

A FIRE AT VERDIGRE

THREE BUSINESS BUILDINGS ARE WIPED OUT EARLY TODAY.

THE LOSS IS ABOUT \$11,000

POSTOFFICE, HARDWARE STORE AND FURNITURE STORE GO.

QUANTITY OF MAIL DESTROYED

Fire Started in Rear End of Schmidt's Furniture Store in Verdigre at 3 O'Clock This Morning and Burned Three Buildings—Wind Saved.

Verdigre, Neb., Jan. 17.—Special to The News: Fire destroyed three business houses in the main section of this town at 3 o'clock this morning. But for a strong south wind it is believed the entire block on the east side of the street would have gone. The buildings burned were: The postoffice, the Schmidt furniture store, The Dogaala & Stuzony hardware store.

Mails Destroyed. The postoffice, a two-story building owned by Charles Nelson of Nebraska, was totally destroyed, together with all of its contents, including the mails. The eastbound mail had already been taken to the station to catch the early morning train, so that this was not burned. All mails in the building, however, including the stamps and other supplies, were burned. The loss on the building is about \$500 and on the stock about \$500, with no insurance.

\$5,000 Loss on Furniture Store. The furniture store was a total loss. This was a two-story building, owned by Mrs. Simepma. The stock was owned by J. J. Schmidt. The building was worth \$2,000, covered by insurance for \$1,000. The stock was owned by J. J. Schmidt, was valued at \$2,800 and was insured for \$1,200.

\$5,000 on Hardware Store. There was a \$5,000 loss on the hardware store. This building was two stories high and was owned by Pozozin & Stuzony. The stock was worth \$2,800, insured for \$1,600, and the building was insured for \$1,000, worth \$2,000.

Thus the total loss is about \$11,000. Started in Furniture Store. The fire is thought to have started in the rear end of the furniture store, where it fed on excelsior and shavings until it became uncontrollable.

The strong wind blowing from the south kept the flames away from the big portion of the block, and saved the town.

No Fire Protection. As there is no fire protection here, there being no water works, the citizens had to fight against great odds in battling against the flames. A bucket brigade was formed and in this way the fire was finally extinguished.

The fire burned until 5 o'clock this morning.

Battle Creek. Gardels and son have sold their harness business to A. R. Brubaker of Battle Creek, who took possession Tuesday. Mr. Brubaker's parents live at Norfolk and he is also well known in that place.

John Meyer is building a new house and other buildings on his farm he recently bought southeast of town. Carl Kuypergewit and Edward Brice drove to Madison Saturday for a four days' visit with relatives and friends.

Louis Schlechter arrived here Friday from York county for a visit with Fred Tegeler and family. Mr. Schlechter is a prosperous farmer of that county and likes to invest in Madison county dirt.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schererger and baby of Elgin were visiting here the latter part of the week with relatives. Herman Hogrefe has engaged Henry Miller as foreman on his ranch west of town for the coming year. The place will be vacated by John Zohner, who has bought Conrad Werner's farm five miles south.

Mrs. John Jost has been very sick this week and under the physician's care.

Earl Cartney returned Monday from one week's visit at different places at the southern part of the state.

A little son was born early Saturday morning to Mr. and Mrs. John Lucht, jr. The little infant lived only a couple of hours and the little body was interred at the Lutheran cemetery Monday afternoon, Rev. J. Hoffman being in attendance.

The members of the Lutheran church held an extra meeting Sunday afternoon and it was decided to build a large new parsonage in the spring and also engage a second teacher for the next school year, and probably a lady teacher, will be chosen.

Thos. Wade returned Monday from Sioux City with his bride.

Scott Wall of Fremont was visiting here from Saturday until Sunday at the home of Mrs. Lillie Scott, his aunt.

Mrs. Kate Holtorf of Bennington was visiting here last week at the home of her brother, Julius Glantz, near Meadow Grove.

Mr. and Mrs. Howell Avery of Tilden were visiting here Thursday with relatives.

Johnnie Hall of Verdigre has taken

ADVERTISE THE FACTORY

THE UNION PACIFIC INDUSTRIAL AGENT HELPING NORFOLK.

TRYING TO SECURE INDUSTRY

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The disposition of the old beet sugar factory is still in doubt, although the Union Pacific, through its industrial agent, has joined with the Commercial club in an effort to secure some industry for Norfolk and the building. Through extensive advertising the industrial agent hopes to get in touch with persons who could use the buildings to advantage.

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A NEW RULE IN SCHOOLS

OLD EVIL HAS BEEN WIPED OUT BY CHANGE IN SYSTEM.

ABSENCES WERE ENCOURAGED

Formerly Each Room Was Given a Quarter Holiday at the End of the Month if No Pupil Had Been Tardy. This Engendered Wrong Motives.

A new rule has just been inaugurated this week in the public schools of Norfolk, which will have a far reaching effect and which will overturn altogether a tendency that had sprung up among pupils to miss a half day's school rather than be tardy. This wrong tendency had sprung up from an old rule allowing a quarter day holiday to each school room in which, during the month, there was no case of tardiness. So much odium was cast against each pupil who came late, because his tardiness robbed the room of a quarter day holiday, that the board of education and Superintendent Bodwell found it necessary to make a new rule.

Hereafter each pupil who goes to school for a month without either a tardy mark or an absent mark against his name, will be given a quarter holiday at the end of the month. In this way the tendency to be absent rather than tardy is done away with, and yet the room with a perfect record for every individual, will still enjoy the same privilege.

Teachers Did Not Encourage Absence. It is being rumored about town that in some cases the teachers encouraged the children, when they saw they were to be late, to turn around and go back home, rather than spoil the room's chances for the prize quarter-holiday at the end of the month. This rumor is denied by both Superintendent Bodwell and P. H. Salter, president of the board of education.

"I had never heard of such a report," said Mr. Bodwell today, "and I do not believe it is true. I know that every teacher was in favor of changing the rule, in order that the children would not remain absent rather than come tardy, and for that reason I am sure that the report is a mistake."

President Salter said the same thing. "Those reports start easily," he said, "and from what I know of the case the teachers in every instance encouraged the pupils to come to school, regardless of tardy marks, rather than stay away. But the rule did have a tendency to make the children stay away because one who was tardy was placed in such a difficult position among the other children, that absence was preferable."

"I am glad the rule has been changed," said one mother. "My little girl used to wake up at 3 o'clock in the morning and want to get up, for fear she would be late at school."

The new rule went into effect Tuesday noon.

Letter List. List of letters remaining uncalled for at the postoffice at Norfolk, Neb., Jan. 16, 1906: Mr. F. W. Bruner, Mr. H. C. Donare, Chas. DeSog (opera Co.) Mr. Charlie Doan, Mr. G. L. Kinmer, Mr. A. C. Meyer, Mr. V. E. Miller, W. J. Maier and Co., Mrs. Lizzie Nichols, Will Peach, Red Russell.

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

Parties calling for any of the above please say "advertised."

John R. Hays, P. M.

BURR TAFT GOOD COMMISSIONER Commissioner John H. Harding Says He Will be Good Officer. "I think Burr Taft is going to make an excellent commissioner for Madison county," said Commissioner John H. Harding in Norfolk, enroute to Madison. "He goes at things as though he understands what he is doing and, although he feels that this is a poor time to go into the office, because of the run down condition of the county's affairs, yet I think that he will make a splendid record."

Decided in Favor of Johnson. The case started yesterday in Justice Eelsey's court in which Charles H. Johnson sued the Northwestern railroad company for alleged damages to furniture in the amount of \$14.32, was decided today by Justice Eelsey in favor of the plaintiff. The case will be appealed by the railroad. The case was not tried by jury. Mr. Johnson had wanted a jury trial so that the case could not be appealed, but under the law there seemed no way of determining whether six or twelve men ought to be used, and the case was tried before Judge Eelsey. Mr. Johnson has three other cases pending.

NATIONAL LIVE STOCK COMMISSION COMPANY. View of the Live Stock Markets at South Omaha, C. A. Mallory, Manager.

South Omaha, Jan. 16.—The cattle receipts at this market continue moderate, and notwithstanding the weakness and decline shown in some of the other markets, the trade here ruffed active and strong for all grades. Choice cattle continue scarce, consequently quotations here do not represent the full strength of the market, but all classes, except the very choicest export cattle, are selling well. We do not look for much change right away, but still have confidence in

Calumet Baking Powder

A friend of the home—A foe of the Trust

Complies with the Pure Food Laws of all States.

higher prices for fat cattle later on, although we advise shipping whenever cattle are in proper condition, as it is too expensive to hold cattle that are matured.

The demand continues good for stockers and feeders and the supply is also liberal, so that any of our readers who are in the market for cattle can be supplied by making their wants known. In the absence of quotations we quote the market 10 to 15c higher than last week on nearly all grades.

Hogs—The hog trade continues to hold up, even with liberal receipts, in all markets. The foreign demand continues strong and packers are operating to the full limit on export products. The urgency of this demand, however, will let up within a week or two, but we have confidence in the market during the entire season. Watch the provision market carefully and do not be surprised to see an occasional reaction, as the market is never healthy where it goes one way all the time.

Under our present organization, operating two separate divisions in the hog department of the yards, our trade has practically doubled this month and we invite our readers attention to this and other improvements we have inaugurated.

The bulk of the hogs is selling here from \$5.20 to \$5.20 or fully as high as any of the other Missouri river markets.

Sheep and lamb offerings this week show quite a falling off from last week, and the market shows a little reaction on sales made Monday, but since then the quality of stuff on sale has been so poor that the advance gained on medium grades has been lost, but good stuff is holding steady. Best lambs are selling from \$7.25 to \$7.50; yearlings \$6.20 to \$6.50; wethers \$5.60 to \$5.80; ewes \$5.15 to \$5.50. Fair to good grades are selling at the usual discounts.

From our sales for the past few days, which are published below, you will notice that the "National" is still making new records and top-notch sales. The yearlings at \$6.25 were western Nebraska sheep fed in Nebraska and brought 25c more than any yearlings sold for that day. Friday—The Mexican wethers at \$5.80 were Nebraska fed and brought 20c more than any old wethers sold at that day. Wednesday—The \$5.35 ewes brought 10c more than any ewes of the same class sold for the day they were here. Tuesday—Our space being limited, we cannot give details regarding the other sales, but they will show up well when compared with the others.

As the St. Joseph market has become such an important fat sheep and lamb market, we are publishing our sales at that market for Monday and Tuesday.

South Omaha—200 Nebraska yearlings, 82 lbs., \$6.25; 160 Mexican wethers, 110 lbs., \$5.80; 837 Colorado ewes, 110 lbs., \$5.35.
St. Joe—593 Colorado lambs, 69 lbs., \$6.50; 860 Colorado ewes, 101 lbs., \$5.10; 590 Colorado ewes, 82 lbs., \$5.00; 2,971 Kansas lambs, 77 lbs., \$7.25; 1,935 Colorado ewes, 88 lbs., \$5.25.

STANTON SUPERINTENDENT CASE

Attorney W. W. Young Appeared Before Supreme Court for Coney.

The Hyland-Coney controversy over the office of county superintendent of Stanton county has reached the supreme court, Attorney W. W. Young of Stanton having applied this week for a writ of mandamus to compel Mr. Hyland to turn the office over to Mr. Coney, who received a majority of the votes at the election last fall. Hyland, who was the county superintendent at the time of the election, is holding onto the office because Coney secured his first grade certificate under the new certification law by an examination which began November 4. Though the department at Lincoln ruled that the certificate should be dated on the day of the beginning of the examination and that Mr. Hyland should retire, Hyland refused to abide by the decision, hence the suit.

Coney was nominated for the office by the republicans during his absence from the county and was not aware that a new certification law had been enacted and only learned it through a communication from the state superintendent just before election. He hastily took the examination and was awarded his certificate. After the election he filed his bond with the democratic board of county supervisors, but the board refused to recognize it.

Very Low Rates to Denver, Colo. Via the Northwestern line. Excursion tickets will be sold on Jan. 23, 24 and 25, limited to return until Feb. 15, inclusive, on account of Wool Growers and Live Stock association meetings. Apply to agents Chicago & Northwestern R'y.

O. R. MEREDITH, D. O. OSTEOPATH.

Office, Cotton block, Ash 541, residence, 109 North Tenth street, phone Ash 542.