

The Valentine Democrat

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ERROR BRINGS DEATH

OPERATOR BLUNDERS AND PASSENGERS PERISH.

Roasted Alive in Wreck—Twenty to Thirty-Five Persons Die in Colorado Disaster—Trains Crash in a Storm—Engine Men Die at Their Posts.

A wreck accompanied with horrors exceeded only by the Eden disaster, which occurred on Aug. 7, 1904, on the line of the same railroad, resulted from a head-on collision of two passenger trains on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad four miles east of Florence, Colo., at an early hour Friday morning.

The trains were the Utah-California express No. 3, westbound from Denver, and the Colorado-New Mexico express No. 16, eastbound from Leadville and Grand Junction. They met on a sharp curve and were less than 200 yards apart when the engineers discovered that a collision was imminent.

It is known that the engineer of the westbound train put forth every possible effort to bring his train to a stop before his efforts were fruitless, and although he succeeded in checking the speed of his train the crash that followed was beyond his power to prevent, and he went to his death with his hand on the throttle, faithful to his charge.

This much is vouched for by his fireman, who, seeing the uselessness of remaining in the face of sure death, jumped and saved himself.

Of the conduct of the engine crew of the eastbound train it can only be said that they died at their posts, for no one lives to tell the story of their heroism.

The disaster was made more horrible by the manner of the death of many of the passengers, variously estimated at from twenty to thirty-five. Fire swept the wreck, engulfing the victims in a cauldron of flames and leaving only charred and blackened bones to tell the tale of slaughter.

A list of the injured given out by officials, comprises twenty-two names. None of the injured is dangerously hurt and it is believed all will recover.

Conservative estimates on the total loss of life place the number of dead at thirty-five. Rio Grande officials insist that the exact number of persons on the two trains cannot be ascertained.

S. F. Lively, night operator at Swallows, whose alleged failure to deliver orders to train No. 16 is supposed to have been the cause for the wreck, has been in the employ of the road for many years. He was relieved from duty immediately and will be suspended until the matter is thoroughly investigated by the officials.

ROOSEVELT IN NO HURRY.

Will Take Further Time to Decide Successor of Justice Brown.

President Roosevelt Friday authorized the issuance of the following statement regarding the successorship of Justice Brown in the supreme court:

"As Justice Brown will not retire until June, when the supreme court will take a vacation until October, and no public inconvenience can arise from a vacancy continuing through the vacation, the president will take further time to decide the question of Brown's successor. Several names, including that of Secretary Taft, have been under consideration, but no decision is likely to be reached in the near future."

FEARS FOR PROSPECTORS

Scores May Have Perished in Colorado—Many Snowslides.

A Denver, Colo., special of the 16th inst. says: Ouray, Durango, Silverton, Leadville, Aspen and other smaller mining camps in Colorado have been visited with snowslides during the past two days.

Hairbreadth escapes from the slides are reported from every mining camp and grave fears are entertained for scores of daring prospectors and miners cut off from the outside world in their lonely cabins far up in the hills.

Nigeria Rebels Crushed.

A dispatch from Zungera, northern Nigeria, to the London Daily Mail Friday reports that the British punitive expedition has crushed the Sokoto revolt after heavy fighting in which the rebels twice charged the British square and were almost annihilated.

Sioux City Live Stock Market.

Friday's quotations on the Sioux City live stock market follow: Butcher steers, \$4.00@5.40. Top hogs, \$6.15.

For Sale of Dakota Indian Lands.

The house committee on Indian affairs at Washington, Friday, decided to report favorably on a bill authorizing the sale of 56,000 acres on the Lower Brule reservation in South Dakota.

Mme. Sembrich's Husband Hurt.

Prof. Guillaume Stengel, the husband of Mme. Sembrich, the prima donna, is in a serious condition at the Hotel Savoy, at New York as a result of an automobile accident Friday.

DIE IN OCEAN STORM.

Twenty-Sven Men Go Down With Their Ship.

Suffering, mental and physical, and numerous acts of heroism in saving life rarely equaled in the records of tragedies of the sea, attended the loss of the Phoenix line steamer British King, which on Sunday last, in a raging Atlantic storm, foundered about 150 miles south of Sable Island, and carried to death twenty-seven members of the crew. Thirteen men were rescued from the sinking ship by the Leyland line steamer Bostonian, bound from Manchester to Boston, and eleven by the German tank steamer Mannheim, from Rotterdam for New York.

Five others who had been drawn in the vortex in which the British King was engulfed were picked up by the Bostonian from a frail bit of wreckage which they had grasped after a desperate struggle for life in the whirlpool. The Bostonian arrived at Boston Wednesday afternoon and the details of the disaster became known.

Capt. James O'Hagan, of the British King, died on board the Bostonian from the effects of terrible injuries sustained in trying to save his ship. The rescued brought to Boston Wednesday, include James Flanagan, the second officer; J. D. Crawford, the chief engineer; Adolphus Beck, the fourth engineer, and William J. Curry, the steward. The others were coal passers and sailors, mostly Belgians, and one stowaway, Henry Parketch, of New York.

Two lifeboats from the Bostonian were crushed to fragments and the volunteer crews which manned them were thrown into the high running seas while engaged in the work of rescue, but all were safely landed on the steamer.

For three days her captain and crew had tried to prevent or at least postpone their ship's destruction. On Friday, in the height of the tempest, the deckload of oil barrels of the British King and all her fittings were carried overboard. The barrels and wreckage forming into a powerful ram were driven down upon her sides with crushing force, opening up the vessel's plate and allowing the water to pour into her hold.

The British King sailed from New York last Wednesday, bound for Antwerp with a miscellaneous cargo and 150 head of cattle.

THEY SEE A STRIKE.

Mine Workers of Country Gather in Indianapolis.

A series of meetings, conventions and conferences in which an effort is to be made to deal with the labor crisis in the coal industry and endeavor to prevent a strike was opened at Indianapolis, Ind., Wednesday by the session of the international executive board of the United Mine Workers.

All the delegates that have arrived in the city thus far seem to be convinced a grave situation confronts them. A majority of them believe there will be a strike April 1.

Delegates from the anthracite districts are following the example of their leaders and are not talking.

The convention of miners was called in response to the request of President Roosevelt to make efforts to avert the threatened labor war.

FIRE IN NEW YORK.

Blaze in Express Office Causes a Heavy Loss.

A fire which originated in the basement of the five-story brick building, 15 to 19 East Fourth Street, New York, completely destroyed that building and spread to the adjoining five-story building, Nos. 11 and 13 East Fourth Street. Six firms occupied the first building and five the last. The main floor of the former was tenanted by the American and Westcott Express Companies.

The amount of freight stored there by the express companies was large, as this was one of their main shipping points in the city.

It is believed the loss will reach \$300,000.

Robbed Indiana Treasury.

An Indianapolis, Ind., special says: David E. Sherrick, former auditor of state, was Thursday found guilty of embezzlement. Sherrick was tried on indictments charging him with the misuse of \$127,000 belonging to the state.

Tobacco Trust's Earnings.

Net earnings of \$25,212,000 for the year 1905, an increase as compared with the previous year, are shown in the annual report of the American Tobacco Company, made public at New York Wednesday.

Actor Morgan Dies.

New York: Edward J. Morgan, the actor, was found dead in his bed at the Hotel Belvedere here Saturday from an attack of heart disease. Mr. Morgan created the part of John Storm in "The Christian."

Patching Up Cabinet.

A Paris special says: President Fallieres consulted Jean Serrien, former minister of justice, Friday afternoon and offered him the task of forming a cabinet.

"Open All Night" Bank for Chicago.

Chicago is to have an "open all night" bank, where people may deposit or draw out their money any hour in the twenty-four. A permit has been issued by the state auditor to organize the Jennings Real Estate Loan and Trust Company.

Gasoline is Now Advanced.

A Cleveland, O., special says that the Standard Oil Company Wednesday advanced the price of gasoline a half cent per gallon.

MOB QUICKLY ROUTED.

Jail Stormed in Attempt to Lynch Prisoners.

An Omaha, Neb., special says: A very weak attempt was made at 1 o'clock Friday morning to secure a number of men charged with murder, who were believed to be confined in the county jail, for the purpose of lynching them. Twelve men are now awaiting trial on murder charges, most of them committed in connection with holdups.

Thursday evening Edward Flury, a street car conductor, who was shot when his car was held up a few days ago, died and the newspapers announced that three negroes, Clarence Gathright, Calvin Wain and Harry Clark, had confessed the holdup and shooting.

It began to be stated quite openly that a mob, headed by street car employes, would assault the jail during the night, and that every man charged with murder would be lynched.

Sheriff McDonald gave out the statement that none of the alleged murderers were in the jail, but at midnight a crowd began to gather at the jail and by 12:30 probably 2,000 persons surrounded the place. It was evident that most of them were merely spectators, as not more than two or three hundred approached the building. A demand was made for the prisoners and when the sheriff refused to admit the mob, a telephone pole was brought and used for a battering ram. The outer door soon gave way, but at this moment a squad of about forty policemen came upon the scene and the mob was quickly dispersed.

The police used their clubs rather freely, but none of the mob was seriously hurt and no arrests were made. There was no display of firearms by the mob.

MISS ANTHONY AT REST.

Great Crowd Pays Last Tribute to No detWoman.

The funeral services over the body of Susan B. Anthony were held in the Central Presbyterian church at Rochester, N. Y., Thursday afternoon. Hundreds of men and women were unable to gain admittance to the church and stood outside the edifice during the service.

During the last rites over the body of the dead leader words of eulogy were spoken by William Lloyd Garrison, Mrs. R. J. Jeffrey, a woman of the race for which Miss Anthony and Garrison's father labored more than forty years ago; by Carrie Chapman Catt, and by Rev. Anna Shaw, who spoke of Miss Anthony as her dearest friend. The interment was at Mt. Hope cemetery.

FACE LABOR CRISIS.

Coal Miners Meet to Decide Momentous Question.

An Indianapolis, Ind., special says: The national convention of the United Mine Workers of America opened at 10 o'clock Thursday with over 1,000 delegates present.

The convention was called by President Mitchell to consider action which may result in an agreement with the coal operators that will prevent a general strike on April 1 that would bring 450,000 men from the mines.

A conference with the operators will begin Monday.

Killing of Women.

Mr. Jones, of Virginia, said in the house at Washington, D. C., Thursday that notwithstanding those relations between the president and Gen. Wood, he could not understand how the president could indorse the killing of women and children in the fight on the island of Jolo in the Philippines. The affair was a blot on this country.

Varley is Found Guilty.

At Cripple Creek, Colo., the jury has returned a verdict finding John Varley, alias Crowley, guilty of conspiracy to defraud the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company out of \$3,000 by blowing up a body in a tunnel and collecting money upon a policy issued to his partner, McEachern.

A Dual Tragedy in New York.

At New York Louis Nasser, a race track man, locked his wife in the bath room Thursday, and shot and killed Stella Reynolds, of New Orleans, an actress, who was a visitor at their home, and then killed himself. Miss Reynolds, it is said, was formerly an intimate friend of Nasser.

Dropped Dead on Campus.

At Notre Dame, Ind., Rev. Francis Malloy, rector of St. Joseph's hall and dean of the school of languages at Notre Dame, died suddenly on the college campus Thursday from a stroke of apoplexy. The deceased was a noted linguist. He was born in Kings County, Ireland, in 1842.

Brings Eleven Survivors.

The steamer Mannheim, which rescued part of the crew of the steamer British King, which sank near Sable Island last Sunday, arrived at New York Thursday with eleven survivors from the sunken steamer.

Conspiracy at Annapolis.

The midshipmen at Annapolis, Md., have been conspiring to prevent a high standard of scholarship, according to a statement of Secretary Bonaparte before the house committee on naval affairs at Washington, D. C., Thursday.

President Amidor Not to Resign.

A Panama dispatch says: President Amidor authorizes the Associated Press to deny the report that he intends resigning.

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEWS OF THE WEEK IN A CONDENSED FORM.

Sheriff Handy With a Gun—Kills Logan Blissard, a Youthful Desperado, Who Prefers a Fight to Surrendering—Other News.

Logan Blissard, a 19-year-old desperado, was shot and killed near Kimball Monday by Sheriff Owens, of Weston County, Wyoming.

Blissard, while being taken to the Wyoming penitentiary, jumped from the car near Dix, Neb., and despite the fact that the train was traveling forty miles an hour when he jumped Blissard escaped injury. By a daring bluff he held up two ranchmen and took from them a rifle and horse. A terrific storm was in progress and Blissard was compelled to seek shelter at the Fetterman ranch, three miles southeast of Kimball.

Assisted by Sheriff Bartholomew, of Kimball, Sheriff Owens located Blissard at the ranch and commanded him to surrender. Instead Blissard opened fire on the officers and was shot dead by Owens, whose skill with a six-shooter is proverbial in Weston County.

Blissard was arrested in Crook County six weeks ago for horse stealing. Before he was taken he engaged in a running fight with two officers and was shot in the foot. After receiving the wounds he held up three ranchmen and secured a new horse. He was later captured by ranchmen at whose place the wound in his foot had compelled him to seek shelter. He was taken to Newcastle, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

ACCIDENTALLY KILLS FRIEND.

Mrs. Effie Jelly Shoots Mrs. Jotter at Fort Niobrara.

Miss Effie Randall and Andrew Jelly were married Saturday and returned Sunday to the post at Fort Niobrara. A few friends went to charivari them, one of the party being Mrs. Jotter. At 9 o'clock Mrs. Jelly took a revolver from under the pillow of the bed of Mr. Randall, her father, and pulled the trigger. The gun snapped three times and on the fourth time the shell exploded, passing into the back and through the heart of Mrs. Jotter, and then through the coat of Mr. Randall. Mrs. Jotter died immediately, exclaiming "I'm shot!" The women have been close friends. The revolver formerly belonged to Mrs. Jotter's husband, who took carbolic acid by accident in 1903. At the inquest Wednesday a verdict of accidental shooting was returned. Mrs. Jelly is prostrated.

HAS TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE.

Woman Sits in Chicken House All Night with Dead Husband's Body.

A Norfolk dispatch says: Too weak with her feminine arms to carry the dead body of her husband from the chicken house into their home and unable to go and seek assistance, Mrs. W. A. Willoughby, who had gone out into the yard in search of her husband and had stumbled upon his lifeless form where he had fallen dead with heart disease, knelt down in her grief and remained at the side of her mate all through the bitter night during the recent storm that swept the Rosebud country, and was still there late the next morning when Ed Ellis, a neighboring settler, came by the house, heard the calls for help and lent aid in carrying the corpse into the house.

Mr. and Mrs. Willoughby lived near Bonesteel.

One Insurance Company Pays.

The St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company has sent to the insurance department at Lincoln a check for \$6,474.28 in payment of its taxes due the state under the terms of the reciprocal tax law. This company has the contract to insure the outbuildings at Hastings asylum, which contract has been held up pending the settlement of the taxes.

Coal is Discovered Near Peru.

The chief topic of conversation in Peru at present is coal. Frank Medley and Steve George a short time ago discovered outcroppings of coal near the bank of Honey Creek, on A. M. Boists' farm. Further developments have proved it to be a thirty-six inch vein of a good quality of coal.

Nebraska Pioneer is Gone.

Benjamin F. Chambers is dead at Niobrara, aged 74 years, of heart failure. The deceased located in Dakota County in 1854, where he held the office of state senator, coming to Niobrara in 1876 as register of the United States land office, which he held three successive terms.

Alleged Prevo Was Drunk.

Phoebe Elias was granted a verdict of \$2,000 damages in court at Neligh from Perse Beck, Tom Perrin and the Metropolitan Mutual Bond and Security Company, of Omaha, for injuries received in a runaway accident which was alleged to have resulted from the drunken condition of Jo Prevo.

Highlanders Held for the Tax.

Judge Evans held a short session of court at Aurora and decided the case of the Royal Highlanders against Hamilton county. The opinion sustained the contention of the county commissioners in the right to tax fraternal societies. An appeal was taken by the Highlanders.

Farm Hand Arrested.

E. Piper, a farm hand from Madison, and T. O. Bottecher, an ice chopper from that place were arrested at Norfolk and sent back to Madison on the charge of stealing \$57.50 from Phillip Knapp, Piper's employer.

Pierce is Now a City.

The citizens of Pierce are feeling good over the fact that they now live in a city of the second class. At a meeting of the village board A. L. Brande presented an affidavit, showing that there were 1,000 inhabitants.

OMAHA MOB QUICKLY ROUTED.

Jail Stormed in Attempt to Lynch Prisoners

A very weak attempt was made at 1 o'clock Friday morning to secure a number of men charged with murder, who were believed to be confined in the county jail at Omaha, for the purpose of lynching them. Twelve men are now awaiting trial on murder charges, most of them committed in connection with holdups.

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The police used their clubs rather freely, but none of the mob was seriously hurt and no arrests were made. There was no display of firearms by the mob.

COFFIN MADE FROM SOAP BOX.

Casket for Infant Made by Norfolk Working Woman.

A Norfolk special says: Their hearts touched with pity for the family of V. F. Thayer, of this city, whose little baby boy lay dead in their home, but unburied for want of the rudest type of a casket, a quartette of working women of Norfolk stopped off at washing other people's clothes long enough to go into the Thayer home and build a little coffin in which the child could be and was lowered into his grave.

The family came here from Wisconsin expecting to find work in the sugar factory, not knowing that the institution had been closed down for a year. Poverty stricken they in their face and the death came to their baby boy. They were heart-broken over the fact that they owned not enough pennies to buy the little fellow a casket, and the relief that came to them in the shape of a number of working women of the neighborhood, too poor to buy the casket but strong enough to build it, was a pathetic picture.

The funeral was conducted by Rev. Mr. Root, of the Presbyterian church of this city.

DISASTROUS BLAZE AT LIBERTY.

Town Without Fire Protection Loses Four Stores by Flames.

The most destructive fire in the history of Liberty visited that place at an early hour Tuesday morning, wiping out four of the leading business houses of the town and entailing a loss estimated at between \$30,000 and \$35,000.

The entire block was destroyed before the flames were subdued and the citizens of the town had the hardest kind of work to prevent the fire from spreading to other parts of the business district. The losses are estimated as follows: Corbin, \$10,000; Moore, \$4,000; Goldberg, \$8,000; Bawhays, \$11,000. About half the loss is covered by insurance.

FRATERNAL TAX CASE.

Omaha Assessor Accused of Neglecting to Collect It.

A Lincoln dispatch says: Three members of the state board of equalization stated that Assessor Reed, of Omaha, would be investigated for his action in the fraternal tax cases.

Land Commissioner Eaton, State Treasurer Mortensen and Secretary of State Galusha believe that Reed didn't assess the fraternal societies. They claim that the records of the board and of the supreme court will bear out the assertion. The penalty for failing to carry out the order of the state board is removal from office.

Union Pacific Straightening Line.

The Union Pacific is making plans to straighten its line in several places between Beatrice and Manhattan, Kan., this spring. The necessary machinery and equipment for carrying on the work is being received at Beatrice, and when the work is finished the mileage between Manhattan and Beatrice will be reduced about ten miles.

Loses Wager Through Wind.

To decide a wager, William Pape Saturday attempted to cover the distance of nine miles between Pickrell and Beatrice afoot, in one hour. He left Pickrell at 2 o'clock and arrived at Beatrice at 3:04, four minutes behind time. Pape made the trip on the Union Pacific road and would have won had it not been that he was obliged to run against a strong wind.

Boy Cruelly Treated.

Little Robert Ricken, who was recently removed from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Heckathorne, of Beatrice, by County Judge Spafford because of brutal treatment on the part of the foster parents, was Wednesday placed in the custody of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Weingart, of Beatrice, who made application a few weeks ago to adopt the child.

Lyons Man Under Knife.

C. E. McMomes, a prominent Lyons merchant, underwent a serious operation Friday. He is in a very serious condition.

Clark Tried to Break Jail.

Clark, one of the negroes who was held in Lincoln for several days to keep a mob from South Omaha from getting him, made a desperate effort to escape from jail Monday night. Clark was in the women's ward and had dug out almost enough brick to allow the passage of his body, when the plan was discovered.

Fire at Orleans.

A dispatch from Orleans says a fire has destroyed five of the principal buildings of the town.



The announcement that the Iowa senate had passed the anti-pass bill, which prohibits state officials from receiving railroad passes or courtesies from telephone, telegraph or express companies, met with the approval of Gov. Mickey. "The fact that the bill was passed without a dissenting vote speaks well for the Iowa senate," said Gov. Mickey, "but why didn't the bill go further and prohibit everybody from riding on passes? I should think a law which would put everybody on the same level would be the better law. I believe the Nebraska legislature will do better than the Iowa senate. Wait until the Nebraska legislature passes a law cutting down freight and passenger rates and then making everybody that rides pay fare. Then something will have been accomplished." In view of his statement, Saturday it is believed Gov. Mickey will make a recommendation to the next legislature for a 2-cent rate on railroads, as well as a recommendation for an anti-pass bill which will prohibit everybody, including state officers and politicians, from riding on passes.

The supreme court has reversed the decision of the Boone County district court, which was that John P. O'Neill and B. A. Baldwin, druggists, be fined \$200 for having liquor in their possession for the purpose of selling the same unlawfully. The evidence, the court said, showed that a couple of barrels of wine had been shipped to them. The drayman at Albion had taken the liquor and put it in the warehouse owned by the two men and the next day had taken a bill to the druggists. The latter objected to paying the same and the liquor was taken back to the railroad company. After it had been turned back to the company the complaints were filed against the men and the liquor was seized. Under the circumstances the court holds the presumption could not be that the men had bought the liquor to sell unlawfully.

Attorney General Norris Brown has filed in the supreme court a brief in the case wherein the Van Dorn Iron Works is seeking to compel Auditor Searle to issue a warrant for \$3,328, alleged to be due on a contract to construct steel cells at the state penitentiary. The legislature appropriated \$50,000 for the construction of cells. When all had been completed with the exception of connecting six of them with the sewers, the board of public lands and buildings accepted the job and ordered the warrant drawn. The contract called for the connections with the sewer and therefore the auditor refused to allow the bill until the contract was completed with. In the lower court the contractor won out and the state appealed the case.

Rev. Mr. Heiner and Mrs. Heiner, who founded the Tabitha Home at Lincoln eighteen years ago and who managed it until last November, when a self-appointed reform committee ousted them and took charge of the affairs of the home, are shortly again to come into their own. After four months' experience in managing the home the committee has come to the conclusion that its members have not the ability to carry the load under which Mr. and Mrs. Heiner struggled for eighteen years and one by one they are getting from under.

Attorneys for W. L. Newby, whom the district court of Saline County disbarred from practicing because it was alleged Newby had forged a deed in a legal controversy, are in the supreme court to have the matter reversed and the charges quashed. Attorneys for Newby assert the district court had no right to disbar Newby from practicing in all the courts of the state, but that they have a remedy in criminal proceedings if they desire to prosecute the attorney.

The contract entered into by Christopher B. E. Stroemer and Josiah A. Van Orsdal whereby the latter agreed to secure a reduction in the price of lands in the old Otoe Indian reservation which had been bought from the government by Stroemer has for a second time been held to be valid by the supreme court.

State Treasurer Mortensen Saturday took in \$60,000 without having made any effort at collections. The money was sent in by the various county treasurers. Mr. Mortensen then, with the consent of the state board of educational lands and funds, bought \$41,000 of Massachusetts state bonds, which will net the state 3.31 per cent.

The arrest of the president and two vice presidents of the New York Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company, of New York, will call for no action on the part of the Nebraska insurance department for the reason this company has had no application for a license to do business in Nebraska this year.

Charles Nelson, by virtue of a decision rendered by the supreme court Saturday, will receive the sum of \$61.70 from the Union Pacific Railroad Company for damages sustained because the company delayed a carload of cattle which Nelson was shipping over its lines from South Omaha to Callaway.

Rev. H. Wirz has been appointed postmaster at Sawyer, Fillmore County. Vice R. H. Lowder, resigned.

State Treasurer Peter Mortensen will issue a statement to the public announcing his withdrawal from the race for the Republican nomination for governor. The attorney employed by Mr. Mortensen filed an opinion with him Friday that it was impossible for him to get before the court with a suit to test his eligibility to hold the office of governor. This determined Mr. Mortensen to withdraw from the race, and after a consultation with friends he will make formal announcement of his intentions.