

BEALL OWNS AUDITORIUM.

Sioux City Manager Buys Norfolk Theater.

TOOK POSSESSION YESTERDAY.

New Proprietor Controls a Circuit of First Class Opera Houses and is in Position to Book High Grade Attractions.

From Saturday's Daily.
The ownership of the Norfolk Auditorium has changed hands, the property passing into the possession of Mr. A. B. Beall of Sioux City. It will be remembered that Mr. Beall came to the city Wednesday morning and looked over the house in company with ex-Governor Jackson and Mr. Gardner of Des Moines, president and secretary of the Royal Union Life insurance company of Iowa, owners of the property. The party left for Sioux City that afternoon, and the transfer of the Auditorium was closed on Thursday. Yesterday morning Mr. Beall returned to the city and took possession. He expressed himself well pleased with the house and said he thinks it is unusually good for a town the size of Norfolk. He admitted that it needs the addition of some draperies in the boxes, carpets on the floors, and a few other accessories, to make it all it ought to be, and he hopes business will justify adding these in the near future. When this is done Norfolk will have as neat and tasty an opera house as is to be found anywhere.

Mr. Beall is manager of the Grand in Sioux City and of the leading theatres in Council Bluffs, Iowa, Sioux Falls, S. D., and Mankato, Minn. Now he has a chain of five houses, and it is needless to say that he is in better position to secure a higher class of entertainments than is possible for any manager of one house to do. In conversation with a reporter for THE NEWS last evening, Mr. Beall said he should make every effort to send the best shows to be had to the Auditorium. While it is late to make new bookings, he believed there is a strong probability that he will be able to get Hanford and Whitehead during the season, and he has a number of other first class attractions that he hopes to book for Norfolk, in addition to those with whom Manager Spear has contracts. He said he should try to make the Auditorium a credit to Norfolk and he hopes to have the hearty co-operation of the people of this city to that end. He proposes to make the standard of the house so high that when a play comes it may be depended upon that it is right. He says the fact that an entertainment is advertised for the Auditorium is to be taken as a guarantee that it is worthy the patronage of theatre going people. He hopes to have such plays as will attract not only local people but people living in towns tributary to Norfolk who enjoy something good. His plan will be to have one first class attraction about once a week during the season.

Mr. Beall is a genial gentleman whom it is a pleasure to meet. As Norfolk people will have occasion to know him better, it may be well to introduce him by saying that his name is pronounced as though spelled Bell. That he is a thoroughly competent theatre manager there can be doubt, as good reports of the attraction furnished are received from all the towns where he has opera houses under his management.

While the ownership has changed it does not necessarily mean that the local management will be living. Mr. Beall will want some one living here to look after his interest, as it will be impossible for him to give it personal attention. Geo. H. Spear has had charge of the house since it was opened January 15, 1901, and the people of Norfolk would be glad to see him retained in that capacity. Mr. Beall had not reached a decision as to what he would do in this matter when he left for Sioux City this morning, but no doubt an announcement may be expected within a few days.

A Good Entertainment.

From Saturday's Daily:
"A Thoroughbred Tramp" was presented at the Auditorium to a fair audience last night by a competent company in which Ed. Niner took the leading part as "T. Rush Thompson, P. E., a peripatetic pedestrian." The scenes were stirring, climaxes startling and some of the specialties caught the popular fancy. The scenic arrangement of the piece was good, the railway train representations being especially new and deserving of mention. The style of the play is not of a kind that is pleasing to all, but it is one that perhaps has the largest class of admirers of any, and one that usually attracts a good house in Norfolk. Some criticism on the actions of a number who were in the audience was heard that was not of a creditable nature to a Norfolk audience. Especially during the dark shifting of scenes was this disturbance marked.

Uncle Josh Spruceby.

The patrons of the Auditorium will

be entertained Saturday night, Dec. 20, by the big comedy production "Uncle Josh Spruceby". This popular play comes well recommended and will no doubt be received with enthusiasm here. The piece is staged with every attention to stage realism. All the scenes are well mounted and acted. The startling "saw mill" scene is said to be a masterpiece of stage mechanism. Many specialties are introduced and the superb solo orchestra carried by the company all go to make it a very delightful production.

Helen G. Cancells.
From Saturday's Daily.
Manager Spear has noticed that Helen G. Cancells, who was booked to appear in the Auditorium on December 30, would be obliged to cancel her date, as the route of the play had been changed. She also has cancelled her dates in Sioux City and Council Bluffs, so it would seem that she is to keep entirely away from this section of the country.

PETS ORDERED RELEASED.

The Game Warden Performs a Mighty Duty.

Editor News: The state game warden recently visited Norfolk, presumably in the interest of the duties of his office, and he found but one case of violation of the law. Last summer any person canoeing down the Northfork could run into from three to five fish nets strung across the river in the four miles between the dam and the junction of the Elkhorn; every slough between the Yellow banks and the Horseshoe has been repeatedly seined, and within a radius of 10 miles of Norfolk I venture to assert 500 quail have been killed this fall and winter, but the game warden discovers but one violation, viz: my retaining in captivity a brace of pet quails; and he orders them released from a temperature of 75 degrees to minus zero, into the drifts and the clutches of the man with the gun. Did the warden make any arrests for seining sloughs and stringing gillnets across our stream? Did he go down to the dam and construct a fish-gate to permit fish to ascend the river to spawn? Did he arrest a single one of the hundred and one persons in this vicinity who shot quail? No.

It is not the duty of the ordinary citizen to inform the game warden of violations of the law, especially when the law is a foolish one that people will not respect. It is the duty of the warden to discover nets himself, as well as violators of the law, and punish them. That is what he is paid for. The trip of the warden to release my pets must have cost at least \$25.00, an expensive luxury to the state of Nebraska.

Poor Bobbie and Margie! They will find no little pile of wheat or juicy apple for dinner out in the snow drifts of Christmas, but more than likely the man who in this town is the loudest about the protection of game, will be taking advantage of their helplessness and will pot shot them.

J. H. MACKAY.

REBUILD THE HOSPITAL.

Dr. Teal Recommends it and Reports Three Patients on the Rails.

The Lincoln correspondent of the Omaha Bee states that Dr. Teal has reported on conditions of the Norfolk hospital for the insane as follows:

"Dr. Frederick F. Teal of the Norfolk hospital for the insane in his report filed with the governor calls attention to the success of the homeopathic and their treatment of disease at that institution. The death rate since homeopathic treatment has been introduced, said the report, was the lowest in the history of the institution, being only 3.05 per cent. There were 265 inmates in the hospital December 1, 1900, and 69 new ones admitted during the year. A total of 369 cases were treated during the year.

"The report contains a complete history of the fire and to that attributes the increased cost per capital to \$236.02. At present on the roll of the hospital there are three names and these persons are at their homes on parole. The disposition of the patients has been as follows: Lincoln hospital, 128; Hastings, 135; discharged as cured, 84; died, 19; home on parole, 3.

"Dr. Teal reports the value of state property at Norfolk to be \$125,000, and he recommends the hospital be rebuilt to accommodate 250 persons.

"The appropriation received was \$174,000; expenditure from December 1 to April 1, 1901, \$18,521.71; from April 1, 1901, to December 6, 1902, \$30,709.35."

Reached the Limit.

A Chicago dispatch says: National Bowling Champion Fred Strong, has rolled 300, the first time he has ever accomplished this feat, in a city club game at Mussey's alleys. He made nine strikes on one alley and then finished on another.

This feat follows up his sensational performance in the Chicago league last night when Strong, bowling with the Colts, averaged 248 5-3, the second highest average for three games ever rolled in competition.

ACCUSED OF INFANTICIDE

G. A. Baxter Pleads Guilty at Grand Island.

GIVEN A TEN-YEARS SENTENCE.

Baxters Formerly Lived in Norfolk, The Woman Being a Daughter of Ed. Ellis, the Plasterer—Wife Accuses Husband of the Crime.

G. A. Baxter, a colored man 64 years of age, who moved from this city to Grand Island, was sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary at that place Saturday night, after having pleaded guilty to murdering his 4-months-old babe, although he asserted his innocence of the crime, while pleading guilty. Baxter was accused of the crime by his wife, who is about 30 years of age and is a daughter of Ed. Ellis of this city, having been married here about two years ago. In a conversation with Judge Thompson, who sentenced the man, held yesterday afternoon, Baxter said that the death of the child was an accident, that he never intended to kill it and that murder was not in his heart. Judge Thompson has ordered the sheriff not to take the prisoner to Lincoln as yet, indicating that the case may be re-opened.

The coroner was notified of the death of the infant by a negro neighbor Friday afternoon and told that its death had taken place under suspicious circumstances. He went to the hut in the southern part of Grand Island occupied by the Baxters to make an investigation. He was soon satisfied that the case warranted a thorough examination. He summoned the county attorney, chief of police and the sheriff, and prosecuted his investigation with the result that Baxter was arrested.

According to the story from Grand Island, Mrs. Baxter was very much afraid of her husband, who seemed to exercise a hypnotic influence over her, and when he was removed from the room she broke down and told her story. She said her husband had often threatened to kill the babe, that he had arisen that morning in a cross mood, that when she discovered him in the room where the sleeping infant lay, she tried to get in, he shoved her back, she pleaded with him not to kill the child, he threatened to kill her too if she ever told anyone. The woman went out of the house into the yard and told a neighbor boy, which led to the coroner's notification. The unfortunate woman stated that he had threatened to kill her before and had once attempted to strike her with an axe.

The negro was promptly arrested and placed in the county jail. The babe and the pillows, weighing eight pounds each, were taken charge of by the coroner and county attorney.

Friday night Attorney Horth had Baxter taken up from the jail to the sheriff's office and put through the fire of a rigid examination. He told some conflicting stories but maintained his innocence of any premeditated murder. He admitted putting one pillow over the child's face, "other at its back like." When confronted with the evidence of his wife he stared at the attorney but it was more a look as if he doubted the words of the attorney than of surprise or indignation. He firmly denied the crime, said he had never threatened his wife, had not shoved her from the door, had never expressed the thought of murder against the child. While apparently much worried and once or twice on the verge of breaking down, he maintained to the end that he had no intention of killing the child and would rather go to the block at once, mentioning the guillotine. He said he had formerly lived at Linwood.

At the coroner's inquest Mrs. Baxter related practically the same story excepting that in some of the details an even stronger case was brought out against the old man. It was developed that he had placed two pillows over the child's face and body, had put a quilt over this and covered a heavy buffalo robe over the quilt. Mrs. Baxter states that they came here from Linwood day before Thanksgiving and that at Linwood he had threatened the life of the babe by throwing it into the creek and that on the night she took refuge at the home of Baxter's sister, Mrs. Pears, a colored lady living near the Baxters, corroborated in part the story of the mother.

It is said here that both Baxter and his wife were simple minded folks, in fact it is intimated that neither was right mentally, a circumstance that has evidently not been brought out in the investigation at Grand Island.

The Modern Sugar Beet.

It is a curious fact that the sugar beet has enormously increased in sugar contents since men began to use it for sugar making purposes. When Napoleon first took up the question getting sugar from beets, the sugar contents was seldom in excess of 7 per cent. Now a beet that will not give 12 per cent is considered only fit for cattle feed,

and some beets give over 30 per cent of sugar.

Soils that grow good sugar beets are that have a good supply of lime. What are known as limy soils are good for these roots. That, with other things, is the reason why the plant is one of the profitable specialties of the state of Nebraska.—Beaver City Times-Tribune.

Nebraska is her own sweet self again having evaded the grasp of Old Boreas and the Frost King.

FEEDING CATTLE.

Wheat Versus Corn in a Ration for Fattening Steers.

The following synopsis of experiment 3, in bulletin No. 75, contains the results of experiments by Prof. E. A. Burnett, at the agricultural experiment station of the university of Nebraska, which should be of value to those who are feeding or fattening cattle. Those wishing fuller information on the subject can obtain the bulletin free of cost by writing the agricultural experiment station at Lincoln.

Twenty yearling steers, mostly grade Herefords of good quality, were divided into four lots. Lots 1 and 2 had been fed grain on grass during the preceding summer and were in much heavier flesh than lots 3 and 4, which had only grass during the summer. One lot of each kind was given a wheat ration and one of each a corn ration. While the experiment was primarily intended to test the feeding value of wheat as compared with corn, it also furnishes interesting data on the relative economy of a long feeding period with a shorter one.

The experiment proper was begun December 1, 1901, and closed May 3, 1902. The experiment was divided into two periods, the first eleven weeks and the second twelve weeks. During the first period the rations were 80 per cent ground wheat and 20 per cent bran, as against 80 per cent ground corn and 20 per cent bran. The roughness consisted of alfalfa hay in both cases. During the second period these rations were slightly modified, one being made 70 per cent wheat, 15 per cent corn, and 15 per cent oil meal, the other 70 per cent corn, 15 per cent wheat and 15 per cent oil meal.

The average amount of food consumed and gains made by each steer in each of the four lots during the entire period of twenty-three weeks is as follows:

The steers in lot 1 averaged, December 1, 1901, 1074 pounds. Each consumed 2248 pounds of grain, mostly wheat, and 1397 pounds of roughness, mostly alfalfa hay, and gained 294 pounds. In this lot 12 1/2 pounds of feed was required to make one pound of gain.

The steers in lot 2 averaged 1020 pounds each and consumed 2248 pounds of grain, mostly corn, and 1397 pounds of roughness, mostly alfalfa. The average gain of each steer in lot 2 was 279. In this lot 13.28 pounds of food were required to make one pound of gain.

The steers in lot 3 and 4 as previously stated were given no grain during the previous summer and therefore weighed less December 1. The steers in lot 3 averaged 985 pounds each. They were given the same kind of ration as lot 1 but consumed 2425 pounds of grain, mostly wheat, and 1392 pounds of roughness. They gained 349 pounds each. In this case 11.11 pounds of feed was consumed for one pound of gain.

The steers in lot 4 averaged 975 pounds each and consumed 2424 pounds of grain, mostly corn, as in lot 2, and 1397 pounds of roughness. These steers gained 326 pounds each and required 11.8 pounds of feed for one pound of gain.

Making an average of lots 1 and 3, we find in the case of the wheat steers 11.85 pounds of feed was required for one pound of gain. Averaging lots 2 and 4 it was found that the corn steers consumed 12.48 pounds of feed for one pound of gain. This shows that the wheat ration proved five per cent more efficient than the corn ration.

By making an average of the steers in lots 1 and 2, and those in lots 3 and 4, it is found that the summer grain fed steers required during the winter 12.8 pounds of feed for one pound of gain, while those in lots 3 and 4 required 11.42 pounds of feed for one pound of gain. This means that the steers which were grain fed during the winter made 11 per cent larger gains for the food consumed than those which were grain fed during both summer and winter.

In the financial statement as published in the bulletin, we find each steer in lot 1, on wheat, credited with a net profit of \$8.97. Those in lot 2, on corn are credited with \$11.30 each. The steers in lot 3 give a net profit of \$20.29 and those in lot 4 of \$18.97. In figuring profits, wheat was valued at \$1.10 per hundred and corn at \$1 per hundred.

DRUG STORE DESTROYED.

Dr. Bryant's Place of Business Guttered by Fire.

THE STOCK IS A TOTAL LOSS.

Insurance of \$400 on Building and \$500 on the Stock—Alarm Was Turned in About Midnight—Neighboring Buildings Threatened.

From Tuesday's Daily.
Dr. F. A. Bryant's drug store, just east of the Shorregge bakery on East Norfolk avenue, was gutted by fire last night about 12 o'clock, and the stock is practically a total loss.

The fire started in the rear end of the store room, back of the wall paper and prescription cases and appears to have been from spontaneous combustion. In the room where the fire started, there was a tank of coal oil and other oil stock and the fire had burned but a few moments when this oil blazed up and the flames produced were fierce, quickly burning all combustible material nearby and sending the flames through the ceiling and roof. The building is a frame structure, erected in the early days of Norfolk, and had become as dry as tinder, making great fuel for the blaze. By the time the firemen were able to direct water on the fire the ruin of the drug store had been almost complete, and the buildings of E. J. Shorregge, and that occupied by Walters' second hand store, adjoining, were seriously threatened. Both of these are frame structures. The Shorregge building is separated from the Bryant building by a space of about two feet. It is two stories high while the Bryant building was but one story, and when the flames burst through the roof of the drug store the firemen had great difficulty in preventing the spread of the flames to the Shorregge block, but were so successful that the outer boards were barely scorched. The building occupied by the Walters' stock of second hand goods is a story and a half high and it is about six feet from the Bryant building. Only the roof was exposed to the fire and this was only charred in spots where cinders had fallen.

While the flames were confined to the rear end of the Bryant building, the fierce heat, the smoke and the water wrecked the front portion and ruined the stock. The front windows of the building and the glass in the show cases were wrecked by the heat, while the same cause, in addition to the smoke and water so ruined the stock that but little can be realized from its sale. Many of the bottles containing medicines and chemicals were broken by the heat and the contents of those not broken were so heated that the corks were blown out, and a casual view of the stock would indicate that but very little could be saved from the wreck.

After the alarm the firemen worked with energy, and but for their prompt and vigorous action the frame buildings adjoining would undoubtedly have been destroyed, and the loss resultant from the fire would have been much greater. An almost total absence of wind aided the firemen materially in their efforts.

The fire was first seen by Night Policeman Koch who gave the alarm. The firemen had some difficulty on the start with their hose freezing, but when the water had cleared the ice out, short work was made of the blaze.

The building was insured in the Germania of New York for \$400 which will probably place it in as good condition as it was before the fire. The stock was insured for \$500 in the Western Underwriters, which will not cover the loss, as the stock is so near a total loss that little or nothing can be realized from that which remains.

Dr. Bryant left for his home last night about 9 o'clock and did not know of the damage to his property until notified by his brother after the breakfast hour this morning. Mrs. Bryant is visiting in Iowa. The doctor is of the opinion that the fire started in the partition between the two rooms. He had a comfortable fire and two Rochester lamps burning before he left last night and thinks it possible that the fire may have started from the chimney flue which was in the partition, as the fire appears to have burned both ways from the partition, but was the most severe in the back room, where there was quite a stock of oil and wall paper.

Dr. Bryant has been in the drug business at his present location for the past 17 or 18 years, having placed the building on its present site. The building suffered some loss from a windstorm of some time ago that damaged the Oxnard and other buildings, but the owner never realized any insurance from it. When the doctor located he was in the center of the business section, but it has been gradually moving west and for the past several years he has not enjoyed a lucrative trade. He recently wrote a book from which he hopes to retrieve his loss in the present instance.

The doctor now awaits settlement

from the insurance companies and until then he will make no plans for the future. The people of Norfolk sincerely sympathize with him in the loss he has sustained.

Seize Half a Thousand Quail.

When the Elkhorn train arrived at Fremont yesterday morning, two barrels of quail were seized by Deputy Game Warden George L. Carter. They contained about 500 birds. The penalty for killing quail at this season of the year is \$5.00 for each bird, so someone stands to be mulcted \$2,500.

The birds were shipped from Verdigris, and consigned to a Chicago address, presumably a hotel. They were disguised by having half a dozen dressed chickens placed over them in each barrel.

They were taken to Lincoln by the deputy game warden, and will be distributed among the state institutions, in accordance with the law.

The seizure is the largest ever made since the game law has been in force. The name of the person who shipped the birds could not be learned, the express messenger taking the way bill with him before it could be inspected.

BEFORE TWO COURTS.

Objected to Treatment of Waiter Girls and Made to Pay for it.

From Tuesday's Daily.
For about the hundred and fiftieth time, here and elsewhere, Tom Leavy, formerly of Tilden, was responsible for some cases in court, yesterday, in fact there was a case in each of the courts of the city. Leavy and a New York Life man, M. Schufalt, board at the Pacific hotel, and during the breakfast hour the latter objected to Leavy's conduct at the table, finally taking him in hand and giving him chastisement that was interpreted as assault and battery in one of the courts and disturbing the peace in another. It seems that Leavy had been surly to the waiter girls, if not abusive, and the last straw was when one of them asked Leavy to pass the sugar or cream or something, and the gentleman replied that he would when he got through with it. It is then alleged that Schufalt called him a hard name and after leaving the table laid in wait for Leavy and took a smash at one of his eyes, about closing the optic and breaking the skin on the cheek bone.

Leavy at once went to the court of Justice Eiseley and got out papers for the arrest of Schufalt, but in the meantime the insurance man had heard that Leavy was up to and went to Conley's court and pleaded guilty to the charge of assault and battery, thus forestalling the action of the officers. He was not careful enough, however, to plead guilty to all charges and was brought before Police Judge Hayes, where he was fined for disturbing the peace, thus paying double for what in the good old days of knighthood might have termed an act of gallantry. However, there was no question of his guilt in the eyes of modern law and he pleaded guilty in both instances.

Leavy has some sympathy from the fact that he is a man well along in years, but he has a reputation for possessing a cross and surly disposition that no one can put up with. He was a frequent visitor to Norfolk in the early days and often managed to get into trouble on those visits. He owns a farm near Tilden and his troubles with tenants are periodical and notorious in that part of the country. He had trouble with a tenant last summer and the difficulty reached such a phase that he has seen fit to take up his residence in Norfolk and has remained here since.

It is told on him that during the Spanish-American war he took the part of the country's enemies with such vigor that one night he was routed out of his room at Tilden and made to parade the streets in scanty attire, waving a Cuban flag, all of which tends to give sympathy for Schufalt with those who know Leavy and his reputation. The courts did what they could by making the fine of the defendant as light as possible.

Was Only Coal Tar.

A pair of smooth swindlers have been operating in and around Greenwood, Nebr., during the past few days, and as a consequence there are many irate victims hoping they will return this way. The two young men drifted into Greenwood and immediately started in to dispose of a new and wonderful stove polish, which they warranted to last forever and to make a rusty stove look like glass. Their plan was to rub the stuff over the leg of a stove and tell their intended victim not to allow it to get hot for two days. The polish was indeed a beautiful one, and they had no trouble in disposing of a large amount of the stuff at 50 cents a pint. At the end of two days they disappeared.

When a stove which had been polished with the stuff was fired up the aroma arising from the "polish" was something awful, and it burned with the rapidity of tinder, leaving the stove in an extremely rusty condition.

An investigation by a local chemist proved the "polish" to be nothing but coal tar, which ordinarily sells at 40 cents per gallon.—Cuming County Democrat.