers concerned in the capture was taken, except that of Rob Ray, the Butler policeman, who is ill. The testimony of Dr. R. B. Greer, who was one of the doctors who attended the Biddles, and Sheriff Thomas R. Hoon, was also taken.

The verdict of the jury is that Ed Biddle came to his death by a revolver shot fired by himself, and that Jack Biddle met his death from a gunshot wound inflicted by the officers in discharge of their lawful duty.

Under the instructions of Coroner Jones, an autopsy was held on both the Biddles.

The evidence secured bears out the statements that the Biddles intended to kill themselves rather than be taken alive, and that Ed succeeded in his attempt, while Jack failed, though his life was forfeited.

Dr. Bricker gave out the following statement after the autopsy: "Jack Biddle had two gunshot wounds on the right side in the region of the liver, the bullets passing up and around the body, and did no damage. They were removed on Saturday. A bullet wound was found in the roof of his mouth, but it was slight and would not have caused his death. This wound was inflicted by himself, with the evident intention of committing suicide.

"His right arm was shattered by five bullet wounds and the radius broken in the upper third. The wound that caused his death was made by a bullet that passed through the crest of the illum on the right side and passed back through the kidney, causing hemorrhage.

"In all Jack was suffering from nine wounds, but excepting the one that penetrated the kidney none of them would have been fatal. Ed's terrible sufferings were caused by a bullet wound that struck him on the left breast about an inch and a half to the right of the nipple and passed down between the fourth and fifth ribs to the left of the heart and through the lung. This wound was made by Ed himself, the powder marks being visible on the skin. Death was caused by hemorrhages and the man suffered untold agony to the last breath. Another wound found on his body was on the same side, about an inch from the left nipple, but the bullet struck the fourth rib, passed under the skin and did no damage. Both bullets found in Ed were thirty-two calibre, and in the opinion of the doctors who held the autopsy there is no doubt that he killed himself."

After the autopsy the bodies of the Biddles were taken in charge by an undertaker, who prepared them for burial.

Arrangements are being made to take the bodies to Pittsburg tomorrow.

**PASTORS REFER TO TRAGEDY.**  
The pastors of nearly all of the churches in Butler took occasion today to refer to the sensational capture Friday of Mrs. Kate Soffel and John and Ed Biddle, who died in the county jail last night.

Rev. Father Daniel S. Walsh, rector of St. Paul's Roman Catholic church, who ministered to the Biddles in their dying hours, spoke touchingly of them to the members of his parish in both masses this morning.

He spoke briefly on their statements given out and said it was for every person to decide for themselves as to the innocence or guilt of the men.

Rev. Samuel Cronin Wett of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran church, in his sermon spoke at length of the criminal history made in Butler county in the past few days. He criticised severely the woman, whom he held responsible for the whole affair. "The Biddles and Mrs. Soffel made a vain flight from justice and retribution swiftly came upon them. The blindness of the infatuation of this woman in leaving her beloved husband and helpless children.

## SUN SHOWS RUINS

**FIRE AT WATERBURY BURNS FAR INTO THE DAY.**

**Evidence of Incendiarism—Burning of Scoville House Due to Firebug—Soldiers Aid in Preserving Order—Flames Start in Cellar.**

Waterbury, Conn., Feb. 4.—The sun rose this morning on a blackened and smouldering mass of ruins that marked the main business section of the city.

There is a very strong suspicion that the fire which completely destroyed the Scoville house, burning thousands of dollars worth of furniture, appointments and personal effects, and imperiling many lives, was the work of an incendiary. The fire originated in the pool and billiard room in the basement of the house, on the further side from the burning district. The room was locked up and no one was supposed to be there. No fire was kept in the room, all heat being supplied from a boiler in another part of the building. Manager Truman said at the police station, while the fire was still raging that he had not the slightest doubt it was of incendiary origin. No one could be found to explain its origin and the authorities have been quietly investigating.

The fire came so close on the heels of the big conflagration that the thousands of spectators who witnessed it were thrown into a more complete panic than the original fire caused. The flames had only begun to die out along Bank, Grand and South Main streets, at 4 o'clock, when flames leaped upward, as by magic and people feared the city was doomed after all. The call was rung in promptly and the engines that hurried to the scene turned their attention mainly to preventing the spread of the flames. It was evident that the hotel was doomed and if the fire had reached the adjacent buildings, there would have been very little hope of saving the center of the city.

**BURNS FAR INTO THE DAY.**  
The fire burned far into the day and was not extinguished entirely until evening. The scene about the city today was only little less remarkable than that of the previous evening. Thousands of people stumbled around the city streets and with the greatest difficulty were restrained by the militia and police from venturing within the danger lines. A tangled network of wires on Bank and South Main street greatly hindered the work of extinguishing the last flames and clearing away the wreckage.

A revised list of losses and insurance is very difficult to obtain at this time. Few know just what the loss was on their buildings and stock. It is believed that when the truth is known the figures telegraphed this morning will not be far from the correct estimate.

The remarkable feature of the fire was undoubtedly the absence, so far as known, of loss of life. Two men who were asleep in the Scoville house, Charles Y. Kent of the Holmes, Booth & Hayden company and member of the board of education and the second cook, a German, were reported missing, but both have been located.

The rebuilding of ruined structures is only a question of time. Temporary quarters have been secured by all the firms. Many have already telegraphed for new stocks and will resume business immediately. The American publishing company is among the heaviest losers, the building being entirely ruined, but the paper was issued in an abbreviated form tonight.

There has been more or less disorder about the streets today, but the police have been very active and the militia have been of great service in handling the crowds. The streets were piled with household goods and strewn with small articles thrown from the windows. Some of this property was confiscated by passers-by, but the amount of thieving was small compared with the opportunities offered by the confusion.

The number of injured was very small and in all but one or two cases the injuries were slight. The streets are rapidly being cleared and the trolley service will soon be resumed.

**HARD NIGHT FOR FIREMEN.**  
Rarely have firemen been obliged to contend against worse conditions than those which prevailed in this most disastrous conflagration. The wind was blowing a gale and the cold was intense. It seemed at one time as though every structure in the heart of the city would be destroyed.

**Charged With Swindling.**  
Chicago, Feb. 4.—James B. Agnew, who claims relationship to the well-known Philadelphia family of that name, is under arrest here charged with swindling physicians in Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin out of small sums of money. He is charged with having fraudulently obtained cash subscriptions to a Chicago medical publication with which he had no business connection. Agnew came to Chicago from New York.

## NEBRASKA NOTES

**A creamery is to be started at Memphis.**

The Tilden Citizen has started in on 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.

The Platte Valley State bank at Bellwood closed its doors which created considerable excitement among the citizens especially the depositors. The bank is now in the hands of a state bank examiner. A. H. Gould, cashier, is under arrest, charged with forgery.

Two pupils of the Lea school in Pierce county became angry at the teacher, C. D. Loudermilk, 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 Burnett to Tilden. Several years ago the town was known as Burnett, 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 Burnett, 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. Sharratt 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 fourteen schools in the village of Humphrey, Creston and Cornica 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 wells 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 \$3,000 to pay the expense 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.