

# AXE SWINGS AT VALENTINE

## PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT REMOVES PETTIJOHN AND TOWLE.

### LAND FRAUD PARTICIPATION

James C. Pettijohn, Register of the Land Office, has been removed, and the resignation of Al Towle has been demanded at once.

President Roosevelt's axe got close to home yesterday when he removed from office James C. Pettijohn, register of the land office at Valentine, Neb., and demanded the immediate resignation of Receiver Albert L. Towle.

The reason assigned for this action on the part of the president is participation in alleged land frauds in Nebraska by these two officers.

### Towle Knox County Pioneer.

Al Towle is an old settler in Knox county and a well known early day pioneer of Nebraska. He was at one time county clerk of Knox county and at another time represented that section of the country in the state legislature. He formerly resided at Creighton.

Mr. Towle is well known in Norfolk as a good fellow, and has many friends here who regretted to hear of his removal or of any connection with alleged land frauds.

He was appointed to the office at Valentine about eight years ago and was only the other day recommended for re-appointment by a number of Norfolk friends.

Mr. Pettijohn is not so well known in this section of the state. He formerly lived in Brown county.

W. M. Robertson was one of Al Towle's Norfolk friends. When informed today of the action taken in regard to Mr. Towle, he expressed regret. "Al Towle was a member of the state legislature at the time General Manderson was elected United States senator," said Mr. Robertson, "and it is my impression that he voted for Mr. Manderson."

### THURSDAY TIDINGS.

G. A. Diels of Fremont was in town over night.

Frank Gostin of O'Neill was in town over night.

N. Clemens of Verdol paid the city a visit this morning.

Henry Neuting of Bloomfield was in the city over night.

Wm. Dougherty of Humphrey was in the city over night.

Miss Jessie Mitchell of Stanton visited in Norfolk yesterday.

P. J. Bullin of Grand Island was registered in town last night.

Mrs. H. E. Seidel of Stanton was shopping in Norfolk yesterday.

Harry Barnes of Battle Creek paid the metropolis a visit yesterday.

Mr. Kilpatrick of Fremont, with Lee Glass Anderson, was in the city over night.

Ever Vierney and L. F. Naplin of Pilger were business visitors in the city yesterday.

T. S. McDuffie, route agent for the American Express company, was in the city yesterday looking after affairs of his company.

Mrs. F. H. Nye of Plainview arrived from Omaha last evening and spent the night with the Durland sisters. She went home today.

August Dignan, the 11-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Dignan on South Fourth street, is quite ill with an attack of appendicitis.

Albert Pohlman of Pierce has returned from Chicago where he witnessed the big game on Thanksgiving between Chicago and Michigan.

Henry Evers and Geo. Lindworm of Plainview were in the city yesterday visiting John Evers, who is at the hospital for the insane. Mr. Evers expressed himself well pleased with the treatment his brother is receiving and hopes that he will be able to go home in the near future.

John Krantz lost a valuable horse last night.

Miss Helen Wetzel has accepted a position with Beeler Bros.

The thermometer went as high as fifty-five degrees yesterday.

Miss Ella Mullen will entertain at a dinner party this evening.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Severns welcomed a thirteen-pound boy at their home this morning.

City Marshal Crippen of Plainview, stabbed by Carl Liesner, is now able to be up and to walk around.

Mrs. Mary Rogers, whose case has come to be one of total depravity, is scheduled to die on the gallows in Vermont tomorrow.

Miss Isabelle Lawlor, sister of Mrs. Valma V. Light, has taken an apprenticeship at Macy's studio and is learning photography.

Will Hahn received a letter yesterday from his brother, George Hahn, formerly of the firm of Blakeman & Hahn, announcing the arrival of a nine-pound son at his home in Hastings.

Harry Wright, who was brought home from Beatrice, is able to walk a very little. He will probably suffer a stiff wrist as a result of his terrible fall at Beatrice, but he considers himself lucky to get out alive.

Officers elected last night in Protection lodge No. 101, D. of H. were: Mrs. Ballantyne, chief of honor; Mrs. Bland, lady of honor; Mrs. Barrett, chief of ceremonies; Hattie Linderode, usher; Mrs. Lynde, recorder; Mrs. Linderode, financier; Fred Koerber, receiver; Elsie Case, inner watch; Mrs. Koerber, outer watch. The committee on refreshments last night were Mrs. Myrtle Wetz, Mrs. Leach, Mrs. L. A. Miller and Mrs. Burnett. Nice refresh-

ments were served.

Miss Nellie Anders of Dustin, Neb., the little girl who wrote to The News editor, asking for Christmas presents and telling of her "eight poor little brothers and sisters who can't have no Christmas," is going to receive Christmas presents, after all. A box is being prepared for the little Holt county children and will be sent from this office. A number of Norfolk ladies have already expressed a desire to contribute to the joy of Christmas in that forlorn home, and probably Santa Claus will make the eight little children about as happy there as anywhere else in the world.

Rip Van Winkle, the play made famous by Joseph Jefferson, was produced at the Auditorium last evening before a good house. While the production may have lacked some of the Jeffersonian characteristics given it by the renowned actor, yet on the whole it was a very satisfactory entertainment. Ad. Auger took the title role and played it well, while Elanor Blodwin made an ideal Gretchen. Most of the other members of the company carried their parts in good form. The people composing the company are gentlemen and ladies and they made a number of friends while here. If they ever come to Norfolk again they will be greeted by a still better house than they had last night.

M. F. Maloney of Norfolk lived as neighbor to Charles Mulvey of Chicago, the contractor who, on his deathbed, remarried the wife from whom he had been divorced. Mr. Maloney says that Mulvey was a miser and was worth perhaps \$10,000. He had ill treated his wife and a year or so ago secured a divorce because he claimed his wife drank. He went to live with his brothers in Indiana and they, being strict Roman Catholics, would not recognize his divorce and urged him to return to Chicago and be remarried by law to his wife that she might have his property when he died. The pair quarreled much in Chicago. Mr. Mulvey owns half of one block on Wabash avenue and Mr. Maloney owns the other half. Mulvey had been trying for some time to purchase the half belonging to the Norfolk man.

A Widow 73 Years Ago.

At an early age Mary Ramsey married Jacob Lemons and was left a widow seventy-three years ago, at the time Andrew Jackson was nearing the end of his first term as president. As a young matron she distinctly remembers the war of 1812, when her father strapped his blankets across his shoulders, took down his old rifle and fought the British until the close of the struggle.

After the death of her husband she accompanied her daughter, Mrs. C. B. Southworth, and her husband, across the plains to Oregon, arriving in Hillsboro in 1853. She was then 66 years old, but rode a bay mare the entire distance from Tennessee, her daughter and husband driving an ox team.

Soon after arriving in Hillsboro Mrs. Lemons married John Woods, with whom she lived happily for many years. At Hillsboro she built the first hotel, which occupied the site of the opera house now being constructed.

The couple ran the hotel until forty years ago, when her daughter, Mrs. C. B. Reynolds, formerly Mrs. Southworth, and her only surviving child, succeeded her in management.

Daughter of 75 Cares for Her.

Mrs. Woods had four children by her first husband—Mary J. Lemons, who died in Tennessee two years ago at the age of 98; Isaac Lemons, who died in Kansas City, Mo., forty years ago; Nancy E. Bullock, who died at Hillsboro thirty-eight years ago, and Mrs. C. B. Ramsey, who is now living in Hillsboro, and while 75 years of age is devoting her life to the care of her aged parent.

Mrs. Woods weighs 130 pounds, dresses and cares for herself, and walks about the yard and the house. She is hard of hearing and blind in one eye, but otherwise hale and hearty. She is able to thread a needle and does much sewing. About six months ago she cut a tooth.

Her memory is good as to past events. She became a member of the Methodist Church South 106 years ago and is still a member of that church.

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Valentine Land Office Attaches Dis-

missed by President for Fraud.

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The removal of Pettijohn and Towle is the result of the sweeping investigation by special inspectors of the land office, which has been in progress in the state for a number of weeks. During their investigation it was discovered that in the Valentine land district the local land officers had themselves set up "dummies" to make entries of government land for the use and benefit of the government officials; that these officers had been in collusion with the illegal land fence and with those who had made fraudulent entries and that they had derived personal profit thereby.

Omaha, Dec. 6.—Cigarette smokers may roll their cigarettes in Omaha undisturbed, at least until the question is decided by the supreme court. Judge Kennedy released on habeas corpus Edward Stout, who had been arrested for rolling a cigarette, that a test case might be made. The court held that the individual rolling of a cigarette is not manufacturing one within the meaning of the anti-cigarette law. The case will be carried to the supreme court to have the point definitely settled.

## BALFOUR MINISTRY QUILTS

POLITICAL CRISIS IN ENGLAND REACHES A CLIMAX.

KING ACCEPTS RESIGNATIONS

Invites Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman to Form New Cabinet—Dissolution of Parliament May Not Occur Until After the New Year.

London, Dec. 5.—The political crisis in the United Kingdom reached a climax when Arthur J. Balfour, the premier, formally tendered the resignations of himself and his cabinet to King Edward, who accepted them. His majesty has invited Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman to an interview today, when he will offer him the mission of forming a new cabinet. Sir Henry will accept the task, and within a few days, even within a few hours, a new government will be formed.

A brief official announcement was made that the cabinet had resigned, that the king had accepted the resignations of his ministers and that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman had been sent for. It would now appear that the entire program has been cut and dried for some time, and it is even probable that the liberal leader has already completed his cabinet, though this, like everything else connected with British officialdom, must be left to surmise.

It may be stated as certain that Lord Rosebery will be entirely ignored in the make-up of the cabinet, and that John Morley will be one of the chief advisers of Sir Henry in drawing up the list of his official family which will be presented to his majesty.

Mr. Morley himself is considered likely to go to the Indian office, and it is probable that Herbert Henry Asquith will be chancellor of the exchequer. The foreign affairs portfolio will go either to Lord Elgin or Sir Edward Grey, though the latter is considered likely to be made secretary for the colonies.

There is some uncertainty as to when the dissolution of parliament will be effective, but it is not considered probable until after the new year.

## JUDSON HARMON APPOINTED

Two Railroads Placed in the Hands of a Receiver.

Cincinnati, Dec. 5.—The Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton and the Pere Marquette railroads were ordered placed in the hands of a receiver by United States Circuit Court Judge Henry Lorton, and Judson Harmon, former United States attorney general, was appointed receiver, giving bond for a total of \$200,000. The application was made by Attorney Lawrence Maxwell, Jr., on behalf of Walter B. Horn of New York, creditor of both roads, and was agreed to by the defendants, in answers admitting the principal charges of insolvency.

Industrial Company.

The Norfolk Industrial company held the meeting yesterday for which a call had been issued, and elected the following board of directors: A. J. Durland, N. A. Rainbolt, H. A. Pasewalk, A. H. Kiesau, A. Bear, A. Degner and C. F. A. Marquardt.

# WORLD'S OLDEST WOMAN

## MRS. MARY WOODS OLDER THAN U. S. GOVERNMENT.

### IS ENJOYING HER 119TH YEAR

Was a Widow Seventy-three Years Ago—Is Cared for by a Daughter of Seventy-five—Takes a Lively Interest in Politics of the Day.

Hillsboro, Ore., Dec. 4.—To be older than the United States government, to have been a toddling infant when Washington was inaugurated president in the eighteenth century and to walk erect in full possession of her faculties under Roosevelt's administration in the twentieth century, to have survived out of the old time into ours, has been the good fortune of Mrs. Mary Ramsey Woods of Hillsboro, Oregon, who is probably the oldest woman in the world.

In her one hundred and nineteenth year Mrs. Woods is still quite active. Daily she walks about the garden of her daughter's home, with whom she lives, and sits upon the porch in sunny weather to converse with visitors. She keeps well posted on the events of the day and maintains a lively interest in politics.

Mrs. Woods was born on May 20, 1787, at Knoxville, Tenn., the year the Northwest territory was organized, and two years before the United States constitution went into effect. Her maiden name was Ramsey and her father burned the brick and built the first brick structure in Knoxville. She was 7 years old when Tennessee was admitted as a state and 18 years old when Lewis and Clarke made their famous journey to the coast.

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# HUNDREDS SLAIN AT KIEFF

Bloody Combat in Streets Between Engineers and Cossacks.

Vienna, Dec. 5.—The Tagblatt publishes a communication from Odessa saying that travelers arriving at Odessa from Kieff report that a serious fight took place there last Friday between engineers and Cossacks. Many hundreds were killed or wounded. The Neue Freie Presse publishes a dispatch from Lemberg, Galicia, evidently referring to the same occurrence at Kieff, but giving fuller details. It says that the engineers refused to work as telegraphers, whereupon the trouble began. Five hundred armed men left their barracks and paraded the streets, where they were joined by a number of infantrymen and followed by a crowd of workmen. Near the railroad station the mutineers engaged 200 Cossacks and drove them off. Later, in the Jewish quarter, the mutineers fired an infantry regiment, which fired two volleys, killing 165 persons and wounding many. The remainder of the mutineers surrendered. Many Russian and Polish families, the dispatch says, are fleeing from Kieff.

Charing Cross Station Collapses.

London, Dec. 6.—Ninety feet of the roof of the southernmost end of the Charing Cross railroad station collapsed without warning, carrying with it some forty workmen, who were engaged in repairs on that section of the roof. The casualty loss of this extraordinary accident includes two persons, who are known to have been killed, two persons missing and probably buried beneath tons of debris, eight seriously injured and twenty slightly injured. The falling walls of the depot crushed the window of the Avenue theater, adjoining the station, injuring several men who were at work there. Four trains stood in the station ready to start and hundreds of persons were gathered on the platforms when the walls supporting the great iron spans fell outward. With this support removed, the spans fell with a tremendous crash, crushing the foremost cars, which were not occupied.

# TALK OF A DICTATORSHIP

EVEN UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE MAY NOT SATISFY EXTREMISTS.

OMINOUS CALM AT CAPITAL

Extreme Tension Prevails in St. Petersburg—Czar Comes to the Point Where He Can No Longer Steer Middle Course to Save Crown.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 3.—Via Eydtkuhnen, East Prussia, Dec. 5.—The city remains quiet, but extreme tension prevails. Armed patrols of cavalry and infantry are in the streets, especially in the neighborhood of the telegraph office. The telegraph and postal tie-up remains complete. Soldiers and employes of other departments are being used to deliver portions of the vast accumulation of mail. The telegraph operators met the threat to discharge them unless they returned to work by resolving to prosecute the strike until their demands are satisfied.

Count Witte is now convinced that the emperor, by acceding to the demand for universal suffrage, may still find a common ground on which the government and the moderates and the extreme elements can stand. If this fails to stay the headlong march of events the proclamation of a ready-made constitution might be tried as the last card. Then nothing would remain except the proclamation of a dictatorship. Competent judges of the situation believe that a dictatorship, while it might restrain the rising flood temporarily, would only increase the dimensions of the cataclysm and when the dam goes, sweep the government and dynasty away to common ruin.

It is reported from Cronstadt that a German squadron has been sighted in the Baltic sea, near the Russian coast. Rumor attributes the appearance of the squadron as preparatory to the flight of the Russian imperial family.

Agrarian and anti-Jewish outbreaks are reported to have occurred in the government of Chrnigoff, Terek, Kursk and Kasan.

Reports received from Libau say that several of the nobility, officials and other residents of Livonia and Courland have been attacked by peasants, killed and terribly mutilated. Baron Campenhausen was severely wounded. Bands of several hundred peasants are roving about, robbing and killing. A general insurrection of the peasants and laborers is expected.

A dispatch from Tornea, Finland, reports that there has been a new railroad strike in Finland, and that a universal strike may be expected.

Great quantities of arms and ammunition are being smuggled into Finland.

Seth Bullock for Marshal.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The nomination of Seth Bullock as United States marshal for South Dakota was sent to the senate. E. B. Kelly was appointed Indian agent at Rosebud.

Sol Mayer's Horse Drowns.

The horse that belonged to Sol G. Mayer, and which had been driven by Mr. Mayer for some time, was drowned the other night in a creek and is no more. The animal was in a pasture and, it is supposed, went to the creek for a drink, falling in.

# SAKHAROFF ASSASSINATED

## FORMER MINISTER OF WAR SHOT DEAD BY WOMAN.

### STRIKE STILL IN FULL SWING

Neither De Witte Nor the Strikers Show Signs of Yielding—Woman Re-Intentionally Waylaid and Killed by Workmen at Warsaw.

London, Dec. 7.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, in a dispatch sent by way of Rysakow, East Prussia, says: "Lieutenant General Sakharoff, former minister of war, has been assassinated. The government had deputed General Sakharoff to visit the province of Saratoff for the purpose of quelling the agrarian riots there. A woman belonging to the so-called flying columns of the revolutionary movement called at the house of the governor at Saratoff at noon and asked to see General Sakharoff. She fired three revolver shots at the general, killing him on the spot. Count Witte charged Lieutenant General Rodiger, minister of war, with the task of breaking the news to Madame Sakharoff. The event has created a profound impression in St. Petersburg owing to fears that the revolutionists here will follow the example thus set."

The newspapers print harrowing details of the whipping by order of General Sakharoff of the peasants whom he was sent to pacify.

Another dispatch says that three battalions of infantry at Moscow have mutinied. The same dispatch says that a general strike has been declared at Kharkoff.

The spectre of a military dictatorship, which has been looming on the horizon, is steadily gaining consistency and sharpness of outline.

The situation is visibly growing worse. The critical moment for Count Witte is coming, when the liberal elements will demand his resignation. A resolution by the agriculturalists at Moscow, demanding the immediate dismissal of the present cabinet, denotes the beginning of the movement away from Count Witte and signs indicate that this movement will gain in intensity soon.

There are signs of a collapse of the post and telegraph strike. Two-thirds of the telegraph operators are daily offering to resume work, but they are prevented from so doing because the wires have been cut or the stations fail to answer signals.

There is much annoyance at the American embassy over reports that the marines who arrived here were to form a guard for the embassy. It is explained that the men were sent to perform services in the embassy, where thoroughly trustworthy men are needed.

## NEW REGIME IN FRANCE

Senate Passes Bill for Separation of Church and State.

Paris, Dec. 7.—The senate, after a long debate, adopted the bill for the separation of church and state by a vote of 181 against 102. The vote was announced amid enthusiastic scenes and cries of "Long live the republic!" and "Long live liberty!"

Former Premier Combes participated in the debate, contending that the measure assures neutrality of religion, moral liberation and social pacification. This is the final parliamentary stage of the bill, which will be promulgated in the Official Journal today when it will become effective immediately. The council of state will devote three months to the framing of the administrative details of the new regime. The action of the vatican regarding the law has not yet been definitely announced. The French clergy, while opposing the measure appear to be disposed to conform to the new system.

Cartridge Machine Explodes.

Chagrin Falls, O., Dec. 7.—A cartridge machine in the Austin Cartridge company's cartridge mill at Falls Junction, eight miles southwest of here, exploded as about seventy-five employes were leaving the place. The detonation caused a second explosion of some powder nearby, which shook the whole countryside for miles around and caused great alarm. The cartridge building was wrecked by the second explosion. The fact that the first explosion occurred when most of the employes were leaving and that the second did not take place until they were well out of range, doubtless prevented great loss of life. Two boys were severely injured.

Oppose Federal Interference.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—At a meeting of the executive officers of legal reserve life insurance companies organized in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Nebraska, held here, a resolution was adopted declaring in favor of publicity, but opposing federal interference with state supervision of companies. Another meeting will be held in St. Louis, Jan. 30.

Patrick to Die Jan. 22.

New York, Dec. 7.—Albert T. Patrick was sentenced to be electrocuted during the week beginning Jan. 22 for the murder of William Marsh Rice.

Supt. Bodwell in Charge.

Has Assumed New Duties in Norfolk Schools—Holiday Vacation.

Superintendent E. J. Bodwell, who

gave up the position of county superintendent of Douglas county to become superintendent of the Norfolk city schools, has assumed his new position and is now at the head of the school system of this city. He is this week getting acquainted with his work and the local situation, and of course it is too early for him to know whether he will like Norfolk or, for the matter of that, whether Norfolk will like him. Norfolk does not fear much, however, but that he will prove popular here, as he comes well recommended as a school man. No better recommendation could be asked, in fact, than that he has served Douglas county as superintendent and that he was re-elected last month by a good majority.

The fall term of school will close on December 22 for the holiday vacation, and the winter term will begin on January 8, giving teachers and students a rest of two weeks.

## LONGER TERMS FOR TEACHERS

Law to Enable Boards to Make Contracts for More Than a Year.

Des Moines, Dec. 5.—Ex-State Superintendent R. C. Barrett said that the state legislature would enact laws at the coming session that would allow school boards to make contracts with teachers for more than one year.

"The state board of educational examiners has just concluded holding an examination for life diplomas at which there were six candidates," said Mr. Barrett. "I believe that is the largest number that has taken the examination in many years. I think while I was superintendent the largest number was four and the examinations are held but once a year. There should be dozens taking that examination every year, and the examinations should be held once a month. But school boards cannot engage a teacher for more than one year, and since a teacher is uncertain as to employment he sees no incentive to preparing himself for more than one year. The state should do everything in its power to encourage examinations for life diplomas and should do everything possible to encourage persons to remain in the teaching profession. To that end boards should be allowed to make long-time contracts with school teachers."

Took Out Policy, Made Director

Peculiar Deal of Mutual Reserve With a New York Hotelkeeper.

New York, Dec. 5.—The most interesting development in the legislative life insurance investigation was contained in the testimony of Horace P. Brockway, a hotel proprietor, and director of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance company, who said that he had given \$6,000 to President Frederick A. Burnham of that company at the demand of Mr. Burnham in 1898. Mr. Brockway told the committee that Mr. Burnham told him if he would take out a policy in the Mutual Reserve he would make him a director. Mr. Brockway then took out policies amounting to \$6,000. After having been a director for some time, he was put on the payroll of the company at \$300 a week, received that salary for four months and then it was cut to \$200 a week. Asked what he did to earn that money, he said he looked over some loans for the company, was consulted by policy holders as to whether the company was a good one to insure in and did whatever he was asked to do. He had been getting \$300 a week eight weeks when Mr. Burnham demanded the \$6,000. What President Burnham did with that money was explained by George D. Eldredge, vice president of the Mutual Reserve, who testified that President Burnham told him he had given it to Hilary Bell, a newspaper man, to secure the publication of articles favorable to the company. Mr. Bell had said that he could accomplish much more with the money if he were not compelled to report to the company just what he expended it for.

Mr. Brockway said he is still a director of the company.

The reason why President Burnham was not called before the committee was given by his physician, who told the committee that Mr. Burnham is too sick to appear or even make a deposition.

Vice President Eldredge also testified that his company had much trouble with Andrew J. Clunie when he was superintendent of insurance of California, and in six years paid Thomas J. Clunie, the commissioner's brother, \$7,500 in counsel fees.

Senator Armstrong, chairman of the committee, said that the committee expected to finish its work by Dec. 31, but that if it did not the committee would not pass out of existence when the legislature assembled unless that body so ordered.

Insists on Execution of Murderers.

London, Dec. 5.—The correspondent of the Daily Chronicle at Hong Kong says that Julius G. Lay, the American consul general at Canton, China, who has just completed his investigation into the recent murder of five Presbyterian missionaries at Lienchow, in the province of Canton, insists on the execution of the commission of inquiry leaves Lienchow.

New Picture in Iowa State Capitol.

Des Moines, Dec. 6.—E. H. Blashfield, the New York artist who painted "Westward," which is to be the adornment at the head of the staircase in the state capitol, arrived in Des Moines and will superintend the hanging of the picture. He expects the painting will be in position for permanency by Dec. 15.