TO STOP SILVER PURCHASES

Andrew's Bill Considered by the Committee on Banking.

IT WILL BE MODIFIED AND REPORTED

Members of the Committee Hopelessly Divided on Some of the Measure's Provisions—Some of Its Principal Features Set Forth.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—The house committee on banking and currency will be called together soon after the holiday recess to act on the bill introduced by Representative Andrew of Massachusetts, proposing more liberal legislation in behalf of national banks and a repeal of the silver bullion purchase clause of the Sherman act.

Representative Bacon of New York said today that, in his opinion, the committee would report back the Andrew bill with some modifications. The committee held one meeting at which it considered this bill. Only a bare quorum was present. The members who did attend were substantially agreed on the bank features of the bill, but when they came to the Sherman repeal section they were hopelessly divided, and as there were so few members present, did not attempt anything beyond an informal discussion of the situation.

The majority of the committee is disposed to recommend the first section of the Andrew bill, which authorizes national banks to issue circulating notes up to the full par value of United States bonds deposited. Section 2 reduces the amount of bonds required to be deposited in the United States treasury by national banks to a merely nominal amount. This section will have to be modified as the committee is hostile to it, and believes in requiring banks to deposit a considerable amount of bonds. Section 3 relates to the tax on circulation. The committee is in favor of a reduction of the rate of taxation on national bank circulation, but is opposed to wiping the tax out entirely, on the grounds that the banks should bear their share of the expense of the system. Section 4 repeals the Sherman silver purchase provision and whether this will get the favorable endorsement of the committee or not cannot be predicted.

INSTERSTATE COMMERCE.

Senator Cullom Considering Bills Amendatory to the Law.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—Mr. Cullom, chairman of the senate committee on interstate commerce, is busily engaged during the holiday recess in the consideration of bills amendatory to the interstate commerce law that have been introduced this session. Immediately after the reassembling of congress he will call the committee together and urge the consideration of measures intended to vitalize and add strength to the law.

"These bills will be reported to the senate at the earliest practicable day," said Mr. Cullom this morning., "and I intend to insist upon their consideration by the senate. The general law is to be amended so as to protect witnesses in order that they may be compelled to testify. Another amendment must be adopted, if the law is to be made effective, defining what is a railroad line, Judge Brewer's recent decision having practically invalidated the long and short haul clause of the law.

"Another bill in which the railroads are interested," continued the senator, "is the general amendment popularly known as the bill to permit pooling. It is not, properly speaking, such a measure, but is intended to give railroads authority to make contracts between competing lines for the division of freight, subject to the approval or disapproval of the Interstate Commerce commission."

Mr. Cullom does not say whether he favors the pooling amendment or not, but the inference is that he would be opposed to it. The committee is not a unit on the amendment, for there are some members who believe it would be a good thing and would mitigate much of the evil existing, and would surely discontinue discrimination, which, it is claimed, is so prevalent among the large railroads.

PREDICTED THE SCANDAL.

Senator Frye on the Panama Canal Affair—Washington Notes.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—Two years ago, in a speech at Portland, Me., in his own state, Senator Frye prophesied a condition of affairs in relation to the Panama canal scheme that has been fulfilled almost to the letter. In that speech Mr. Frye said that time would show the whole scheme was corrupt, and that within a year or two at least light would be thrown on it and the faith of the public would tremble under the shock. That condition exists today. There has been some talk to the effect that the Panama and the Nicaragua canal schemes are parallel and the disaster among the French people will cause public men in this country to hesitate in giving their votes to sanction the Nicaragua bonds, fearing a similar result. Senator Frye is emphatic in his declaration to that effect.

"I believe the measure will pass the senate," he said, "but of course such a prediction cannot be made as to its chances in the house. The expenditure of public money, however meritorious, is opposed on that side of the house."

Chief Dummond of the Treasury department has caused his agents to exercise the closest scrutiny to prevent any counterfeits of the Columbian coins.

Attorney General Miller is somewhat disturbed by the report that Bill Dalton, the notorious outlaw, has been appointed a deputy United States marshal in Indian Territory. He said he had applied to the United States marshals in Kansas and Indian Territory for information, at the same time expressing his surprise and disapproval at such an appointment, but so far he had received no response from either officer. No further action will be taken until the two marshals have been heard from.

Mr. Blaine's Condition.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—"Mr. Blaine is as well as yesterday and is improving." This was at 6 o'clock, and from Dr. Johnson, who had come from Mr. Blaine's bedside a short time before.

It seems to be settled that Mr Blaine will not leave Washington for some months to come, even if his health should improve sufficiently to warrant his removal. It is also pretty well understood that, while Mr. Blaine shows marked improvement, he is still a very sick man—so sick that he can only sit erect when lifted in that position and propped up with pillows.

Granted a Divorce.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—Surgeon Samuel H. Dickson of the navy was today granted a divorce from Mary Dickson. It was on October 5 last, that Surgeon Dickson, accompanied by two friends, broke into a room at the National hotel in this city, where he discovered his wife in the company of an Englishman named Carter. Twelve days later suit for divorce was filed by Dickson. Mrs. Dickson let the suit go by default. Both parties were prominent in society circles here and the National hotel denouement was the sensation of the hour.

Resting on Their Arms.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 27.—The railroad crossing war between the Missouri, Kansas & Texas and the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Nevada railroads, which promised yesterday to develop into serious trouble, is now at a standstill, pending the result of a legal controversy. As a result of yesterday's conflict at the crossing the Kansas City road has begun proceedings at Nevada against the Missouri, Kansas & Texas people for contempt of court. In the meantime both roads are maintaining armed forces at the crossing, each keeping watch over the other to prevent being taken by surprise.

Commercial Travelers of the West.

ST. LOUIS, Mo. Dec. 27.—The fifth annual meeting of the West Commercial Travelers association met this morning for the purpose of electing officers, which resulted as follows: President, G. W. Carbst; first vice president, George Krug, Omaha, Neb. Five other vice presidents were chosen.

The new board of directors is composed of I. R. Trava, Murray Carleton, George W. Wilson, M. E. Stein, George B. Denzer, George Roth, Adrain DeYoung.

Secretary H. C. Tatum made his report showing that the association had a balance in the treasury of $37,750.29.

During the past year the membership of the association has increased 2,229. The meeting then adjourned after adopting a number of amendments to the constitution of minor importance.

WORK OF THE LICENSE BOARD.

Some Police Business Attended to and Some Licenses Granted.

An old hose cart belonging to the Omaha fire department was sold by the fire and police commissioners at their meeting last night to the department at Chadron, Neb., for $75. The sale was a clean pick up for the city, because the cart was useless and had long ago been placed on the pension list.

George McKray, driver of truck No. 1, was granted a twenty days' leave on account of illness. John Ormsby, driver of truck No. 2, was allowed his annual leave of ten days.

Fred Danker, a special policeman appointed a week ago will be called upon to show why he should not be dismissed for drunkenness. His hearing will take place next Tuesday evening.

After the transaction of the usual amount of routine business the commission resolved itself into a license board and granted the following liquor licenses:

Charles Krug, 2201 South Thirteenth street; August Wendlandt, 612 South Ninth street; A. J. Quistgard, 1012 North Twenty-fourth street; A. B. McAndrews, 924 Douglas street; Henry Anderson, 724 South Sixteenth street; Thomas Birmingham, 513 North Sixteenth street; George S. Lackley, 119 North Sixteenth street; Frank Bartos, 1304 South Thirteenth street; Chris Jensen, 502 North Fourteenth street; John Merritt, 1213 Douglas street; Thomas Smobe, 115 South Thirteenth street; Gustav Wechbach, 418 South Fourteenth street; Omaha Brewing association, 1421 Sherman avenue; C. Rohwer, 724 North Sixteenth street; William Schipporeit, 4008 Leavenworth street; John O'Donohue, 203 North Sixteenth street; Owen McCaffrey, 111 South Sixteenth street; H. J. Meyer, 207 South Thirteenth street; John Johnson, 2901 Cuming street; Henry Biller, 616 North Sixteenth street; Horace C. Bancroft, 311 South Sixteenth street; M. T. Burke, 2824 Farnam street; John A. Wood, 213 South Fifteenth street; John A. Jensen, 2001 Cuming street; James Moellner, 614 South Thirteenth street; Charles F. Bouffler, 2057 Cuming street; William Neuman, 1335 North Twenty-fourth street; Ferdinand Alder, 1114 Farnam street; Reid & Dellone, 124 North Fourteenth street; M. Mullen, 301 North Sixteenth street; Charles C. Douglas, 502 North Sixteenth street; John Ditman, 2401 South Twenty-ninth street; Josef Czerwinski, Twenty-sixth and Walnut; Frank Sutter, 1802 South Thirteenth street; Fred Renners, Sixth and Pacific streets.

The protested case of Fred Dahlman, 1823 Leavenworth street, was set for hearing Wednesday evening. Fritz Miller, 1724 Vinton street, advertised for a license in the World-Herald and the hearing of his case was set for this evenings session of the board.

A number of citizens protested against the granting of a license to William Krug, 2709 Leavenworth street, but as the witnesses did not show up the case was continued.

General Brooke, commander of the Department of the Platte, and Colonel Bates, commandant of Fort Omaha, protested against the issuing of licenses to saloon keepers near the fort. The complaint was in the nature of a personal communication to the mayor, and consequently the board could not take official conizance of the complaint. An opportunity will be given these military officers to show cause why licenses should not be granted to applicants outside of and adjoining the military reservation.

ROUTED THE REGULARS.

Mexican Troops Defeated by the Revolutionists in a Fierce Battle.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 27.—The Picayune's Laredo special says: A report is current here that a battle took place yesterday near Las Animas, Mex., east of Guerro, between 300 Mexican troops and 250 revolutionists, in which thirteen soldiers were killed and many wounded and several of the revolutionists were also killed and wounded. The report says the revolutionists were commanded by General Estrada, and the Mexican troops by General Garcia. It is not known whether or not the report is true, but Garcia, of the Mexican rurals, arrived in New Laredo this afternoon with seven wounded Mexican soldiers. It is not known here in what engagement they were wounded.

News was received from down the river this morning to the effect that the United States troops under Lieutenant Hefiken and a posse of United States marshals under direction of an experienced trailer are on the track of the revolutionists who captured the United States deputy marshals, and will not stop until they are rescued.

The report of the battle above mentioned has been confirmed by later dispatches. The later report says the Mexican troops were routed. It says the town of Guerro is now in danger of being captured by their evolutionists. Many of the Mexican soldiers are flocking to the standard of the revolutionists and its forces are rapidly becoming augmented by such recruits.

The revolution is assuming a more serious aspect than it was thought it would at first, and Uncle Sam is doing right in rushing United States troops to this section, as they may yet be needed to protect the interests of Americans on the border from straggling bandits, smugglers, etc., who will commit much vandalism if trouble on the border continues.

FAILED TO SETTLE.

Unsuccessful Attempt to Adjust South Omaha's County Road Fund Claims.

An unsuccessful effort was made last night to effect a settlement between the Board of County Commissioners and the city government of South Omaha concerning the road fund.

South Omaha claims reimbursement from the county for money spent in grading L street between Twentieth and Twenty-seventh; Twentieth street from N to I street; and Missouri avenue from Thirteenth to Twentieth street. The members of the Board of County Commissioners met Mayor Walters, Councilmen Bulla, Wood, Wyman, Shultz, Bowley and Bruce, City Treasurer Hector, City Attorney Van Dusen, City Engineer King, Ed Johnson, Colonel E. P. Savage, Chris Melcher, Hon. John McMillan and ex-Mayor Sloane of South Omaha, in the commissioners' room of the court house last night.

Mr. Berlin presided over the meeting. The South Omaha officials and citizens claim that the county commissioners agreed to pay half the cost of grading the streets, and on that guarantee proceeded to let a contract for the work. The commissioners deny the claim and the matter was hotly debated. A great many petulant things were said, but the meeting finally adjourned before anything was decided upon. At the meeting of the South Omaha council tonight a proposition will be made to the county commissioners for the settlement of the disputed claim.

Business Failure in Salt Lake.

SALT LAKE, U. T., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Earls Furniture and Carpet company, carrying on business on State street adjoining the Holmes building, has come to a sudden stop. The premises were closed this afternoon under an execution for $6,000 issued from the Third district court. Deputy Sheriff Cummack has been placed in charge of the establishment.

Jay Gould's Will.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Witnesses to the will and codicils of Jay Gould were examined before Clerk Tinney today. Their evidence was subsequently submitted to the surrogate. The instrument will be admitted as a matter of form, as no objections have been made to the probate.

Will Contest the Election.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 27.—H. H. Thrasher, fusion candidate for congress against Hon. D. A. Enloe in the Tenth district, has served notice of a contest.

Investigating the City Treasurer.

READING, Pa., Dec. 27.—An investigation is being made into the affairs of the city treasurer's office. Mr. Obold denies all rumors in connection with the city's finances.

MERELY FOR CLOSER UNION

Chief Clark of the Railway Conductors' Order Denies Recent Rumors.

OBJECT OF THE CEDAR RAPIDS MEETING

Conference Called for the Purpose of Considering the Relation of the Organizations to Each Other and Not to Discuss Strikes.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—E. E. Clark, grand chief of the Order of Railway Conductors, was seen today in regard to the Associated Press dispatch sent out from here Sunday night saying there would be a meeting of the various labor organizations to form an amalgamated association to prevent any railroad strike during the World's fair.

He said of it: "It is the variest rot and the acme of sensationalism. Aside from the fact that a meeting is to be held here there is no truth in any of the statements. The likelihood of a general strike occurring during the World's Columbian exposition has nothing to do with the conference, and is as foreign to the meeting as the book of revelations. As to the statement that a large number will be present, five delegates from each state I believe is what they say, that also is untrue. There will not be more than fifteen men in attendance, and they will be only the executive officers of the organizations. The meeting is held simply for the purpose of considering the relation of the organizations to each other, and after this conference of the executive officers is concluded these relations will be thoroughly understood by the members themselves of the orders, railway officials and everybody else. The meeting will be held in the offices of the Order of Railway Conductors in this city, commencing at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. The session will be in part a secret one."

Teachers in Convention.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Iowa State Music Teachers' association began a three days' convention here this evening. A large number of delegates arrived today. The convention promises to be most interesting. A preliminary meeting was held this afternoon for appointment of committees. This evening an address of welcome was delivered by Rev. Dr. Tilden and responded to by President Eppstein of Toledo. A musical program was then rendered.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—There are 1,000 school teachers in the city in attendance on the thirty-eighth annual meeting of the Iowa State Teachers association. Today the educational council and the several round tables were in session. The first meeting of the association was held this evening. At the educational council, presided over by J. B. Knoepfler, state superintendent, and held in the High school building, the following subjects were discussed: "How Shall We Diminish the Waste in Our Present School System in Graded and School Work?" led by Superintendent E. N. Coleman of Lemars; "The System of Issuing County Certificates," opened by County Superintendent J. H. Landes of Keosauqua; "What Are the Proper Functions of the Educational Council and How Can They Be Best Performed?" led by President George A. Gates.

On this question the report of the committee that the meetings of the council hereafter be strictly deliberative and not oratorical and be secret was adopted. "Shall We Make Utilitarian Knowledge or General Culture the Objective Point in Education?" was led by Superintendent L. J. Laylander. About fifty prominent educators took part in the discussions. Eight different round table meetings were held in the High school and churches near by. This evening's meeting of the association will consist of an address by Charles B. Keeler and response by Henry Sabina of Des Moines and the president's address by T. H. Hocker.

Held Up a Farmer.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Last night a man named Callan, who lives in Jasper county, was knocked down by footpads, robbed of his overcoat and money and left for dead. He had lain half an hour in the snow when found and was nearly frozen. J. Andrews and George Ward were arrested for the crime, one of whom had on the stolen overcoat. They were held to the grand jury this morning. They say they came from Omaha and are suspected of being the men who have done so much other footpad work the last three days.

Found Dead in Bed.

MASON CITY, Ia., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—C. J. Behr, manager of the Co-operative society of Swaledale was found dead in bed this morning. Heart disease is the supposed cause of death.

Vanderbilt Halter of Glenwood, a popular traveling man, died here this morning.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Leopold Hirsch of the firm of Hirsch Bros., leading clothiers of Des Moines, died today of pneumonia, aged 47, after a short illness.

Two Iowa Fatalities.

OTTUMWA, Ia., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Charles Griffith, while driving a team to water, was kicked in the head by a horse and fatally injured today. His wife was badly injured a few months ago in a street car and received heavy damages.

A. Burley, the 19-year-old son of a wealthy farmer of Agency, went to bed in the Laclede hotel in this city, turned on the gas for the electrical light and was found dead this morning from asphyxiation.

Broke Jail at Fort Dodge.

FORT DODGE, Ia., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Bob Richards, confined in the county jail for larceny, loosened the heavy pins that held the only door between him and liberty last evening. His escape was not noticed for several hours. The other prisoners were confined in cells and could not get into the corridor.

CLEVELAND'S CHOICE.

It is Not Mr. Murphy for United States Senator from New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Times will print an interview with President-elect Cleveland in the morning as to his favorite candidate for United States senator to succeed Mr. Hiscock. The president-elect is quoted as saying:

"It ought not to be necessary for me to repeat for the public what I have so often expressed to many gentlemen in private conversation. Among them Mr. Murphy himself and Mr. Croker, and gentlemen who have been prominent men in the party from every part of the state.

"It must not be forgotten, however, that the party has a very hard task to perform if we expect to keep the word we have passed to the people of the country. They have given us a phenomenal majority, one showing that they expect us to do much. In doing this a great deal depends upon the state of New York and its great metropolis. The interests of that state and of the party demand, it seems to me, the selection of a senator who can not only defend the principles of our party, but who can originate and promote policies that may be presented for consideration in the senate. In order to insure this, the senator from New York should be a man not only experienced in public affairs, but who has a clear conception of the vital issues which he must deal with during the next few years.

"Speaking frankly as I have already done to those gentlemen who know my views, it does not seem to me that the selection of Mr. Murphy shows a desire or intention of placing in the senate a man of such a type.

"This first use of our power would, I fear, cause much disappointment, not only in New York, but in the country. This party ought not to be called upon to face such a proposition when it is considered what there is to do and what serious difficulties have to be surmounted before it can be done."

Druggists as Liquor Dealers.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 27.—In the court of appeals today in a Lewis county liquor case a decision peculiarly affecting physicians and druggists was rendered. The decision explains itself: "The physician is criminally responsible for issuing in bad faith a prescription for liquors as medicine, but the druggist cannot be criminally responsible for the bad faith of the physician under the law. Although a prescription is issued in good faith it does not protect the druggist if he fills it in bad faith. On the other hand, the motives of the physician in issuing the prescription are not successful evidence in the trial of the druggist."

WORK OF THE COUNCIL.

Busy Session Cut Short by the Alarm of Fire Last Night.

The meeting of the council last evening was a rose jar feast, for the members were as full of good nature as their respective corporosities would hold. They were all there with the exception of Edwards, and they made the last regular meeting of the year one that it will be pleasant to remember.

The mayor submitted several vetoes as usual. The first was that of the sewer contract of Heyman & McDonald the executive maintaining that the price was too high, and that there was evidence of a conspiracy between some of the bidders to beat the city. The veto was sustained by a unanimous vote.

The veto of the bill of the Ketcham Furniture company, for a desk furnished for the office of the gas inspector, was also sustained, the mayor alleging that it was altogether too high. Tuttle alone voted against the veto, claiming that the property had been ordered by the mayor, and that he had no business to veto the bill, no matter what the figure charged.

Vetoes of resolutions locating gas lamps at Nineteenth and Davenport and Twentieth and Capitol avenue were overridden, as was one protesting against the transfer of money from the general fund to the lighting fund to pay the bill of the Thomson-Houston company.

Discussing the Veto.

Chaffee understood there was more money in the general fund than was ordered transferred, and said it was the duty of the council to put it in the lighting fund to meet the claim of the electric light company.

Lowry called for the reading of the report of the gas inspector, which showed the tests of the circuits, before he voted.

The veto was not sustained by a vote of 15 to 1, Munro alone voting to sustain the mayor.

The gas inspector's report was received and adopted, on motion of Chaffee.

The city attorney reported a satisfactory settlement of W. F. Sweezy's claim against the city: adopted.

The contract and bond of James Jensen for making sewer repairs for 1893 was referred, as were those of J. E. Knowles for wooden sidewalks and Hugh Murphy for paving.

Chaffee was awarded the contract for furnishing lumber, on the report of tabulation by the comptroller.

Superintendent Matthiesen reported the appointment of Jacob Berveka as city hall janitor, and it was confirmed, despite Tuttle's protest regarding the manner in which the furniture in the council chamber was being handled.

John Stribling, W. T. Whalen, Frederick Krelle, J. J. Hannigan, Theodore Henck, applied for a master plumber's license; granted.

John F. Daily was granted a license as a drain layer.

Bids for Furnishing Stationery.

Bids for furnishing stationery were opened, read and referred to the comptroller for tabulation. Klopp, Bartlett & Co.'s bid being received seven minutes late, because the bidder was there waiting but the comptroller's force was busy waiting on others at the time and delayed him.

The nine national banks bid 2 per cent for city deposits; referred.

The final report of the board of equalization was adopted.

A communication relative to the sloping of a dirt bank developed the family quarrel between the Coffeys and O'Tooles, and every member of the council talked on it except Burdish, who has never yet made a speech, although his two years' term is drawing to a close.

Contractor Coots' bid to put a fifty foot flag pole on the tower of the city hall for $254.50 was referred to the new council.

The bills of $690 for the carpet and $250 for the balance due Lehman for frescoing the council chamber were allowed.

The sounding of the general fire alarm brought the proceedings to a sudden end and a hasty adjournment was taken.

DESPERADOES AS MARSHALS.

Another One Appointed to Office in Kansas—Emmet Dalton's Case.

COFFEYVILLE, Kan., Dec. 27.—Following close upon the appointment of Bill Dalton, brother of the noted Dalton boys, as deputy United States marshal, comes the announcement of the appointment of Bill Lipsey to a similar position. Lipsey was formerly a member of the noted "Starr gang," a rival of the "Dalton gang" in bold border crimes. The Starr gang is under the command of Henry Starr, who recently shot and killed Deputy Wilson while resisting arrest. Lipsey was heard to remark at the time that Starr did right in shooting Wilson, and that he (Lipsey) hoped Starr would escape.

Emmet Dalton, although having recovered from the wounds he received at the time the citizens of Coffeyville repelled the attack on the banks of the town by the Dalton gang and killed four members of the band, has not yet been brought to trial. He has been indicted for murder, but the county attorney has had the case postponed until spring. It seems now that Emmet Dalton cannot be tried. The state, of course, cannot take a change of venue to another county, and Dalton will not. In this county it will be impossible to get an unprejudiced jury and Dalton will escape trial in the same way that James Brennan did, who murdered Sam Woods, and for whose trial an impartial jury could not be obtained.

Fatally Burned.

TRENTON, Mo., Dec. 27.—Clara, the 4-year-old daughter of Lawrence Nichols, was burned to death today at her home. She was playing about the fire, when her dress caught fire. Before her mother could extinguish the flames the child was burned almost to a crisp.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

Jacob B. Reinhardt and Miss L. Mollie Jones were married Saturday evening at the residence of the officiating minister, Rev. Charles W. Savidge.

At the Mercer: William H. Owens, Peoria, Ill.; J. A. Arnold, Kearney; J. M. Slusher, Holdredge; F. E. Goble, Red Cloud; Miss Marion Hunter, Cherokee; James Sanford, Sioux City, Ia.; R. McCullough and wife, Boone, Ia.; Lieutenant Grote Hutcheson, Fort Robinson.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 27.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The following Nebraskans are registered here today: Victoria—W. V. Morse, Omaha. Grand Northern—Robert S. Wilcox, Omaha; John L. Carson and wife, Miss Rose Carson, J. L. Carson, jr., T. W. Smith, Lincoln. Grand Pacific—J. M. Fuller, Omaha.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

At Thirteenth and Farnam streets yesterday morning about 9 o'clock a Thirteenth street motor collided with a Farnam street car. No one was injured.

It cost the county $9,557.75 to compile the tax list last year. County Clerk Sackett had the same work performed this year for $4,453.83, a saving of $2,103.92 over last year.

"Stump" Garr, by the liberal appliance of a beer bottle over Goodie Burton's head, induced her to sign a check for $50. The check was cashed at Dick Burdish's saloon. He is out the sum and Garr has left the city.

Sheriff Bennett returned from Schuyler yesterday with Charles Kreig, one of the two prisoners who escaped from the county jail through a coal hole several months ago. Kreig had served thirty of a ninety days' sentence for some petty offense.

Anton Becker, a German baker, entered the New Idea restaurant on Fourteenth street, near Dodge, yesterday and engaged in an altercation with one of the waiters. For his pains he received a bowl of hot soup in the face, and a punch from the waiter's fist. He complained and a warrant has been issued.

S. E. Beachler of Blue Springs writes to Chief Seavey that he thinks the robbers who entered his store on the night of December 17, and secured a quantity of watches and other articles, are working toward Omaha. He offers a reward of $50 for information that will lead to their arrest or conviction.

FEAST FOR FLAMES

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]

haven't had time to give the matter a moment's thought."

DURING THE EXCITEMENT.

Some Incidents and Episodes That Marked the Occasion.

The fighting of the fire on the fourth floor over the portion of the building occupied by the Continental Clothing company was one of the finest pieces of work imaginable. A line of hose was taken up the fire escape on the north side of the building, and the pipeman braved the smoke and flames, and in its very midst fought the demon in a most effectual manner. Partition from room to room was leveled to the floor by the telling blows of the firemen, and on to the south end they went extinguishing the flames. The work of the men on the inside, together with the five other streams playing from the ground below, soon had its effect, and the bright flames and flying sparks, so beautifully illuminating a moment before, disappeared and were succeeded by a dark cloud of smoke hovering about the building. In a short time the fire was completely out upon the fourth floor.

At 1 o'clock the flames were vanquished, but two or three lines of hose were still playing on the blackened ruins. Under the bright rays of the electric lights the scene resembled a glimpse of fairy land. The Niagara which had been poured upon the blazing walls from a score of nozzles had congealed into a grotesque covering of ice. The mutilated walls were coated with ice, the tangled meshes of the wires which had been cut to make room for the extension ladders, had been transformed into a dense jungle of crystal whiteness. The hook and ladder trucks were nearly buried with their frosty load and the lines of hose were imbedded in a frozen mass. Now and then an icicle dropped from a projecting timber and was shattered on the pavement. It would have shattered a man's head as easily, but luckily no one happened to get under one of the descending icebergs.

Able to Stand a Soaking.

When the fire had been subdued Chief Galligan still lingered around the ruins and directed the work of his men. "Why don't you go somewhere and get dry?" asked a city official who noticed the chief's bedraggled condition. "Am I any better than my men?" indignantly replied Galligan. "I can stand it as well as these men if I am the boss," and Jack stayed.

The fire attracted an immense crowd. Men ran to the place from all parts of the city, and the police had great difficulty in keeping the streets clear immediately in front of the burning buildings. After the theaters closed many ladies walked down to the corner to witness the big blaze. The crowd hung on until after 1 o'clock, when it gradually dispersed.

The need of a salvage corps was never more apparent in this city than in the care of the clothing stock of the Continental company. A large stock of tarpaulins, handled by men who understood their business, would have done away with the necessity of moving the goods, and at the same time would have reduced the loss to a minimum. Never have the local insurance agents had a clearer object lesson of the benefit of a salvage corps to insurance companies than was furnished in this instance.

Mr. S. A. Orchard was met at the Paxton shortly after midnight. He took his misfortune very philosophically and accepted the disaster as inevitable. He stated that he knew very little of the origin of the fire, and had been unable to decide in his own mind how the conflagration could have started.

"The report that the fire originated from a boiler exploding is an error," said Mr. Orchard. "There was no boiler in the portion of the block occupied by myself. The boiler from which the steam heat is furnished is located in the basement under the portion of the building occupied by the Continental Clothing company. If an explosion occured it was caused by the heat of the flames."

A. W. Davis, traveling representative for Thomas L. Leadman, carpet manufacturer of Bristol, Pa., had four trunks of samples destroyed in the fire. Mr. Davis had his trunks taken there yesterday and neglected to have them taken away last evening. The samples were valuable, and it will be some time before he has them replaced, as he will have to make a trip to the factory.

The lodge rooms on the fourth floor were occupied by the Improved Order of Red Men, Modern Woodmen of America, the Woodmen of the World, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Commercial Pilgrims of America and Myrtle lodge, Knights of Pythias. The members of Myrtle lodge had just finished fitting up their lodge rooms at a cost of $3,000, for which they had paid their dues for some time in advance, and as they had no insurance, and this floor was completely destroyed, their loss will be very keenly felt. The Red Men lose $1,200, with $1,000 insurance. One of the lodges was in session at the time the fire broke out, and the lodgemen were appraised of it by the explosion, which startled everyone within a block of the spot.

Trouble with the Wires.

The network of overhead wires was very largely responsible for the extent of the blaze, as the firemen were unable to raise the extension ladder of truck 1 because of this metallic barrier, and fully fifteen minutes of precious time were lost in cutting them so as to allow the ladder to reach the roof. But for that delay a line of hose would have been upon the roof in time to have effectually prevented the fire from getting across the fire wall, and the damage would have been confined to the Orchard building. The wires also caused delay by deterring the firemen, who were afraid of live wires, and picked their way with great caution.

Superintendent Coulter of the fire and police alarm, induced the electric light company to turn off the current from all circuits passing through the alley in the rear of the burning building, and the employes of the company also removed the arc lamps that were in the building, and temporarily took down the light at the intersection of Fifteenth and Douglas, fearing that the falling of the tower would break the crosswire and precipitate the deadly line to the ground.

When the Tower Burned.

The scene during the burning of the tower was a beautiful, though awe-inspiring one. For some time before it took fire, the tower gave forth a cloud of purest white, as the frost and moisture was converted into steam by the intense heat, and when the flames finally took possession of it and assumed a thousand leaping and ever changing forms the transformation was one that could not help but cause admiration even though the beholder realized the fullest meaning of the sublime spectacle. The clock in the tower ticked away, apparently unaffected by the fire or the heat, and it seemed as if even this fearful element could not interfere with time and its faithful measure, but the onslaught was resistless, and the flames pierced the dials, eating into them as if they were paper instead of metal, and left nothing but the outlines of the figures and the hands, the veriest skeleton of what had been there. And then they, too, were gone, while within the tower the flames seethed and swirled and twisted, relentless and irresistible. The copper cornice burned with flames of various color, while the insidious foe undermined the roof, and then the flagstaff toppled for a moment and fell with a crash to the stone sidewalk 100 feet below.

First One of the Series.

At 9:15 o'clock last night fire was discovered in the second hand furniture store of I. Nathan, 505 South Thirteenth street and an alarm sent in from box 37. The fire was in a pile of mattresses in the rear of the building and was put out with a loss of about $200 to the owner. The building was damaged to the extent of $50.

During the big fire and while the entire department was hard at work on the Orchard and Continental buildings, an alarm was turned in from the box at the corner of Twenty-third and Grant streets. It took some time for the hose companies to arrive and consequently two cottages were almost totally destroyed.

The Fire Record.

CHESTER, Ill., Dec. 27.—The large building known as the Menard Manufacturing company's building in the Chester prison yard, burned down last night. All stock, tools etc., valued at over $50,000 were destroyed. It is thought the fire is the work of an incendiary convict and was the outgrowth of the recent strike among the convicts.

SNOW HILL, Ala., Dec. 27.—Fire broke out here last night and destroyed every business house in town except one. The losers are J. H. Patten & Co., Patterson Brothers, W. C. Albritton, James Pattison and E. R. McElroy. The total loss is $25,000; insurance about half.

GENEVA, Ill., Dec. 27.—The Linden opera house was burned today. Loss, $60,000.

EXCURSION AND THEATRICAL RATES.

Meeting of the Central Traffic Association to Consider the Matter.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 27.—Commissioner Donald has called a meeting of the passenger department of the Central Traffic association for tomorrow to consider the question of a uniform basis for the excursion and theatrical rates. The purpose is to carry out the instructions of the managing officers, who, at their meeting on December 13, adopted a resolution instructing the general passenger agents to agree upon rates for special and theatrical parties, the roads interested agreeing to maintain same without deviation and to pay no commissions directly or indirectly to influence such traffic.

A meeting of the managers will be held tomorrow to consider various matters relating to both freight and passenger traffic.

Shipments of flour, grain and provisions from Chicago to the seaboard last week amounted to 47,493 tons, against 42,185 for the preceding week, an increase of 5,421 tons, and a decrease of 5,755 tons compared with last year.

Separated from the Railroad.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 27.—Announcement was made today that an arrangement has been affected whereby the entire management of the commercial affairs of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron company, including finances, will after January 1, be conducted by the finance committee of the Pennsylvania, of which George H. Eagle was recently elected president. The main object of the movement is to separate the coal and iron company from the railroad, and at the same time to relieve President McLeod of the details of the coal business in order that he may give his undivided attention to the railroad.

Foully Murdered.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 27.—George F. Moody yesterday entered a passenger coach at Brinkley and emptied the contents of a double-barreled shot gun into the face of James Koesus, instantly killing him. At the time Koesus had his bride of two weeks with him, but she escaped unhurt. Moody was arrested. He is a son of Judge R. E. Moody of Tuscumbia, Ala. The men had quarreled previously.

Brothers Burned to Death.

ASHTON, S. D., Dec. 27.—William Rush, 24 years of age, started to kindle a fire with gasoline Christmas day. An explosion took place and his whole body was at once wrapped in flames. Eben Rush, his brother, went to his assistance and succeeded in extinguishing the fire, but not until both were terribly burned. William Rush died yesterday and Eben cannot live.

Caused His Daughter's Death.

HARTFORD, Ky., Dec. 27.—Recently the 16-year-old stepdaughter of William Milligan, a prominent republican politician and postmaster, died under suspicious circumstances. Milligan refused to allow an examination before her burial. The coroner's jury exhumed her remains and found that her death was caused by criminal operations. Milligan has so far escaped arrest.

Stranded in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 27.—The venture of the Digby Bell Opera company has developed into one of the worst theatrical failures which Chicago has known in years. About forty members of the company are absolutely penniless. A benefit by one of the local theaters has been arranged, in which all the prominent theatrical people now in town will take part.

Ascended from a Minnesota Church.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 27.—A special to the Tribune from Canton, Minn., says: The sexton of the Assumption church here brought J. J. Collins of Monroe county, Wisconsin, before S. Boyd today and they made an affidavit that they saw a bright star about six inches in circumference ascend from the roof of said church on Christmas night.

Died from His Injuries.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 27.—James Fox, one of the two men who were murderously attacked by Pat Moran, died this morning. Blakesly cannot live. Pat Moran, who is in jail charged with the crime, still maintains that he is innocent. No motive can be ascribed for the crime and the case is a mysterious one.

WEATHER FORECASTS.

Variable Winds and Rising Temperature Promised for Nebraska Today.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—Forecast for Wednesday: For Nebraska and Iowa—Fair; variable winds; rising temperature in Iowa and eastern Nebraska.

For the Dakotas—Fair; variable winds; rising temperature, except in extreme western portions of South Dakota.

Local Record.

OFFICE OF THE WEATHER BUREAU, OMAHA, Dec. 27.—Omaha record of temperature and rainfall compared with corresponding day of past four years:

	1892.	1891.	1890.	1889.
Maximum temperature	13°	40°	43°	57°
Minimum temperature	5°	17°	20°	30°
Average temperature	4°	28°	32°	44°
Precipitation	T	.00	.00	.00

Statement showing the condition of temperature and precipitation at Omaha for the day and since March 1, 1892.

Normal temperature	23°
Deficiency for the day	19°
Deficiency since March 1	343°
Normal precipitation	.03 inches
Deficiency for the day	.03 inches
Deficiency since March 1	3.13 inches

GEORGE E. HUNT, Local Forecast Official.

Lacked One Accomplishment.

"Talking about labor-saving inventions," said a Boston to a reporter, "I remember when the steam shovel was a new thing here, that it was on one occasion made to do the work of a number of men who were obliged to turn in other directions for employment. This shovel was at work, and one of the discharged laborers stood looking at it in astonishment. An official connected with the sewer department came along, and, am