

THE NORFOLK WEEKLY NEWS-JOURNAL.

NORFOLK, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1908.

SHERIFF BRINGS BACK OLAF OLSEN AND TAKES HIM OUT TO THE OLD FARM

FATHER OF MISSING LILLIE OLSEN IS IN CUSTODY.

BOTH NOW OUT AT THE FARM

OFFICER SUDDENLY GOES AND GETS LOST CHILD'S FATHER.

NO CHARGE HAS BEEN FILED

Sheriff Dorcey inspected farm Tuesday, Drove Pell Pender, Took the First Tra. Brought Olsen Back.

Pender, Neb., March 5.—Special The News: Up until this afternoon, no charge had been filed by Sheriff Dorcey against Olaf Olsen.

Go Over the Farm Again. This morning Sheriff Dorcey took Olsen out to the farm for the purpose, he said, of going over the place with Olsen.

According to the sheriff, his idea in going after Olsen was simply to more thoroughly investigate the matter. The sheriff says that he has just come into office and that he was not satisfied with the investigation that had been made before.

But people still insist that there is some pretty definite clue behind the sheriff's sudden and drastic action.

SHERIFF GETS OLSEN.

After Hard Drive, Nearly Killing Horses, He Goes After Father.

Pender, Neb., March 5.—Special The News: Olaf Olsen, father of the missing little Lillie Olsen, has been arrested by Sheriff Dorcey of this county. The arrest was made yesterday and from the manner of the arrest it was apparent that some serious charge would probably be made against the father. Up until 8 o'clock this morning no formal charge had been filed against Olsen, but as he was in the custody of Sheriff Dorcey, it was believed that a charge would be filed today as it is said that a man can not be held in custody longer than twenty-four hours without a charge.

Sheriff Will Not Talk.

Sheriff Dorcey will not discuss the arrest. He will not give any suggestion as to a possible clue upon which he based his arrest of the father.

But some features of the case lead to strong surmises.

Sheriff Visited Former Home.

Sheriff Dorcey visited the former home of the Olsens at Rosalie on Tuesday afternoon. The Olsens have recently moved to a farm in Knox county, between Bloomfield and Wausa. They gave it out that they could no longer endure the mental torture of living in the place from which their little girl so mysteriously and so suddenly disappeared.

Drove at Break-Neck Speed.

After his visit to the former Olsen home at Rosalie, Dorcey did things. He acted quickly. And as soon as possible he had the father in custody.

From the old Olsen farm, the sheriff drove back to Pender at break-neck speed, just in time to catch the train which would take him to Olsen's present dwelling in Knox county.

The sheriff drove into Pender so fast that his horses almost dropped dead from their terrific flight under the sheriff's whip.

That was Tuesday afternoon and yesterday afternoon the father was brought back to Pender in the officer's care.

Mystery Surrounds The Affair.

Utter mystery surrounded the affair. What Sheriff Dorcey knew, he refused to tell. That he knew something, something definite and of importance in the case, was apparent from his trip to Olsen's abandoned farm, his fast drive to town, his taking the first train and making the arrest in silence but with speed.

Ugly Rumors Afloat.

Ugly rumors were started afloat by the arrest. Some said a grave had been discovered. Some went so far as to say that the little girl's body had been found in the cellar under the house. Many thought that the sheriff remained silent for the sake of preventing the mobbing of Olsen.

Little Girl's Disappearance.

It was before Christmas that little Lillie Olsen suddenly disappeared. Nobody ever knew what had become of her.

It was one of the most mysterious disappearances ever recorded in Nebraska.

ROCK COUNTY INSTITUTE.

Beneficial Meeting of Farmers at Bassett on Wednesday.

Bassett, Neb., March 5.—Special The News: The most largely attended and beneficial farmers' institute ever held in Rock county went into history yesterday. The large opera house was well filled with representative farmers from all parts of the county.

Prof. E. W. Hunt of Syracuse talked at 11 o'clock on "The selection and care of brood sows." In the afternoon Prof.

Andrew Elliott of Gault, Ontario, gave a splendid talk on "breeding, feeding and care of dairy cows," also on "horses and the judging of same." Prof. Hunt talked on alfalfa. All these subjects are of vital interest to this section.

In the evening Miss Myrtle Kaufman of Lincoln talked especially to the ladies on "lighting of kitchen work." Everyone speaks highly of every address of the day.

Prof. Geo. M. Hopkins was elected president and C. F. Stockwell secretary of the institute for the coming year.

FIRE AT VALENTINE.

Close Call for Home of the County Attorney.

Valentine, Neb., March 5.—Special The News: The house of John M. Ker, county attorney, was partly destroyed by fire and the furniture almost completely ruined by smoke and water. The fire was discovered about half past 10, just as a crowd of people were leaving the opera house where they had been witnessing a play. The hose cart was quickly run to the scene but some delay was occasioned by attaching the hose to the wrong fire plug, not enabling it to reach the house. This, however, was soon adjusted and a stream of water was thrown on the blaze, which was belching out through a bedroom window. The water very quickly quenched this and the fire was soon out, not in time, however, to prevent considerable damage to the furniture. The fire originated in a bed room and is thought to have been caused by a live coal or spark dropping on the carpet. The loss is covered by insurance.

The temporary organization was made permanent and after recess for dinner, the convention reconvened and passed resolutions as outlined. The following named were elected as delegates to the state convention: W. A. Whitla, Frank Morse, F. H. Atwood, C. A. McCutcheon, C. A. Lindahl, A. C. McFarland, C. W. Orr, Josiah Coombs.

Delegates to the congressional convention: W. T. Wills, R. R. Hazen, A. U. Dix, Robert Lynn, Alvin Cloom, Henry Brandvig, M. T. Post.

Delegates to the congressional convention at Norfolk are as follows: J. C. Elliott, C. A. Cohee, W. E. Kelso, Gust. Mathies, Fred. Nellor, M. C. Byson, Ed. Mack, O. C. Anderson, Samuel Beckenhauer, Herman Zepelin.

The convention unanimously endorsed the candidacy of Hon. W. H. Taft for president, the administration of Governor Sheldon and the conduct of Congressman J. F. Boyd, representing the Third district of Nebraska.

The convention also endorsed the candidacy of Governor Sheldon and Victor Rosewater for delegates-at-large to the republican national convention. The convention was very enthusiastic.

HARRIS FOR GOVERNOR IN OHIO Names of Roosevelt and Taft Brought Cheers From the House.

Columbus, O., March 5.—The Republican state convention nominated a state ticket, headed by Governor Andrew L. Harris for governor and including the following for the other important positions: Lieutenant governor, Francis W. Treadway of Cleveland; secretary of state, Carmi E. Thompson of Ironton; auditor, E. M. Fullington of Marysville; treasurer, Charles C. Green of Columbus; attorney general, U. G. Denman of Toledo.

Unanimity for William H. Taft as Ohio's candidate for the nomination for president was the feature of the convention. The delegates to the national convention were instructed to vote for Taft "until he is nominated."

The names of the delegates-at-large were presented by Congressman Nicholas Longworth, whose memory failed after he had started to deliver a prepared speech and he was compelled to finish by reading from the manuscript.

Mention of President Roosevelt's name, like that of Mr. Taft's, was received with vociferous applause. A notable ovation was tendered Congressman Theodore Burton, chairman of the committee on resolutions, who read the platform, which was adopted unanimously. The platform endorsed the policies inaugurated under the administration of President Roosevelt and Governor Harris. The declarations for revision of the tariff by friends of protection at an extra session of congress, a greater merchant marine and an adequate navy, the speedy completion of the Panama canal, the enforcement of the civil and political rights of the negro, and that there be "neither halt nor retreat sounded in the march toward better government," were among those features of the platform applauded by the delegates.

LYNN FOR COMMISSIONER

BOYD COUNTY MAN ANNOUNCED FOR STATE OFFICE.

BROUGHT OUT BY OWN PARTY

Convention of Boyd County Republicans Passes Resolutions Urging the Nomination of Robert Lynn of Spencer for Land Commissioner.

Lynch, Neb., March 5.—Special to The News: Robert Lynn of this county was formally announced as a candidate for commissioner of public lands and buildings, at the county convention held in Anoka, commencing his official work as chairman of the Boyd county board and his able conduct of the county's affairs.

The resolutions also endorse the administration of President Roosevelt, expressing an opinion that the message of the president delivered to congress January 31, is the greatest public document since the emancipation proclamation of President Lincoln; indorses the candidacy of Wm. H. Taft for president; indorses the work of Senators Burkett and Brown and Congressman Kinkaid; approves the fearless administration of Gov. Sheldon and the common sense legislation of the last legislature. O. O. Snyder is recommended for delegate to the national convention.

The convention was held at Anoka pursuant to call. Every precinct was represented except Boyd. The convention was called to order by J. K. Moore, chairman of the county central committee. Temporary organization was formed by the election of W. A. Goble as chairman and A. C. McFarland as secretary. The chair appointed a committee on resolutions and one on nominations, each committee consisting of one member from each voting precinct.

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FACE BLOWN AWAY BY CRESTON HUNTER

PERRY BROWN ACCIDENTALLY SHOTS HIMSELF.

FACE HORRIBLY DISFIGURED

WAS HUNTING NEAR CRESTON WITH TWO COMPANIONS.

DEATH RESULTED INSTANTLY

While Attempting to Crawl Through a Fence the Trigger of His Gun Caught on a Wire and the Gun Did Its Deadly Work.

Madison, Neb., March 5.—Special to The News: Perry Brown of Creston was accidentally killed while out hunting yesterday afternoon near Creston. He was crawling through a fence when the gun he was carrying was discharged, the load of shot taking effect in his chin and blowing a considerable portion of his face away.

Perry Brown was about thirty years old, son of James Brown, a business man of Creston. With two companions he went hunting yesterday afternoon near Creston. They were going from one field to another and were crawling through a wire fence, when the accident happened. Brown had the gun in his hand and as he attempted to draw the weapon toward him the trigger caught on a wire and the gun was discharged. With an upward range the charge struck him squarely in the chin, blowing that feature away, horribly mangling the upper part of his face. Death came instantly.

As soon as possible, Brown's two companions secured assistance and conveyed his body to Creston.

Perry Brown was a member of Company F of Madison, and was with that company in the Philippines, where he proved himself a good soldier and was popular with his messmates. The funeral will be held from the home in Creston Saturday afternoon. Company F will be represented at the funeral by a firing squad.

Editors' Secret Contracts. Commission Makes Discovery Concerning Missouri Pacific.

Lincoln, March 5.—Special to The News: The railway commission discovered today twenty-five secret contracts between the editors of southeast Nebraska and the Missouri Pacific railway company.

Starr is about 25 years of age and the girl but 17, and the trouble all grew out of the man's persistent proposals of marriage. The girl refused and the man produced a revolver with a demand to "consent or die." The girl pretended to consent, but upon reaching the justice's office at Stickney swore out a warrant instead of procuring a marriage license. Starr is now confined in the county jail here, unable to secure a bond for \$500 for appearance at the next term of court.

U. P. ORDERED TO RESTORE TRAINS Emergency Order Will Be Issued If Not Done by Monday.

Lincoln, March 5.—The state railway commission ordered the Union Pacific railroad to restore the trains recently annulled on the branch lines in Nebraska. Unless this is done by Monday an emergency order will be issued.

General Freight Agent Spens of the Burlington files a protest with the railroad commission against the proposed canvassing of the freight rate situation in Nebraska. Mr. Spens said that it would be useless to reduce rates in Nebraska because that would make a re-arrangement necessary throughout the whole system and that such action would come under the jurisdiction of the interstate commerce commission.

Tecumseh Woman Ends Life. Tecumseh, Neb., March 5.—Mrs. J. S. Arnap, ex-secretary of the Nebraska Woman Suffrage association and a leading club worker, killed herself by drinking carbolic acid. In a note she stated that ill health was the cause.

Woman Ends Life in Cistern. Boone, Ia., March 5.—Mrs. W. E. Waltz of this city committed suicide at her home on Seventh street by jumping into the cistern. She had worried over the health of her daughter, Zella, who had been ill for some time.

Japanese Peers Pass Budget. Tokio, March 5.—The budget has passed the house of peers without amendment.

GEORGE P. MARVIN IS DEAD Veteran Editor of Beatrice Sun Succumbs Quickly to Pneumonia.

Beatrice, Neb., March 5.—George P. Marvin, for the last thirty years editor and proprietor of the Gage County Democrat and for five years holding the same position with the Beatrice Daily Sun, died here after a brief illness of pneumonia, aged fifty-seven years. He was employed by ex-Governor Furnas on the old Advertiser at Brownville, Neb., one of the first newspapers published in this state, and was postmaster here under Cleveland's administration. Mr. Marvin had always taken an active part in politics in Gage county. He is survived by a widow and three children. He was taken sick a week ago while attending the annual meeting of the Nebraska Press association at Lincoln.

THE CONDITION OF THE WEATHER Temperature for Twenty-four Hours. Forecast for Nebraska.

Condition of the weather as recorded for the twenty-four hours ending at 8 a. m. today.

Maximum 38
Minimum 32
Average 35
Barometer 29.80

Chicago, March 5.—The bulletin issued by the Chicago station of the United States weather bureau gives the forecast for Nebraska as follows: Rain or snow tonight and Friday. Not much change in temperature.

NO ANTI-PROHIBITION PLANK

SUCH A PLANK WILL NOT APPEAR IN DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

STATE CONVENTION IS SLOW

Bryan Worked on Platform Nearly All Night and a Part of the Forenoon. District Conventions Did Not Meet Until After Noon.

Omaha, March 5.—Special to The News: The democratic state convention is slow in getting together this afternoon. The meeting was called at the Auditorium at 2 o'clock, but at that hour the congressional district conventions which were expected to meet this forenoon but didn't, had not finished their deliberations, and the result was that the main show was not ready for business.

Before the convention was called to order the state central committee selected H. H. Hanks of Otoe county to act as temporary chairman.

A feature of the platform to be adopted by the Nebraska democrats today is the absence of an anti-prohibition plank. W. J. Bryan spent the greater part of last night and this forenoon writing and revising the resolutions which he presented to the convention when it met this afternoon. During the conference on the platform with state leaders, Bryan curtly turned down Representative Bowers, who asked for a plank declaring for personal liberty anti-prohibition.

The district conventions did not get under way until after the noon hour, and all delegates were not ready to go into the state body when it met.

The populists are holding their usual fiasco and will swallow the entire democratic action as soon as they are informed what it is.

TRAPS THREATENING LOVER Rides With Persistent Lover to Office of Justice of Peace, but Instead of Consenting to Marriage Swears Out Warrant and Has Him Arrested.

Plankinton, S. D., March 5.—Sheriff Primer and Attorney Fellows were called to Stickney to investigate a complaint brought in justice court by Miss Kate Gessler, charging Glenn Starr with a threat to commit murder. Both parties are from Tripp, this state and were guests at a wedding near Stickney.

Starr is about 25 years of age and the girl but 17, and the trouble all grew out of the man's persistent proposals of marriage. The girl refused and the man produced a revolver with a demand to "consent or die." The girl pretended to consent, but upon reaching the justice's office at Stickney swore out a warrant instead of procuring a marriage license. Starr is now confined in the county jail here, unable to secure a bond for \$500 for appearance at the next term of court.

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A HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE CHILDREN CREMATED IN BURNING SCHOOL HOUSE

OF THESE FIFTY-SIX ARE STILL UNIDENTIFIED.

BURNED BEYOND RECOGNITION

SEARCH CONTINUED THROUGH THE NIGHT FOR BODIES.

AWFUL CLEVELAND HOLOCAUST

First Estimate of the Number of Fatalities Was Less Than Half the Actual Number, as the Gruesome Search of the Night Proved.

Cleveland, O., March 5.—Fifty-six of the one hundred and sixty-five bodies which had been recovered up to 11 o'clock this morning, are still unidentified. Louis Gardner, member of the school board, insists that the fire was the work of an incendiary.

The terrible holocaust which took place at the school building in Collinwood, a suburb of Cleveland, yesterday morning, is much more horrible than first reports indicated. During the afternoon while the search for bodies was going on, it was estimated that seventy-five children had lost their lives in the seething flames. But as the heat cooled down in the ruins the search was continued by anxious fathers and sympathizing friends, and during the whole horrible night bodies of little people were removed from the wreck. The originally estimated number was passed early in the evening, and by 11 o'clock this morning 165 bodies were brought to the surface. As fast as removed from the ruins, the little bodies were removed to an improvised morgue in the shops of the Lake Shore railway. Many of the bodies were so badly charred and disfigured as to be unrecognizable, 66 being unidentified at this hour.

Cleveland, March 5.—Pinned in narrow hallways, jammed up against doors that only opened inward, between 165 and 175 children in the suburb of North Collinwood were killed by fire, by smoke, and beneath the grinding heels of their panic-stricken playmates.

The awful tragedy occurred in the public school of North Collinwood, ten miles east of this city. One hundred and sixty-five corpses are in the morgue at Collinwood, thirteen children are still unaccounted for, and all the hospitals and houses for two miles around contain numbers of children, some fatally and many less seriously injured.

All the victims were between the ages of six and fifteen years. The school contained between three hundred and ten and three hundred and twenty-five pupils, and of this entire number only about eighty are known to have left the building unharmed. It will be several days before the exact number of killed is known, as the ruins may still contain other bodies, and the list of fatalities may be increased by a number of deaths among the children who are now lying in the hospitals hovering between life and death.

The school house was of brick, two stories and an attic in height. The number of pupils was more than normally large, and the smaller children had been placed in an attic of the building. There was but one fire escape, and that was in the rear of the building. There were two stairways, one leading to a door in front and the other to a door in the rear. Both of these doors opened inward, and it is claimed the rear door was locked as usual.

When the flames were discovered the teachers, who throughout seem to have acted with courage and self-possession, and to have struggled heroically for the safety of their pupils, marshaled the little ones into column for the "fire drill," which they had often practiced.

Exit Clogged by Heaps of Little Ones. Unfortunately, the line of march in this exercise had always led to the front door and the children had not been trained to seek any other exit. The fire came from a furnace situated directly under this part of the building. When the children reached the foot of the stairs they found the flames close upon them, and so swift a rush was made for the door that in an instant a tightly packed mass of children was piled up against it. From that second none of those who were upon any portion of the first flight of stairs had a chance for their lives. The children at the foot of the stairs attempted to fight their way back to the floor above, while those who were coming down shoved them mercilessly back into the flames below. In an instant there was a frightful panic, with 200 of the pupils fighting for their lives. Most of those who were killed died here. The greater part of those who escaped managed to turn back and reached the fire escape, and the windows in the rear.

What happened at the foot of that flight of stairs will never be known, for all of those who were caught in the fall fury of the panic were killed. After the flames had died away, however, huge heaps of little bodies

Work of Rescue Begun. After the fire had practically burned itself out, the work of rescuing the bodies was begun by firemen and railroad employes from the Lake Shore shops. The railroad company turned over one of its buildings nearby to be used as a temporary morgue, and thither the charred and broken little bodies were removed as fast as they could be dug from the ruins. Within five hours practically all had been recovered. They were placed in rows in the Lake Shore shop. Identifications were made only by means of clothing or trinkets. The fire had swept away nearly all resemblance to human features in the majority of instances.

The gruesome task of taking out the blackened corpses and bits of human remains was one of horror. A line of rescuers was formed, backed by half a dozen ambulances. As the bodies were untangled from the debris they were passed along to the stretchers and thence loaded in the ambulances. Meticulously covered with blankets, the pitiful sights were veiled from the crowd of curious that stretched about the entrance to the structure. As fast as a load was obtained it was driven away to the improvised morgue.

Work of Identification. At the temporary morgue in the Lake Shore shop the scenes became fourfold in the intensity of human suffering as fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters passed up and down the lines formed of 165 corpses. To facilitate identification the bodies were numbered as they were received at the morgue. The first identification was made by the mother of Nels and Tommy Thompson, aged six and nine years respectively. The heads and arms had been burned from both bodies, but the mother recognized the shoes on their feet. And so the disheartening work went on, accentuated now and then by a piercing shriek or plaintive moan as a loved one was recognized by clothing or token, such as ring or necklace.

List of Known Dead. Miss Catherine Weiler, Henry Shultz, John Rochinsky, William M. Kanowsky, Henry Lodge, Dorothy Hart, Clayton Bell, Wilfred Cook, Irene Davis, Gretchen Dorn, Nels Thompson, Thomas Thompson, Robert Hunter, Rose Swanson, Rose Bushman, Clark Dale, Floyd Brown, Luella Baldwin, Amelia Burrows, Normal Bell, Claude Clayton, Lester Center, Nellie Carson, Meda Deper, Percy Day, Matilda Droscha, Mildred Cunningham, Catherine M. Duffy, Albert Gould, Walter Herter, Helena Herter, Edith Herter, Hugh McClrath, Leda Murphy, Edward Myer, Jennie Phillips, Mary Ridgway, Anna Roth, Lillian Rosterik, Norris Sherman, Bernard Schubert, Harold Sanderson, Mable Sigler, James Turner, Norman Turner, Max

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burned by the fire, and tramped into things of horror, told the tale as well as anybody need to know it.

Janitor Herter's Story. Various and unconfirmed statements are made as to the cause of the fire and also that the doors of the building had been locked at the front entrance, while but one door of the rear entry was unfastened. The janitor, Fritz Herter, himself bereaved of three children, says that the doors were open, according to custom. At any rate the congestion of fleeing children in the hallway below effectually barred the way, and the little ones went to their death totally unable to evade the flames. Nearly all the children were killed in the mass at the first floor door, which finally was opened by men from the Lake Shore railway shops, who hurried to the scene. A wall of flame had formed across it and most of the children already were dead by the time the doors were swung open. Janitor Herter could remember little of what happened after the fire started. "I was sweeping in the basement," he said, "when I looked up and saw a wisp of smoke curling out from beneath the front stairway. I ran to the fire alarm and pulled the gong that sounded throughout the building. Then I ran first to the front and then to the rear doors. I cannot remember what happened next, except that I saw the flames shooting all about and the little children running through them screaming. Some fell at the rear entrance and others stumbled over them. I saw my little Helen among them. I tried to pull her out, but the flames drove me back. I had to leave my little child to die."

Teacher Loses Her Life. Miss Catherine Weiler, one of the nine teachers in the school, lost her life in a vain effort to marshal the pupils of her class and lead them to safety. She died in the crush at the rear door. Her room was on the second floor and when the fire alarm sounded, she marched her pupils out into the hall, thinking it was only a fire drill. There the truth dawned upon both teacher and pupils, and frenzy was lost. The children, in their frenzy, plunged into the struggling mass ahead of them. Miss Weiler attempted to stem the rush, but went down under it, and her body was found an hour later piled high with those of her pupils. Miss Fisk, another teacher, was taken out alive, but she cannot live.

Burning through the cross supports of the first floor, the flames passed upward until all three floors crashed into a smoldering pile in the basement.

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