

SOCIETY

Pleasures of the Week.

On Tuesday night Mr. and Mrs. Stafford were called to Railway hall, South Norfolk, to assist at a surprise party on a friend, but the many friends present turned the tables and made the occasion a complete surprise on them, it being Mr. Stafford's birthday. P. Crotty, in a few well chosen remarks presented Mr. Stafford with a handsome leather Morris chair as a token of esteem in which he is held, wishing him many happy years to enjoy the gift. Mr. Stafford was almost too much overcome with gratitude and surprise to fittingly express his appreciation, but all felt its genuineness. Seven games of high five were played, with prizes awarded as follows: The gentlemen's first prize, a pretty tin, went to Mr. Dodder, and the game of five hundred went to John Koerber, Jr., on a cut with Clare Hurd as consolation. Mrs. Kelleher received a pretty jewel box as ladies' high prize, while Mrs. Durham got a pretty gift book for ladies' consolation. A three-course lunch was served by the ladies, after which dancing was enjoyed by all.

Last Monday night Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Adams of South Fourth street were the recipients of a surprise party given by the Ladies Aid society of the Baptist church. A very pleasant evening was spent. Refreshments were served, after which Mrs. Adams was presented with a piece of silverware the gift of the ladies as a token of the high esteem in which she is held as a member.

Mrs. Mary Mathewson was hostess at a second Kensington yesterday. A musical and literary program was a feature of the afternoon. Mrs. Mount and Mrs. Booth rendered piano selections, and Mrs. Mapes, Mrs. Erskine and Mrs. Huntington gave readings.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sasse who were married at the home of Mrs. O. S. Hyde were given a wedding reception at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duell, seven miles northwest of Norfolk. Covers were laid for forty-five.

Miss Gettinger entertained the ladies of the G. F. S. society Monday evening. Cards were the feature of the evening. A four course luncheon was served by Miss Gettinger.

Mrs. Asa K. Leonard delightfully entertained the Tuesday club on Tuesday afternoon of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sol G. Mayer entertained a very few friends at dinner Wednesday evening.

The West Side Whist club was entertained by Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Weatherly Monday night.

Personal.

C. S. Bridge and daughter, Miss Mellicie Bridge, have gone to Chicago and other points for a four weeks' visit. During their absence Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bridge of Fremont are here, Mr. Bridge looking after the management of the Sugar City Cereal mills.

Mrs. Jean Whitney of Chicago is visiting at the home of her parents, Judge and Mrs. I. Powers.

Trainmaster Pangle of the Northwestern left this week for a trip through Florida and Cuba.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Shaw have gone to Florida and Cuba for a pleasure trip.

Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Braden leave tomorrow for a trip to southern California.

Mrs. E. O. Mount of Fremont is visiting Norfolk friends.

Hoskins.

Miss Emma Wegner was a Sioux City visitor Saturday.

Mrs. Eugene Reichstadt left yesterday for a visit with relatives in Kansas.

William Eckert was in Omaha with cattle this week.

Miss Mabel Larson of Wakefield was a visitor at the Weatherholt home over Sunday.

Edwin Schemel was down from Randolph over Sunday.

A twelve pound boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. August Ziemer yesterday. Miss Ruth Beat of Carroll was the guest of Lillith Foster the first of the week.

Mrs. R. G. Rohrke is very sick. Orville Darling of Decatur is visiting here this week.

J. F. Crosby was transacting business at Aberdeen, S. D., Friday. Antoine and William Janssen have moved to Fairfax, S. D.

William Wiener has returned to Hoskins and is again proprietor of the pool hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Mont Shinn came down from Sioux City Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Moran of Wayne visited in town Sunday.

Freeman Wheeler of Iowa is a visitor at the August Ziemer home.

F. C. Schroeder was a passenger to Denver Monday morning.

Louis Krause has sold his farm to Mrs. May. Consideration \$62.50 per acre.

E. E. Crouch intends going to Idaho next month where he will engage in fruit farming.

for a short visit with their daughter, Mrs. Harry Rhodes.

Mrs. A. P. Brubaker has gone to Bazile Mills.

J. M. Lederer of Pierce transacted business here.

Misses Louise Friedrich and Emma Melcher went to Pierce to spend Sunday with friends.

C. C. Gow returned from a business trip at Horrick.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Klug of Stanton were in the city calling on friends.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hamilton of Stanton were in the city visiting with friends.

E. O. Garrett, western representative of the American Book company, was in Norfolk over night.

E. A. Moore of Denver, formerly a Norfolk citizen, arrived in the city to join his wife, who is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Krantz.

Miss Mary Wicker who was operated on for appendicitis at Omaha two weeks ago is reported rapidly recovering her usual health and will return to Pierce, where she is keeping house for Father Meisters, in about a week.

Mrs. M. O'Brien entertained the Altar society of the Sacred Heart church. Refreshments were served.

Funeral over the remains of Ferdinand Leu, who died at his home five miles south of Norfolk Tuesday, will take place Sunday afternoon. Rev. J. P. Mueller of the Christ Lutheran church will have charge of the services.

Ben W. Fehan has been appointed mail weigher on trains No. 77 and 78, running between Columbus and Norfolk. Mr. Fehan started on his run February 17.

The Woman's club was entertained in the home of Mrs. W. R. Jones. After music by Mrs. Jones the afternoon was devoted to a study of seventeenth century artists.

The ladies of the W. C. T. U. gave a farewell party to one of their number, Mrs. R. E. Jamieson, two and one-half miles southwest of town. Teams were provided and nearly twenty members attended. Dinner was served at noon and a program rendered in the afternoon. One of the features was a solo, "The Drink I Will Not Take," sung by Lester Jamieson. At 4:30 the party returned to town.

Tom Tenney of Newport, Ia., representative of the American Construction company, is in the city making arrangements to place some new machinery in the Norfolk gas company's plant. Two years ago, says Mr. Tenney, Newport had no paved streets. Now the town boasts of fifty-eight blocks of fine paved streets and wonder how it ever got along without them. Mr. Tenney assured a number of Norfolk people that Norfolk would benefit greatly by having its streets paved.

Mapes & Hazen have organized a collection company called the Everybodies' Collecting company. The company was organized for the purpose of giving the city efficient service on the retail merchants' collections. A report will be furnished the merchants on which to base their credits. The Commercial club has had for some time such a plan in view, the work to be done by the secretary of the club. Mapes & Hazen made the club a proposition, but no answer has been given the attorneys.

C. S. Hayes returned from Lincoln, where he attended the convention and joint banquet of the Retail Jewelers association. Mr. Hayes read one of the most interesting papers at the convention and was highly complimented. "Bad Oil" was the subject of Mr. Hayes' paper, which explains the causes of bad watch oil. Fish fat which is diseased is one of the chief causes of bad oil, says Mr. Hayes, and also the time at which a fish is caught for the purpose of getting the oil has much to do with the quality.

S. N. Park, who sold his farm and stock one mile south of the city yesterday for a high price, will move to Norfolk and give up farming. Mr. Park's sale is a good object lesson for farmers who have not been paying much attention to the breeding of stock. Mr. Parks, although he did not make much show at breeding stock, quietly went about the stock business, and the result was that yesterday he sold four hogs for \$50 apiece. His milk cows sold as high as \$60 each, while cows usually range from \$25 to \$35. Among the swine stock were a number of full blooded Durhams and Poland-Chinas.

On March 7, 16 and 17 a large number of good positions will be offered by Uncle Sam in the civil service. Applications and examinations can be made at the local postoffice. Among the positions offered are: Wagon maker, Indian service, \$750 per annum; printer, weather bureau, Washington, \$1,250; constructor concrete engineer, new artillery storehouse, Rock Island, Ill., \$200 per month; plant pathologist, department of agriculture, \$1,400 to \$1,800; photographer, Philippine service, \$1,600 to \$1,800; cement tester, Philippine service, \$1,400; assistant, naval observatory, \$1,400. Many applications for the positions as additional office aids in the census bureau at Washington have been received here.

Five Wisner Funerals in Week. Wisner, Neb., Feb. 19.—Special to The News: W. H. Fleming was buried from the Catholic church at 9 o'clock yesterday forenoon, and Mary Ann Furch from the Methodist Episcopal church at 2 o'clock. These are the last two funerals of five held in this town in five days.

Niobrara's Great Water Power. Niobrara, Neb., Feb. 19.—Special to The News: Mr. Simons, state engineer of Lincoln was here examining the water power furnished by the Niobrara river at this place. The reports of the water power were so good that he determined to come and see for himself. On account of the swiftly

running water it is popularly believed that manufacturing interests will find a desirable location here.

JAPANESE BUILD TOWN. Oso, Near Seattle, Has a Population of 300 Devoted to Truck Farming. Seattle, Feb. 21.—Washington has the distinction of possessing the only real Japanese city in the United States. About fourteen miles south of this city, several hundred of the little brown people have leased 3,000 acres and are converting the tract into truck gardens. A small station for trading and supplies has sprung up and been named Oso. Here are Japanese shops filled with the dried fish of the orient, tea, rice, clothing, books in the Japanese language, stationery, seeds and other articles usually carried in the stocks of oriental stores.

The government has installed a postoffice and foreign money orders can be purchased by the Japanese to send to the far east. The population numbers over 300, including many women and children. All are very industrious and have planted fruit trees, shrubbery and acres of radishes, lettuce and other vegetables.

They have a system of fresh vegetables that is unique. One man from each patch is dispatched every night at midnight toward each city. On the way he meets the man returning who left the preceding midnight.

By this endless chain the stalls at the public markets leased by the orientals are kept supplied with vegetables much fresher than those offered by the regular hucksters.

The housewives of both Seattle and Tacoma are pleased with the excellent service the Japanese furnish, and are buying more and more from them.

THEATER FLOOR GIVES WAY. Accident at Town of Patten, in Pennsylvania. Johnstown, Pa., Feb. 21.—Five hundred persons attending a small theater at Patten, near Johnstown, were precipitated into the basement of the building when the floor collapsed during a fire and one person was killed. Men, women and children struggled in the debris, and to add to the panic the firemen were forced to turn streams of water into the basement where the crowd was struggling to escape the flames.

Northwest Weddings. C. William Fritchhoff of Atkinson and Miss Agnes Begstrom of Anoka were married at Omaha.

Miss Beulah M. Campfield and Thomas B. Napier were married at Orchard.

L. Whitmore and Miss Edna M. Waggoner were married at Bonesteel.

B. L. Stinson and Miss Annie A. Peterson were married at Bonesteel.

Adolph Goecker and Miss Helen Renter were married at Madison.

William J. Hickman and Miss Edith Davis were married at Royal.

Fred Asher and Miss Ethel Coover were married at Page.

Herman Beerman and Miss Lena Obermoeller were married at Cooper.

Miss Hattie Hathaway and Charles Parkhurst were married at Verdigris.

County Judge Wilson of Pierce issued the following marriage licenses: Bennett B. Halsey and Miss Etta L. Lora Beed of Meadow Grove; Christie Leorum and Miss Alice Hansen of Plainview; William J. Hickman of Neligh and Miss Edith Elizabeth Davison of Brunswick; George A. Rankin and Miss Ethel Yokom of Ewing; Ernest W. Curtright of Neligh and Miss Cora Cormeny of Ewing.

Miss Laura Giese and Joseph Erickson were married at Wayne.

Crislie Larum and Miss Alice Hansen were married at Plainview.

George Agler and Miss Maggie Gordon were married at Stanton.

MONDAY MENTION. Robert Papsstein of Randolph was in the city.

Miss Helen Marquardt spent Sunday at Madison.

William Zutz of Hoskins transacted business here.

Miss Mary Walker of Battle Creek was in Norfolk.

Mrs. A. Wolf of Battle Creek was a Norfolk visitor.

G. D. Butterfield is visiting her father.

Mr. and Mrs. Hofius of Hadar called on friends here.

Mrs. H. Wetzlich of Hoskins called on friends here.

R. G. Rohrke of Hoskins was in the city on business.

Mrs. Elizabeth Davidson of Plainview is in the city.

County Attorney James Nichols of Madison was in the city.

Mrs. J. Wagner of Hadar was in the city visiting with friends.

A. L. Koyen goes to Omaha tonight to attend the automobile show.

Mr. and Mrs. August Braasch of Stanton were in the city visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Zitkowski and son Emil of Hoskins were in the city calling on friends.

Louis Johnson of Sioux City, formerly of Norfolk, was in the city visiting relatives.

Mrs. E. H. Tiffany and Miss Emma Neumark of Columbus are in the city visiting with Mrs. W. H. Hall.

Mrs. C. J. Haviland, who has been here visiting with relatives, has returned to her home at Sioux City.

Rev. C. N. Dawson, representing the Nebraska Methodist hospital of Omaha, who occupied the pulpit at the First Methodist church here both morning and evening Sunday, returned to Omaha.

A home talent play for the benefit of the Y. M. C. A. fund is being discussed.

The Second Congregational church has been missing lesson picture cards

for six Sundays and requests their return.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Schlotte and family went to Tilden, where they will make their home.

The city of Kearney is about to begin paving. A petition is about ready for the city council.

A special meeting of the Masonic lodge, No. 55, will be held Tuesday evening for work in the F. C. degree.

John Rush, national bank examiner of Omaha, is in the city examining the Norfolk National and Citizens National banks.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Prihenow have gone to Pierce, where they will attend the wedding of their daughter, Miss Emma Prihenow.

William Schroeder, freight handler of the Union Pacific depot, has gone to his home at Chicago. Mr. Schroeder's place has been taken by Elmer Hardy.

Rev. Edwin Booth, Jr., returned from Lincoln where he attended the convention of the Y. M. C. A. He reports a successful convention at the capital city.

The Woman's Home Missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church will meet with Mrs. Sly on Seventh street Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Ben Skalowsky, whose foot was badly injured as the result of a heavy weight falling on it, is reported doing quite well and will be able to be back at work soon.

Dr. Kearns will continue services in the Presbyterian church until Thursday or Friday evening of this week. His subject tonight will be "A Short Bed and a Narrow Evening."

Next Wednesday a convention of the state Commercial Club association will be held at Columbus. W. A. Witzigman, the Norfolk delegate to the session, will attend the convention.

Mrs. Mary Kingsbury, mother of Mrs. N. A. Rainbolt, who has been suffering with a broken hip, and confined to her bed for nine weeks, is improving. Mrs. Kingsbury is 94 years old.

Miles Howard has gone to Otis, Colo., to take possession of his ranch near that place. Mrs. Howard will follow her husband to their new Colorado home as soon as the weather gets warmer.

Alexander James, an experienced colored butler recently arrived from England, has accepted the position as porter of the Elk club rooms here. He arrived yesterday. James is lately from Omaha, but has been in the United States only a very short time.

H. H. Tracy, assistant city engineer of South Omaha, will be in the city this evening to consult with the city council with a view of doing the city's engineering work for a year. The council will hold their regular meeting at the city hall this evening.

Norfolk friends of Mrs. Mary Hoskins, sister of J. W. Hanson of Norfolk, will be pleased to know that her health is much improved and her full recovery is expected. Mrs. Hoskins, who lives at Elizabeth, Ill., was reported critically ill a few days ago.

J. D. Maylard returned from Alinsworth, where he was transacting business. He reports much building in Alinsworth. Dr. Ramey, he says, has sold out his drug business there and now has a private hospital and is devoting his entire time to his practice. The doctor, says Mr. Maylard, wishes to be remembered to his Norfolk friends.

Pierce County Call: Tuesday afternoon Judge Kelley issued a marriage license to and married Frederick Merha of Norfolk to Miss Minnie M. Fuchs of Madison. The groom, Mr. Merha, is well known in Pierce having been a resident here with his parents some fifteen years ago. He then moved to Norfolk where he has since resided. Vic, as he was familiarly known here, was a mere boy when he left Pierce and very few recognized him when he was here Tuesday. He is now employed in a tailor shop at Norfolk and is doing nicely.

Norfolk ministers this morning held a conference in the studio of Edwin Booth, Jr., with a view of organizing a committee to look after the poor and needy of the city. A member of each church is to be a member of the committee which will look, in a businesslike way, to the needs and relief of any poor families here. The work of these ministers is to be done in a systematic way and, while some relief has been given the poor through the medium of the church, a strenuous effort will be made now to make this work more effective. The collections for the poor fund will be made at the churches and those desiring to aid in the work may contribute through the pastor of any Norfolk church. A meeting of the ministers will be held within a few days to elect permanent officers of this committee.

Tentative plans for the Norfolk Y. M. C. A. building have been sent to Omaha for criticism. Later they will be taken to Lincoln by F. M. Hunter, secretary of the Y. M. C. A. building committee, for the same purpose. The bids for the building which now stands on the Y. M. C. A. lot on Fourth and Madison avenue have been rejected, but invitations for new bids are being sent out. An inspection of the building by a contractor shows that it has been recently overhauled and is in good condition. It would cost, it is estimated, \$130 to move the building any reasonable distance. Here is a good chance for some one to get a good home cheap. The collections of the pledges are being responded to very well, but some are still lingering in the rear and the collector, it is said, will be out on the job in a few days.

STANDING CORN KEEPS. Grain in Fields Makes Fine Showing. Good for Planting. Omaha, Feb. 21.—"Tests have shown that the corn which is still standing in the fields and which has not touched the snow or ground is the best in Ne-

braska," said J. W. T. Duvel of the department of agriculture at Washington, who has been in Nebraska making tests and is now in Omaha. "The ears still standing are the dryest."

"We have established an experimental station at Columbus in the elevator of the Iord Grain company, where we are testing corn. Besides, we have sent samples to Washington to find out how Nebraska corn will germinate."

Mr. Duvel thinks the Nebraska and western Iowa corn is in the worst condition it has been in years, and advised all farmers to use care in selection of seed for planting if they wish to get any sort of a crop this year.

Ferdinand Leu. Funeral over the remains of Ferdinand Leu, who dropped dead on his farm while shoveling corn last Tuesday, were held at the farm home at 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Services were held at the Christ Lutheran church by Rev. J. P. Mueller at 2:30, after which the remains were interred at the new Lutheran cemetery.

Ferdinand Leu was born at Wismar, Pomerania, Germany, February 13, 1835. He came to Madison county from Wisconsin in 1880.

P. O. Hirsch. Funeral services over the remains of P. O. Hirsch were held from the home of his son, Frank Hirsch, Sunday afternoon, Rev. Edwin Booth, Jr., having charge. Burial was in the new Lutheran cemetery north of the city. Mr. Hirsch had selected the following pallbearers before his death: A. Reinovsky, P. F. Fuesler, C. H. Krahn, Henry Just, Mr. Braun, Mr. Psecher, Sons of Hermann and the G. A. R. attended the funeral.

Phillip Otto Hirsch was born at Frankfurt on the Main eighty years ago. Thirty years ago he came to Madison county. He served two enlistments in the army and saw much service in the civil war. He was a member of the local G. A. R. post and of the Sons of Hermann.

Arthur Kopack. Arthur Kopack, 8-year-old son of Mr. Frank Kopack of South Eighth street, died at 7 o'clock last evening after a lingering illness brought on by lung trouble.

Rosie Wilkins. Rosie Wilkins, 7-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Wilkins, died yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Funeral services will take place Thursday afternoon at the German Methodist church, after which the remains will be interred at the new Lutheran cemetery.

Mrs. Mary C. T. Braasch. Mrs. Mary C. T. Braasch died at 12:17 yesterday afternoon at her home at Edgewater from old age.

She was born in Germany November 18, 1838, and was one of the old settlers of Madison county. Funeral services will take place at 1:30 Wednesday afternoon at the home, Rev. Mr. Witte of the St. Paul church holding services, after which the remains will be interred at the St. Paul Lutheran cemetery.

Another Robbery at Clearwater. Clearwater Record:—Another robbery in town last Thursday night and it seems the thieves are partial to silk. F. J. Loewe's store was opened some time Thursday night by someone having a key and one bolt of silk and some other small articles stolen. The silk was a new bolt just received and was of a special design and worth at retail \$2 per yard. This is the third time in the past few months that Mr. Loewe's store has been entered. He estimates his loss at \$150. He has kept still about it so far hoping to see some of the goods in possession of the guilty parties, but so far he hasn't been able to locate any of the stuff. He has also changed the lock on his front doors once during the time this thieving has been going on. Now here is a chance for another Sherlock Holmes to develop and make himself famous by doing a little detective work on these Clearwater burglaries.

WANTS HIS OWN CHILD. Burke Man Has Married Again and Now Wants Daughter Back. Burke Gazette: Considerable interest has been manifested during the past week in the controversy between Ludwig Kirschman and Mr. Horn. It seems that about two years ago when Kirschman's first wife died he and Horn agreed that the latter should keep the former's 9-year-old daughter until she was 15 year old. Since then Kirschman has married again and now wants his daughter. Horn refuses to give up the girl, and claims that the girl does not want to return to her father. It is understood that a writ of habeas corpus has been procured by Kirschman and will be served in the near future. Further developments will be awaited with interest.

Business Changes. A. B. Turgeon traded his blacksmith shop at Burke to Gardner Taylor for farm land.

F. M. Hurbert traded his general merchandise store at Burke to H. H. Benter for a farm.

Herbert Stark bought the Gordon cigar factory at Gregory.

THREE MEN CLAIM LAND. Hard Fight for Quarter Section in Dakota. Sioux Falls, S. D., Feb. 21.—The hearing in one of the most interesting land contests ever before the United States land officers in South Dakota has just been concluded in the federal land office at Gregory, and the register and receiver now have the case under advisement. A very valuable quarter section of land in the ceded portion of the Rosebud Indian reservation is in-

cluded. The testimony offered in the case is very voluminous, filling about 300 typewritten pages.

The quarter section (160 acres) is claimed by three different men, the case being entitled Brees vs. Holden and Searls vs. Holden. In view of the unusual circumstances the decision of the land officers is being eagerly awaited. No matter what the decision is, it is believed the losers will carry the case to the commissioner of the general land office, and that it finally will be taken to the secretary of the interior before one of the three claimants is left in undisputed possession of the tract.

The testimony submitted at the hearing showed that Brees made settlement on the land on the evening of October 1 last, and has lived there with his family ever since that time. Holden, who came from South Dakota to Lynch, Neb., made a filing on the same quarter section the following day. Searls also filed on the land, claiming that he "squatted" on the much coveted farm on the morning of October 1, some hours in advance of Brees. However, Searls admitted that he had neither resided on nor improved the land since that time, claiming sickness and inclement weather as an excuse for nonresidence.

Searls and his witnesses also testified that Brees did not make settlement on the land in controversy at the time he (Brees) claimed. In retaliation, Brees charged that Searls had not established settlement on the farm at all, which is in section 29, charging that he instead made settlement on a quarter section situated in section 21.

From the trend of the testimony offered at the hearing the spectators got the impression that Searls and Holden had joined forces to defeat Brees and dispossess him of the farm.

WOMAN HIS SON HAD LOVED. William Starkweather of Milwaukee Wins Action for Separation. Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 21.—William H. Starkweather, a Milwaukee broker, has been granted a divorce. Mr. Starkweather is 69 years old. His wife is only 33 years old. The wife did not contest the suit.

Upon what specific grounds the separation was granted is not known. Judge Halsey said he sealed the papers "in the interests of public morals," and only the decree is for publication.

Some years ago a son of Mr. Starkweather met a girl in Medford, Mass. Then young Starkweather died suddenly. His father met the woman and he pressed the suit that finally won her hand. They were married in 1905.

Northwest Deaths. Neal Walters died at Lynch.

Mrs. C. M. Kull died at Spencer.

John Brown died at Deer Creek.

James Bush of Wayne died in Chicago.

Mrs. M. P. Evans died at Wayne.

Mrs. Rush Anderson died at Tilden.

Mrs. Ann Donohue died at O'Neill.

Miss Mabel Sassman died at Scribner.

A Night Fire in Alinsworth. Alinsworth, Neb., Feb. 21.—Fire in the J. Davis building on Main street at 4 o'clock Sunday morning completely destroyed that structure and its contents, a number of pool and billiard tables and furniture. It badly damaged an adjoining building owned by Ben Fast and occupied by Charles Anderson as a restaurant and confectionary store. A building owned and occupied by Rucker & Foster as a barber shop was razed to the ground by firemen to prevent the spreading of the flames to the north. Burwell and Beatty also suffered the loss of caskets to the amount of \$600.

The Alinsworth Telephone company is almost out of commission on account of the fire, which destroyed the cables and wires which covered the west and north parts of the city and all but two of the country lines.

The damage caused by the fire will aggregate \$5,000, only partially covered by insurance. A strong wind prevailed when the fire was first discovered but it died out and enabled the firemen by heroic work to confine the flames to the Davis and Fast buildings. The origin is unknown, but it is supposed the blaze started from a cigar stump or hot ashes.

HIGH KICK COSTS LIFE. Young Man Bursts a Blood Vessel in Lungs. Alda, Neb., Feb. 21.—George Harrett has held the belt as the champion high kicker of the village, but he has kicked himself to death. Eighteen years old, he has been able to kick higher than any man in town. A couple of evenings ago, in a contest, he kicked higher than any of those who had entered, after which he made a wager that he could kick and touch a mark eight feet above the floor. He won, but in doing so burst a blood vessel in his lungs, and a few minutes later died of hemorrhage.

Omaha Pastor Resigns. Omaha, Feb. 21.—Dr. Lucius O. Baird, D.D., at the conclusion of the morning services at St. Marys Avenue Congregational church, read a letter tendering his resignation as pastor of that church, which position he has occupied for four and a half years. Dr. Baird has been chosen secretary of the American Missionary association, western division, of the Congregational church, with headquarters in Chicago, and has accepted the appointment.

On Stand in Own Behalf. Alinsworth, Neb., Feb. 21.—The introduction of evidence in the trial of Walter Rifenberg for the murder of Jacob Davis ceased Saturday afternoon when the defendant took the stand in his own behalf. Both sides rested and the court took a recess



Pure in the can—Pure in the baking. Never Fails. Try it.

until this morning. It was expected the case would go to the jury by noon.

The nerve displayed by Rifenberg was a surprise. With a strong chain of circumstantial evidence against him, he took the witness stand calm, cool and collected and withstood all the efforts of the attorneys for the prosecution to break him down. He explained away all the suspicious circumstances with the utmost ease and never changed color.

The motive for the crime was supposed to have been the robbery of about \$225 found in Rifenberg's shoes when he was arrested,