# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1893-TWENTY PAGES.

# PARALYZED THE PROMOTERS Federal Officials Smite Bond Companies Hip

and Thigh.

THREE CONVICTED OF LOTTERY SWINDLING

Hilarious Hustlers Flunged Into a Vat of Wor-The Use of the Mails Denied Reorganized Companies-Hot Judicial Opinions.

"The success of the enterprise depends upon its gross and well known insolvency ; so insolvent that in the very method of its organization there is no hope of its carrying out its promises." The words are a small part of the wither-

ing condemnation of bond investment companies prenounced by Judge Grosscup from the federal district bench in Chicago.

There was ample provocation for this outburst of judicial indignation. It was at the close of the trial of George M. McDonald, president of the Guarantee Investment company; William H. Stevenson, vice president and Francis M. Swearingen, secretary, on the charge of using the; United States mail to promote a lottery. The testimony showed the company to be a swindle and that it had used the mails to

further its operations. The court and the jury were of one mind and a verdict of

guilty was returned. The trial attracted widespread interest, not alone among victims of bond companies, but among the glib-tongued promotors who prealized that the outcome involved their prosperity and liberty. When the indict-ments against the guarantee officers were brought in by the grand jury a few weeks ago the promotors affected indifference. Some of the n hailed the action of the fed-eral officials as a deliverance from menacing threats. The indicted officials went so far as to telegraph a number of newspapers that the proceedings had been investigated by themselves and they assured their victim that the outcome would be a tri-umphant vindication. Now they are mum and strugging to keep out of jail.

#### Retrospective.

The Guarantee Investment company, whose officials were convicted, was started in Nevada, Mo., about two years ago. An insurance sharp, who had exhausted his use-fulness in legitimate business, formulated the scheme. Insurance tables were juggled for the occasion, and an elaborate system produced by which the multitude might become rich in a jiffy. Of course the author and his backers did not propose to enrich the multitude gratis. They were not in the business for their health. They provided for a rake off of 25 cents out of each monthly payment of \$1.25, and in addition provision was made for the rustler in the shape of an initiation fee of \$10. The scheme took root and flourished amazingly. In two years it became so opplent as to defy courts and legfidatures, and spread its malign influence all over the west. From the Nevada concern sprung 150 similar concerns, the manipulators of which are now skurrying for shelter.

#### From Gay to Grave.

During the trial of the swindlers in Chicago they were constantly surrounded by cheery friends. The smooth hustlers for a tenner as well as the indicted men were gay to the verge of hilarity. They regarded the proceedings as a prologue to a feast. They contended that the multiple system was in-nocent of chance; anyhow, they had decided to conform with the law out of re-spect to the postal authorities. Hence they felt confident the jury would acquit with a caution. When the prosecuting attorney, in his closing address, got a little mixed in his figures, their bilarity broke over the bounds of court decorum. Several such scenes oc-curred. But their bilarity was of short duration. After the court stated the law in the case and began dissecting and denouncing the swindle, the gloom of a Chicago fog enveloped them and jaws dropped a foot. The court reviewed the scheme of organization, which is familiar to

may go through the registration process. If he draws a multiple, and the company con-tinues, he will eventually be paid. If he draws a numeral it is as morally certain as any law of the universe that, unless the company is almost entirely abandoned by its bondholders, he will never be paid. bondhoiders, he will never be paid. "It is said here in argument that the lapses will secure certain payment in time; in other words, chough men will become dis-couraged at the outlook and will drop out so as to advance those whose bonds are de-formed. What does that means it means ferred. What does that mean? It means that by the very constitution of this com-pany the success of its enterprise depends

entirely upon its insolvency; its gross and well known insolvency, so insolvent that in the very method of its organization no hope of its carrying out its promises can be entertained. Now, the court cannot say that that is a legitimate enter-prise, promising a certain return of money which, by the very constitution of the company, is dependent upon the insolvency o the company, and a wholesale repudiation o

its promises. That is not the rule of any other legitimate enterprise. The determi-nation, therefore, of the return or prize is dependent upon a chance or allotment. Worse Than the Louisiana Lottery,

"The only substantial difference between the scheme disclosed to you by the proof and the woll recognized lotteries of the world, such as the Louisian Lottery company, is that the latter are, in comparison honest and free from the opportunities of chicanery. The wheel of the lottery and the hat of the raffle are to the fortune hunterincomparably fairer contrivances for the determination of his chances. He is not dependent, in then upon the honesty or accuracy of upon the honesty or accuracy of a secretary, with whom it is as easy to put one application through the register as another. The whole scheme disclosed by the proofs is a cunning trick to attract the cupidity and ignorance of men. A great menace to civil-ization-not only of the United States, but of the world-is the growing tendency to gam-

ble or engage in lottery. Two hundred years ago their promotors were character-ized in the streets of England as robbers. "No prospect is so attractive as that which s wrapped up in the mysteries of a chance. To the winner comes some money, many congratulations, wide advertisement throughout the newspapers and the pro-

pensity to go in again. To the losers, 100 fold in number, come stripped homes, im-poverished wives and children, lost pportunities of building up a com-octance legitimately, and in too many instances, the temptation to go in again upon means that are obtained from an employer, first by a supposed borrowing, then by intentional theft, forgery and embezzle-ment. The rainbow of hope lures and lures

until its chaser falls over the precipice into suicide or the penitentiary. The mails of the United States are intended for legiti-mate business or friendly communication and are defiled by the dissemination and pro-motion of such a scheme as the evidence in this care admitted unduclease. this case admittedly discloses." The maximum penalty in such cases is \$1,000 fine or one year in the penitentiary, or both, according to the discretion of the court.

### Pending the determination of a motion for a ew trial the prisoners were admitted to

batt.

Another Crushing Blow. Since bond companies were excluded from Since bond companies were excluded from the use of the mails, and especially since the prosecutions began in Chicago, there has been a general change of plans. The mul-tiple system, condemned as a lottery, has been generally abandoned and a system of redemption of bonds in numerical order insti-uted. The promoters unargued this resuld

tuted. The promoters imagined this would square them with the postoffice authorities and give them access to the mails. A number of the reorganized concerns submitted their places to the department expecting approval. But disaster greets them again and blocks their operation under the consecutive plan. An opinion has been rendered by the assistant attorney general which, he an-nounces, applies to all companies. It is embodied in a letter to a Missouri company

and is as follows: "I have carefully investigated the modes and studied the plans of business adopted by your company, and am fully convinced that it ought not to be permitted the use of the mails to further its interest. There are scores of companies in the United States of this class, similar in all essential particu-lars and differing only in details of an unimportant nature. The success of the business on the basis presented must necessarily depend on an appeal to the gambing spirit of the people or on their deception. The postmaster general is authorized under the law to exclude from the mails the business enterprise offering prizes for distribution of money or property by lot or chance and of schemes devised to obtain money or property under false pretenses. Therefore when you eliminate the chance feature from your schemes you will be con-fronted by the fraud element in it, if any. An examination of your plan convinces me that if successful it must inevitably result in gigantic losses to your patrons as a body. The proposition to receive the money and re-turn a portion of it to your patrons in unequal proportions and to induce people to embark in the enterprise of a ne-cessity makes the distribution depend on lot or chance, or you mask the plan of operation. I cannot comprehend how a same operation. man would usest his money in a scheme like yours. Granting that the chance ele-ment is eliminated from it, the absence of a plain advantage over co-investors and of deception, some must be deceived if the plan succeeds. If you remove the chance element you must mask your plan of operations so as to cover your real designs, chiefly by jug-gling with figures, by which people can be readily deceived and overreached by holding out to them hopes of magnificent results that can never be realized. The practical outcome of such a scheme has been in the past to defraud the people, and in many states they have been prohibited by statute. I can instance a great hordeof enterprises in Massachusetts and other eastern states which drew millions of dollars from the people to their great damage, and even to the disturbance of the business of the country. These are now dead. Judging the future by the past I do not hesitate to say that the scheme must from its very nature result in

# MAKE WESTERN NEBRASKA

Its Soil Waiting Only for the Flow of Irrigation.

IT MAY BECOME A BLOOMING GARDEN

Every Inch of Land is Good and All Accossible to Water Supply - A Great Field for Future Omalia Trade.

GERING, Nov. 24.-[Special to THE BEE.]-Arizona, New Mexico, California and Colo rado are recognized as irrigating states, and capitalists seeking profitable fields of investment in the line of irrigation have for years turned their eyes toward these localities. It is not strange that this should be true, con-

sidering the position they willingly occupy and the certainty of remunerative invest-ment they afford. Yet Nebraska, with an immense area of irrigable land and an abundant supply of water waiting to be diverted into canals has, as a whole, persistently occupied the position of a rain belt state. The entire area of these other commonwealths are not only accepted by their citizens to be so-called arid lands, but are even claimed to be such with a species of glory in the fact. They say, give us water and we will trans-form our deserts into flowering Edens. Cap-ital hears this atory, tests it, and the re-sults have invariably proven that the al-leged arid lands are fully as productive under the magical influence of artificial watering as that emittivity under the most watering as that cultivated under the most encouraging natural rainfall. Nebraska, a successful farming state only so far as that portion of her surface lying east of the one hundredth meridian is concerned, has through her press and people attempted to maintain the integral position of a rainpolt state. Let a cry go up from this Macedonia through the channels in which capital is sought that there is a soction of Nebraska comprising one-half of her entire area which is the same sort of arid land exactly, and where immigration is possible and will be welcomed, and who can doubt that if proper conditions and probable profit can be shown that capital will grapple with the subject and make for Nebraska's fair plains an ag-

ricultural renown as celebrated as that of California, Utah or Colorado! Must Enlarge Omaha's Field. The question merely resolves itself into a matter of the ability to show these condi-tions, and it is a gratifying fact that THE BEE and the state press are apparently be-ginning to realize that Nebraska does not end at Grand Island or Kesraey. Some rea-sons for the awakening are evident. The great city of Omaha—the gateway of the state—with her united business interests octavities gravitations the later beside

extending westward along the Union Pacific, the B. & M. and the Elkhorn roads, sighs for new fields to conquer. Omana can no longer doubt that these desired new fields are either not in existence or are already pre-empted by commercial centers as enter-prising as herself. What, then, can she do but proceed to develop those fields which are already hers by right of possession ! Kansas City, for instance, was targety instrumental in securing the opening of the Oklahoma lands and the Cherokee Strip-not from a benevolent desire to provide homes for an overflow from the surging tide of eastern hu-manity -no, indeed, simply to develop a territory already hers, that the increasing busi-ness might benefit her manufacturers, mer-chants and jobbers. Why should not Omahu profit by Kansas City's example and arize to the demands of the situation which confronts her

#### All Subject to Irrigation.

Western Nebraska is fortunately composed of a rich and fertile soil, capable of blooming as the rose. There is not a square mile of waste land in the entire western half of the state. Irrigation will reclaim millions of acres of land along the water courses, and the watered acres will bring forth grain and produce for the Omaha market, corn to fatten swine for the Omaha market, and alfalfa to feed cattle for the Omaha market. The higher lands upon which water cannot be conducted are now, as they have always been, covered with the most nutritious of

water an acceage of about \$0,000 acces. The Minatare canal is about twenty miles long and furnishes water to an area of about 5,000 acces. These projects were closely fol-lowed by the Winters Creek canal, an excellowed by the winters Creek canal, an excei-lent one about fifteen miles in length: the Enterprise, over thirty miles long; the Mitchell, about thirty miles long; the Castle Rock, about eighteen miles long, the Bayard, the Central, the Lawrence, the Chimney Rock and a bumber of smaller ones, ranging in length from five to fifteen miles and watering from 1000 to 5000 access ones, ranging in length from five to fifteen miles and watering from 1,000 to 3,000 acros each. These are the cankits which head in Scott's Bluff county, and they are supple-mented in tae work of making the North Platte valley a farming region in the mod-ern sense by a host of smaller ones just above the state line in Wyoming, and to the east of the county in Cheyenne and Deuel counties. Indeed there is one which ranks right alongside the canals already mentioned as to size and capacity, the Beimont, head-ing near camp Clark and extending along

ing near camp Clark and extending along the foothills south of the river a distance o thirty-five miles, and covering over 35;000 acres of land. How the Canals Were Built.

From the figures already adduced it will be seen that in the western section of the state there are taken from the North Platte river alone a grand total approximating 300 miles of main ditch. A gratifying feature of these statistics is the fact that, with two exceptions, these canals have been constructed, equipped and maintained under a co-operative plan by the farmers residing under the respective lines, the dirt being moved by the farmer's own cone and sinew, with no outside assistance and are consequently owned and controlled by the farmers who are interested, who are under no corporate rentals or restrictions. A compilation made some two years ago is who ever cut a rate or paid a commission, but he is a railroad man from the ground up and "business" is written all over his typical New England face. A complication made some two years ago is said to have shown that the first cost of these mutual entorprises divided by the number of acres for which they could furnish water left as the quotient \$2.50. In other words, the farmers had secured for the pal-His business in Omana-well, really, he couldn't say-but just wanted to call on Mr. try sum of \$2.50 per acre a certainty of crop forever and perpetually, with the triffing cost of maintenance added annually. Viewed Lomax to sottle a matter that was purely clerical in its nature, and thought a Saturday afternoon would find Mr. Lomax disen from the general standpoint of irrigation this is a remarkably low result, as the gov ernment reports have shown the average annual rental of water to be from \$4.50 to \$18 per acre in the various irrigation states or territories. It is true that these canals me ned are the ones most easily constructed by reason of the topography of the Platte valley, as they are for the most part simply conduits built to take advantage of the known fall of the river, and are constructed on a less grade across the level valley lands skirting the stream. But this does not neasure the irrigation possibilities of this great state.

#### Conditions All Favor Nebraska,

Irrigation can only be extensively and at the same time successfully practiced from streams having their source in lofty moun-tains where the supply of water is inde-pendent of the local rainfall. The North Platte river is one of the largest, if not the largest, river flowing east from the Rocky mountains. Statistics show that a greater volume of water enters the state of Ne-braska at the state line in this river than in all the streams of Colorado combined. Now, to bring this matter down into a practical form for the consideration of he who runs t must be understood that, from the source of the Platte (the north fork) to the line between Wyoming and Nebraska the river canons almost the entire distance-that is, the valley is too uarrow to permit of the diversion of water for irrigation purposes to any appreciable extent. Only a very small portion of this mighty flood can ever be used n Wyoming, and Nebraska, through natural laws, must become the beneficiary, for at laws, must become the benchciary, for at the state line the gigantic bluffs, which have flauked the stream on either sdie, sweep away from the river, and there is formed one of the most beautiful valleys in the west, as well as one of the most intural irrighting territories in the world.—For a distance of a hundred miles with a width of from fitness hundred miles with a width of from fifteer to twenty-five miles strenches the belt which is so far the scene of the most active irri is so far the scene of the most active irri-gration operations in the state. The soil is rich, the climate is mild, the water is pure and enough has already, been done in the way of irrigation to indicate the possibilities in store for Nebraska.

#### What Omaha Can Do.

Along the North Platte.

reached and fertilized by its boundless waters; the Loup basin is another fit subject

for consideration as well with its 15,000 square miles of territory. The volume of water in these streams is not restricted to

underflow comprises almost as much more

sition among the cities of the earth will arise

Where Capital Should Be Applied.

Continued Until Monday.

and call you blessed.

munerative.

There are but two drawbacks to the cre-ation of an agricultural paradise in this region, and in each of these Omaha can be a faithful ally if she will, and at the same ne she is doing this she will eye on Denver, stopping at Omaha en route, but no man can tell what is developing in adding a good many rounds to her ladder for reaching the pinnacle of commercial su-premacy. One of these things is the enthe brain of the president of the Great Northern." It is understood that W. W. Findlay, gencouragement of a railroad line giving a more direct outlot to market than is now enjoyed. eral traffic manager, and F. I. Whitney are in Omena to form a closer traffic agreement The other, it should be needless to say, is the encouragement of further irrigation pro-jects. It is apparent not only that the citithan now exists between the Union Pacific zens themselves are not able to construct the mighty canals required to reach the and the Great Northern. Decided in Russell Sage's Favor. higher lands. They have acquitted them-selves nobly so far as their conditions and the topography of the country would per-



Twenty Met THEWN rran, Jessa Ha GAAND EXTRA MATINEE THURSDAY, NOV. 30-THANKSGIVING.

gaged. "The Great Northern," said he; while his according to Fitzgerald, when an unknown eyes were intently riveted upon a pile of formidable looking papers before him, "is man opened fire on the couple. Fitzgerald claims to have pursued the assassin without avail. The police are working on the case and also holding Fitzgeraid on the theory that he is the murderer BINTS FOR THANKSULVING.

fallen

formidable looking papers before him, "is comparatively a new road and anything that comes our way is like finding it. We are not a California line, you know, and traverse a section of the country that is comparatively undeveloped." Then the reporter suggested that the Great Northern had made considerable trouble last summer for the Union Pacific with its line of beats with its line of boats.

of Headquarters-Notes.

"That was last summer," replied the mildly spoken general passenger agent, "Our tourist service, I am told, affected our southern neighbor, the Union Pacific,

considerably, but we were a new road and had to introduce ourselves to the traveling public. But we are not of the fighting kind, except that being in a broll we make the best of it if we can."

"You do not come to labor with Mr. Lomax over the immigrant situation?" haz arded THE BEE man. "We are not members of any association and are peculiarly a law unto ourselves. No;

my mission is purely one belonging to the auditing department. Still, I should like to know how Mr. Lomax stands on the immigrant question, although we have little busi-ness of that kind on our line except to local

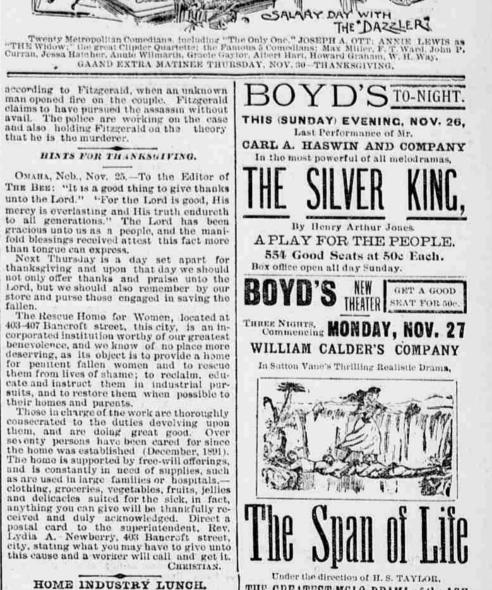
points."

"Are rates stable on your line now?" "Very. We are not seeking to demoralize business willing to wait for our opportunity to still further popularize our road when the time comes. The Great Northern is in splen did condition, our equipment is good and physically we are first class. Mr. Hill is one of the greatest financiers of modern times, the secret of his great success being that he is personally interested in every en-terprise with which he is connected. He backs his opinion with his money."

"Is Mr. Hill arich man as rich men go?" "Well, that is rather a vague question Mr. Hill is probably a twenty millionaire. although I am not advised as to his wealth I do know, however, he is a genius in finan-

cial matters."

"Is it the intention of the Great Northern to build to Omnha. "Really, that is a question that I can not answer," replied Mr. Whitney, shifting his position and crossing his legs. "I anticipate, Nebraska Manufacturers Will Feed the State however, that Mr. Hill will not be content to terminate his line at Sloux City, but it has been a disastrous year for railroad building and the future must solve that question. It may be that Mr. Hill has his



THE GREATEST MELO-DRAMA of the AGE After 20 week's run at the New York theaters be New York Herald calls it "The eleverast an nost exciting melo-drama seen here in man

Strong Cast - Effective Scenes.

#### the readers of THE BEE, and said: Public Plunder.

"There is no doubt centlemen that the scheme on the face of it, according to its own contract, is a cheat. The testimony shows that this company has been in exist ence for two years, and has had 50,023 applications. According to the contract of its organization it has therefore received more than \$500,000 from the \$10 preliminary fees, and it has paid \$200,000 to its bondholders. If it paid out all it received for that purpose, and its contract required it so to do, it received from the dues more than \$40,000. So that after two years the stockholders received more than \$540,000 and the so-called neficiarles received but \$206,000. This is public plunder. It is said that this has been done fairly. This court is not sitting to pass upon the fairness of any such transaction." upon the fairness of any such transaction. But this, the judge said, did not prove a lottery. The best definition of a lottery that he could find was where a pecuniary consideration is paid and it is determined by chance or lot, according to the scheme held out to the public, whether he who pays the money shall receive a riturn and how much; that was a lottery. Every enterprise was supposed to have a return or incentive, which made men industrious or active, but whether that return or prize was determined by mere lot or chance made it either a legitimate enterprise or a lottery, and therefore unlawful. He explained the difference between this enterprise and life insurance companies which invest their moneys in securities and pay a stipulated sum to the heirs and beneficiaries of a mem-ber after his death. The prize in the case of life insurance was not determinable by or

dependent on chance or lot, but on the life **Probability of a Bond Maturing** 

Continuing, the judge said : In the case at bar the return or prize is

of a man.

\$1,000. Now, is that determined by lot or chance? Is it determined by one of the laws of nature or of industrial growth, which de-termines the other returns of life? Let us look at the practical workings of the schem Let us look at it first independently of what is called the multiple system. Here is a company which in two years has taken in more than 50,000 applications. In order to make a return certain to each one of these appli-cauts of the amount of money promised in the bond it would be necessary that the company should have a fend of \$50,000,000. two years it has only accumulated a fund of \$206,000. According to the constitufund of \$200,000. According to the constitu-tion of the company, outside of the lapses, there are 50,000 men who are entitled to these returns if they persist in paying. In two years 206 have been paid. If each man were to get a return according to the prom-ise of the company, outside of lapses, and overy dollar which went into the fund of the company were to be used for that purpose, and no man were to receive more than he paid in, it would take 1,000 months, or more than eighty-three years, for each man to than eighty-three years, for each man to receive back his return. This money will be idle, not growing by interest or other investment. Is it not perfectly appar-ent that from the very necessity and constitution of the scheme, if the unitiple system were not introduced, the company could not go on, and no man would receive back anything except those who had been the fortunate presences of the dust peen the fortunate possessors of the first

"It is said, and is one of the boasts of the company, that everybody who has been paid back has been paid \$1,000 on an investment not to exceed \$30. That again shows the en-tire impossibility, according to the constitu-tion of the scheme, of but a limited few, one in a hundred, over receiving any return or any prize except for the law of lapses. Because money lying idle in the treasury, shorn in the first place of 20 per cent of the amount, will never grow to pay 1,000 to one, or 1,000 to thirty, so long as the present economi law of the universo provails.

#### That Seductive Multiple System.

"These defendants have foreseen this and seen that the company must therefore to an immediate end and have insticome to an immediate end and have insti-tuted what is called "the multiple system." The chance is therefore held out to a man to receive an early payment of his bond. But upor what is that chance dependant? What determines that return or that prize? Any law of nature or of industrial growth, such as applies to insurance companies or real estate investments, which I have used as illustrations? Not at all. It is solely de-pendant upon the order in which his boud

the lojery of the many for the benefit of the few, and especially for the benefit of the company, and in a short time must break down of its own inherent weakness." INDICTED BY THE GRAND JURY.

## Officers of the Indianapolis National Heid

for Wrecking the Bank. INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 25.-The United

States grand jury has voted to indict Theodore P. Haughey, president of the Indianapolis National bank, Schuyler C. Haughey, president of the Indianapolis Glue company and of the Indianapolis Curled Francis A. Coffin, president works, of the Indianapolis Cabinet company; Percival B. Coffin, secretary of the Indianapolis Cabinet company; A. J. Reed, treasurer of the Indianapolis Cabinet company. These are the five men already under

bonds for weeking the Indianapolis National bank. It is possible that additional indictments have been returned in the bank case. The jury returned sixty-three indictments for minor offenses. The persons under bond in the bank case were among the first persons indicted by the jury, but the indictments could not be reported to the clerks of the courts for the reason that the district attorney and his assistant, have not had time in which to prepare them. Assistant District Attorney Corr went to work on the indictments this afternoon

#### Testified to Her Good Character.

Mrs. Ellia Barton was arrested yesterday on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses. It was alleged that she had rented a house which she did not possess to "Little Red Cloud." an Indian soldier. She gave bonds for her appearance for trial next Friday. Several well known business men testified to the good character of Mrs. Bar-ton, and claim she has a year's lease on the house which she rented, and that the com-plaint was due to the inability of the Indian to understand English

#### Released the Chinamen.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 25 .- The government has lost its first case in Ohio under the Geary law. Four Chinamen who arrived here last Monday from Detroit were arrested by Monday from Deriver where interests of a United States inspector on suspicion that they were newly imported and were being simugried from Canada to New York. Upon a full hearing before United States Commis-sioner Brussie that officer held that the gov-ernment had failed to make its case and discharged the prisoners.

prairie grasses, and will become the grazing grounds of hundreds of ranchmen as soon as the corn and hay are grown in the valleys to feed stock through the inclement portions of the winter seasons. It is only a question of time when the condition your correspondent has outlined will come to pass. Wealth and prosperity are knocking at Omaha's door, and it may be conceived that her duty is to put away all foolish notions of rainbolt prejudice, and tangibly encourage the development of irrigation in the western half of the state. The old theory, which was so tenaciously held by the pioneers, that in-creased precipitation would follow the progress of cultivation, has long since been explored. If it still lingers in the minds of any they have but to look at the history of crops turing the last four or five years west of the 100th meridian.

### A Poor Substitute for Irrigation.

Some one who was born to be a philose pher has said that the notion that irrigation is a miserable substitute for rainfall should be rendered thus: That rainfail is a poor substitute for irrigation. Perhaps it is not necessary for the purposes of this corre-spondent to state it thus radically. Yet irrigation farmers seldom recant-seldom leave an irrigated farm for one in the rain belt. Some of the beauties of the irrigation system are the certainty of crop, the in-creased yield and the better quality of the produce. Irrighted wheat is always a better flour maker than nonirrigated wheat. Irrigated land is not worn out and laid by to rest after every third or fourth season. The alluvial deposits carried over the surface with the water conriches and recuperates the solid as well as cuhances the harvest. The cer-tainty of a crop is, however, perhaps the greatest advantage the irrigating farmer has over his brother in Iowa or Illinois. The loss of one crop to the average farmer is the every thing which crimits him and defeate

very thing which cripples him and defats the purposes of his industry, and in many cases of these years when failures occur a canal could be built by the amount he loses, which would place his land in safety as to crop. For instance, one of the greatest rain-falls in the world is supposed to be that of Italy. Yet the Italian farmers are working under one of the most advanced systems of irrigation on the globe, simply because they cannot afford to think of the possible loss of cannot afford to think of the possible loss of a single crop. Many a rain belt farmer no doubt considers irrigation an absurd deviation from nature's method of cultivation, but the fact remains that they would no doubt be surprised to learn that over one-half of the world's popu-lation subsists upon the food produced by irrigation. So much for the advantages of the system. Now as to its possibility in western Nebraska. There is ample reason to believe that the outside world, nay, even to believe that the outside world, may, even the eastern half of the state, is full of peo-ple who never heard of irrigation in Neple who never heard of irrigation in Ne-braska. Yet your correspondent has, in the past week, seen thousands upon thousands of acres of Nebraska land glowing with the green and yeliow of growing and ripen-ing grains and vegetables. He has stood at the side of a thresher and seen the plump and well developed wheat and oats pouring into the bins; he has seen the huge stacks of hay and alfalfa, the fields of genuine Ne-braska corn, the potatoes and vegetables, all the result of irrigation. And this in the western half of Nebraska which is only credited by the commercial apencies with a

western half of Nebraska which is only credited by the commercial apencies with a third, or, at most, a half crop, and in most counties an absolute failure. Snatched from Drouth.

I write from Gering, a thriving little town away out on the frontier only twenty miles from the attermost end of the state. The North Platte river flows from the northwest to the southeast corner of the county, and is already diverted upon either side into mon-ster canals and thence into laterals which are the veritable arteries carrying the life-riving fluid which has produced groups in the giving fluid which has produced crops in the midst of a land withered by drouth and shrivelied by hot winds. This was the seat of the original movement toward irrigation in Neoraska, being in its early settlement, in the years from 1885 to 1887, peopled in part by men who know something of the system, and who at once set about the organization of

and who at once set about the organization of canal projects among their various communi-tues. The earlier canals were the Farmers and the Minatare, each in Scotts Binff county. The former was later marged into a corporation which has its general offices in Omaha, and today is a ditch completed about thirty miles with an average width of sixty feet, and intended, when completed, to

ST. PAUL, Nov. 25 .--- In the case of George Hannan vs Russell Sage pending in the United States circuit court of this state. mit, but for reaching higher lands enormous canals, not only embracing direct headgates Judge Nelson has filed a decision which is of but in many instances storage or reservoir systems, will be necessary. Such operations require actual cash. It must be borne in great importance to a large number of people in the western part of the state who are occupying lands granted by congress to aid mind that in presenting this subject your correspondent is not urging experiments which might prove disastrous failures, but in the construction of the Hasting & Dakota railroad. It was an action to quit title to a quarter-section occupied by the plaintiff. The defendant, Russell Sage, set up that it was a part of the grant made by congress to aid in the construction of the Hastings & Dakota road, and had been earned by that on the contrary is simply placing before the eyes of men who should be able to influence capital scemes of certain and unfailing profit. Irrigation investments are sought in proference to any others in many localities. With this understanding why should such investments in western Nebraska, a known company by the construction of its line of road; that subsequently thereto the com-pany assigned and transferred to the deand admitted arid country, prove unrefendant in trust for its stockholders all the land that had been earned by the construction of the road. Subsequently thereto the tract in question, with other lands, had been Nor do we mean to confine the possible scene of these operations to this stretch of territory 100 miles or so from the state line. certified to the state as appertaining to said road and had been conveyed by the govern-ment to the defendant as such assignee in On the contrary the very same conditions ex-tend on down the North Platte, with still wider expanse of valley capable of being trust.

The plaintiff claimed the company had no sutherity to make the assignment and trans-fer to the defendant, Sage, and Judge Nat-son decided in favor of Sage.

### Arranging for a Transfer,

that actually discovered by measurement. It is believed by many that what is termed the J. H. Lothrop, vice president and general manager of the Kearney & Black Hills rail. road, was in Omaha yesterday arranging for If necessary it can be brought into service, If there still be any doubt of the supply, conthe transfer of the auditing department of his struct immense reservoirs into which the products of the rains out of irrigating road from Kearney to Omaha December 1. Mr. Lathrop is very much like Othello, in that his occupation is almost gone, although seasons may be stored for use at the proper times. Encourage and assist the artesian well idea, especially since it has been so per-"Loth" will still hold the position of assist-ant superintendent of the system, with feetly demonstrated by the recent experi-ment at Gering that there is flowing water headquarters at Kearney. For purposes of economy the operation of the road will be merged into the Union Pacific system, Genobtainable at practicable depths. Whatever is done, reinquish the fogyish notion that the western half of Nebraska is in an agrieral Manager Dickinson assuming charge of the road after that date and General Supercultural condition under rainbelt systems. And in the years to come, when this region has become the peer of eastern Nebraska in population and wealth the men who are your successors in maintaining Omaha's pointendent Nichols looking after the physica condition. The removal of the auditing office from

Kearney, while not changing the census of the city very much, will undoubtedly be feit in a commercial way, as many odds and ends have been purchased there instead of mak-ing requisition on the storekeeper in Omnha. Where Capital Should Be Applied. There is one project in particular which needs only the magic power of capital to make it wonderful in capacity and results The Laramie and Scolls Bluff proposed ditch line has been suffyered and cross-sectioned, and is completely ready for the plow and scraper. An amount approximating \$20,000,000 has been used in this work and it is said to be without a flaw. The line covers an immense stretch of the valley lying in Scott's Bluff county, and when the canal, which it represents, is completed and the "The change is made necessary by the ap-pointment of receivers," said Mr. Lothrop, and a desire to operate the system more economically. I am still vice president of the company, but will assume the title of assistant superintendent, with headquarters in Kearney, it being the wish of the people there that the road be operated from that point.'

#### Raliway Notes.

George W. Loomis of the Burlington was which it represents, is completed and the water flowing, it will make homes upon the broad acres of the North Platte valley for at his desk yesterday after five days broad acres of the North Platte valley for thousands of farmers. Such an enterprise as this see as to be entirphy beyond the reach of the homesteaders who are now living under the line, yet without exception they have held on with a grit born of desperation waiting for the building of the canal. The movement toward securing govern-ment aid for these irrigation projects is not strong enough to move by its own innate power: it needs assistance. Inculcate into the minds of the Nebraska delegation at spent among the quail and rabbit in Red Willow county. There was a tired feeling very noticeable about Mr. Loomis and he spoke of a very old arm of which he was possessed. Together with W. W. Bingham and Charles Johannes Mr. Loomis bagged between 300 and 400 qual and a cargo of rabbits, the distribution taking place on Monday at the general offices of the Burling-ton

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#### suicide of an Editor.

St. PAUL, Nov. 25 .- Albert Eoif, until re-

cently editor of the St. Paul Daily Volks Zeiung and a prominent German democrat, threw himself in front of an engine in the union depot this afternoon. His body was badly mangled. Despondency over failure to secure a government appointment is given as

one probable cause.

power; it needs assistance. Inculcate into the minds of the Nebraska delegation at Washington every argument that can be ad-duced for it—the fact that there are thou-sands of acres of public lands that will be sold and bring their proceeds to the spot where the surplus ought to be if irrigation is a probability; that it is as cheap to con-struct systems for diverting the floods of our Nebraska streams into canals, whence they can be used in vivifying the fertile prairies of Nebraska, as to build levees along the lower Mississippi to keep them within due bounds. A. B. Wood. Shot as She Bade Her Lover Farewell. Sr. Louis, Nov. 25 .- The death this morning of Annie Nessen, a comely lass of 19, NEW YORK, Nov. 25 .- There was no sesadds another to the list of lovers' tragedies. James Fitzgerald and the girl, who lived at sion of the grand jury in the Madison Square bank cases today, the cases boing contin-ued until Monday. 701 South Broadway, were lovers, and had been bidding each other adieu yesterday.

and Consumers association of Nebraska has returned from Lincoln and reports that the arrangements have been made for a "home patronage lunch or banquet." to be given in that city on Friday, December 1, at 9 in the evening. The invited guests will include all members of the Manufacturers association who will be in the capacity of nosts, the governor of the state, the mayor,

Officiats at Lincoln.

Secretary Holmes of the Manufacturers

city attorney, Board of Public Works and city council of Lincoln and the superintendents and stewards of the state institutions. The latter will be in session at Lincoln at that time. The affair will take place at the Lincoln hotel. The different manufacturers in the state who produce food products have agreed to furnish the necessaries for the occasion. Every thing served, so far as possible, will be of Nebraska production, the object being to prove to the officials of the state and city of Lincoln, that Nebraska food products ar not only equal but superior to manufactures from other states, and that they are worthy of the attention of those officials who purchase supplies for the public institutions.

Had Never Beard of Ike.

A Chicago gentleman was in town Friday and whiled away a few pleasant hours with City Treasurer Bolln. The Chicagoan was the representative of a syndicate of English bond buyers, and the high regard with which Omaha securities are held in the financial world caused him to covet a few of the bonds. His mission was in vain, as he was in search of bonds that were never voted. He had heard of the proposition to bond the city for \$1,500,000 to construct a

canal, and supposed that they were voted His izuorance on this subject, however, is probably excusable from the fact that he had never heard of lke Hascall, "the laboring man's candidate for mayor," and his support of the canal scheme.

#### Paid the Election Officials.

Yesterday the city commenced delivering pay warrants to the judges and clerks, su pervisors of registration and special policemen. The judges and clerks received \$3 each, supervisors of registration \$15 and special policemen \$4.

Some of those to whom warrants were delivered discovered breakers ahead when the warrants were presented at the treas urer's office. The council recently adopted a resolution providing that there shall be delucted from all warrants issued the amount due the city in personal taxes if any delinquency to found on the books. Several delinquents were brought to time in this manner, although they protested against the amounts being taken from their pay.

Y. M. U. A. Notes.

Rev. J. M. Patterson will deliver the secnd of the series of addresses to men this afternoon at 4 o'clock in Young Men's Chris. tian association hall. The association or chestra, under the leadership of Mr. T. J.

Pennell, will furnish au orchestral prelude. The association building will be open to all young men from 9 to 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 7 p. m. Mr. Acheson, the new president of the McCague Savings bank, will conduct he Sunday afternoon bible class at 3 p. m. Colonel Bird is expected to be present and make a brief talk at close of class. Secre tary Ober's class is held at 9:15 a.m.

#### Third Anniversary Social.

Thursday evening occurred the third anniversary social and ball of Alpha camp No. 1, Wooomen of the World, at Myrtle hall in the Continental block. Probably 200 couples were present and enjoyed the hospitality of Alpha camp. These catertainments during the winter will be given each month and a

great deal of pleasant anticipation is afford ed by reason thereof.

#### Blaze in a Barn.

A frame barn belonging to A. F. Clark at 2517 Harney street was considerably damaged by fire last evening. The blaze was caused by a defective flue in

the heating apparatus. About \$500 will cover the loss on the building. The contents were damaged to the extent of \$300. Several valuable horses were in the stable at the time, but were rescued.

#### Prendergant's Case Continued.

CHICAGO, Nov. 25 .- The trial of Prender-

Box office open all day Sunday.

BOYD'S Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 and 2 THANKSGIVING ENGAGEMENT. Appearance of the Tragedian

# ROBERT DOWNING Supported by EUGENIE BLAIR, EDMUND COL-LIER, and strong company of players.

REPERTOIRE. THANKSGIVING MATINEE-"Ingomar."

THANKSGIVING EVENING-The Cladiator. FRIDAY EVENING-"Virginius," SATURDAY MATINEE

"Richard the Lion Hearted." "SATURDAY EVENING--"The Ciadiator." Box Sheets open Wednesday. Prices: First floor, 75c and \$1; balcony, 50c and 75; Mathee: First floor, 50c and 75; balcony, 50c.



WINTER TERM BEGINS DEC. IST. Children: Taesday, 4 p. m.: Saturday, 10 a. m. and 3 p. m. Adulta: Taesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Sp. m. The beautiful Chautaqua Square, Washington Two Step, Narragameti Schot-ische, Spaalisi York and Infanta Waltz taught to the classes. Terms reasonable.

PROF. J. C. BISHOP'S AMUSEMENT CIRCUIT, Sheridan, Wyoming, Sharing Torms. | Address for Particular



gast for the murder of Carter Harrison, which was to have been begun on Monday, was continued today for one week. One of Prendergast's attorneys is ill and asked that the case be continued.

#### Buried Alive.

John Haley, administrator of the estate of William Haley, deceased, has brought suit to recover the sum of \$5,000. The .plaintiff alleges that on May 5, 1892, William Haley was employed in the sand pit owned and operated by Patrick Bagley, working some twenty feet beneath the surface. He fur-ther alleges that the bank caved in and that the life was crushed out of William Haley; that the fatal accident was due to the fault of a drunken foreman, who failed to furnish the proper facilities for supporting the earth above the sand where the men were working.

#### Contracted for Bonds.

A representative of Farson, Leach & Co., the New York bond brokers, was in the city the entire day yesterday. He contracted for the entire day yesterday. He contracted for street improvement bonds of the city in the amount of \$52,500, paying par and accrued interest for the same. The gentleman gave Treasurer Bolin encouraging words and con-sidered the outlook for the taking of the re-mainder of the bonds as being good.

Fire in Bismarek's Castle. HAMBURG, Nov. 25.—A fire broke out in a room at Prince Bismarck's chateau at Friedrichsruh yesterday as a result of a defect in the heating apparatus. The finnes were speedily quenched by the servants under the supervision of the prince himself.