

## A STRANGER SUICIDES.

### Found Hanging From a Tree at Spring Branch.

#### ADOLPH HILLE TELLS OFFICERS

Man was About 50 or 55 Years Age and Has Probably Been Dead Some Days—Had Money and Tobacco in His Pocket.

From Monday's Daily: Adolph Hille, who lives on the Zutz place, two miles north of the city on First street, reported to the officers this morning that there was the body of a man hanging to a tree near his home.

Chief of Police Kane and Commissioner Winter went out to investigate and were shown to the spot by Mr. Hille. The man, evidently a suicide, is a stranger and had nothing on his person by which his identity could be fixed. The corpse is that of a man between 50 and 55 years of age, with gray hair and whiskers. He wore a blue overcoat and his other clothes indicated that he was not suffering for the necessities of life as they were warm and comfortable appearing. In one pocket he had a large package of Homestead tobacco and in another a warm pair of mittens. The only scrap of paper found on his person was a piece of manila wrapping paper on which were some figures and a couple of items written in a distinct and legible hand.

In another pocket there was \$29.35 in cash, another fact to prove that if dependency was the cause of his rash act, it was not because of a lack of money to prevent starvation or other discomforts.

The body was hanging from the limb of a tree near the Spring Branch. A piece of wire had been bent about the neck and the man had evidently strangled by bending down from his knees, in which position he was when discovered.

The stranger had evidently been hanging there for several days. Mr. Hille saw him yesterday for the first time. He thought that the man might be standing there, but when he went out again this morning and saw him in the same position, he began to tremble, his knees smote together and he made at once for town to inform the officers without venturing to make a closer investigation. He realized that the man was dead and that was sufficient for him.

The body was cut down this afternoon and brought to the undertaking rooms of Sessions & Bell where it will be kept to await identification or until it is considered that no identification is possible.

Chief Kane said that he had seen the man about town last week a number of times but did not know who he was.

Outside of the probability that it is a case of self-destruction, the details are shrouded in mystery and some information regarding the man and the motive that led to his self-destruction will be anxiously awaited by the officers and the public.

### NOT YET IDENTIFIED.

#### Body of Man Who Suicided Has Not Been Claimed.

Although perhaps half a thousand persons have viewed the corpse of the man who was found hanging from a tree at the Adolph Hille home north of the city yesterday, there have been none to establish his identity, and there is as much of a mystery surrounding the case as there was yesterday.

The undertaking rooms of Sessions & Bell, where the body awaits identification, were thronged with the curious yesterday afternoon and this morning, but there were none to tell who the man could have been. Many had seen him before, and others had known people to whom he bore a striking resemblance, but none could tell who this man was nor where he made his home. The body will be kept as long as possible to await identification, and those who think they might be able to give information as to the family of the deceased are invited to lend their assistance toward clearing up the mystery.

From the fact that neither town or country people who have a wide acquaintance through this section, have been able to identify the remains, it is considered that he is a stranger here. It is believed that he may have been in a demented condition and wandered from his home in another part of the state. The indications are that he walked a considerable distance before he arrived at the place where he committed self destruction.

It is considered that he is a German, and it has been decided that he is nearer 60 years of age than 50 or 55, as given yesterday. He is about five feet and six inches in height, not corpulent but rather heavily set, his legs are somewhat bowed; he wears a chin beard about two inches long, and a mustache; hair and beard are gray, formerly probably dark brown; the left eye appears

as though it had been scarred on the upper lid; he wore heavy rubbers and no shoes, an almost new blue black overcoat with a gray checked lining; had a pair of black home knit mittens in the pocket, also a briar wood pipe and tobacco; wore two pairs of pants, one pair black with stripes, the other pair gray, as was also his vest; a gray scarf was worn about his neck. His face is well formed and has an intelligent appearance.

Persons are requested to copy this and thus aid toward locating his friends. Letters should be addressed either to Commissioner L. N. Winter or the firm of Sessions & Bell, both of this city.

### DID GHOULS DO IT?

#### Body of Child Taken From Grave at St. Bernard.

The body of a young child, buried in the cemetery of St. Bernard, has mysteriously disappeared and the work is evidently that of ghouls or body-snatchers. The body was that of the little five-months' old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rhinehardt Faust of Kalamazoo. The Madison Star investigated the facts in the case last week and obtained the following information:

"Mrs. Faust stated that on December 14, 1901, they had buried a five-months' old daughter, their first-born, in the cemetery at St. Bernard, and on January 10, 1902, the angel of death visited their home for the second time and took therefrom a little baby boy but two months old. The child was to be laid by the side of the first-born, and a desire seized the parents to take another look at the departed. Those digging the grave exhumed the body and in the presence of a carpenter and St. Bernard, named Tribble, and John Faust, a brother of Rhinehardt, the coffin was opened and, to their horror, all that it contained was the grave cloths of the departed. No other trace of the remains were found, and even the flowers and some pictures which the fond mother had placed in the casket had disappeared with the remains. John Faust immediately told of the absence of the body from the casket and the twice bereaved parents were more distracted than ever over the news. While the mother was telling her sad tale there were tears in her eyes and her quivering voice betrayed the deep anguish that wrung her heart to the core."

"John Faust was in Cornlea on Tuesday when The Star investigation was made and could not be seen, but he will probably have a tale to tell when he reads the above facts in the case."

### FOR ASSAULT AND BATTERY.

#### James Payne Fined by Justice Eiseley.

James Payne was before Justice of the Peace C. F. Eiseley this morning on the charge of having committed assault and battery on Franz Bokoueski, to which he pleaded guilty and was assessed a fine of \$10 and costs. Payne boards in the Lindsay home near the waterworks pumping station. Last night he started in to make a rough house there by calling Mrs. Christian a hard name and attempting to throw her out of doors. He also put another woman out of the house. Bokoueski, who works in the waterworks, was notified of what was in progress, and went over to straighten matters out when Payne attacked him and gave him a bad eye. Justice Eiseley was routed out of bed and made out the papers necessary to put Payne under restraint and he was taken in charge by Night Police Koch. When aroused Justice Eiseley was told that Bokoueski's eye had been gouged out and was hanging over his cheek, but if so it had resumed its place in its socket this morning although its surroundings were very black and appeared very badly bruised.

### A SERIOUS ACCIDENT.

#### Wilson Cloyd Received a Fractured Skull and May Not Recover.

Wilson Cloyd, a young man about 20 years of age, who has been working on the Geo. Berry ranch west of town, met with a serious accident while driving home from this city Saturday night. He was taking to the ranch a long smoke stack. The wagon box had been removed and the wagon was lengthened by the use of a long reach. It is supposed that he had been walking along beside the team to keep warm, and had attempted to get on the wagon again when the team became unmanageable and ran away. The team went home without a driver and when Cloyd was found he was laying in the road near the home of John Ray, seven miles west of the city. He was unconscious when found and was taken into the home of Mr. Ray. A physician was summoned and an examination revealed that the young man's skull had been fractured in two places, his head having probably been run over by the wheels of the wagon. He is in a very critical condition and his recovery is doubtful.

## FIRE IN DURLAND OFFICE

### Wood About the Furnace Was Ignited.

#### BUILDING MUCH DAMAGED.

#### Trust Company Temporarily Occupying Office Rooms in the Mast Block. Fire Alarm Was Not of a Strenuous Character.

Fire caught in the wood work surrounding the furnace that heats the office of the Durland Trust company this morning about 8:30. The flames ate their way slowly and after the alarm had been turned in and the department had arrived on the scene, they had not made much advancement. The furnace is located in the basement and the first notice of fire below was the smoke that began to penetrate the floor to the office rooms. A line of hose was laid from the hydrant on Fourth street and a stream of water was soon playing on the fire in the floor joists. It was difficult to get at, however, and before control of the flames had been secured they had worked their way up and through the partition in the east room, causing considerable damage. The floor and the one partition may have to be rebuilt before the office is again in condition for occupancy.

As soon as the flames began to appear through the partition the furniture of the Trust company was removed and was soon afterward conveyed to the room in the Mast block formerly occupied by the Y. M. C. A. which will be used until the burned office is placed in repair. The room has recently been occupied temporarily by Hermann and Morrison, contractors, but they moved their office supplies to Mr. Hermann's shop on North Fourth street. The Trust company was doing business within a very short time after the fire and sold at least one farm this morning. The damage to the building has not been estimated, but the loss is covered by insurance. C. B. Durland, who occupies the west room of the building, which is the least damaged, has had a stove put up and will continue to attend to business at the old stand.

The alarm given perhaps was sufficient, as it turned out the firemen necessary to fight the flames, but it was not much in evidence. After the first few pulls of the alarm at the fire bell the rope gave away and resort was had to the big rope that swings the bell and which gives an alarm after the manner of a church bell assembling the congregation to prayer meeting. The sea lion whistle at the waterworks pumping station gave forth not a sound. The fireman says he was not aware there was a fire until someone from up town informed him of the fact. He heard the firebell, but thought it was the bell at the school house, and he claims that the first intimation he had of a fire was when he heard the gongs attached to the hose carts. When he was informed that there was a fire in fact he decided that it was too late to give an alarm—and it was because the fire was out.

Another story is told from the telephone central office. It is said there that an alarm was turned in promptly, but that there was no response from the fireman, and they were of the opinion that either the firemen was sleeping, or absent from his post, or it might be that the bell refused to work.

One of the hose companies that attached to the hydrant at Third street also had some trouble. When they attached to the hydrant and attempted to get water they found that their hose was frozen up and refused to deliver. Some large chunks of ice were removed before the proper action could be secured. There are facilities for draining hose at the engine house which had probably not been used as they should have been since the last fire.

"Ole Olson" a First Class Attraction. Mr. Beall guarantees that the "Ole Olson" company which is to appear at the Auditorium Friday night is the same company that has played the best houses in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Providence, Chicago, Omaha, Lincoln and Sioux City. The company makes but three stops enroute in Nebraska from Sioux City to Denver, on their way to the coast. Speaking of the company's appearance in the Boyd of that city, the Omaha Bee of Monday says:

"Ben Hendricks has been coming to Omaha for the last thirteen years with his 'Ole Olson' makeup and dialect, but the size of the house he drew at the Boyd last night would seem to indicate that the play and the player have lost none of their charm for the people. Ole Olson is an humble hero, but none the less a pleasing one, and the people apparently like to watch his struggle with the English language, a loving cook-lady and a bunch of villains at the same time. He overcomes the latter, circumvents the second, and gives up the first as a task too great for his tongue, which has been thickened by a

descent from vikings who didn't waste time talking. Ole is assisted along the way by a number of persons who have things to do with the working out of the plot of the play. Several of these show much cleverness, and all work together with a harmony that makes the play move smoothly. One of the interpolated features is the Swedish ladies' quartet, the members having well trained voices which chime melodiously in the folk-songs and English numbers rendered. This was an especially delightful part of the performance last night."

### SECOND FIRE OF THE WEEK.

#### House of Mrs. Lobnow on North Ninth Damaged.

From Tuesday's Daily: The second of the series of fires took place last night about 10:30, when the department was summoned to respond to call from North Ninth street, where the house of Mrs. Lobnow, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs, was on fire. The firemen had some difficulty in locating the scene of the trouble and chased up and down several streets before the proper place was found, but when they did arrive they made short work of the blaze.

The alarm given by the fireman at the pumping station was long, loud and penetrating, so that many who heard it thought that even the dead might have been aroused, and the bell did a share toward informing the people that there was a fire.

Before the fire was extinguished considerable damage to the property had been done. The floor was burned through as was also the roof and one of the partitions. The furniture of the tenants was removed, with the exception of a bed, a stove and some clothing, and these were seriously damaged.

The fire appears to have resulted from a similar accident earlier in the day. During the afternoon the baby buggy, which was standing near the stove, caught on fire and the flames communicated to the house. This was extinguished, or supposed that it had been, but there must have been some sparks remaining that generated into a blaze later in the evening. The afternoon fire had filled the house with smoke to such an extent that Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs decided to spend the night at the home of his parents and no one was present when the flames broke out the second time. It was observed, however, and an alarm turned in.

In looking for the fire the men of the companies first went to the home of August Kiesau on South Tenth street, then to the home of Dr. William Kiesau on South Eighth, but were finally given the proper directions.

### BOYS STOLE CHICKENS.

#### Are Now in Jail Awaiting Trial and May be Sent to Kearney.

Clarence Brady, 12 years of age, and Baldwin, who claims to be nearing his 16th birthday, are occupants of the city jail, awaiting trial on the charge of stealing chickens. "Coom" Pratt is accused of being a participant, but he has not yet been arrested.

The complaint, charging the boys with the crime, was made out by J. A. Romine, and states that on or about the 22nd, 23d or 24th, they took 11 hens valued at \$5 from his premises. The complaint further states that a day or two preceding the same boys had taken 17 hens from Mrs. August Kiehl, the said hens being valued at \$8.

Warrants were issued by Justice of the Peace C. F. Eiseley and placed in the hands of Chief of Police Kane, who arrested the Brady and Baldwin boys yesterday and placed them in jail. Their trial may be held this afternoon and it is likely that they will be sent to the reform school for a term.

The little Brady boy is penitent. His parents have not been to see him since his arrest and he feels very badly about it. They say they want him taken to the reform school and it would undoubtedly be the best thing that could happen to the poor little chap. There he will be fed and receive a training which he now lacks. The same boys were arrested but a short time ago for playing truant from school.

Paul Gilmore will present Haddon Chambers' famous comedy, "The Tyranny of Tears," in this city soon. The play is a comedy treatment of life in an author's home, apt, illustrative of his peculiarities, caprices, misdeeds, affections and emotions, which are all subject to the tyrannical disposition of his wife, who sheds tears, with or without the least provocation. Paul Gilmore will appear as the literary man, supported by an excellent company.

### Dissolution Notice.

The co-partnership heretofore existing between W. R. Hoffman and R. R. Smith under the name of Hoffman & Smith, is this day dissolved by mutual consent, R. R. Smith being succeeded by A. H. Viele, and the business continued under the firm name of Hoffman & Viele.

January 14, 1903.

W. R. HOFFMAN.  
R. R. SMITH.

## CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY.

### Norfolk Lodge of Elks Spend a Happy Evening.

#### INTERESTING PROGRAM GIVEN.

#### Addresses, Singing, Games, Dancing, Refreshments and a General Good Time Enjoyed—Ladies Assist the Members.

Last night Norfolk lodge, No. 653, B. P. O. E., celebrated the second anniversary of its institution in an appropriate manner. There were addresses, singing, games, dancing and refreshments, and a general good time, which continued until a late hour this morning. The ball and club rooms were handsomely decorated, national colors and the purple and white of the order being used in profusion. Guests were received in the parlor of the club, and they soon made themselves at home in the various rooms. At 9 o'clock Exalter Ruler Buchholz rapped for order in the ball room, which for the time was converted into an auditorium. After briefly reviewing the success of the lodge since it was established two years ago, the exalted ruler announced the program, which was carried out as follows:

Opening ode, led by quartette. Address, The Ladies, Judge Barnes. Whistling solo, Mrs. F. G. Salter. Solo, J. B. Maynard. Address, The Elks as Seen by the Traveling Men, Mr. J. T. Thompson. Song by the quartette. Address, Col. J. C. Elliott of West Point. Star, Spangled Banner, led by the quartette.

At the close of this feature of the evening, the floor was cleared of chairs and dancing was indulged in to music furnished by the Italian orchestra. This amusement was continued until a late hour this morning, with an intermission at 11 o'clock for refreshments.

While the dancing was going on in the ball room, the billiard, pool and ping pong tables were well patronized, and a few young couples sought cozy nooks in the parlor for quiet talks.

The refreshment feature of the evening had been placed in the hands of a committee of "Lady Elks," and it goes without saying that nothing was lacking to make it a complete success as a feast. The lodge room had been temporarily converted into a dining room, where the guests were seated at daintily spread small tables while being served. The ladies who planned and served the refreshments are Mesdames Parish, Bullock, Barnes, W. H. Johnson, Jack Koenigstein, H. E. Owen, G. B. Salter, Utter, Powers, Greene, Walker, F. G. Salter, O. J. Johnson.

Among the out of town members and their ladies, were C. E. Burnham and daughter Fay of Tilden; Owen O'Neill, Misses O'Neill and Misses Hughes of Battle Creek; J. C. Elliott of West Point; E. H. Luikart of South Sioux City; Fred Cashin of Omaha.

Norfolk lodge was organized two years ago yesterday, with a charter list of 73. Now its numbers more than 250 members on its roll, among whom are an ex-United States senator, a congressman, two congressmen-elect, a judge of the supreme court, the auditor of state, a number of district court judges, and other gentlemen of more or less distinction. The lodge has fitted up a suite of club rooms in the Marquardt block, occupying the whole second floor, which in fixtures and appointments are counted among the finest in the state, while it controls the third floor of the building for dancing purposes. It has been the means of causing business men of the city to get together not only socially but has brought them together as a unit in advancing the interests of the city. It is not too much to say that no other one factor has done as much for Norfolk as the Elks lodge and club.

### NO IDENTIFICATION YET.

#### Body of Suicide at Sessions and Bell's Still Unclaimed.

Although the stream of visitors to the undertaking rooms of Sessions & Bell have been constant during the past two days, there has as yet been no one to identify the man who committed suicide at the Hille farm north of town, and there is now scant hopes of identification unless it be from someone living at a distance from Norfolk.

Yesterday afternoon the dead man's picture was taken with the hope that the photographs might be of use for the purpose of identification. Some of the state papers may be asked to publish the picture as a further means to identification.

One of the Bothke boys were confident that they had seen the man going northeast over the M. & O. tracks Saturday. He was certain that if it was the same man he was carrying a bundle in his hand. The officers took this as a possible clue to his identity and went out to the Hille place to see if such a bundle could be found but were unsuccessful in locating such a bundle.

Various rumors or perhaps guesses

have been indulged in regarding the cause of the man's death. One possibility expressed was that the man may have had a much larger amount of money on his person than was discovered, that he may have met with foul play and been killed by poison or otherwise and the body suspended in the manner in which it was found and the sum of money left in the pocket to deceive the officers. Not much credence is put in such a possibility, however. The circumstances point too strongly to suicide, and the only hope of the officers is that the family and friends of the deceased may be located in a short time.

The body will be kept for some time, hoping that friends or relatives may appear to claim it, but in the event that none are discovered the remains will be interred here. Mrs. Elsie Desmond offered the use of her large lot in Prospect Hill cemetery for the interment providing the family or friends of the deceased could not be found. None of the circumstances can be taken to indicate that the man is a pauper and through Mrs. Desmond's charity it will not be necessary for the body to occupy a pauper's grave though his relatives are not located. Some day there may be some son or daughter or wife or other relative to thank Mrs. Desmond for the interest she has taken in preventing the remains from being laid in a pauper's grave.

### MINE WORKERS FINISH LABORS.

#### Indianapolis Convention Completes Its Work and Adjourns.

Indianapolis, Jan. 28.—The United Mine Workers completed their work and adjourned yesterday. The convention has been the most expeditious and harmonious ever held. Many important measures have been considered and acted upon. Among them are the formulation of the demand for an increase of wages of 12½ cents per ton on a run-of-mine basis and a flat differential of 7 cents per ton between pick and machine mined coal; a demand for an increase of inside and outside laborers in proportion to the increase of the miners; the refusal to commit the convention to socialism and government ownership; the raising of officers' salaries; the declaration against children working in mines; the demand for an anti-injunction law; and the plans for a defense fund.

A conference with the operators will be held tomorrow. It is the opinion of the members of the convention that the conference will be of short duration. The operators have signified their willingness to grant an increase of wages in many instances, but have never given any intimation as to the amount that they would be willing to give.

### MAY BRING ON BIG STRIKE.

#### Rumor Says Gould Lines Have Refused Demands of Trainmen.

Omaha, Jan. 28.—It was stated in railroad circles that private advices had come from St. Louis to the effect that the general managers of the four Gould lines in conference there with general committees representing the conductors and trainmen had refused the demands of the latter for a raise of wages and other concessions. It was further stated that an assembling of the executive committee had been called by the conductors and trainmen for today, and that it was expected a general strike over the entire western division of the Order of Railway Conductors and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen would be ordered. This would involve fifty-two railroads in the west and middle west and 150,000 men of the two orders.

### Kansas to Pass Suffrage Bill.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 28.—The woman suffrage supporters have been assured by leading members of the legislature that a bill granting the privilege of the ballot would be passed at this session. The bill has been favorably reported in both houses, and Governor Bailey has expressed his intention of signing it when it finally passes. Republicans generally favor the measure.

### Letter List.

List of letters remaining unclaimed for at the postoffice January 26, 1903.

Wm. H. Anderson, Friedrich Bartz (package) from Germany, Mrs. A. B. Burnett, Sam J. Barron, Mrs. C. I. Benford, F. F. Ball, J. L. Dunn, George Florer, Frank W. Greenslade, Wm. Garrett, Geo. Haines, Mrs. C. W. Jones (2), A. P. Layton, F. E. Lawler, John H. Plumer, Mrs. Aggie Pirsons, H. L. Summers, S. Secord, Mrs. O. N. Stine, George Shafer, E. S. Toomey, H. Tillenburg, Mrs. Lizzie Wheim.

If not called for in 15 days will be sent to the dead letter office.

Parties calling for any of the above please say advertised.

JOHN R. HAYS, P. M.

Geo. H. Spear has written from Omaha that Ben Hendricks in "Ole Olson" was well received at the Boyd in that city; that the company is all artists, and that the Swedish Ladies' quartet responded to four encores, rendering in an excellent manner, "My Old Kentucky Home" and several songs in English as well as two fine renditions in Swedish words and music. Mr. Spear says "They are fine," and desires Norfolk people to welcome them with a good house.