

DISCUSSED IT YEARS AGO

Daniel Webster Favored the Home Production of Beet Sugar.

HE RECOGNIZED WESTERN ADVANTAGES

Forty years since Henry T. Oxnard's Father Was Urged by That Statesman to Investigate the Subject—Prepared to Take Stock.

WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., March 6.—"I presume my father was one of the very first men in this country to inquire into the feasibility of producing beet sugar in the United States and his investigations had the encouragement if not the actual support of Daniel Webster, said Mr. Henry T. Oxnard of Grand Island, Neb., the great beet sugar manufacturer, who has been in Washington some days looking after the sugar bounty law which is in the McKinley tariff act.

"It was by the merest accident that I learned, recently, that my father took an interest in beet and any other kind of sugar making," continued Mr. Oxnard. "I, myself, got into the business by accident. I read up the subject and came to the conclusion that we could produce as good sugar oats as Germany or France, and having the beets there was no reason why we could not make the sugar. I was the other day looking through the old papers and letters of my father, who recently died, and whose estate I closed. I found a letter—the date I discerned, but it was certainly forty years ago—from Daniel Webster, to Mr. Thomas Oxnard, Marshall, Mass., on the subject of developing the sugar industry in this country. Mr. Oxnard, after expressing the opinion that we could produce as good sugar as Germany or France, said there ought to be a beet sugar factory established. He also stated that he would be glad to invest in the same, not only give it his financial support, but would himself, on his farm near Marshfield, plant at least 100 acres of beets. These he would turn to the factory. This appears to be about the first agitation of the subject of beet sugar development in this country. I guess they did not attempt it."

Improved the Service. It is well known that the postmaster general has for a long time personally supervised all the efficient press clipping bureaus, not in order to read what the papers are saying about him and letters, but to see if any of the clippings, but in order that his assistants and bureau chiefs may be informed concerning any irregularities concerning clippings and the equivalent of a check over the country. An unexpected visit to which one of the clipping bureaus has lately put this fact was brought to light at the Post Office. The chief clerk, who has a weekly paper criticized the mail service in its locality. A clipping from the paper was sent to the department. An investigation was made and the desired change in the service quickly followed. The paper at once printed these facts as evidence of its watchfulness and the chief clerk, who had made a fac-simile of the article in question produced and is evidently distributing it by the thousands as an advertisement.

May Facilitate Free Delivery. The ten-block system of locating and numbering country houses, successfully introduced in Contra Costa county, California, has recently engaged the attention of the postmaster general, who has recognized its importance in connection with the extension of free delivery into the country. The practical workings of the Contra Costa plan are especially noteworthy, because it removes the only obstacle to rapid and accurate service in the country. It is a ten-block system with the same useful features as the city system, but with that of the city system, because it gives not only the location but the exact distance of every lot from the center of the county seat, each mile is divided into ten equal parts, or blocks, having a frontage of one or two miles. Each block is divided into each block, the odd ones on the left and the even ones on the right. Wherever country houses are near enough to be situated in the ten-block system, they are numbered and distinguished as follows: 523, 525A, 525B, etc. Distances can be quickly calculated from the center of the county seat to another by the simple method of multiplying the difference by two (there being two numbers in each block) and the result by ten for the number of miles. This method is instantaneous, by the decimal method of pointing off two places, the entire process is very rapid. For instance, No. 425 is 213 blocks, or 213 miles, from the center of the county seat. A convenient and simple method of determining the distance between two points on the county seat or point of departure, is to add the numbers of the two points and divide the sum by two. For instance, No. 425 is 213 blocks, or 213 miles, from the center of the county seat. A convenient and simple method of determining the distance between two points on the county seat or point of departure, is to add the numbers of the two points and divide the sum by two. For instance, No. 425 is 213 blocks, or 213 miles, from the center of the county seat.

Party Interests First. "It's a pretty hard thing for a party to hold its hosts together for general principle when individual members of it are compelled to sacrifice their personal interests," said Senator Manderson, today, in speaking of the manner in which democrats in the house were waving their interests in local appropriations from the general fund to keep the aggregate amount to be expended by this congress. "I know of democrats in this house, who are not so much interested in the public good as they are in their own pockets, and they waive their interests in those measures in order to help their party to keep doing the same old aggregate expenditures. Some of those democrats have bills before the house making appropriations for public buildings in their own districts, and yet they refuse to vote for them simply because the measures make appropriations. It is a direct act of subordinating local interests for the good of party at large. I never heard of a republican doing anything of the kind. You would not find an intelligent republican who would do such a thing. Republicans first stand by their local constituency, then party. And yet you never see a republican advocating selfishness."

Government Funds Well Spent. "To my mind the government never spends money more wisely than in constructing buildings for postoffices. The States courts and custom houses. I hardly believe the democrats can hold their hosts together any longer under such pressure as will be brought to bear on them by the passage of bills of direct personal interest to the constituency of members of the house. It should not be a matter of surprise that local measures the members are compelled to support will get little credit, for they have already announced a preference to stand by the party rather than the public interest."

Another abnormality notice with the democrats in this house is following blindly dead or voice bills. They refuse to raise their hands for a bill simply because it is a republican bill. It is a direct act of subordinating local interests for the good of party at large. I never heard of a republican doing anything of the kind. You would not find an intelligent republican who would do such a thing. Republicans first stand by their local constituency, then party. And yet you never see a republican advocating selfishness."

MAY CAUSE POLITICAL WAR

Wordings of a Beatrice Contract Liable to Result in Legal Trouble.

CONNECTED WITH THE NEW WATER WORKS

Provisions Regulating the Daily Supply to Be Furnished Were Omitted—Efforts to Fix the Responsibility of the Mistake Unavailing.

BEATRICE, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—A merry war is imminent between the city officials over the responsibility for the wording of the contract between Messrs. Godfrey & Meiss and the city of Beatrice, whereby the new water works plant and mains have been built and laid. It appears that the intention was to have the contractor derive therefrom a daily water supply guarantee and provide for the daily water supply of 3,000,000 gallons from the wells built in the Padlock pasture. It now appears that through some technicality in the contract that water supply guarantee was not denominated in the bonds which were built, the mains are laid all right enough, and it only requires the arrival of the big pumps from Dubuque, Ia., to make the contract on the part of Godfrey & Meiss, and then the city will be required to deliver on the money named in the contract, water to the city.

There are a few leucoclasts in and about the city who are free to predict that the Padlock wells, comprising a battery of eighty tubular wells, will be a failure. They are generally by any means, and that the city has a big bill to foot without any material benefit therefrom. They are, however, a minority, and who are sanguine that the requisite 3,000,000 gallons will be perpetually produced without any perceptible wear and tear on this section of the earth. The point at issue, however, is the guarantee supposed to be called for in the contract. The mayor attributes the omission to the city engineer, who comes the city attorney who says he drafted the contract verbatim as dictated by the city council, and that the matter stands, and it is liable to cut a big swath in the coming city campaign.

SHOT WHILE HUNTING DUCKS. Bert Hinkley, of Ashland Accidentally Killed His Own Companion. HINKLEY, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—At an early hour this morning an accident occurred a few miles east of this city which resulted in the sudden death of Bert Hinkley, a young man about 17 years old. With two companions he had gone to an island in the Platte to spend a few days hunting. This morning they were out in a boat on the river, and were ducking just in front of them. They stood in a V shape with Hinkley at the point of the V. One of the boys was compelled to shoot directly over him. Bert was hit in the chest, and he lost his range, the full charge taking effect in the back of his companion's head. The skull was cut, and the brain matter was exposed. The boys were over a mile from their tent and the boat was some distance away. They had no means of transportation and save a horse and a boat, both of which were at the tent. One of the two went back to the tent and making a rude harness of the tent ropes fastened the horse to the boat and drew the body of the boy to the shore. The body was placed in it and towed to the shore. Swimming the horse across the lake at last reached home with the useless body of the boy. The body was buried before the pride of a well to do farmer.

SILVER CREEK, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—M. L. Rossiter of Ponca has bought the bank, which will be known as the Silver Creek State bank. Mr. William Senior of Auburn, Neb., and Miss Lillie Schlitt of this place were married yesterday night at the residence of the bride's parents. The bride was the recipient of many beautiful and valuable presents. J. B. Stinson has recently bought E. S. Bailey's hardware store. Several local horse fanciers and business men have bought suitable grounds near the river and are planning to build a standard grade race course. "Almost every day farmers coming here to locate may be seen unloading their goods from the cars."

West Point Celebrated. WEST POINT, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The anniversary of the Nebraska was celebrated Friday evening in an appropriate way. The juvenile band played several selections during the program and aided in making it a success. All the "old timers" were there, many of them having prepared to speak, but the program being largely many names were omitted. Three young ladies of the High school prepared papers on the "History of Nebraska," "County of Cumming," and "City of West Point," which were worthy of the state's highest praise. It was developed that the \$10,000 bonds given by Contractor B. Roelke for the completion of the sewer and the payment of his material and workmen, has either been lost or stolen from the city clerk's office. At the meeting of the city council last Thursday evening the matter came up for the consideration of the council. It was generally understood that the bonds were outstanding even though they were missing, still it was decided that the public resolution was passed instructing the city attorney to draw up duplicate bonds and have Contractor Roelke secure the old signatures or others as equally good.

Papillon News Notes. PAPILLON, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—A fair and oyster supper given by the ladies of the Methodist Episcopal church Saturday evening, cleared \$25. The county commissioners are now in session, and it is thought they will favorably consider the petition through of a boulevard from Omaha to Beatrice on the ridge overlooking the river. Several boys were arrested yesterday for disturbing the peace. They were fined, but some were dismissed by the judge with a reprimand. The girl who was so badly beaten by the female wren at Rockwell's, is now here at the home of her grand parents. She has not yet recovered from the terrible injuries she received. The dancing party was given at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Brown a few nights ago, by Mrs. Brown, Mrs. I. D. Clarke, and the Misses. The dancing was given at the residence, Fifty-ninth street, by a Hebrew beggar named Jose Marack, who was somewhat improved today. The bullet which was removed by the surgeon has lodged in the muscles of the abdomen. All danger is considered past. The man who did the shooting has not yet been found.

Dr. Mendes Out of Danger. NEW YORK, March 6.—Dr. Henry P. Mendes, pastor of the Seventh Street Hebrew church, who was shot last evening at his residence, Fifty-ninth street, by a Hebrew beggar named Jose Marack, who was somewhat improved today. The bullet which was removed by the surgeon has lodged in the muscles of the abdomen. All danger is considered past. The man who did the shooting has not yet been found.

IT CAUSED A SENSATION

Iowa Prohibitionists Were Surprised at Senators Gatch and Brower's Change.

GOOD PROSPECTS FOR HIGH LICENSE

More Liberal Class of Republicans Determined to Have the Obnoxious Law Repealed—Will Be Decided This Week—Other Legislative Matters.

Des Moines, Ia., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The sensation in the legislature the past week has been the action of Senators Gatch and Brower in renouncing their allegiance to the prohibition plank in the platform of the republican party. In view of their votes which they explained on the Schmidt bill this action has been expected for some time by well informed people, but it caused great consternation among the state temperance allies, who were holding their sixteenth biennial convention in this city. Senators Gatch and Brower represent Polk and Hancock counties, which have always been strong prohibition, but the senators belong to the more liberal class of republicans and believe that it is for the best interests of their party that the liquor question be taken out of politics in this state.

Washington, D. C., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The twenty-fourth general assembly convened these gentlemen acknowledged that they would vote for a strict license law. After the defeat of the Schmidt bill several new license bills were introduced, and it was well known that Senator Gatch had a bill which would be a substitute for the Schmidt bill. Then the committee on suppression of intemperance, in order to give Senator Gatch a chance to present his substitute, reported favorably on senate file 23, known as the Groneweg bill.

York's Steady Growth. YORK, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—York has made considerable progress in keeping up that steady growth which will last. Many changes have taken place in the city and county this year. York's business houses are all occupied, many new firms have just come in. Real estate men say that York is doing better than any other town in the county. Many firms have changed hands also. Land is selling within three or four miles of town at a high price. There is great activity among the farmers who are preparing to put out a larger crop this season than ever before and the prospect is bright for the coming year. Successful years York county has ever witnessed.

Preparations for Action. GRAND ISLAND, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The republican county central committee met yesterday afternoon. It was decided that the county convention to elect delegates to congressional and state conventions would be held on Friday, April 23, and the primaries one week earlier. The selection of a new county central committee will be in the hands of the delegates. The appointment of delegates will be based on the vote cast for Judge Post. Each precinct will be allowed one delegate at large and one for each ward. The total number of delegates therefrom will be 114 delegates.

Notes from Strangers. STRANG, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Hon. A. D. Stevens and S. A. Allaman have been visiting friends at Friend for a few days. Sneak thieves raided a cave belonging to S. C. Sweet Thursday night, relieving him of \$100. The thieves were taken to the Fillmore county jail. The organization of a farmers' mutual fire insurance company.

Hebron Personalities. HEBRON, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—W. F. Bart is now the manager of the Hebron hotel. A. M. Leach left Wednesday morning for a week's visit in Chicago. O. B. Shade departed Monday for St. Louis and Chicago. J. B. Stinson, son of J. E. Thomas, died Wednesday afternoon of a grippe. The funeral took place Thursday afternoon.

Public Improvements at Fremont. FREMONT, Neb., March 6.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The city council at a special meeting passed two ordinances, one of which submits to a vote of the people at the municipal election in April the proposition to bond the city for 100 acres of land, and a system of sewerage; the other submitting the question of issuing \$80,000 in bonds for extending the water works system.

When Deacon Will Be Tried. PARIS, March 6.—The trial of Edward Parker Deacon for the murder at Cannes, on the night of February 17, of M. Avellia, the alleged assassin of the late president, will probably open on May 2 in the assizes court of the department of the Alpes-Maritimes. Smallpox on Shipboard. NEW YORK, March 6.—Smallpox was discovered aboard the Hamburg steamship Danis and the vessel was detained at quarantine today. The disease broke out among the steerage passengers. Her Identity Discovered. PARIS, March 6.—The clair states that the mysterious blonde lady who assisted in bringing about the escape of Padewski, the murderer of the Russian general, Solovieroff, was the Russian postess, Procopius Bazilik. He is a Church Member Now. NEW YORK, March 6.—Previous to the sermon at Plymouth church, Brooklyn, today, Darwin J. Meserole, who killed Theodore Larbig, was admitted as a probationary member. "Late to bed and early to rise will shorten the road to your home in the skies." But early to bed and a "Little Early Rise" will that makes life longer and better and wiser.

EDEN MUSEE BURNED

One of Omaha's Popular Amusement Resorts Completely Destroyed by Fire.

IT CAUGHT ON THE UPPER STAGE

Someone Pushed a Fly too Close to a Gas Jet and the Blaze Resulted.

WAS A HARD FIGHT FOR THE FIREMEN

Handicapped by the Almost Impassable Streets and They Struggled Manfully.

LOSS TOTAL AND INSURANCE LIGHT

Eden Musee Company and John A. Creighton Out of Pocket Many Thousands of Dollars—Story of the Affair.

Just as the crowds were leaving the theater last night a great red shaft of flame was seen shooting skyward from lower Farnam street. The fire had been started by the Eden Musee at the northeast corner of Eleventh and Farnam streets was on fire. In two or three minutes after the alarm was sounded the whole north end of the building above the third floor was ablaze. Great streams of red fire shot heavenward and the streets for several blocks around were brilliantly illuminated.

Owing to the almost unprecedented condition of the streets, resulting from the storm of Saturday night, the firemen found great difficulty in reaching the blaze. Hose company No. 3 was first on the ground, but when it attempted to run a line of hose through the alley at the back of the block the horses got stuck in a big snow bank, consequently it was fully five minutes before a stream of water was turned on. In the meantime the fire had spread southward along the roof, and heavy black clouds of smoke were pouring forth from the cornice work.

By the time the hose companies and trucks began to arrive the sidewalk on Eleventh street and all along Farnam were crowded with people, and the police had considerable difficulty in keeping the throng within bounds. As soon as possible ladders were run up at the north end and the middle of the building and streams carried to the upper windows, from which great sheets of flame were pouring. Water Pressure Was Weak. The streams were turned upward from the street, but failed to reach the windows. They only served to keep the brick wall cool and possibly prevent them from falling. At the Farnam street entrance of the Musee everything was confusion. Trunks, boxes, barrels and packages of every kind description were being thrown down the stairs and rolled into the street where they were guarded by a couple of policemen. The fire had spread to the roof, and in fifteen minutes and nearly every one had left the building. Detectives Savage and Dempsey were standing near the entrance, when they heard cries of "Fire," "Murder" and "Help." The officers rushed up one flight of stairs and smelted the smoke. Dempsey rushed for a fire box at the south end that several patrolmen on the surrounding blocks had been ordered to bring three alarms were sent in at once.

Rapidly the flames gained ground and before long the whole roof was one mass of seething fire. At the north end the fire was the hottest, and the interior looked like a great resin-and-baconed furnace. Favored a Big Blaze. Owing to the peculiar interior construction everything was favorable for a big fire, and the firemen knew at once that they had a hard job. It will and worked harder than many of them had ever worked before. There was considerable delay in raising the ladders on new truck No. 2, but when once up the men carried a line of hose nearly up to the blazing windows. For fully fifteen minutes all the streams of water, when there were seven of them, didn't seem to have any effect on the flames, and it looked as if the fire had got beyond control. There were more hose companies came up and laid in lines. Then the immense amount of water began to tell and the flames died down, but only for a moment. They broke out afresh just south of the middle of the roof. A ladder was raised and a stream turned on, which soon drenched the light, but dense clouds of smoke still arose. Two streams were sent up the front entrance and into the building. Notwithstanding the heavy smoke and the dangerous condition of the floors the firemen went in and up to the second floor where they stood and fought the fire from below.

In less than three-quarters of an hour from the time the alarm was sent in the fire was under control and a couple of the companies sent home. Started on the Upper Stage. Manager Lawler was seen after the fire was somewhat subdued and was asked the cause. He stated that the fire was first started in the upper stage, where a man had pushed a fly too close to a gas jet, and supposed that it caught from a burner. On account of the inflammable material comprising the stage settings the fire, once started, burned and spread so rapidly that it was impossible for those in the building at the time to do anything toward extinguishing it. Mr. Lawler said that his loss would be fully \$12,000, with an insurance of \$3,000. The building was a three-story brick with basement and was owned by John A. Creighton. All the down town motor and cable cars were stopped and the currents turned off, and the electric lights were put out and the currents closed in order to avoid accidents. When truck No. 3, which came in from Twenty-fifth street, passed the burning building on the run one of its horses stumbled and fell, sliding quite a distance on the sloppy pavement. Fortunately the animal was not seriously injured. Quite a number of telegraph wires running through the alley and near the building were burned off and fell to the ground. When the fire was at its height, another cloud of smoke sent in from Tenth and Dodge streets, which called away a couple of companies. This blaze was found to be in an unoccupied one story frame building at 108 South Tenth street and owned by John John O'Connell. One stream of water was enough to extinguish this blaze, with only a small loss. It is supposed that the house was set on fire. Hundreds of people who were watching the Musee burn pushed over to the Dodge street fire, but after seeing what was burning hurried back to the big blaze.

NEW CASES OF TYPHUS

The Worst Yet Discovered Today in a Crowded Tenement.

NEW YORK, MARCH 6.—The worst case of typhus yet reported was found this morning in a five story tenement house occupied by sixteen families. Mrs. Natanson is the stricken one. She contracted the disease by coming in from Astoria, Ore., in the morning. She was brought to North Brother Island by Abraham Jones, the proprietor of a lodging house where several typhus patients were found on arrival with the disease this morning.

Called Himself in a Cab. BALTIMORE, Md., March 6.—A well dressed stranger registered at the Carrollton on E. H. Peimam of New York. While in a cab today he shot himself. On his person were found four letters, one directed to Pelham W. Shipman, Boulevard and One Hundred and Seventeenth street, west city, and was postmarked New York. Judge Shipman's only son and was a lawyer. Some time ago his mind became affected from overwork and he was placed in the Bloomingdale asylum. He recently escaped from that institution.

Charged with Robbing the Mail. NEWARK, N. J., March 6.—Superintendent of Mails Hammond has been arrested on the charge of robbing the mails.

Attorneys for the Whisky Trust Trying to Defeat the Ends of Justice. BOSTON, Mass., March 6.—It is understood that a general strike will be made in the federal court on Monday by the members of the Whisky trust, and the indictments against the Whisky trust, and an attempt will be made to show that the grand jury in session is an illegal body and all its work goes for naught. The United States statutes provide that in the event of a general strike the grand jury shall be as nearly as possible to the manner provided by the statutes of the state in which the jurors are to be drawn. The charge is made that in Boston, Southbridge and Waltham there was an irregularity in the manner of drawing jurors. If the allegations in the grand jury indictment are true, the work of the grand jury would have to be done over again.

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