

# FOUL AIR AND DISEASE.

## Omaha Doctor Gives Points on Ventilation.

### WANTS PLENTY FRESH AIR.

Thinks Churches, Schools and Other Public Buildings are Often Improperly Ventilated—Contagion Breeds in Foul Air. Theaters Not so Bad.

Health Commissioner Victor H. Coffman of Omaha in an interview with a Bee reporter makes some remarks concerning ventilation that is applicable to other towns and cities as well as Omaha: "Lack of fresh air and sunshine are responsible for much disease in Omaha, yet it seems to be impossible to impress janitors of churches, schools and other public buildings with the fact that nature has supplied these disinfectants in abundance and intended that they should be used freely. The churches are the greatest offenders. Enter almost any church in the city Sunday and you will notice how foul and musty it smells to a person who has been walking in the fresh air.

"You will find that people are coughing in different parts of the church. The singers will probably be clearing their throats and members of the congregation will be yawning and wondering why it is that they are so sleepy. That is all caused by bad air which is responsible for more sleepy communicants than dry sermons.

"Then take a look at the windows. They will probably all be of fancy stained glass, which shuts out the sunshine, and the chances are that they will be closed tightly. It is not always the janitor's fault. Frequently these massive windows cannot be opened and the doors are the only means of ventilation."

"Disease germs are deposited in a church and as soon as the Sunday service is over the auditorium is closed up. That foul, disease-laden air is heated and offered to the congregation which attends services the next Sunday. For weeks the air in many churches is not changed. Janitors go on the assumption that cold air is fresh air and refuse to throw open doors and windows and let in plenty of oxygen. Prayer meeting rooms are not so liable to contain bad air as the main auditorium, which is opened only once a week.

"But isn't the same thing true of theaters, doctor?"

"To a certain extent, but managers of theaters exercise much greater care in ventilation. There are usually more doors and windows. The doors are all thrown wide open when the crowds leave and in this way the air is changed. Then the stages are roomy and have such large scenery lofts that theaters contain more air than churches," replied Dr. Coffman.

"Many cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria can be traced to close, stuffy, school rooms and, besides being a means of spreading contagious diseases, poor ventilation frequently undermines the system of pupils and opens the way for more serious disorders. Much of the inattention and dullness of pupils can be accounted for by the poor air which they breathe. I have reason to believe that most of the Omaha teachers attempt to ventilate their rooms properly, but it is difficult to let fresh air into a room through windows without producing a draft and causing some poor thin-clad child to shiver.

"I have frequently made the statement that I can produce a case of diphtheria or scarlet fever providing I am allowed to run a house as I please for one month. Poor ventilation will do the work without the assistance of any disease germs," said Dr. J. B. Ralph, assistant to the health commissioner. "Put a family of children in a small house. Provide storm doors and windows for the house so no fresh air can enter. Keep the rooms heated to a tropical heat for a few weeks without frequently changing the air and you will have a condition which must result in some serious sickness, probably scarlet fever or diphtheria."

**State Press Association.**  
D. H. Cronin of the O'Neill Frontier, F. M. Merwin of the Beaver City Tribune, U. E. Foster of the Plainview News, W. N. Huse of the Norfolk News, L. C. Williams of the Blair Pilot, W. M. Manpa of Omaha, H. P. Marble of the Humboldt Leader and C. M. Hubner of the Nebraska City News, comprising the executive committee of the Nebraska Press association, met at the Dellone hotel last night to discuss arrangements for the annual meeting of that organization, which will be held at Omaha on January 22 and 23. The following features for the program were decided upon: Annual poem, by Allen D. May of the Falls City Journal; "Printers' Ink the World Around," by Julius H. Hulif of the Norfolk Anzeiger; "Old-Time Printers," by H. P. Macloon of Grand Island, and the "Round Table," to be conducted by F. O. Edgemoor of the Geneva Signal.

It was also decided to have the association issue a daily newspaper during the convention and W. N. Huse was selected for editor-in-chief. Mr. Huse, in issuing the convention daily, will have the

assistance of a large volunteer staff of country editors.

The local committee reported that a theater party would be given the delegates the first night of the convention and another social function would be arranged for the second night. About 300 newspaper men and their ladies are expected to attend the meeting.—Omaha Bee, Tuesday.

**Vaccination of the Present.**  
"There isn't a bit of danger nowadays in the use of vaccine for smallpox," remarked a prominent physician as he discussed the aversion of the public toward vaccination. "But there was a time when the operation was rather a risky one; that was in the 'good old days,' however."

"In the use of vaccine twenty years or more ago there was almost criminal carelessness and it is a wonder that more people did not suffer seriously from vaccination. In the first place the preparation of vaccine was not attended with proper care. Most doctors took the scab from the arm of a patient and used it to vaccinate an entire community. Well, before he got through with it it was a pretty dirty sort of thing. I've seen a doctor carry this scab in his vest pocket where it came in contact with a good many undesirable things; when some one came to him to be vaccinated he would pull it out, clean it up a bit and then use its virus.

"Nowadays, however, nothing is more carefully prepared than vaccine virus. The way it comes to the doctor now it is absolutely pure and fresh; every other germ of disease except the smallpox germ has been taken from it and there is absolutely no danger in vaccination from it. In nine cases out of ten the part vaccinated will be only slightly sore and there will be no other evil from its use."—Sioux City Journal.

**What the 1900 Census Shows.**  
The population of the United States is 78,395,320.

There are 5,800,000 separate farms in the United States.

Rhode Island leads in density of population. She supports 385 persons to the square mile.

There are 600,000 manufacturing institutions in the United States, an increase in ten years of 150,000. A trifle less than one-fourth of the population of the United States dwell in 159 cities of 25,000 inhabitants or over.

The center of population in the United States is in Indiana west of Columbus. In 1800 it was 23 miles east of Baltimore.

In New York and Pennsylvania there is about four acres to each inhabitant; Nevada has 1,600 acres to each inhabitant.

The United States now ranks second in the world's great power, being surpassed only by Russia with a population of 130,896,628.

Oklahoma gained 550 per cent in population the past ten years, from 61,834 in 1890 to 398,345 in 1900. The largest of any state in the Union.

## JUMP FROM TRAIN.

**Prisoner Leaps Off Cars Running Twenty-five Miles an Hour and Sheriff Follows Him.**

Cheyenne, Wyo., Dec. 12.—Charles Kitchen, sentenced to four years in the state penitentiary, made a daring attempt to escape while being taken to Laramie by Sheriff Shaver. Kitchen was handcuffed, but not fastened to the car seat. While the sheriff was enjoying a lunch Kitchen ran to the end of the car. The train was running 25 miles an hour, but without hesitation the prisoner jumped off. Sheriff Shaver was after his man and he, too, jumped off. Kitchen was not hurt and regaining his feet, fled to the hills. Shaver was quite badly hurt and unable to pursue.

Deputy Joe Wilde started in pursuit as soon as the train could be stopped, and after a chase of several miles found Kitchen hiding behind a rock. He was taken to Sherman and later sent to Laramie.

**Ends a Murderer's Career.**

Vesteras, Sweden, Dec. 11.—Phillip Nordland, who on May 17 last, as the steamer Prins Carl, on which he was a passenger, was passing Quicksund, murdered seven men and wounded five others, a woman and a boy, subsequently escaped in a boat to Koping and who was convicted and sentenced to death in June last, was beheaded yesterday. The condemned man chanted the verses of a psalm as he laid his head upon the block.

**Mysterious Fire at West Point.**

West Point, Neb., Dec. 11.—Another incendiary fire was discovered in this city last night. The barn in the rear of the Neligh house was found in flames. The building was totally destroyed. An epidemic of incendiary fires terrorized our citizens here for months last spring, but during the summer the firebug suspended operations. Determined efforts are being made to locate the miscreant.

**Man Down Beccant Lover.**

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 11.—Miss Maggie O'Brien, after a search of two years for Valentine Davis, her recreant lover, has found the latter and caused his arrest at Quincy, Ill., where he is in jail awaiting a requisition from Governor Stanley. Two years ago, on the eve of his wedding day, Davis fled from Newton, Kan. The young woman determined to have vengeance, and in her hunt for Davis followed clew after clew through a half dozen states.

# MINISTERS ARE WAITING.

## Some of Them Without Authority to Treat for Peace.

### TO EFFACE PRINCE TUAN.

**Plan of Allies at Peking to Substitute New Heir Apparent to Throne—Peace Negotiations Are Now Expected to Proceed Rapidly.**

Peking, Dec. 11.—At yesterday's meeting of the ministers called to consider if Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching had power to form the court to conduct negotiations for a settlement on behalf of China, some of the ministers stated that they were authorized to treat with them as representatives of China, while others, including the German minister, had not received instructions in the matter.

London, Dec. 12.—"Reports from Chinese sources," says the Shanghai correspondent of the Times, wiring Monday, "point to the probability that serious negotiations for peace will begin forthwith. It is believed that a short preliminary protocol is in process, leaving many questions, including commercial subjects, to separate conventions to be drawn up later. The powers should retain their troops in China until these questions are settled and until tangible evidence is given that China honestly intends to fulfill her engagements. Progressive Chinese regard the present as a great opportunity to overthrow the reactionary Manchu methods and to inaugurate a regime of national progress.

"It is urged that the powers shall insist upon the cancellation of the claim of the present heir apparent, Prince Tuan's son, and the substitution of an heir of full age, free from any connection with the Tuan party. Such a man is available and the step is declared to be legally possible."

**Battle Still On.**

London, Dec. 12.—The Evening Standard says the battle between General Knox and General Dewet continues and that the forces change ground incessantly. Lack of definite information on the subject is said to be due to the absence of telegraphic communication with the scene of action.

## CADETS GO ON STRIKE.

**Refuse to Attend Classes Because Grievances Were Not Attended to.**

Orchard Lake, Mich., Dec. 12.—All the cadets of the military academy here refused to attend classes yesterday because certain grievances which they desired to have settled were not attended to. One is the reinstatement of Captain Landis as quartermaster general. Present Quartermaster General Hollister, who succeeded Captain Landis, is not liked. Colonel Rogers, superintendent of the school, has notified the parents of the boys concerning the trouble and if the trouble is not adjusted tomorrow probably 50 of the boys will be dismissed. The cadets insist that Colonel Rogers sever his connection with the institution and that Principal Edwards be made superintendent in his place. They also claim that they do not get enough to eat.

**Rulo Murderer Sentenced for Life.**

Falls City, Neb., 12.—William Miller was arraigned in the district court yesterday afternoon on a charge of murder in the first degree, having shot and killed A. J. Wake, city marshal of Rulo, on the night of Nov. 29. At first Miller entered a plea of not guilty, but after consultation with his attorneys withdrew the plea, interposing a plea of guilty. Judge Still immediately sentenced him to life imprisonment. It was not generally known that the case would be called and so the affair attracted but little attention.

**Soldier Drops Dead.**

Denver, Dec. 12.—James A. Legg, an honorably discharged soldier, on the way to his home in Columbus, O., from the Philippines, dropped dead in a restaurant in this city as he was sending himself at a table. A physician whom he had previously consulted says he was suffering from ptomaine poisoning. Legg served with the Seventeenth United States infantry in Cuba and subsequently went to the Philippines, where he distinguished himself in many engagements.

**Riders Ahead of the Record.**

New York, Dec. 12.—Score at 2 a. m. in the six-day bicycle race: Elkes and McFarland, 1,002.2 miles; Pierce and McEachern, 1,002.2; Simar and Gougoltz, 1,002.1; Turville and Gimm, 1,001.9; Waller and Stinson, 1,001.9; Babcock and Aronson, 1,001.9; Fisher and Frederick, 1,001.7; Kaser and Byser, 1,001.5; Muller and Accoutrier, 980.9. Elkes passed the 1,000th mile mark in 49 hours and 50 minutes.

**Meeting of American University.**

Washington, Dec. 12.—The board of trustees of the American university held its annual meeting here yesterday. Bishop Hurst reported that there now was between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 on hand, and urged that every effort should be put forth to secure \$1,000,000 during the coming year. The money would be used, he said, as a basis for opening the institution for actual work in instruction.

**Chase Insurgents Four Miles.**

Manila, Dec. 12.—A detachment of the Fifth cavalry had a fight with 100 insurgents south of Santa Cruz Sunday. The insurgents were chased for four miles. Fourteen of them were found dead. There were no American casualties. In addition to this engagement there had been several minor encounters between the troops and the insurgents.

# INSURGENTS FALLING BACK.

**Supplies Abandoned by the Rebels in Their Flight Captured.**

Manila, Dec. 10.—While the captures of supplies and the occupation of new points are quite numerous, those involving actual fighting are comparatively few. Apparently the insurgents are falling back at all contested points, sacrificing their possessions in most cases, and satisfied to save themselves.

A detachment of the Forty-seventh United States volunteer infantry from the island of Catanduanes, off the southeast coast of Luzon, relinquished an attempt to land near Pandan. On anchoring the Americans were fired upon by 60 riflemen and after a short engagement they cut the anchor chain and sailed for Catanduanes, with two killed and two wounded.

Captain Richard T. Ellis of the Thirty-third volunteer infantry captured in the mountains near Barbara a large quantity of Krag, Mauser and Remington ammunition, together with a signal outfit, a printing press and other equipment.

# HOLLAND ALARMED.

**Dutch Capital Finds Food for Grave Thought in the Developments at Lisbon.**

London, Dec. 10.—Special dispatches from The Hague represent the feeling there as one of alarm at the prospect of an Anglo-German-Portuguese combination, which might snatch the Dutch seaboard or seize Java.

It is reported at the Dutch capital that the possibility of a war with England has even been discussed by the cabinet council.

Queen Wilhelmina will give a dinner in honor of Mr. Kruger, but he has abandoned all hope of any effective result of his visit to Europe, although he does not despair of meeting Emperor Nicholas, possibly on the Riviera.

Mr. Kruger received a message from the czar Friday night. It was couched in very friendly terms, but the fact that its existence has been kept a close secret is sufficient to indicate its author's intention to abstain from any active steps friendly to intervention. The czar naturally pleads his illness as a sufficient excuse for not interfering.

Mr. Kruger, when cheered by the crowd on his return from the cathedral yesterday, turned and roundly rebuked those near him for such a desecration of the Sabbath.

# HURT IN AN INITIATION.

**Goat Riding Ends Seriously for Two Lawrence University Students.**

Appleton, Wis., Dec. 10.—Frank Melby and Theodore Albert, students at Lawrence university, were severely injured last night as the result of initiation exercises of the Philhellenic society. Melby was testing a jump into a blanket, which had been prepared for the victims and missed the blanket, striking on the floor 20 feet below on his head. He was picked up unconscious.

Albert during the initiation was stripped, blindfolded and plunged into a tank of ice water charged with electricity. The shock made him unconscious and it was only by the most energetic work on the part of his tormentors that he was revived.

**New Fast Mail Record.**

Chicago, Dec. 10.—The Burlington's fast mail train, No. 15, was delayed in Chicago ten minutes the night of the 8th. The distance from Chicago station to Galesburg station is just 162 miles, and the fast mail train made the run in 157 minutes full time. There were stops amounting to nine minutes in Chicago yards and at Mendota for oil and water, thus making the net run in 148 minutes. The average speed was 68 miles per hour. The Burlington officials are not worrying about losing fast mail contracts when their engines make such records.

**Hold-Up in Armourdale.**

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 10.—Three masked men entered the office of Peet Bros. Soap Manufacturing company in Armourdale last night, and leveling revolvers at the cashier and superintendent, who were in the office at the time, secured \$800. The money represented a week's wages of the laborers in the oil department.

# TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

A fire at Borlange, Sweden, has rendered 150 persons homeless and caused damage to the amount of 500,000 kroner.

August Waldauer, a widely known professor of music, died in St. Louis Sunday of a complication of diseases, aged 75 years.

Rev. Charles Pelton, for several years agent of the Reform league in Cincinnati, died Saturday at his home in Milford, O., of heart disease.

The plant of the Cleveland and Canton brick company, Canton, O., was completely destroyed by fire Sunday. Loss, \$50,000; covered by insurance.

Mrs. Mary L. McLean, mother of John R. McLean of the Cincinnati Enquirer, died at her Washington residence Sunday of acute heart affection.

A big mass meeting of weavers of the Acushnet and Hathaway mills at New Bedford, Mass., voted to strike over stoppage of pay. Four hundred men are affected.

A freight wreck Saturday night on the Southern railway, three miles south of Sanford, Tenn., resulted in the death of Conductor David L. Glover and two unknown tramps.

W. F. Willoughby of the department of labor was before the industrial commission Saturday and submitted a paper on employers' liability and workmen's insurance.

## Railroad and Business Directory.

### R. R. TIME TABLE.

**Fremont, Elkhorn & Mo. Valley.**

WEST	DEPART.
Omaha Passenger	6:55 a.m.
Chicago Express	12:40 p.m.
EAST	ARRIVE.
Chicago Express	7:20 p.m.
Omaha Passenger	12:40 p.m.
WEST	DEPART.
Black Hills Express	7:40 p.m.
Verdigris Passenger	12:40 p.m.
Verdigris Accommodation	9:00 a.m.
ARRIVE.	
Black Hills Express	12:30 p.m.
Verdigris Passenger	7:30 p.m.
Verdigris Accommodation	9:00 p.m.

The Chicago and Black Hills Express arrives and departs from Junction depot. The Omaha and Verdigris trains arrive and depart from city depot.  
H. C. MATRAIC, Agent.

**Union Pacific.**

SOUTH	DEPART.
Columbus Accommodation	8:30 p.m.
Omaha, Denver and Pacific Coast	11:50 a.m.
ARRIVE.	
Columbus Accommodation	10:30 p.m.
Omaha, Denver and Pacific Coast	8:50 p.m.

Connects at Norfolk with F. E. & M. V. going west and north, and with the C. St. P. M. & O. for points north and east.  
P. W. JUNEMAN, Agent.

**Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha.**

WEST	DEPART.
Sioux City and Omaha Passenger	6:30 a.m.
Sioux City Passenger	8:30 p.m.
WEST	ARRIVE.
Sioux City Passenger	10:30 a.m.
Sioux City and Omaha Passenger	8:30 p.m.

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