

# THE NORFOLK WEEKLY NEWS-JOURNAL.

NORFOLK, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1909.

## 240,000 ARE DEAD.

Worst Earthquake in History of World.

THIRTY TOWNS LEVELED.

These Places Will Add Thousands of Victims to Roll.

FACE OF COUNTRY CHANGED.

Report Confirmed That Consul Cheney and Wife Are Dead.

Manchester, England, Dec. 31.—From an unofficial message received from his government, the Italian consul here estimates the total dead in Sicily and Calabria, as a result of the earthquake and tidal wave, at 240,000. The worst earthquake in the world's history, prior to this, killed 200,000 people.

Catania, Sicily, Dec. 31.—The greatest need of Messina and Reggio is doctors, nurses and medicine. The danger of an epidemic of disease is becoming alarming. The streets are full of bodies and the rescuers can make little headway burying and burning them. Others are being taken from the ruins as fast as removed. The rescuers are staggering from the work and are sick from the stench of bodies.

CORPSES PACKED TOGETHER. Rome, Dec. 31.—Southern Italy and the north coast of Sicily are today a huge hospital. Before night it is expected that 60,000 survivors will be landed at Naples. The railway station at Messina, where many gathered in the hope of escaping by train, was uncovered today, revealing scores of corpses packed together.

UNITED STATES TO HELP. Washington, Dec. 31.—The American battleship fleet, passing through the Red sea, will probably be sent to Italy. Plans to this effect are being discussed by the navy and state departments.

The fleet will reach Suez January 3 and will reach Messina about January 9. It will be able to land 12,000 men who will help in the work of rescue. The United States gunboat Scorpion, now at Constantinople, has been ordered to Messina. It is believed that President Roosevelt will send an urgent special message to congress as soon as it reconvenes, urging an appropriation for the relief of the quake sufferers.

GOVERNMENT TO HELP. Rome, Dec. 31.—Parliament will assemble as soon as the king returns from the scene of disaster, to adopt measures of relief by a special tax. An increase in railroad rates is contemplated. Sufferers from the quake will be exempt from railroad rates.

SECOND SERIES OF SHOCKS. Rome, Dec. 31.—The extent of the second series of shocks, reported yesterday, has not been announced. The increase in the estimated death list gives rise to the belief that the shocks may have done great damage. In Messina it is known that the walls and ruins fell, but it is believed that the only additional deaths are those of persons who were pinned under the ruins.

SEASIDE VILLAGES GONE. Naples, Dec. 31.—Seamen arriving from the strait of Messina report that all seaside villages are gone. Apparently they were engulfed.

AMERICA RUSHES SUPPLIES. New York, Dec. 31.—Commander Huse of the navy supply ship "Celtic" has been ordered to the earthquake scene. He has 6,000 tons of fresh meat, clothing and medicine.

BUSCH GIVES \$25,000. St. Louis, Dec. 31.—Adolphus Busch, president of the Anheuser-Busch Brewing association, today gave \$25,000 to earthquake sufferers.

CHICAGO ITALIANS RAISE \$5,000. Chicago, Dec. 31.—Italian residents of Chicago have thus far collected \$5,000 which was sent to Italy at noon today.

Rome, Dec. 31.—The immensity of the disaster in southern Italy and Sicily can only be measured by the fact that it is now estimated that 70,000 people perished in Messina and Reggio alone. A score of other towns have been devastated and thousands of victims in those places must be added to the roll. In the face of these awful

toris, all Italy stands appalled. Nor has the full death list yet been reached. Ship loads of fugitives have arrived at Naples and other ports and the vast majority of these are sorely injured. Other thousands remain near the ruins of their homes or wander half starved, half naked, over the land. The shocks also destroyed the means of subsistence. Telegraphic communication has been established with Messina, the apparatus having been established in a railway van. Messages which have come over the line, though they have been meager in detail, show that hope is gone. Nothing remains of the city but a mass of ruins that have been swept by fire. A mere handful of survivors are being cared for by the rescuing forces, but their distress is great and it has been increased by the violent icy wind that followed the deluge of rain. Destitution is everywhere and appalling. There is little food and less water. Of Messina's 90,000 population it is believed that fully 70,000 perished. Forty thousand people died in Reggio.

King Visits Reggio. Victor Emmanuel is in Reggio Queen Helena is in Messina. The disaster has resulted in scenes which he often moved to tears at the king's bedside. The king was loud in his praise of the splendid work accomplished by the Italian, Russian and English bluejackets, who saved many persons who otherwise would have inevitably perished. The queen spent the day in the wards of improvised hospitals visiting the wounded, many of whom have lost all that was dear to them. Her majesty did her best to cheer them with womanly words of consolation, often breaking into sobs as she listened to their dreadful tales of suffering.

Catania, the largest city nearest to the scene of the disaster, is crowded with refugees and the continuous stream of fugitives coming in the sight of the wounded and the repetition of real or imaginary earthquakes has so alarmed the population that they are becoming uncontrollable. There is no longer any place where the refugees may find shelter. "This disaster has resulted in a greater loss of life than any of our wars for independence. Indeed, the situation is much worse, as while war is always preceded by a period of preparation, this has happened within forty seconds. While in the war the army is followed by the most complete camp hospitals, the numbers wounded in Calabria and eastern Sicily have been left in many cases forty-eight hours without assistance. Even when rescued it is impossible to house them, everything available having been filled by the dead. Lack of care and starvation will complete the work that the forces of nature have left undone."

Sovereigns Send Sympathy. All the sovereigns and the heads of states of the foreign governments have sent expressions of warmest sympathy and deepest condolence.

The dispatches from the stricken zone say that a large army would be required to cope with even the pressing needs of the unfortunate people, who are roaming about half clad and starving, some of them dragging articles of clothing from the smouldering ruins to protect themselves from the winds. Terrible suffering is inevitable before the much needed relief stores can arrive.

The rescue parties, military, naval and civil, of different nationalities are performing prodigies, but the task before them is almost hopeless. Added to the difficulty of obtaining food and water, there are no drugs or surgical appliances. Heartbreaking appeals for help are heard on every side, to which only the most inadequate response is possible. Temporary hospitals are being rigged up, but only a comparatively few can be relieved and the scenes of horror defy description. The survivors of the earthquake are suffering cruel extremities and in Messina may be seen everywhere vainly searching in the dust and debris for morsels of food.

Fifteen Hundred Dead at Palmi. Late dispatches state that the city of Palmi contains 1,500 dead and twice as many injured. Two-thirds of the town was laid waste. All the villages adjacent suffered as severely.

The king has telegraphed Premier Giolitti, informing him that Reggio is in the same awful condition as Messina and announcing that a Russian steamer with 500 injured will arrive at Naples today. His majesty asks that all preparations be made for their reception at the hospitals and requests that the ship be sent back with all the doctors that can be mustered.

Dispatches from Catania describe Messina as appearing like a huge incandescent furnace. The fire spread to the buildings that had not yet fallen, completing the work of destruction. The Strait of Messina is now choked with corpses of men and animals. At the present time there are twelve warships at Messina, four Italian, four British and four Russian, as well as a number of destroyers and steamers, the latter belonging to the Italian General Navigation company. The injured are being carried aboard the steamers and will be removed to Naples.

The relief work now is well begun, but hundreds of persons are wandering about the ruins like madmen. They are being given food and clothing as fast as it is possible. General Marzagli, commandant at Catanzaro, has telegraphed to the government that he has tried vainly for two days to reach Reggio by land and sea. The roads are impracticable and the shore has been so torn and twisted as far as he

## BURTON WINS TOGA IN OHIO.

Charles P. Taft and Foraker Both Withdraw.

BITTER STRUGGLE ENDED.

For the Sake of Harmony, Charles P. Taft Withdraws From Race—Believed to Mean His Election to Succeed Dick Two Years Hence.

Columbus, O., Dec. 31.—Charles P. Taft today announced his withdrawal from the Ohio senatorial race, for the sake of party harmony. The Cincinnati delegation will now vote solidly for Theodore E. Burton. Senator Joseph Benson Foraker, whose seat is to be filled, announced his withdrawal from the race an hour after Mr. Taft's statement. Politicians say that this harmonious ending of the fight means the selection of Charles P. Taft to succeed Dick two years hence. Today's settlement of the Ohio senatorial controversy resulted from a midnight conference held last night between Mr. Burton and Mr. Taft. It is said that the Taft withdrawal followed advice from President-elect W. H. Taft.

Ainsworth Democrat Sold. Ainsworth, Neb., Dec. 31.—Special to The News: The Ainsworth Democrat was sold Wednesday by the E. E. Humphrey family to Clarence C. Jones of the Lead City (S. D.) Register. Possession will begin next week.

## DEATH CLAIMS W. L. MATHUES.

Former State Treasurer of Pennsylvania Expires Suddenly.

Media, Pa., Dec. 31.—William L. Mathues, former state treasurer of Pennsylvania, died suddenly at his home here, aged forty-six years. The cause of death was given by his physician as pneumonia, but it is generally believed that this illness was superinduced by Mr. Mathues' tribulations which were brought upon him by the Harrisburg capitol graft cases and his recent sentence of two years in the penitentiary for his part in the alleged conspiracy against the state.

## FIRST HOMESTEADER DEAD AT BEATRICE.

Daniel Freeman Passes Away at Age of Eighty-two.

Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 31.—Daniel Freeman, the first man in the United States to file on and prove up a homestead, is dead at his home in this city, aged eighty-two. Nebraska has never had a more unique character than Freeman, and although he has never held office, he has made his personality felt in every part of the state. He believed the bible was intended for people who believed in it, and that others should not have it forced upon them. This led him to bring suit to force the bible out of the public schools. The case went through the various branches of the state court and Freeman was finally successful in the supreme tribunal of the state.

Freeman was a soldier in the civil war, and it was during that period that he filed on the first homestead. His filing was made at one minute past midnight on the 1st day of January, 1863. He was at Brownsville on a secret mission and it was at that point that the first land entries were made. Freeman still retains the patent papers issued to him forty-six years ago. They show that it is patent No. 1, entry No. 1, proof of residence No. 1, entered in volume 1 page 1, of the United States land office, and is signed by President Grant. Freeman still owned the land at the time of his death. He is survived by a widow and several children.

Father's Error Kills His Child. Aurora, Neb., Dec. 31.—The little child, two years of age, of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Blair of Aurora died as the result of swallowing a dose of poison administered to it by its father under the impression that it was medicine. The child had been ailing for a day or two with bowel trouble. The father, thought to give it a dose of medicine, suitable to this complaint, but instead gave it a spoonful of carbolic acid.

Hearing on Freight Classification. Lincoln, Dec. 31.—Jan. 15 is the date set for the hearing of protests against the putting into effect of the western classification of freight rates, No. 45, by the state railway commission. The hearing on this matter has been several times postponed for one reason and another, but it is finally scheduled for the 15th without any further notice.

Telephone Girl Has Close Call. Geneva, Neb., Dec. 31.—Miss Addie Allison, a telephone employee, had a narrow escape from death when she grasped the telephone receiver and an electric light globe in either hand at the same moment. She was knocked senseless by the contact and but for the timely assistance of her employer she would have been electrocuted.

## BLIZZARD IN NORTH.

Snow and Wind in St. Paul and the Dakotas. St. Paul, Dec. 31.—A blizzard reached here today. The wind is blowing forty miles an hour. Reports have been received of delays in traffic in the Dakotas.

Actor Reineau Drops Dead. Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 31.—Frank G. Reineau, stage director for James K. Hackett, and a well known German actor, dropped dead in front of the Grand opera house here. Death was due to apoplexy.

## HURLED OUT OF AN AUTOMOBILE.

H. L. McGinittie and Dave Fletcher Victims.

## DROP IN MUDDY SLOUGH.

Two Nellig Men Were Thrown from a Balty Machine When the Car Stopped on a Hill and Rolled Backwards Down the Incline.

Neligh, Neb., Dec. 31.—Special to The News: What might have been a serious accident happened to H. L. McGinittie and Dave Fletcher of this place Tuesday afternoon about four o'clock. Mr. McGinittie was called on business and secured Mr. Fletcher and his automobile to make the trip. When about twelve miles southwest of Neligh and near the home of Gus Anderson they were ascending a steep hill, when near the top the machine refused to proceed, and started backwards, and at such a rate that the occupants were unable to jump and were thrown out and into a slough. Both were covered with mud and water-soaked. The auto, however, did not turn over.

Mr. McGinittie sustained quite a shock and a severe injury to his back. He was brought to Neligh yesterday morning by E. C. Taylor, who took him to his home near the accident and where he spent the night. Mr. Fletcher did not receive more than a good shaking up. He telephoned home that he was starting with the machine Wednesday. At a late hour last night he had not made his appearance, and it was currently reported that the auto is making trouble.

Mr. McGinittie this morning is resting nicely, and says he fears no serious results from his experience.

## GAS PLANT EXPLODES.

Wrecks Building at Indian School and Hurts Two Workmen.

Chamberlain, S. D., Dec. 31.—The acetylene gas plant at the Indian school blew up about 10 a. m. yesterday, doing no damage except to the building in which it was located and slightly injuring two parties who were in the building at the time. The explosion was due to some defect in the mechanism of the plant and not to the neglect of anyone connected with the school. A. Victor Brace, carpenter at the school, and W. Bad Whirlwind were in the building at the time it was blown to pieces, but luckily neither one was hurt aside from slight bruises. Bert Lafferty, another pupil, was just outside of the building and escaped unhurt. The building was a frame 16x20 feet, and was located at the rear of the large building used by the Indian boys.

Superintendent S. A. M. Young of the Indian school has been transferred to Yakima reservation in the state of Washington, where he will have charge of a school. Supervisor Charles H. Dickson is now here checking up Superintendent Young's work before he leaves for his new field, which will be in about two weeks. Superintendent Young has made an excellent official and the people of Chamberlain regret to see him transferred. The school will be temporarily in charge of Supervisor Dickson when Superintendent Young leaves.

Finch Found Guilty of Murder. Portland, Ore., Dec. 31.—The jury in the case of James A. Finch, charged with the murder of Ralph B. Fisher, prosecutor of the State Bar associations, returned a verdict of murder in the first degree.

## OKLAHOMA BANK LOSES \$5,000.

Citizens Exchange Shots With Robbers, but No One is Hurt.

Muskogee, Okla., Dec. 31.—Five robbers dynamited the bank at Wellston, Okla., and after exchanging 200 shots with the citizens, escaped with \$5,000. No one was hurt. The robbers, heavily armed, rode into Wellston after midnight. They erected a barricade around the bank and while some members of the gang went to work on the bank safe, others stood guard. The citizens were soon up in arms and a lively exchange of shots with the robbers followed. The robbers, however, were well armed and protected, and for two hours they stood off the citizens while their comrades worked on the bank's vault. When they finally succeeded in gaining the money it contained, the five men rode off, covering their departure with a constant and heavy fire.

## MRS. HAINS ADMITTED ALL.

Was With Annis in New York on the Sly.

SUPPOSED TO BE ON VISIT.

Major Hains, Brother of Accused, Says the Captain's Wife Told Him at First There Was No Truth in Scandal, Later Confessing.

Flushing, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Major Hains, a brother of the two men being tried for murder, was on the stand today. He told of a conversation with Captain Hains, in an endeavor to show that the captain was mentally unbalanced. The major declared that the captain told him that when he came home his wife asked him why he had hurried across the continent. The captain told her that her name was involved in a scandal. She said the scandal was not true and then invited Annis to dinner.

Afterwards she said that she might as well tell all—that during the week she had been supposed to be visiting relatives she was with Annis in New York, where she had an operation performed. Attorney McIntyre shows the effect of the strain of the trial. His face today was white and drawn. He wanted the case adjourned until tomorrow. He resents the action of Judge Crane of yesterday, in refusing to grant an adjournment, without question.

Defendant's Mother Testifies. The mother of the men on trial testified this afternoon. She said she believed the Captain to be crazy and put him in charge of T. Jenkins.

Old and bent, grey headed and frail looking, the mother entered the courtroom on the arm of her husband. She wept for several minutes before she could proceed in answering questions. She declared that the captain had been a delicate youth, said he had fits when visiting her last June in Washington. She believes him crazy.

The court adjourned until Monday on the plea of McIntyre that he was too ill to continue. He promised to finish the case by Wednesday.

## RELIGIOUS WORKERS TO SEE NEW YEAR IN.

Twelve Thousand of Them Assembled in Chicago.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—In the Coliseum here tonight 12,000 Christian workers will await with hymns and prayers the coming of the new year. It will be a gigantic old fashioned "watch night" service, participated in by evangelists from all parts of America. Tonight's service will be the closing scene of a three days' revival held under the auspices of the Moody Bible institute of this city. Among the men who are attending the services are the following:

Dr. L. W. Marshall of Germantown, Pa., a distinguished Methodist evangelist, who has been engaged to conduct evangelistic meetings in the Panama canal zone; Dr. William E. Biederwolf, Monticello, Ind., who is just concluding a six months' campaign in Kansas, assisted by thirty evangelists; William Phillips Hall, New York, president of the American Tract society and of the American Bible league; Mrs. J. Ellen Foster, Washington, who has recently conducted special investigations of child labor and prison conditions for President Roosevelt; Dr. A. B. Simpson, founder of the Christian Missionary alliance.

Fatalities in Lick Mine. Roanoke, Va., Dec. 31.—The latest news received here from the Lick Branch coal mine disaster is to the effect that twenty-nine dead bodies have been removed. Eighteen miners have crawled out unaided and five others have been brought out alive by rescuers. It is now believed that from thirty-five to fifty men remain in the mine and there is no hope entertained that any of them are alive.

## DIVORCE QUESTION DISCUSSED.

Lively Ending to Meeting of American Sociological Society.

Atlantic City, N. J., Dec. 31.—Arguments by expert students of social conditions, who took sides for and against divorce as a means of alleviating marital unhappiness, made a lively ending to the meeting of the American Sociological society here. Following the lead of Dr. George Elliott Howard of Nebraska university, who claimed that the growth of divorce is necessary for the proper protection of women against cruel or indifferent husbands, Dr. Joseph Krausopf of Philadelphia stated his open advocacy of separation of men and women who had been wrongfully bound together by marital ties which galled. In opposition to the theories advanced by these students, Walter George St. B. Philadelphia lawyer and member of the national divorce congress, took the stand that divorce in any form is a danger to both home and state.

## THE CONDITION OF THE WEATHER.

Forecast for Nebraska. Outlook of the weather as recorded so far for the twenty-four hours ending at 8 a. m. today. Maximum 26. Minimum 02. Average 14. Barometer 30.62. Chicago, Dec. 31.—The bulletin issued by the Chicago station of the United States weather bureau gives the forecast for Nebraska as follows: Snow tonight or Friday with rising temperature.

## BABE CHOKES ON HOLIDAY CANDY.

Little Fellow Stumbles and Strangles.

## DEATH SHORTLY FOLLOWED.

Little Fifteen-Months-Old Arthur Rey at Wayne, Filled With Holiday Glee, Was Dancing Joyfully When Life Was Taken.

Wayne, Neb., Dec. 31.—Special to The News: Dancing in childish glee with holiday spirit, little fifteen-months-old Arthur Rey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rey, stumbled and choked on a bulky piece of Christmas candy, dying some hours later despite untiring efforts of the frantic parents and a physician.

## BEEMER MAN BADLY HURT.

Bones Broken in Face, Ear Torn Nearly Off.

Lindsay, Neb., Dec. 31.—Special to The News: Dr. Tobkin, who has just returned from Beemer, bringing report of a serious accident to Charles Komach, whose horses ran away. The man was found at 3 o'clock in the morning by neighbors. His jaw was broken in two places, his nose mashed, his face bruised and one ear torn nearly off.

## Pin Appears at Ankle.

Winside, Neb., Dec. 31.—About ten days ago a small red spot appeared a few inches above the ankle of Nellie Murman, a Winside school girl of fifteen, which gradually became larger, until it had the appearance of a felon. Yesterday a physician cut it open and found a pin, corroded, with a bone-like substance, deeply imbedded in the flesh.

It is the theory of the physician that the pin was swallowed at some time and worked itself through the flesh down to the ankle.

## Newspaper Moved to Rosalie.

Rosalie, Neb., Dec. 31.—James Brink has moved his newspaper plant from Concord to this place and expects to issue his paper here next week.

## Retires After 15 Years.

Emerson, Neb., Dec. 31.—S. E. Cobb has sold the Enterprise, published at this place, to L. C. McEutoffer. The former has been in the newspaper business here for the past fifteen years.

## Erb Defense Bolstered Up.

Media, Pa., Dec. 31.—The trial of Mrs. M. Florence Erb and her sister, Mrs. Catherine Belski, for the murder of Captain J. Clayton Erb, progressed rapidly here. Ten witnesses were examined, among them the servants in the employ of the Erb household and some officials who investigated the crime. The testimony of all the witnesses was considered by the defense's lawyers as materially strengthening their case. It tended, they said, to sustain the contention that Mrs. Belski, as she has maintained from the first, fired the fatal shot.

## Northern Pacific Tied Up.

Grand Forks, N. D., Dec. 31.—The Northern Pacific road between St. Paul and Winnipeg is badly tied up as the result of a severe snowstorm.

## Voters League Appeals for Funds.

Pittsburg, Dec. 31.—An appeal for funds to meet the expenses of the Voters' league in continuing the work already started as well as to broaden the field of that reform organization's endeavor is the leading development in the Pittsburg municipal scandal. Since the arrests of seven councilmen and two former bankers last week, league officers have announced from time to time the receipt of liberal contributions, but the total of these is inadequate for the league's plans.

## Shoats Former Sweetheart and Self.

Kansas City, Dec. 31.—An hour after he had wished his former sweetheart, now a bride of less than a week, a "long life and a happy one," Ray Rees returned to her home in Kansas City, Kan., and shot her through the breast, after which he committed suicide by shooting himself in the head. The woman, Mrs. Clyde Setzer, nineteen years old, is not expected to live.

## Suit to Recover Coal Land.

Denver, Dec. 31.—The Utah Fuel company is made defendant in a petition filed in the federal court here whereby the United States government seeks to recover 1,920 acres of valuable coal land in Gunnison county, Colorado, alleged to have been fraudulently secured through dummy entrymen.

## KAUFMAN WINS LONG BATTLE.

San Francisco Fighter Defeats Jim Barry in 39 Rounds.

SECONDS THROW UP SPONGE.

Toss Towel into Ring After Their Man Had Been Badly Beaten and All but Out—Neither Pugilist Showed Championship Fighting Form.

Los Angeles, Dec. 31.—Al Kaufmann of San Francisco won from Jim Barry of Chicago in the thirty-ninth round before the Jeffries Athletic club last night. Barry's seconds threw a towel into the ring in the middle of the thirty-ninth round after their man had been badly beaten and was all but out. Barry's chief second stated that both his man's hands were badly injured and it was useless for him to continue and suffer punishment. The Chicago boy was game and wanted to continue. He was, however, completely exhausted and put about out in the previous round. In that round Kaufmann sent a hard right to the jaw and Barry went down for the count of nine. The latter's strength had been waning and it was evident he could do no more. His face was badly swollen. Kaufmann also had a badly battered countenance, but his strength was undiminished. He took considerable punishment from Barry throughout the fight. The contest from the standpoint of a scientific boxing match was one of the very poorest that has been staged here in years. Neither man showed any championship material whatever, although Barry exhibited gameness and cleverness.

## HEAVYWEIGHTS TO MIX.

Hart and Schreck Get Together in Lexington, Ky., Tonight.

Lexington, Ky., Dec. 31.—Tom Marvin Hart of Louisville and Charles Schreck of Cincinnati, heavyweight will get together in a twenty round fight in the opera house here. Although Hart calls himself a heavyweight champion of the world, declaring that Jeffries gave the title to him when the big Californian tired from the ring, he is no longer taken seriously by sports. This is in part to his defeats at the hands of Tommy Burns and others. Schreck is also not a bright star in the pugilistic skies, but the two men are pretty evenly matched, and a good scrap is expected.

## Insane Son Beheads His Mother.

New York, Dec. 31.—While in a fit of insanity, Arthur Trotter killed his aged mother, Mrs. Ann Trotter, by beheading her with an axe and a knife, in her apartments in West Nineteenth street. To the police Trotter declared that the end of the world was coming and that he had been divinely inspired to commit the crime. He was lodged in a ward at Bellevue.

## WANT NEW EXEMPTION LAWS.

Iowa Retail Grocers' Association Will Ask Changes.

Des Moines, Dec. 31.—Changes in the wage and salary exemption laws of the state will again be demanded by the Iowa Retail Grocers' association this winter, and while there is considerable doubt as to the outcome of the project, the grocers' association claims to have more strength than ever before. This is the result possibly of a campaign inaugurated before election by the state secretary, Ira B. Thomas, in which he urged grocersmen to support candidates or the legislature who would support the new exemption laws even to the end of bolting their party.

## Road Promoters Angry.

Des Moines, Dec. 31.—War has been declared upon the executive council of Iowa by the cities of Waterloo, Grinnell, Charlton, Pella and a dozen others because the council "turned down" the proposition of the Waterloo, Pella and Southwestern railroad to issue bonds to build a short line steam road connecting these towns.

## Insurance Men Want Change.

Des Moines, Dec. 31.—"Iowa insurance companies," says a dispatch from Des Moines to a Chicago paper, "are preparing to ask a modification of the Blanchard law, prohibiting insurance combinations. The claim is made that fire insurance rates have declined \$7.05 per \$1,000 during the last six years."

## Major Mackay Is Dead.

Yonkers, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Major Isaac W. Mackay, a retired army officer, who helped to carry President Lincoln across the river in Washington, after the president had been shot by John Wilkes Booth on the night of April 14, 1865, died at his home here today at the age of 90.

## Others Rejected From Calling Strike

Denver, Dec. 31.—The United Mine Workers of America from calling a strike at the Lamaght mines.