A PRISON IN THE CAISSON.

A Terrible Accident at the New Bridge Narrowly Averted Yesterday.

RESCUED FROM DEATH.

How The Caisson Sprung a Leak—Railroad News—A Bicycle Track — Other Local.

A Narrow Escape.

Yesterday morning, shortly after 9 o'clock a leak was sprung in the new caisson now in the course of erection for the Union Pacific bridge, and before it could be caulked it had filled the shaft up to the surface, thus cutting off the escape of eight men who were at work on the bed rock below the bottom of the river.

The announcement of the accident caused a thrill of horror among the hundreds of employes on the bridge, and immediately every precaution was taken to divest it of the startling import which it contained. News of it was flashed to the office of Geo. A. Lederle, the chief engineer in charge of the work, with the result of bringing that gentleman immediately to the scene. His assistant, Mr. Ralph Modjeska, ran with haste to the headquarters and informed the higher officers of the dreadful catastrophe. Before long, however, the news spread with the rapidity of a whirlwind, and hundreds of people ran to the river bank and the bridge to gain all the information that could be had. At the latter place the watchman steadfastly refused to allow any person to cross, and declined to answer any and all questions propounded to him concerning the accident. A red flag was placed on the bridge over the pier where the men were entombed, and this guided the few trains which the preparations for relief permitted to pass.

THE SCENE

The accident occurred in the middle or third pier from the Iowa side. This, like the others, is a mammoth granite structure, and has been in course of erection for some months back. Its dimensions are sixty feet in length by twenty-five feet in width and it weighs thousands of tons. Its surface is now about five feet above that of the river, and its base, for some time back has rested on bed rock seventy-three feet below the top of the river.

Yesterday morning at 8 o'clock the first day shift went down through the shaft, into the air lock and thence to the working chamber below, when they immediately commenced the work of slushing and cleansing the rock preparatory to filling the appartment with concrete which is always done on the completion of a pier. They worked unsuspectingly until ten o'clock when they started to come to the surface. Some of them re-entered the airlock and found to their horror that a small stream of water was trickling through a pipe, and told the story that water was in the shaft above them. To open the door leading from the lock to the shaft would have let

TONS OF THE FLUID

in upon them, so, it is presumed the leaders returned to the chamber immediately below the lock. There they remained. In this chamber they were safe so long as they could stand the pressure of the air which was absolutely necessary, to keep the water from forcing its way from the river beneath the caisson, and so long also as the water from above could be prevented from forcing the air chamber. But in view of the fact that they are not allowed to work more than two hours under this pressure, there was scarcely any doubt that the enforced detention for double that period, would be productive of serious results. At the time of writing, the men had been imprisoned for three hours over and above the regular time, and there was then no probability of their being early relieved.

EFFORTS AT RELIEF.

As soon as possible after the announcement of the accident. Mr. Lederle bent his energies to relieve the imprisoned men. Engine 812 was run to the pier and immediately set to work to exhaust the water from the shaft, but after working for an hour it was found that she was inadequate to the work, and was withdrawn, the distance of the water rendering it impossible to work with effect. Barrels were then substituted and in this slow and tedious manner, the attempt to afford relief was carried, on with indifferent success. At the time mentioned there was no possibility of ascertaining when the shaft would be exhausted, especially because the water was running in about as rapidly as the barrels could draw it up.

THE CAUSE.

In conversation with one of the engineer force, the accident, as already mentioned, was ascribed to a leak, and the opinion prevailed that it was located near the air lock, the fissure having been caused in the concrete by either indifferent material or workmanship. It was so far down, that for some time at least, it was thought it would be beyond the reach of any attempt to repair it.

THE VICTIMS.

The men in the caisson, are in greater part strangers. They are most of them unmarried some of them stopping in the Bluffs, while several of them reside in this city at the Union Pacific hotel. George Braddon, foreman; Cnas. Hamilton, M. L. Wimmer, Wm. Leighton, James Dewey, Gus Nelson and John Bowman.

The banks on either side of the river were thronged with people, the company taking the precaution to allow no person not engaged in the work to get nearer the caisson.

A PRECEDENT.

An accident similar to the above took place about fifteen years ago when the magnificent bridge at St. Louis was in was in course of erection. At that time, however, the scientific world knew less about the building of caissons than it does at the present time, and as a consequence, that accident was attended with considerable loss of life.

THE RESCUE.

The engine already mentioned succeeded in reducing the water until the column in the shaft was about twenty-five feet in height. It was unable to do any more, and the barrel process failed to exhaust the water as fast as it flowed in through the leak. To equip an engine with power necessary to empty the shaft would require the labor of hours, and that would surely result in the death of the men below. Finally, the expedient was suggested of allowing the water to escape through the air-lock to the chamber below. It was no sooner suggested than two men volunteered to undertake the feat. This required a diving through the ten feet of water which lay at the bottom of the shaft and filled the first apartment of the air lock. This was done with considerable daring and skill by one of the hands, an intrepid and brainy lad named Mitch Ambrose. He was followed by another, Ike Brenton. Ambrose descended through the chilling waters which at times enveloped him, darted into the first apartment of the lock and dragged Brenton after him. Both suffered from the cold, finally succeeded in closing the apartment door, though the chamber was full of water. They then opened the equalizing valve, which allowed the compressed air from below to enter the apartment in which they stood until the pressure on either side of the door was the same. The weight of the water in the first apartment then caused the door leading to the compartment, where the men were working, to swing easily upon its hinges, and thus descend to the bed-rock. In this way about one-tenth of the water in the shaft was drawn off. The last mentioned door was then closed and the process just mentioned was reversed, and another tenth was drawn away. This was continued until the shaft was practically exhausted. The men were thus enabled to come out of their subterranean prison. Nearly all of them stood their enforced detention in an heroic manner, but two of them, Gus Nelson and John Bowman, were badly affected. One of the arms of each was paralyzed, while other parts of the body were racked with pains.

A BEE reporter conversed with George Bradden, the foreman of the gang, who seemed to feel that he had had a narrow escape. "I tried to get out," he said, "but when I found that I couldn't, I concluded that something was wrong. I felt that the water must have gotten into the shaft, or that something had fallen into itto stop it up. But I knew that the men up above would do their best to help us, so I kept those of the gang below at work. Yes, of course they noticed that they were longer than usual down below, but thought that the relieving shift were delayed and did not make a fuss about it, because, sometimes when they are at work only an hour they think they have been there twice that length of time. I was satisfied that if I died I'd have a coffin that cost $10,000, and that's more than I'll pay for one up here."

When the men came to the surface, Dr. Galbraith, the Union Pacific surgeon, was on hand, and had made provisions to attend to them such as their circumstances might require.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Woman Hater.

John T. Raymond's new play, "The Woman Hater," which will be presented at Boyd's opera house to night, for the first time in Omaha, is one of the greatest successes of the great comedian's life The Chicaho New says: "In the delineation of a nervous, middle aged, blundering good natured man, Mr. John T. Raymond has no equal on the stage, and when he undertakes a part containing these characteristics he makes a success. Mr. Lloyd, who wrote "For Congress," has supplied him with a character after his own heart in the play "The Woman Hater." It is in four acts, and in construction resembles in no small degree the current style of German comedy. It is full of very ludicrous situations, which Mr. Raymond and his company make the most of. Mr. Raymond has a play which will serve him and his audience for many a day to come. His peculiar grotesque humor and his wonderful facial expression find full play in the unique and terrible situations of this play."

"The Woman Hater" will be repeated at the matinee Saturday, and Saturday night "The Magistrate" will be played.

Bicycle Sport.

The directors of the exposition building held a meeting Wednesday night and decided to build a bicycle track in the exposition building for a grand tournament to be held this winter. The track will be constructed in wooden movable sections, so adjusted that they can be taken up or replaced in two hours' time. It will be one of the finest tracks in America, being even broader and more easily traveled than the famous Minneapolis track. Mr. F. A. Gray has the contract for its construction, and will be completed within the next few days. The track will be one of eight laps to the mile.

It is the purpose of the exposition management, under the direction of John S. Prince, the well known bicycle rider, now in this city, to give a series of races here this season, embracing everything from a fifty mile contest to six days "go-as-you-please." The first event will probably be a hundred mile race between Prince and Shock, who was the world's champion until defeated by the former at Minneapolis a few months ago.

Prince offers to give Shock one mile start in the hundred.

Small Job Printing Office For Sale.

Two Small presses, job and body type, racks, cases, stone, etc., will be sold at a bargain. For further particulars address R. 40, BEE office.

Police Points.

Agnes Parker a dwarfed specimen fro m a "castle" on lower Jackson street, was arraigned in police court yesterday for robbing Charles Northrup of $30 Wednesday night. She was unable to prove her innocence and was held for further examination.

Dick McGuire, an old vagrant, was given ten days in the county jail.

Four suspicious characters were discharged. Thirteen drunks were arraigned, five of whom were fined. Michael Murray was fined $5 and costs for leaving his team unhitched.

Joe Warring was sent up to the county jail for stealing a pair of shafts from John Muldoon.

Mattson, the man accused of attempted rape on the person of little Gracie Burton, was Wednesday held to the district court in the sum of $3,000. Being unable to furnish bail, he was sent to the county jail.

Two New Drug Firms.

Geo. Schell, the traveling representative of Richardson & Co., the St. Louis druggists, has received a telegram from J. Clifford Richardson, stating that the St. Louis establishment nad bought out the C. F. Goodman company of this city and would take possession of the place on January 1st.

A representative of Blake, Bruce & Co., a wholesale drug firm of Ottumwa, Ia., was in the city Wednesday looking for a location for his firm. He announces that his establishment will remove to Omaha as soon as proper quarters can be secured.

Arrested in Chicago.

Sheriff Coburn received a telegram yesterday announcing that Charles Lincoln, the man who stole a horse from Mrs. Bechel the livery stable keeper near Fort Omaha had been arrested in Chicago. Papers were made out in Justice Anderson's court to-day to bring Lincoln back, and a deputy sheriff will be sent after him at once.

Hebrew Sewing Society.

An important meeting of this society is called for this afternoon at the vestry rooms of the synagogue. Election of officers for the ensuing year and reorganization for a successful winter's work will be effected.

We Want Everybody's Wife

To have a free sample copy of "THE CULTIVATOR and HOUSEKEEPER." Send name and address on postal card to

"THE CULTIVATOR."
Omaha, Neb.

Miss Agnes Boyal, daughter of Colonel Royal, of the Fourteenth cavalry, a former well known resident of Omaha, is announced to be engaged to Mr. Arthur Jeffrys Parsons, a wealthy gentleman of Boston.

THE LADIES' FAIR.

Spirited Contest For the Articles—List of Prize Winners.

The ladies' fair in the annex of the exposition building closed Wednesday night There was a large attendance and great interest was manifested in the drawing for the various articles on which chances had been taken. Two spirited contests were had, the first for the "dog cart," donated by Ed Meadimber, and the second for a side saddle. The first closed promptly at 11 o'clock and was won by Mack Morrison. Bert Murphy, who entered the race late in the day, made a strong pull for the prize, and came in a neck behind the winner. Master Mack, a gentlemanly little fellow, was heartily cheered on his success, and made a triumphant tour of the hall in the cart, drawn by his playmates. Three lusty cheers were given Bert Murphy. The side saddle contest closed at 11:30 and was won by Miss Mullen by a large majority.

Drawing of the various articles on the tables then began and continued till 1:30. Following is a list of the lucky ones:

Altar society table—Garland heating stove, P. J. Barrett; china tea set, W. A L. Gibbon; moss rose chamber set, F. J. Burkley; card stand, Lizzie Manning; rocking chair, Mrs. Coryell; ladies gold watch, Katie Murphy; rocking chair, Mrs. J. Ford; tea set, Thos Tuley; work box, M. J. McMahon; Fr. O'Connor's picture, Rose Lundy; castor, Andy Ehrackhett; album, Annie Cunningham; lamp, M. Dinan; cake basket, J. F. Goodfellow; water set, Mary Fra; lambrequin, H. Barkley; child's set, G. H. Anderson; fruit dish, Kate Purcell; silver cup, Andrew Murphy; berry dish, D. Hurley; castor, Clara Creighton; picture, Annie Mulcahy; toilet bottle, Ella Winan; cologne bottle, T. Fallon.

Mrs. O'Brien's table—Brass plaque, E. D. Pratt; berry dish, Mr. Edney; chair, Mr. Gavin; sewing machine, T. P. Gleson; Venetian vase, Mrs. Danbach; silver water set, Owen McCaffrey; doll, Maggie Brennan; album, Mrs. Higgins; toilet set Hon. J. Paul; candlestick, Mrs. James Creighton; tidy, Hannah Johnson; pie knife, Mary Hansom; tea set, J. H. McShane; sofa pillow, W. H. Broderick; embroidered banner, Anna Moran; crystal water set, Mrs. Danbach.

Sodality Table—Album, John Little; Silver cake basket, Julia Gorman; cut-glass fruit dish, D. Hurley; plush chair, Mrs. Burke; copper wash boiler, Thomas Swift; hand-painted plaque, C. Norris; silver castor, Father Calanan; bride, Mrs. Hennessy; pair of vases, S. J. Broderick; toilet set, A. G. Ross; ton of hard coal, D. Mulhearn; sidesaddle, Miss Julia Mullen; lacquer table, Julia Hughes; panel picture, Alice Lowery; opera bonnet, P. Cusick; album, Minnie Whiteside; antique vase, H. P. Heintze; pair of child's shoes, Fannie Bates; lemonade set, Mrs. Palmblad; water set, Ella Hurley; oil painting, Rose McCann; Father Carroll's portrait, Julia Mullen; sofa pillow, Ida Whiteside; oleograph, Pauline DeWitt; plush sofa pillow, Thomas Collepy; hand-painted banner, Hake Palmer.

Choir Table—Mrs. Paine, bride doll; Ella Kennedy, cut glass water set; Decie Johnson, painted china; pair vases, P. J. Cummings; card table, W. A. Chambers; comb case, Katie Mulcahy; embroidered banner, May Sullivan; salt doll, Ella Crowe; parlor lamp, P. J. White; ladies' shoes, D. Mullhearn; brandy set, Minnie Flannery; amber toilet set, J. McInerney; pickle castor, C. J. Toole; cake basket, Katie Croft; glass wine set, Mrs. V. Burkley; cut glass water pitcher, P. J. White; pickle castor, Inez Gentleman; butter dish, Will Combes; toilet set and music box, James Dinan; coffee urn, J. B. Doyle; berry dish, James Cook; oil painting, George Newlants; china tea set, J. A. Kelley; sofa pillow, Richard Ryan; doll, John Kuhn; bonnet and muff, Agnes Hannigan; blue water set, Elijah Conklinr; pickle dish, Mary McArdle; chair, Rose Brady; embossed chair, Sam Gummoss.

THE RAILROAD GRIST.

The Omaha Northern Road—Notes and Personals.

Another meeting of the monied men of Omaha was held last evening at the Paxton, in response to an invitation or call issued by several wealthy gentlemen. The conrfeence was strictly "on the buiet," and may result in big things. A gentleman well posted on affairs said yesterday: "Tha road is going to be built yet; something is going to come of that meeting to-night."

Freight Commissioner Griffiths is not feeling despondent over the prospects of the Omana & Northern, though he would like to have things pushed more rapidly than at present. Speaking of the BEE's interview with him yesterday, he said: "You misquoted me in making me say that President Hughitt of the Northwestern was a sharper. I think he is an accomplished gentleman and a good railroad official. We would do exactly as he is doing were we in his place. At the same time I insist upon it that he is deluding the Omaha people."

THE NEW BUILDING.

Yesterday morning Thos. M. Orr, of the Union Pacific signed the requisition for material to be used in the construction of the Mansard roof for the headquarters building Work will be commenced at once, and will probably be completed within two months This will make the headquarters building five stories in height, spacious, airy and well ventilated. It will be one of the handsomest structures of this kind in the county.

MORE FREIGHT CARS.

The wonderful increase in the freight business of the Union Pacific has caused a demand for more freight cars. A contract for 700 cars, to be completed within the next few weeks, is now being executed. Contracts for 500 more are to be let next week. This will increase the number by 1,200 cars, and it is thought that the pressure will be temporarily relieved. A railroad official in speaking of the matter yesterday said that all the other Iowa lines were similarly distressed for lack of freight cars.

B. & M. MATTERS.

"There is no truth in the rumor that the B. & M. is surveying for an air line from Omaha to Deadwood," said General Manager Holdredge of that road yesterday. "At least if any such thing is contemplated, I haven't heard of it."

General Manager Holdredge has just signed the contract for a branch road to run from Curtis, Neb., in Frontier county, eighty miles west through Frontier, Lincoln and Keith counties.

NOTES AND PERSONALS.

The fast California train scheme of the Union Pacific is not dead, but only sleepeth. It will probably be revived in the spring.

Mr. J. Blickensderter, chief engineer of the Union Pacific, left last evening on the Missouri Pacific for Kansas City.

NEW OUTFITS FOR NEWSPAPERS.

The Omaha Type Foundry and Supply House for Printers and Publishers.

The Western Newspaper Union at Omaha is prepared at all times to outfit publishers on short notice with presses, type, rules, borders, inks, composition, sticks and rules, and in fact everything in the line of printers and publishers' supplies. Better terms and more liberal prices can be secured than by sending to Chicago or elsewhere. Save money by buying near home. Second hand goods in the printing line bought and sold. We often have great bargains in this particular. Send for THE PRINTERS' AUXILIARY, our monthly trade journal, that gives lists of goods and prices and from time to time proclaims unequalled bargains in new and second hand material.

WESTERN NEWSPAPER UNION,
12th Street, bet. Howard and Jackson, Omaha, Nebraska.

Chautauqua News.

The meeting of the Omaha C. L. S. C., will be held in the board of education rooms, corner of Sixteenth street and Capitol avenue, on Friday evening, October 29, at 8 o'clock. The following programme has been arranged:

Music ..... By the circle
Class matters ..... N. F. Bundy
Round Table—Best Plan for Conducting the Circle ..... Miss Mary Fitch
A Study of Rocks, with specimens by members ..... O. P. Seward

INTERMISSION.

Class exercise—First Fifty Questions on Geology, page 58, of the Chautauquan ..... Miss Retta Read
Our Nebraka Home ..... George A. Joplin
Critic's report.
Roll call ..... Miscellaneous quotations

An invitation to be present is extended to all Chautauquans, and to any who may contemplate reading the Chautauqua course. The year 1886-'87 offers an attractive list, including English history, literature and composition, astronomy, geology, pedagogy, French literature, social questions and religious literature. The books for the year, including the mogazine, will cost about $7. To those wishing to pursue a systematic course of reading, the Chautauqua course offers the best possible facilities.

For the mutual advantage of all concerned, Omaha and Nebrasba Chautauquans are requested to communicate with George A. Soplin, Omaha, Neb., who holds the position of state organizer.

Child Lost.

A child, four years old, with light red dress and red cap, strayed from its home, No. 411 South Eighteenth street, this afternoon. Can't speak English. Please return to above number.

What Bullard Says.

F. W. Bullard, the man whose son was accused yesterday of being partiall responsible for the death of John Roesing was met yesterday by a reporter of the BEE. It may be remembered that Roesing died of typhoid fever Tuesday night, his demise being hastened as was alleged by injuries inflicted upon him by young Bullard.

Mr. Bullard, the father, states that young Roesing was to blame for the trouble which occurred about six weeks ago. He (Bullard) was lying sick at the time, from injuries received from a policeman's club. Young Roesing was making considerable disturbance about the house at the time and was ordered away by Bullard. He refused to go when the latter threw a tin cup full of water on him. He then commenced to abuse both Bullard and his son John, which treatment very naturally was resented. Roesing kept this up until he was attacked by young Bullard. The father, however, claims that Roesing was not nearly as badly injured as his friends claim. This is Bullard's story and he says that he is willing to back it up by proof.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following transfers were filed Oct. 20, with the county clerk:

Larmon P Pruyn and wife to John H Cornes; lot 6 of Pruyn's subdiv; Millard & Caldwell's add; W D—$2,250.

James N Phillips and wife to Wm Coburn; equal undivided ½ lots 5 and 6, blk 347, Omaha; W D—$3,000.

F P Hanlon trustee to Wm Coburn; lots 13 to 24 inclusive, blk 21, West Side; W D—$4,900.

Neil R McLeod to A C Powell; lot 8, blk 16, Hanscom place; W D—$1,850.

August Pratt and wife to Louis A Groff; undivided ¾ int in lot 3, block 2, Pratt's subdiv; W D—$450.

Doll H Goodrich and wife to Louis A Groff; lots 6, blk 3, Marsh's add; W D—$450.

Reuben Allen and wife to S S Wilkinson; e 22 ft of w 100 ft lot 2, blk 70, Omaha; W D—$1,200.

J Wood Smith and wife to Louis Berka and Frank E Dworakr lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10; blk 482, Grand View add; W D—$760.

George A Cruicer to Mary E Stocher; lots 2 and 4, blk 11, Meyer, Richards & Tilden's add; W D—$800.

George H Boggs et al to Nora H Lemon; lots 11 and 12, block 10, Omaha View; W D—$1,700.

F V Fowler et al to G W Wareham; lots 9 in Pruyn's subdiv in Millard & Caldwell's add, W D—$2,750.

George B Smith (single) to George A Joplin; lot 22, blk 13, Omaha View; W D—$650.

A P Tukey and wife to Rose Gratz; s½ lot 3, blk 19; E V Smith's add; W D—$1,800.

James Robinson and wife to Alexander W Albro; w½ of s e 11, 14 10, 80 acres; W D—$8,200.

W E Hawley and wife to Balthas Jetter; being part of w½ n e 9, 14 13; Q C—$1,000.

Marie E Hammond and husband to Catharine Hayden; lot 3, blk 8, Ambler Place; W D—$4,200.

Catharine Hayden and husband to Hugh G Clark; lot 3, blk 8, Ambler Place; W D—$4,000.

E E French and wife to H G Clark; lots 2 and 3, blk 2, Lake View add; X Q C—$1,000.

Christ Nelson to Effie C Seaver; w½ lot 11 and e 15 ft lot 10, blk 4, Parker's add; W D—$1,200.

M T Murphy and wife to J W Phelps; lot 5, blk 6, Denises add; W D—$1,000.

Frederick Drexel and wife to August Hansen; lot 10, blk 2, Drexel's subdiv in S E Roger's Oklahoma; W D—$1,050.

Algernon S Paddock and wife to Susan Welfty; lot 7, blk 10, Jerome Park; W D—$950.

Susan Welty and husband to Susan E Eveleth; lot 7, blk 10, Jerome Park; W D—$1,100.

Army Notes.

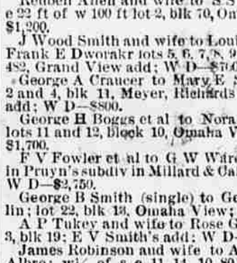
Colonel Henry yesterday received a letter from Colonel Blount, at Washington, stating that General Drums' order cutting down department staffs does not refer to or include the inspectors of rifle practice. So that Colonel Henry will not be obliged to leave Omaha.

The firing of this department this year, as compared with last, is as follows:

In 1886 the figures of merit were as follows: Known distance, 107; skirmish, 41; general; 74. In 1885, figures were as follows: Known distance, 84; skirmish, 35; general 60, which shows an increase respectively of 23, 6 and 14.

Hospital Steward J. H. Grant has been appointed a clerk of the second class at department headquarters and assigned to duty in the office of General McParlin, the medical director.

ROYAL



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Some of the people who call upon them daily may imagine, because they are offering at such low figures, that the goods are inferior quality. Such is not the case, as they are actually selling the same quality, in preferable styles, from $3 to $10 less on each suit than is asked by other dealers. If you do not wish to buy just now, call, look around and see the enormous assortment of clothing and other fixings for Men, Boys and Children. Their courteous salesmen will politely show you through and also convince you that all goods are sold at strictly one price by

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It is supplied ready for use in rolls containing 200 square feet, and weighs with Asbestos Roof Coatings to finish, only about 85 pounds to 100 square feet.

It is adapted for all climates and can be readily applied by unskilled workmen. Samples and Descriptive Price List free by mail.

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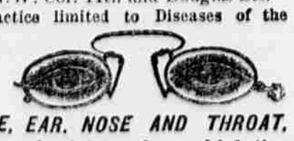

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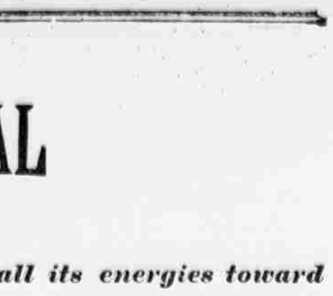

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