

# THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

VALENTINE, NEB.

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## BANDITS IN A HOLDUP

### GREAT NORTHERN TRAIN NO 3 RIFLED NEAR SPOKANE.

Twelve Passengers Are Injured in the Collision, Two Seriously—Conductor Makes a Desperate Effort to Ditch Runaway, but Fails.

Bandits held up and robbed Great Northern fast mail train No. 3 nine miles east of Spokane, between Colbert and Mead, shortly before midnight Sunday night. Twelve persons were injured when the engine and mail car, which was run down the track by the bandits after they had rifled the mails, collided with the remaining cars of the train. The bandits detached the engine and mail car from the train, ran them down the track a considerable distance and then after the registered mail had been opened they sent the engine back to collide with the cars standing on the track.

The conductor saw the wild cars coming down the track at a rate of twenty-five miles an hour when they were a considerable distance away and he and one of the trainmen placed a tie on the track in an effort to stop their wild flight. The engine and car were partly stopped by this means, but plunged into the coaches. There was a loud crash, and the passengers were thrown from their seats, most of the injured being hurt by the glass from the broken windows.

When the train reached Colbert some switching had to be done. While the engine crew was busy at its work two men suddenly appeared in the engine cab and thrusting a revolver against the body of the engineer, William Miller, ordered him to do as commanded. The engineer and fireman, John Hall, obeyed.

The engine was coupled to the train and it pulled out. After the train had proceeded a few miles the engineer was ordered to stop, and he and his fireman were forced to leave the cab.

The two robbers then went to the door of the mail car and ordered it opened. Their command was obeyed by Benjamin F. Stump, the mail clerk. Hastily climbing into the cab, the outlaws sent the engine hurrying down the track—how far is not known. As soon as the conductor was aware that there was a holdup he ordered a brakeman to the rear of the train to prevent a collision and had another brakeman cut in the telegraph wire to send word to Spokane. A third member of the train crew was hurried to the station with the news. About a half hour after the engine and mail car had disappeared they were seen coming down the track and hurried preparations were made to ditch the runaway, but without complete success.

It is reported that the bandits obtained a large sum of money from the registered mail, the amount being placed at \$20,000.

### WIRELESS FOR THE NAVY.

Experts Work on Scheme for Equipment of Vessels.

Experts of the United States navy are bending every effort toward perfecting wireless equipment, both telephone and telegraph, for use by the vessels of the navy and the naval shore stations. The military authorities also are carefully investigating this subject through the signal corps. Both the navy and the army will be represented at a series of events to begin about June 15 at Brant Rock, Mass. A high powered wireless station has been erected by a concern which is endeavoring to secure the work of building and equipping a 600-foot tower in Washington with high powered wireless instruments and furnishing two sets of combined telephone and telegraphic apparatus for ships. The army's greatest interest lies in the wireless telephone. Brig. Gen. Allen has at his disposal about \$30,000 to be used for purchasing apparatus for the army's use.

Expensive use will be made of wireless telegraphy during the Atlantic fleet's summer maneuvers. The torpedo boats which will participate in the maneuvers are being equipped with apparatus capable of a radius of 200 miles. Only a few of this class of vessels now have wireless equipment.

### Sioux City Live Stock Market.

Saturday's quotations on the Sioux City live stock market follow: Top heaves, \$6.25. Top hogs, \$7.25.

Weston Resumes His Walk. Edward Payson Weston resumed his walk to San Francisco shortly after midnight Monday. In accordance with his usual custom he would not walk on his journey Sunday, but passed the day at Wakeeney, Kan., quietly resting.

Bubonic Plague in Amoy. Official estimates place the number of cases of bubonic plague in Amoy, China, at about forty weekly.

### STORMS DEAL DEATH.

Series of Tornadoes Strike the South-west.

A series of tornadoes in Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma late Friday killed at least seven, injured fifty-five, laid waste one town, wrecked a train and did great damage to property. Twenty-five were injured by a storm that swept over Mt. Washington and Fairmount park, suburbs of Kansas City. At least two of these are thought to be fatally injured and others seriously. The town of Hollis, Kan., near Concordia, was swept away. Here there were three killed and ten injured.

The Eckstrom family, consisting of five persons, is missing. Their house is laid in ruins and it is thought they are dead.

Near Great Bend a tornado killed two and injured twenty. All wires are down in that vicinity and it is feared that the death list may be great.

William Ackerly, a Santa Fe engineer, and Frank Nicholson, a conductor, were killed while with a bridge gang between Great Bend and Kingsley. The tornado wrecked the work train of which Ackerly was engineer and blew it into a ditch. Several members of the crew were blown 100 feet. The pile driver toppled over, crushing Ackerly to death in his cab, where he remained with his hand on the throttle.

Most of the victims in this case were members of the Santa Fe bridge crew in the train wrecked by the wind. The wind spread over a large area, injuring many whose names could not be obtained.

Many conflicting reports have been received. One had ten killed. At Holsington, Kan., a tornado injured a great many and damaged farm property. It was not so severe, however, as that passing over the other portions of the state.

At Pond Creek, Okla., a severe wind storm severely injured four persons and unroofed several houses. A blinding rain and hail storm accompanied the wind in all three states. Many washouts demoralized railroad traffic.

### MYSTERY IN THE KILLING.

Kansas Officers Working on a Strange Case.

Mrs. Myrtle Brewer, a widow, the daughter of wealthy parents at Little River, a small town near Lyons, Kan., is in jail, having confessed to killing Frederick Arn, a bridge carpenter. The case is a strange one.

Mrs. Brewer visited the marshal's office at Little River Thursday and said she had killed a man and asked to be locked up. Officers who investigated found the body of Arn in the yard of Mrs. Brewer's home. He had been shot through the heart and the bullet evidently had been fired from a window in Mrs. Brewer's house. The woman refused to offer any explanation except to assert that Arn had attacked her and she was justified in killing him. She had borrowed a revolver from a friend the day before.

The community is greatly excited over the shooting and Mrs. Brewer was placed in jail.

Later Mrs. Brewer said she was putting her youngest daughter to bed when she saw a man crouching on the roof and peering into the window. She fired and the man disappeared. The next morning Arn's dead body was found.

### POISON PUT IN BANANA.

Cincinnati Fruit Dealer a Black Hand Victim.

Detectives have discovered a clue indicating that Salvatore Rizzo, fruit dealer, who died suddenly at his home at Cincinnati, O., Tuesday morning after having received threatening letters from the black hand, was given poison. Rizzo was warned by the black hand that if he did not leave several thousand dollars with certain persons in Pittsburgh, Pa., his life would be forfeited. He turned the letter over to the police. Last Saturday, according to the detectives, Rizzo was approached at the market by a man claiming to be a fruit salesman, who gave him a new variety of banana to eat. Rizzo ate it and took violently ill soon after.

Much excitement was caused in the Italian quarter at Cincinnati Thursday when during the ceremonies over the body of Rizzo a candelabrum was overturned and the coffin set on fire. The blaze was quickly extinguished, but not before the palbearers' hands were scorched. Word went through the Italian colony that the black hand was pursuing Rizzo even after death.

### New Typewriter Record.

A new speed record for typewriting was made at Kansas City, Mo., Thursday night by E. A. Trefzger, of New York, when he wrote an average of 109 words from copy each minute for fifteen minutes. Trefzger was second in the international contest in New York recently when Rose L. Fritz won the hour contest.

### Large Sum in Charity.

The will of the late Otho S. A. Sprague, of Chicago, disposing of an estate valued at \$3,500,000, was admitted to probate Friday. The American Sunday School union and four charitable institutions of Chicago share in a bequest of \$300,000.

### Texas Bank Robbery.

The State bank at Franktown, Tex., was dynamited and robbed early Friday of \$4,000.

### PREMIER A WINNER.

French Lawmakers Approve Course of Clemenceau.

The turbulent session of the French chamber of deputies Thursday ended in a signal victory for Premier Clemenceau when the government's policy with regard to the postal strike was emphatically indorsed by a vote of 454 to 59, including all the government's insistence that postal employees and other functionaries have no right to strike. Immediately afterward the chamber passed a vote of general confidence in the government, 350 to 159.

The strikers received the chamber's rebuke with a shrug of the shoulders, declaring that it only served to bind closer their forces, which would soon startle the country by a big increase and a rapid extension of the general movement. On the other hand, it is intimated that the government has other plans in view to offset any serious growth of the strike.

M. Barthou, minister of public works, posts and telegraphs, asserted during the debate that only 2,367 out of the 24,205 postal employees in Paris and the department of the Seine are out, and that conditions in the provinces were even better.

M. Sembat and M. Jaures warmly defended the stand taken by the postmen, and the latter declared that the battle which had begun would not end until the functionaries were possessed of the same "syndicate" rights as private workmen. He charged that for years a parliamentary majority had encouraged "syndicalism."

M. Comberousse, radical republican, intervened and virtually charged the socialists with being the tools of the reactionaries. He declared specifically that M. Morel owed his seat to the duke d'Uzes. Instantly the chamber was in an uproar. M. Morel tried in vain to make himself heard, and M. Brisson, president of the chamber, clapped his hat on his head as a sign that the session was closed.

The tumult, however, continued. The socialists began singing the "Internationale," to which M. Baudry d'Asson and his royalist colleagues, standing on chairs, replied by singing "Vive Henry IV."

Finally the public and the press galleries were cleared, but there was frantic delirium, both inside and outside of the chamber of deputies. Outside in the corridors several persons who raised the cry "Vive le Roi" were almost mobbed. Premier Clemenceau finally had d'Asson ejected and ordered the steps to the tribune closed.

### RICH MAN IS MURDERED.

St. Paul Merchant is Slain in His Home.

Louis Arbogast, a well known butcher of St. Paul, Minn., was murdered in his home early Thursday. His head was crushed and his bed saturated with oil and set on fire.

Miss Ida Arbogast, aged 22, daughter of the dead man, told Police Captain Clark that she smelled smoke coming from her parents' room early in the morning and went to the room, where she found the bed ablaze. Her father and her mother were in it.

"I dragged my mother out," she said to Captain Clark. "By this time the bed was all ablaze. I called to the neighbors, and they put out the fire."

Mrs. Arbogast, whose body is slightly burned, according to the police, tells a different story. She is reported to have said she was in the bath room taking a bath when she heard her daughter scream. She ran to her husband's room and found the bed ablaze, with her husband's unconscious form lying on it.

Coroner Miller discovered that Mr. Arbogast's head had been crushed, and detectives were started on an investigation. The police found an ax covered with blood and wrapped in some old clothing in the cellar of the Arbogast house.

No motive for the crime has yet been shown.

Arbogast is reported to have been worth \$200,000 and conducted a paying meat business.

### National Farmers' Union.

A plan to establish closer relations of the grain growers and cattle raisers of the west and southwest was further considered at the session at Springfield, Mo., Friday of the National Farmers' union. The meeting, as Thursday, was again executive.

### Will of Lady Beresford.

The will of the late Lady William Beresford, of London, discloses an estate valued at \$900,000. Lady Beresford was Miss Lillian Warren Price, daughter of the late Commodore Price, United States navy, of New York.

### French Insignia Conferred.

The French government as a mark of the high esteem in which it holds Henry Vignaud, first secretary of the American embassy at Paris, has made him a grand officer of the Legion of Honor.

### Rifts Found in Mars.

Rifts in the south polar cape of Mars were reported by Prof. Percival Lowell from his observatory at Flagstaff, Ariz. Prof. Lowell said that two rifts were discovered, one in longitude 305 and the other in longitude 240. The former phenomenon was followed by a disappearance of the entire cape, which is believed to be of snow.

# NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

### DENNEY IS GRAND CHANCELLOR.

Omaha Man Heads Knights of Pythias of the State.

The Knights of Pythias grand lodge, in session at Hastings, selected Fremont as the place for the next annual meeting, to be held beginning the first Tuesday in May. The Pythian Sisterhood will meet at the same time and place. Lincoln lost in the competition by four votes. The Knights elected the following officers: Grand chancellor, W. T. Denney, Omaha; grand vice chancellor, H. G. Correll, Plainville; grand prelate, John W. Long, Loup City; grand keeper of records and seal, Will H. Love, Lincoln; grand master at arms, A. E. Napier, Schuyler; grand master of the exchequer, John B. Wright, Lincoln; grand inner guard, William S. Pettit, Fairbury; supreme representative, W. W. Young, Stanton; trustee, Carl Cramer, Columbus.

These officers were chosen by the sisterhood: Past grand chief, Mrs. Alice Truel, of Lincoln; grand chief, Mrs. Albina Parks, Central City; grand senior, Sister Lida, Falls City; grand junior, Mrs. Caroline Putnam, Lincoln; grand manager, Mrs. Doty, Omaha; grand mistress of records, Mrs. Minerva Bushnell, Fremont; grand protector of temple, Mrs. J. E. Wilson, Broken Bow; grand outer guard, Mrs. Mary Stoddard, Auburn; grand representatives, Mrs. Sarah Dimick, Fremont, and Mrs. Rose Tivy, Silver Creek.

### EX-GOV. CROUNSE DEAD.

Succumbs at His Home in Omaha After Long Illness.

Former Gov. Lorenzo Crouse died at his home in Omaha just before midnight Thursday, after an extended illness, the immediate cause of death being arterial troubles.

Gov. Crouse was born in Schoharie county, N. Y. He served during the civil war as a captain of light artillery, being severely wounded in action. Coming to Nebraska in 1864 he served successively as a member of the territory legislature, justice of the supreme court, member of congress, assistant secretary of the treasury under President Harrison and governor of the state, being elected in 1893. He was a republican in politics. Mr. Crouse is survived by four children, Mrs. G. M. Hitchcock, wife of the present congressman from the Omaha district; William G. Crouse, associated with Mr. Hitchcock in the publication of the Omaha World-Herald; Mrs. George McIntyre, and Miss Marie Crouse, both of Omaha.

### BOY DRAGGED TO DEATH.

Omaha Lad Ties Rope About His Body and Cow Runs Away.

Daniel, the 8-year-old son of P. J. O'Brien, of Omaha, railroad yardmaster, was dragged to death by a cow Thursday evening. The boy had gone to get the cow, picketed on a vacant lot, two blocks away. He tied the rope around his waist and started to drive the cow home. Becoming frightened, she ran, throwing the boy down. He was dragged over the stone pavement, bounding like a ball. The cow ran into the yard just as the mother came to the door. She fainted and neighbors who came to assist found the boy insensible, his skull crushed and the flesh on his arms and face terribly lacerated. He was taken to the hospital, but died during the evening.

### CAUGHT ON WAY TO CHICAGO.

Sheriff of Fremont Heads Off Man Who Passed Worthless Checks.

George Bell, wanted at Albion on a charge of passing a worthless check, was arrested at Fremont on a Northwestern train by Sheriff Bauman. Bell, it is charged, bought a suit of clothes of Taxen Bros., of Albion, and tendered a check for \$16.75, which was rejected when presented to the bank for payment.

Bell lives at 108 Clark street, Chicago, and was on his way there when apprehended. He will be taken back to Albion for trial.

### G. A. R. MEN ADJOURN.

Nebraska Veterans Conclude Their Sessions at York.

The thirty-third annual encampment of the Nebraska G. A. R. concluded its three days' session in York Thursday. The officers for the ensuing year are Hon. L. D. Richards, of Fremont, commander; I. N. Thompson, of Fairbury, senior vice commander, and H. W. Alberts, of York, junior vice commander. The next session will be held at Fairbury.

### Mrs. Jay Bound Over.

Mrs. Nancy Jay, of Grand Island, who shot Frank Koehler, alleged in self-defense, and seriously wounded him, was arraigned on the charge of shooting with intent to wound and bound over to the district court in the sum of \$500, waiving preliminary examination. Bail was furnished. Koehler is rapidly recovering.

### Showers General South of Platte.

The drought in the south Platte region was partially broken Wednesday by showers reported to be general through the southern and southeastern counties of the state. The precipitation at Lincoln was .34 of an inch.

### Chautauqua at Fremont.

Arrangements have just been effected by which Fremont will have the advantage of a chautauqua the coming summer. A group of business men and farmers voluntarily subscribed sums to be used as a guarantee fund in case the sale of tickets does not meet the necessary expenses. The date of the entertainment will be August 22-29.

### SHOOTING AT BARN DANCE.

William Johnson Resented Calldown for Insulting Young Women.

William Johnson, a farm laborer, has been placed under arrest on the charge of having shot at Otto Kruse and others with intent to do great bodily injury. From the story of the affair as related by the complaining witnesses Johnson attended a barn dance about eight miles northwest of Grand Island at the farm of Kruse. As he went through the lower part of the barn to get to the stairway to the loft, Johnson, who had been drinking, showed a bottle of whisky and invited the girls to drink with him. They refused. He became insistent and the girls nervously grasped the bottle and took it away from him. They later related their experience in the loft, where the dancing was going on and where the owner was, and the latter went down to remonstrate with Johnson, who was still making a disturbance, and pacify him. After a talk there Johnson left, but immediately two shots entered the barn, the bullets passing close to where two men were sitting. Johnson tried to end his life with the revolver, but it was later found, fire marks on one hand are not evidence in his favor.

### GIRL IS STILL INFATUATED.

Violet Scottorn Stands by Man Who Enticed Her Away.

Samuel Bristol and Violet Scottorn, of Fairbury, who eloped a few days ago, were found Saturday at Wahoo, and arrested by Sheriff Churnside. Bristol is charged with enticing the girl, who is only 15 years of age, from home, and on his preliminary examination was held in \$500 bond to the next term of district court. Bristol has been working at Fairbury for a few weeks in the employ of a painting firm, and made the girl's acquaintance while there. The girl was held in bond to appear as a witness at district court, as it is evident she has not lost her infatuation for Bristol and is trying to help him out of his trouble.

### AN ALLIANCE MAN IN TROUBLE.

Arrested for Passing Worthless Checks in Chicago.

T. G. Ganson, formerly engaged in the hotel business in Alliance, under arrest for passing worthless checks, has been placed in a peculiar predicament, if his story told to Municipal Judge Hume, of Chicago, is true. Ganson was granted a continuance pending the arrival of reports from the Alliance National bank. According to Ganson his brother-in-law had access to his bank account, and when a check given the Wellington hotel was returned marked "No funds," he explained that his relative may have transferred their account to another bank.

### BANK ROBBER CAUGHT.

Reyne Aabel Confesses to Looting Nebraska Institutions.

Reyne Aabel, Jr., arrested at Minden Tuesday, has confessed to the robbery of the banks at Keene and Hartwell, Neb., last winter. He implicates Galloway and Grow, two young men of Minden, who have been without visible means of support for the past year. When the sheriff of Harlan county went to arrest these men Tuesday he found that they had gone in an automobile to Kearney, and wiring there he learned that they had gone still farther on. All trace of them has been lost.

### Table Rock to Be Lighted.

Articles of incorporation were adopted at a meeting held recently of the Table Rock Electric Lighting company. The authorized capital of the company is placed at \$25,000, with a paid up capital of \$6,000. Nearly \$6,000 in stock has been already subscribed, the most of it by citizens of Table Rock.

### Gibson Water System Wins.

A passing train set fire to J. D. Drury's big barn, east of Gibson, recently. An alarm was turned in and both fire companies responded. A terrific wind was blowing and the fire was burning to the eaves, but the magnificent water system put it out and very little damage was done.

### Wheat Prospects Poor.

The prospects for a wheat and oat crop in the vicinity of Battle Creek are very poor, a combination of freezing weather, shortage of rain and sand driven by a gale has practically cleaned the fields. Corn planting is well under way and the ground is in fair condition for this, but rain is needed.

### Bathrobe Cord for Noose.

Andrew Anderson, of Slater, commonly known as Buffalo Anderson, committed suicide by hanging himself. He leaves a wife and a number of children. He committed the act in his room fastening a bathrobe cord to a nail.

### Carnegie to Give \$10,000.

Andrew Carnegie has notified the Norfolk library board that \$10,000 is available for the construction of a public library there.

### Women Hurt in a Runaway.

While returning from school Tuesday afternoon two daughters of William Sheahan, living near Hubbard, were thrown from a buggy in a runaway and each suffered a fractured arm.

### Re-Elected Grand Master.

Under a suspension of the rules Grand Master Workman Walling was unanimously re-elected by the A. O. U. W. grand lodge in session at Lincoln Tuesday.

# TAFT RAPS PORTO RICO

Says Failure to Pass Money Bills Makes Serious Situation in the Island.

### "GENEROSITY IS FORGOTTEN."

Special Message to Congress Urges Change in Foraker Act—Holds Politicians Irresponsible.

President Taft sent to Congress a special message recommending legislation at the present extra session to amend the Foraker act, under which Porto Rico is governed. The President directs attention to "a situation of unusual gravity," the result of the failure of the legislative assembly of Porto Rico to pass the usual appropriation bills, leaving the island without support after June 30.

Porto Ricans have forgotten the generosity of the United States, the President says, in the desire of certain of their political leaders for power, and he adds that the situation indicates that the United States has gone too fast in the extension of political rights to the Porto Ricans. Mr. Taft concludes that the absolute power of appropriation should be taken from "those who have shown themselves too irresponsible to enjoy it."

The President suggests to Congress the wisdom of submitting to the appropriation committees the question of qualifying some of the provisions of the fundamental act as to the respective jurisdictions of the executive council and the legislative assembly. But no action of this kind, he says, should be undertaken before the Foraker act is amended, so that when the legislative assembly shall adjourn without making appropriations necessary to carry on the government sums equal to the appropriations in the previous year shall be available from the current revenues and shall be drawn by the warrant of the auditor on the treasurer, countersigned by the governor. Such a provision applies to the legislatures of the Philippines, and of Hawaii, and "it has prevented in those two countries any misuse of the power of appropriation."

The message presents an exhaustive review of conditions on the island, its trade, its wealth and the improved educational facilities. It points out that "there never was a time in the history of the island when the average prosperity of the Porto Rican was higher, his opportunity greater, his liberty in thought and action more secure." For the first time in its history Porto Rico is living under laws enacted by its own legislature.

The President points out that if the Porto Ricans desire a change in the form of the Foraker act the subject is a matter of congressional consideration, dependent upon the effect on real political progress in the island. Such a change, he says, should be sought in an orderly way and not brought to the attention of Congress by "paralyzing the arm of the existing government." The President says that the Porto Ricans' forgetfulness of the generosity of this government "should not be an occasion for surprise, nor in dealing with a whole people can it be made the basis of a charge of ingratitude."

### 14 NIGHT RIDERS ARE GUILTY.

Ten Days in Jail and \$500 Fine for Each of Tennessee Gang.

A verdict of guilty was returned in Waverly, Tenn., in the case of the fourteen men charged with being members of the night riders' organization and with whipping J. M. Reese on Oct. 15, 1908. The punishment was fixed at ten days in jail and a fine of \$500 for each. They were remanded to jail under a strong military guard to reappear in court the next day, when a motion for a new trial was made. After the verdict the defendants shook hands and at night they played the banjo and danced in their cells.

### ABRUZZI TRIES TO END LIFE?

Report Concerning Duke Greatly Agitates Italian Court Circles.

Court circles in Rome are agitated over sensational reports which have reached the government about the duke of the Abruzzi. It is related on good authority that in one of the fits of depression to which the duke has become subject of late he attempted to kill himself with a revolver on the way out to India, but was saved by a member of his suite, whose suspicion had been aroused and who had kept a vigilant watch on him. Letters from members of the expedition represent that the duke is utterly reckless.

### Pastor's Prayer Causes Mistrust.

Following a prayer at the opening of court in Mount Vernon, Ga., offered by Rev. Joe McDaniel, a relative of W. C. Beasley, for whose alleged murder Jordan Swain was on trial, the defense moved for a mistrial, and it was granted. Rev. McDaniel asked compassion for Swain as a "man whose hands are stained by the blood of his fellow man."

### Texas Prairie Fire Sweeps County.

A disastrous prairie fire swept Castro County in the Panhandle of Texas, Saturday and Sunday, and Col. T. K. Herring of the firm of Herring & Laid, Amarillo, was the heaviest loser, the flames sweeping thirty sections on his ranch.