

WILL BUILD COAL CHUTES.

Elkhorn Will Improve Road This Summer.

LOCATION IS OF INTEREST.

Will Indicate Intentions Regarding Enlargement of Engine House—General offices Will be Maintained in Omaha.

[From Saturday's Daily.]

Plans for the construction of new coal sheds have been received by the Elkhorn officials at South Norfolk. The plans contemplate doing away with the bucket and derrick system now employed and the coal will hereafter be loaded by the use of chutes. Junction people are interested in the location of the new chutes as they are of the opinion that there location will determine whether or not the contemplated enlargement of the engine house there is to be undertaken. Work on the sheds will probably be undertaken as soon as the weather opens up sufficiently to permit it.

It is now reported from Omaha that there may be nothing in the rumor that the Northwestern is to completely absorb the Elkhorn which would result in the discontinuance of the general offices of the Elkhorn system at that city. If any change is made it is said that it will not interfere with the present management, that the general offices will be maintained in Omaha and that Fremont, Norfolk, Long Pine and Chadron will continue to be division headquarters.

The publication in a Chicago paper of a notice of "special meeting of the stockholders and voting bond holders of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway company," in Chicago February 2, for the purpose, among other things, of acting upon the question of leasing the railroad franchises and property of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad company, and of thereupon purchasing such railroad franchises and property, beside all the other property of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railway company," has aroused interest in a former rumor.

Of this matter General Manager Bidwell said yesterday morning to a Bee reporter:

While I have not been formally advised by the board of directors who called this meeting, I think I can safely announce that there is no special significance in this legal notice. I think I can also say that the management of the Elkhorn will continue the same as it has been in the past, that the two corporations will not be merged and that the Omaha general headquarters of the Elkhorn road will be kept here and that the Elkhorn system will continue to be operated from here.

Mr. Bidwell's statement does away with the rumor, therefore, which sprung up as a result of the original report of the merging of these two railroad corporations, that Omaha was about to lose the general headquarters of this railroad, and will have a consoling effect upon the business constituency of that city, by whom such institutions as this are justly appreciated.

NO FEAR OF DEATH.

Pierce County Murderer Awaits His End by Waking Fat.

[From Saturday's Daily.]

A Lincoln correspondent has interviewed the Pierce county murderer and finds him as below set forth:

Gottlieb Neigenfend, the murderer of his wife and John Breyer of Pierce county, who will hang March 13, and is now at the penitentiary, is not at all disturbed by his impending fate. He is indifferent, talks nonchalantly of his impending execution and is apparently enjoying himself while life lasts.

The man is in solitary confinement and is permitted to see but few visitors. He has waxed fat and has gained thirty pounds since his incarceration. He is also a great deal cleaner and looks much better than he did when recently his attorneys fought in vain for his life.

A resident of Pierce at which town he was tried, visited him recently and broached the subject of his execution. Neigenfend laughed, seized upon the subject of his death eagerly, and remarked that when he was hanged he expected to be ticketed to the next world via Pierce. In that event he would stop off and make his many friends there a neighborly visit.

Asked whether he wanted to send any news to Pierce, he said no, unless that it was he would like to, but was unable to do so, owing to the fact that he had not been able to circulate around much lately.

A Mastodon Tooth.

[From Saturday's Daily.]

While digging in the yard at Wm. Terrell's in the northwest part of the city, Frankie, the young lad, found a valuable relic, a mastodon tooth. The piece measures 19 inches around, 8 inches wide and although the root of

the tooth is broken off it is 7 3/4 inches long, and weighs 8 1/2 pounds. There is no doubt as to its being a tooth. Where the relic came from is somewhat of a mystery. It may have been worn up with dirt when digging the well have been in the soil used in the lot. Years ago the head of a mastodon was found on the farm of Frank Terrell, northeast of Columbus, the son owned by his son George Henke. The latter last Saturday, in conversing about the incident, told us that it was in 1893 while digging the cellar for the house they found the entire head of a mastodon about five feet below the surface in the sand. The horns were 10 to 12 feet in length and the head was in all ways very large. The bones were not well preserved and finally crumbled to pieces. The peculiar part about it was, that they were found on one of the hills and in a bed of sand, indicating that at some remote time, perhaps thousands of years ago, that section of country was covered with water. Mr. Hengler also tells us that he can remember when the bluffs north of Shell creek showed a distinct water line, as if, years ago, high water had left trees, shrubbery, etc., along the banks, and where young trees grew up from the debris. He also says that about seven years ago, while digging a well on the farm of Gerhard Loecke an ash tree, in good preservation, was found.—Columbus Journal.

PIANO HOUSE CLOSED.

J. D. Sturgeon Makes Voluntary Assignment in Favor of Creditors.

[From Wednesday's Daily.]

J. D. Sturgeon this morning made a voluntary assignment in favor of his creditors and closed the doors of his music house to the public. Representatives of two creditors were present at the time.

Mr. Sturgeon's friends have taken hold of the matter and hope to so arrange his affairs that he may reopen in a short time and resume his business, and he has many friends in Norfolk and throughout the state who will wish him well cleared of his present difficulty.

There is, perhaps, no business man in Norfolk who has had more to contend with in the way of sickness and other trouble than has Mr. Sturgeon and his failure is in no wise due to his lack of business ability but to the adverse circumstances with which he has been surrounded. Through all his trials he has been aggressive in his business affairs and his friends will be sorry to learn that he has not been able to keep up with the fight, for he has certainly earned success.

His strenuous efforts have resulted in his building up a large business through-out this section of the state, and he explains as his only reason for not being able to win out was because of a lack of capital with which to transact his business. He is a clever salesman but has not been able to collect money that was due him rapidly enough to meet pressing obligations. He is confident that his creditors will be paid in full through the sale of his stock and the collection of money that is now due him, and it is hoped that they will be patient and make it possible for him to re-open and continue his business.

Those who know of Mr. Sturgeon's long sickness, the sickness and death of his wife and oldest son, and now the serious illness of his eldest daughter, will be able to appreciate what he has struggled against and hope for better things for himself and family.

THREE NEW ROUTES.

Additional Rural Service to be Given Norfolk April 1.

[From Wednesday's Daily.]

Another item tending toward Norfolk's development, is reported in the Bee this morning by its Washington correspondent. It is that Senator Millard was advised yesterday by the postoffice department that rural free delivery routes 2, 3, and 4 would be established out of Norfolk April 1. It will be remembered that these routes were gone over and examinations for carriers was held some time ago.

One will serve the people west of the city, another north and another south.

Sugar Beet Seed Coming.

[From Monday's Daily.]

Within the next thirty days there will pass through the Omaha customs house about 7,000 bags of sugar beet seed which will be distributed by the manufacturers of beet sugar to the farmers who raise beets in the west and northwest. Under the present plan Omaha is the port of delivery for all of the beet seed used in this part of the country. The beet seed comes from Germany, where it is raised with special reference to its use in the United States and is limited in quantity, as the variety in common use in that country is said to be not so successful as the special variety which is exported to this country. The seed is admitted free of duty, but the forms necessary to be observed in passing it through the customs house involve as much work as though a duty were collected.—Omaha Bee.

TO SOLICIT SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Firemen Appoint Committee to Get Money.

FOR THE STATE TOURNAMENT.

If Necessary Amount is Subscribed the Matter Will be Presented to the Board of Control and Date May be Set at June 22, 23 and 24.

[From Tuesday's Daily.]

At the adjourned special meeting of the fire department held at the city hall last night the question of inviting the firemen to hold their state tournament here was the matter of business up for discussion. The meeting was largely attended and much enthusiasm was shown.

It was decided that a committee should be appointed for the purpose of soliciting contributions toward the entertainment of the tournament and the amount to be raised by such committee was placed at \$1200. Inasmuch as Fremont and Grand Island contributed between \$200 and \$350 for the entertainment of the event, it is believed that there will be no difficulty in raising this sum in Norfolk. It is believed that this can be largely added to through the sale of concessions, something that was not given much attention at either of the two cities that last entertained the tournament, and when the business men and citizens of Norfolk have agreed to contribute this amount the matter will be taken up with the board of control of the state association and settled.

The dates preferred for the tournament, providing the people of Norfolk respond, are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 22, 23, and 24, which will get the event out of the way for the towns that expect to celebrate the Fourth of July, and will also permit the firemen to return to their homes and their duties for Saturday and Sunday.

The committee appointed to do the soliciting is composed of C. E. Hartford, H. W. Winter, W. B. Vail, W. L. Kern and J. S. Burnett. The committee proposes to begin the work laid out for them at once as there is not much time between now and the meeting of the board of control when the location will be decided upon, so that it is necessary to know just how liberally Norfolk will support the meeting at an early date. From the expressions of business men recently given it is believed that the committee will have little difficulty in securing pledges for the \$1,200 required for the expenses of the tournament, and the members of the local department hope to swell this to a handsome sum from the sale of concessions, for which they anticipate a lively demand, as there is certain to be a large crowd in attendance and there will not likely be many other attractions so early in the season to draw the attention of the concessionaires who look to such entertainments for patronage.

WOULD OBSERVE SUNDAY.

Northwestern System Plans Day of Rest for the Men.

[From Tuesday's Daily.]

The Northwestern railway company is working out a plan whereby employees of that system may be able to spend their Sundays at home, or at least part of the day, and it is proposed that in the future there will be little dead freight moved on that day and that only mail and passenger business and the handling of live stock and perishable freight shall receive the attention of the trainmen.

Many thousands of the employees of the system spent their first Sunday at home last Sunday. Orders have been issued by the management which will result in a general Sunday observance throughout the system hereafter and it is the purpose to change the Sabbath day from the hardest day of the week to a day of rest, recreation and enjoyment for a vast army of employes.

For the first time since the organization of the Northwestern road fifty years ago, not a ton of "dead freight" except coal, was moved on Sunday, and if the plan proves a success this will be the conditions each succeeding Sunday hereafter. The management has also expressed the hope that the Northwestern's example will be followed by other systems, so that the reform may spread to all the railroads centering in Chicago.

The order issued by the Northwestern instructed all division superintendents to confine the movement of freight Sunday to the handling of live stock, meat, and perishable shipments. The sole exception was in favor of coal and fuel of all kinds and the necessary coal cars to keep the mines supplied. When the coal famine is past all "dead freight" will be barred on Sundays.

The superintendents were instructed to arrange matters so that the greatest possible number of engine and freight train crews shall be at their home stations by Sunday morning, or Sunday noon at the latest. If this can be ac-

complished by starting the crews out at midnight, the superintendents are instructed to do so. It is further provided that all switchmen and yard crews, except those necessary to move the perishable freight, shall be given their time between 7 a. m. and 7 p. m. on Sundays.

The changes contemplated by the order are radical. It is the custom with railroads to make Sunday a day for general cleaning up in freight matters. On that day all way freight crews, all available suburban passenger power and every available employe and equipment on the entire system are pressed into service, with a view of getting all delayed freight to destination. The railroad has known no Sunday except one of extra toil and hardship.

UNIVERSITY EXPERIMENTS.

Results Obtained From the Dairy Herd for the Past Five Years.

[From Wednesday's Daily.]

A. L. Haecker of the Nebraska experiment station has prepared the following summary of tests with the dairy herd at the state farm during the past five years, which is given in detail in bulletin No. 76, which may be obtained free by those wishing it:

In October, 1896, the experiment station purchased 10 grade Jersey heifers, all to come fresh in the late fall or early winter. This small herd was to be used for investigations along the line of dairy husbandry, and therefore all records were kept as to the feed and production of the animals. During the five years the herd was on test, they gave an average butter production as follows: In 1897, 340.98 pounds of butter per cow; in 1898, 368.89 pounds; in 1899, 247.03 pounds; in 1900, 279.35 pounds; in 1901, 353.43 pounds. During the five years, fifty-two yearly records showed an average of 315.82 pounds of butter. The variations from year to year were caused by various changes in the herd and to some extent by the feed given. It was found that certain cows gave excellent records during the five years and such cows were shown to possess a marked dairy type and conformation. The poorest record in the herd was made by a cow lacking in depth and possessing a steer-like form.

Alfalfa and wild hay were tested for their value in rations for dairy cows. The herd was divided into two lots so that they were about equal as to their butter and milk production. Lot I received alfalfa hay for six weeks, while lot II received wild hay for the same time. After this period the lots were reversed. Comparisons were made as to the amount of milk and butter produced while on the two feeds. It was found in this experiment that alfalfa hay gave better returns than wild hay and at the same time was more economically fed, as it required more wild hay per ration.

Corn ensilage and sugar beets were tested as to their value as succulent feed when given to dairy cows. The herd was divided into two lots, the same as in the experiment for testing alfalfa and wild hay. The results shown by this experiment were a little in favor of ensilage, but the difference was very slight. It seems to be more question of how cheaply the two succulent feeds are produced than of their feeding value. Both foods gave good results and were relished by the animals.

It is often of much importance to know at what time in a cow's lactation she is liable to make her best record, as the different live stock associations favor animals coming within a tested list. In order to obtain a large number of records, the Nebraska experiment station co-operated with the Minnesota station and together 289 complete yearly records were available. Out of this large list, which was made by cows of various breeds and ages, a table was compiled. It was found that the second and third weeks of a cow's lactation in most cases proved to be the best. The records also showed that a cow reaches her highest butter production at an earlier period in lactation than she does her greatest milk flow.

A Quiet Place.

[From Wednesday's Daily.]

A nervous looking man went into a store the other day and sat down for half an hour or so when a clerk asked if there was anything she could do for him, says an exchange. He said no, he didn't want anything. She went away, and he sat half an hour longer, when the proprietor went to him and asked if he wanted to be shown anything. "No," said the nervous man, "I just want to sit around. My physician has recommended perfect quiet for me, and says above all things I should avoid being in crowds. Noticing that you did not advertise in the newspaper, I thought this would be as quiet a place as I could find, so I just dropped in for a few hours of isolation." The merchant picked up a bolt of paper cambric to brain him, but the man went out. He said all he wanted was a quiet life.

The Tecumseh people who have been interested in making that town a "dry" one have recently objected to the sale of bitters by the druggists and their objection has been sustained by the dealers.

WORK ON REVENUE REVISION.

A Change in Assessor System is Planned.

VALUATION QUESTION A POSER.

May Assess all Property at Actual Cash Value—Work of Committee Has Been Divided in Sections and Much Has Been Accomplished.

[From Tuesday's Daily.]

Lincoln, February 9, (Special Correspondence.) The legislature has not been in session the past week, but the special committees for the framing of a revenue bill have been very busy, and have accomplished a great deal. The work has been divided up in sections, with three or four men to each section, and the work of each is reviewed by a committee of the whole daily. In this work it is understood that the committees have drawn upon the Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri revenue laws, and the general belief is that if they are given reasonable time a bill will be prepared which will be acceptable to a majority of the legislators, and will produce the much desired revenue for the state.

One of the important points which has come before the committee is the change in the assessor system. There seems to have been a unanimous agreement that the present system of elective precinct assessors is defective, and the cause of many of the present ills. The plan adopted by the committee is the same as that of several of the eastern states: One or more state tax commissioners, an elective county assessor in each county, and enough appointive deputies in each county to do the assessing. There is also the provision that assessors cannot do the work in the precincts where they themselves live.

The question of valuation does not seem to have yet been entirely settled. It was agreed by the committee that the present system is no system at all, and some desire to assess all property at its actual cash value. Others are of opinion that property should be listed at cash value and then assessed at a valuation of one-fourth or one-fifth, as is the practice in Iowa, Illinois, and other states, absolutely fixing the fraction by law, so as to prevent gradual reduction in the rate. They hold that this would give the actual figures, and at the same time would keep the levies near what they are now, thus avoiding the tendency toward extravagance. Both ideas have adherents in the legislature, and it is probable that they will provoke considerable discussion when the bill gets into the two houses.

The disturbing question of local taxation of railroad terminals will not be handled by the revenue committees, they having decided by vote that this question should come up in connection with the bill proposing changes in the Omaha charter.

In the preparation of the new measure much care is being taken in the matters relating to the collection of taxes, and the committee is said to unanimously favor the provision for a seal for county treasurers so that good tax deeds may be given after a reasonable length of time, instead of making it necessary to go the old circuitous and expensive way through the courts. This proposition has been up before legislatures several times before, but was never adopted.

It is evident at this time that while the committees have been industrious, working night and day on the new measure, they have not had sufficient time to complete their work, and that at least all of the present week must be allowed them in the preparation of a successful bill. There will be a tendency on part of some members of the legislature to hurry them or to show impatience because a bill has not been framed in one week, but those who find fault have little conception of the amount of work necessary, not only in the discussion of means and measures, but in the actual drafting of the bill in proper and legal language after the main points have been agreed upon. The work is being hurried as much as is consistent with safety and two or three nights the committees have been up until after midnight engaged in discussions and researches. They draw no extra pay for this week of "vacation," and the people of the state must give them full credit for industry and honesty of purpose. If the bill prepared by them passes muster, its adoption will open a new era for Nebraska.

MINNESOTA SNOW.

Bixby Finds it Cold, Disagreeable and Nebraska Weather Preferable.

[From Saturday's Daily.]

One day last week the government weather man stationed at St. Paul reported indications of "more snow," which inspired Colonel A. O. Russell of the Minneapolis Journal to uncork his think-tank and turn out this: A Psalm of the Snow—I went out in

the early morning in Minnesota and saw the snow upon the prairies.

Its presence filled the hollows of the hills and its mantle was flung across the valleys.

It wroathed the evergreens with the glory of its whiteness, the dead vines of the gardens were filled with its unspokeable purity.

As the shadows of the dawn withdrew from the fields before the growing light, the color harmonies of the eastern skies were painted by the hands of the invisible angels of the morning.

Then I said: "O Minnesota Winter, in beauty and love hast thou revealed thyself, chill and cold have not declared thee neither hast thou drawn after thee the rigors of Nebraska; storm and anguish are not thy messengers, priests and kings are not thy heralds, neither hast thou the understanding of thee entered into the heart of Doc Bixby of the Nebraska State Journal."

"For while the wintry frosts paint frost pictures upon the Nebraskan's red hot stove, those who perceive thee in Minnesota drink great drafts from the pure rivers of thy life giving streams of pellucid air. Might and strength are at the motor end of the snowy shovels that attack the drifts. Thy joy and peace are still with us at breakfast time."

And I also went out in the early morning in Minnesota, and saw the snow upon the prairies, high in heaven as the spires of the tallest churches, and a lot more. And I touched it and it was cold. Other people also went out, and they went too far, and their friends found them on the third day thereafter, while as the driven snow, and not a white less pale.

O boron blast of long ago—
Thoughts of thee make me merry—
O, hooping drifts of cheerless snow
On Minnesota's prairie.
The angry sundogs glint the sky.
While zero weather lingers;
The sad faced schoolboy hurries by
With frozen ears and fingers.
O, Minnesota, frigid state.
Whose soil the frost has sunk in—
I either had to "pull my freight"
Or freeze up like a pumpkin.

And yet, when warm suns intervene,
To drive away the shivers,
When all your fields are clothed in green,
I'll bless your lakes and rivers.
When chilly winter winds are o'er
And vernal suns are shining,
I'll want to see the home once more
For which my heart is pining.
You know, old state, I'll love you then—
You, too, will be forgetting—
But now I say before all men,
You're too damocled to live in.
—A. L. Bixby in State Journal.

Several Breaks.

[From Monday's Daily.]

Mr. Walker Whiteside, who is shortly to appear here tells an interesting little yarn of an experience he had while making a jump on one of the western railroads last season. A gentleman, evidently of French extraction, occupied a seat near him in the chair car.

"These language of yours, it ess wonderful," said the man in question, "so vair many funny zings you say. I meet a friend, she has a school for the young girls and she tells me she is going to break down her school so ver' much earlier than last year, am I right there?"

"Break up, would be better," suggested Mr. Whiteside.

"Why does she break up her school?" asked the actor.

"Because her health is broken into," responded the man.

"Broken down."

"Oh yes, and indeed since fever has broken up in town."

"Broken out."

"She thinks she will leave her house for a time."

"Will she leave it alone?"

"No she is afraid it will be, how do I say that?"

"Broken into."

"Certainly it is what I meant to say. Her son too was to be married soon but the engagement has been broken—broken."

"Broken off."

"Yes, broken off. She is very sorry about it, her son only broke the news down to her last week. Am I right? I am anxious to speak English well."

"He merely broke the news to her, no preposition this time."

"It is hard to understand. That young man, her son, is a fine fellow, a breaker, I think."

"A breaker you mean, and a fine fellow. Well here is my station good day," and Mr. Whiteside still dreams of that verb "break" and the multiplicity of twistings and turnings it received in that car. Mr. Whiteside will present "Richard III" at the Auditorium Monday night.

Letter List.

[From Tuesday's Daily.]

List of letters remaining uncalled for at the postoffice February 10, 1903.

Mr. Claude Bomgardner; Mr. J. D. Grotham; Mr. George Ketteres; Ernest Menkin; Rembrand Menken; J. J. Moore; Mr. B. G. Moulton; Mrs. J. B. Preece; Mrs. Rose M. Roney; Mr. John Robel; Mr. Harry Sutzler; Mrs. Roy Schroyer; Mrs. R. S. Schroyer (2); O. V. Wales; Cyrus Ward; George B. Weboter; Mrs. Louise Weyner; Mr. Fred A. Well.

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.