THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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BEGINNING A SMALL AFFAIR

Insignificant Quarrel Started a Panic in the Ottoman Capital.

GAVE FOUNDATION FOR WILD RUMORS

Whole City Panic Stricken and a Terrible Outbreak Prevented Only by the Merest Chance—Quiet Somewhat Restored.

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CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 12.—(via Sofia, Bulgaria, Dec. 13.)—There was a disturbance at Stamboul today, and it caused the spread of rumors so alarming that Galata and Pera were soon in a state of panic and serious outbreaks were threatened. This, in view of the passage through the Dardanelles of the British gunboat Dryad and the Italian gunboat Archimides, the extra guardships for the British and Italian embassies, formed the basis for the report that the rioting predicted by the yildiz kiosk courtiers had actually commenced; but happily the trouble was not of serious nature, although the Armenians as usual are accused of having attempted to bring about an uprising of the populace.

The panic this morning, however, was a most extraordinary occurrence, and is striking evidence of the nervousness and apprehension which prevail here as one of the results of the long drawn out negotiations between the powers and the sultan regarding the suppression of the outbreaks in Asiatic Turkey and the admittance of the extra guardships into the Bosphorus. The least note of alarm now suffices to produce widespread terror, and if proof was needed that the powers were right in their insistence upon having additional protection for the foreign population of Constantinople and its vicinity it was furnished by the occurrences of today.

STARTED IN A QUARREL.

Simmered down to bare facts, the cause of the panic was, on the face of it, a fierce quarrel between two Armenians in the Stamboul quarter, during which they came to blows. Finally one of the Armenians drew a revolver and fired at his opponent. The shot was the signal for an uproar, a stampede of the spectators, and eventually a panic which spread far and wide, from one end of the city to the other, from one quarter to another, until matters began to look very serious indeed. The Armenians and the other Christians, terrified by the shouting and yelling, the rushing here and there of excited crowds, naturally imagined that a fresh massacre had commenced. They hurriedly closed their shops and houses, barricaded the doors and windows, concealed their most valuable belongings in various ways, and made all the preparations possible for defense. The women, as well as men, armed themselves as best they could after the recent domiciliary visits of the police, who searched the Armenian residences high and low for concealed weapons and left these unfortunate people very little to fall back on for defense in case of an uprising on the Mussulmans.

CITY IN A PANIC.

The example of the Armenians of Stamboul in hurriedly closing their shops, etc., was followed in street after street, until in the briefest period of time imaginable every shop was shut and nearly all the houses barricaded. Crowds of people, male and female, old and young, were seized with terror, which grew in strength as time wore on and the confusion increased. People fled hither and thither aimlessly, helplessly, apparently unaware of what they were doing, not knowing what had actually happened, but with the general impression that a massacre was in progress somewhere.

It is difficult to describe to those unacquainted with the vagaries of the population of this city, and who are not familiar with the state of nervous tension which has existed here for months past, the scene of incredible alarm and disorder which prevailed here at the height of the excitement this morning. Every man seen in the streets seemed to have lost his head for the time, and it would not have needed much more to actually precipitate a terrible outbreak. The ordinary police officials, as well as the military police who have been patrolling the streets since the last outbreak here, seemed to be among the first to catch the panic, for they hurried to their different headquarters as if obeying orders previously given and it was not until the disorder had commenced to subside that they reappeared and busied themselves with their duties.

WAS A WAVE OF TERROR.

From Stamboul the wave of terror swept to Galata and to Pera, carried onward by the panic-stricken fugitives from the first named quarter, who were evidently under the impression that they were fleeing for their lives. The inhabitants of Galata quickly caught the fever of alarm and in turn shut their stores and houses and joined in the scene of confusion, an example which was promptly followed by the people of the Pera quarter.

Seeing people flying through the streets in terror caused others to do the same until the air was filled with excited cries and the noise of a rushing multitude. Those who did not join in the stampede barricaded themselves within their houses and prepared to see their most horrible fears realized.

The Armenian porters, when the alarm first spread, hastily dropped their loads in the streets and fled to the nearest place of safety. Drivers deserted their horses, mules or donkeys, servants ran away from their employers, many sought refuge in the churches and mosques, the old and feeble were trampled upon, and many were severely injured during the reign of terror. Women sobbed and children cried with fear, and the men as a rule were quite as badly scared. Some English ladies ran crying for protection into the British embassy, while about fifty Armenians, chattering with fear, fled to the residence of the first secretary of the British embassy, Hon. Michael Herbert, and begged for shelter until all danger was passed.

POLICE END THE PANIC.

Eventually the police regained their presence of mind, and, desirous of putting an end to the panic, they circulated the report that the stampede from the Stamboul quarter was occasioned by the escape of a lion from a menagerie and that the animal having been killed there was no reason for further alarm. This report, as good as any other under the circumstances, spread quickly and the disturbance began to subside. Finally the gen d'armes circulated among the people and explained the real state of affairs, which soon caused the majority to return to their usual occupations somewhat disgusted at having been so needlessly frightened.

The Turkish officials, however, rightly or wrongly, claimed that the quarrel between the two Armenians of the Stamboul quarter was a prearranged affair and that the firing of the revolver was intended as a signal to cause an outbreak which, it is added, was averted by the prompt and efficient measures taken by the police. Be that as it may, the whole affair clearly demonstrates how small a spark is required to start a conflagration here. The panic lasted exactly two hours.

PORTE NEEDS MONEY.

It should be added that since yesterday a rumor was current that an outbreak might be expected, and the arrival of the guardships doubtless aided in increasing the panic.

The Turkish government when informed of the alarming reports in circulation sent to the different embassies saying that the report was groundless and that there was no cause for alarm. The troops, however, have been ordered to patrol the streets in order to assist the police in maintaining order.

The Porte has rejected the proposal for an extension of the tobacco regie concession in return for a further loan of money. But it is believed that the extension will eventually be made, for the government must have money in order to maintain the 280 battalions, 190 squadrons and 220 batteries of the army, numbering in all over 200,000 fighting men now under arms, in addition to the reserves which have been called out in order to suppress the discords in Asiatic Turkey. A military expert who has been inquiring into the subject estimates that the Turks could place over 250,000 men in the field at very short notice—if the treasury was fairly well filled. Hence the anxiety of the government to obtain money, and it is believed that great sacrifices will have to be made in order to do so.

HALF HAS NOT BEEN TOLD.

At the meeting of the ambassadors on Tuesday last the reports received from Armenia at the different embassies were compared and thoroughly discussed with the view of enabling the different representatives to compile full reports on the subject for the use of their governments. It is believed if the result of this conference is published it will show an unparalleled state of affairs. The misery and distress in Armenia is said to be more severe than the most vivid reports have made out, and the number of people massacred is said to be greater than anybody here really believed. Letters received here today from Aleppo say there are serious fears there of a massacre of the Christians unless the powers intervene promptly to prevent it. News was also received today from Zeitoun that the Turkish troops from Marash are surrounding the Armenians, cutting off their lines of communication and preventing them from obtaining reinforcements, provisions and the supplies of arms and ammunition which are understood to have been forwarded to them from many parts of Asiatic Turkey. When the town of Zeitoun is completely surrounded it is believed the Armenians will quickly be starved into submission, although their friends say they have provisions enough stored in the town to last them until spring and that the Turks will have to pass the winter in the snows around Zeitoun.

A Turkish official, who is familiar with the situation at Zeitoun, said today that the Armenians there were inclined to surrender to the Turks, but they distrusted the promises of the latter that their lives would be spared if they laid down their arms.

Izzett Bey, the first chamberlain of the sultan, and the great favorite recently of his majesty, has been replaced by Hadjiali Bey and Emmitt Bey at the palace, but the last named bey had been arrested in consequence of the charges brought against him by Said Pasha, the ex-grand vizier.

Izzett Pasha recently presented the sultan with a long report upon the deplorable situation of the country. The sultan refused to read it, whereupon Izzett Pasha resigned, but the sultan refused to accept it. Izzett has tendered his resignation four times since then, but each time the sultan refused to accept it. Izzett, however, persists in resigning.

FRESH PLACARDS POSTED.

Fresh placards have been posted in different public places proclaiming the policy and demands of the Ottoman Progress union. The title of the union outlines the idea of the people with whom the documents originated. The police promptly tore them down and are hunting for the people who posted them on the walls.

The young Turks warmly blame Said Pasha for leaving the British embassy and hope he will insist upon his announced intention of going abroad. On the other hand, the old Turks blame him for taking refuge in the embassy. The result is that Said Pasha's prestige in the eyes of the Turks is considered to have been considerably shaken, and it is believed his political career is terminated.

It transpired today that the British vice consuls at Van and Sivas, who have been here for some time past awaiting their exequateurs, have not received the documents, in spite of the long delay, and they started for their posts on Wednesday last without them.

TURKS TORTURED THE PRISONERS.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—A dispatch to the Standard from Constantinople says all the embassies are practically preparing for a state of siege.

The Daily News publishes a statement on oath made in London by an Armenian named Aslanian, who was sent to New York by the Anglo-Armenian association yesterday. Aslanian says he lived in America formerly and that he left New York in the beginning of September to rejoin his wife. On his arrival in Constantinople he was thrown into prison, although he had a regular passport. While there, which was during the recent disturbances, he witnessed a horrible scene, hundreds of Armenians being brought into the prison and deliberately killed. Aslanian says further that the prisoners were wounded with rifle butts and bayonets by the soldiers under the orders of the officers. This continued for forty-eight hours. He believes 300 were killed and 400 wounded in that time. On the following day Aslanian was put in irons and was catechised regarding his supposed associates who had come from America for revolutionary purposes. Upon pleading ignorance of this he was tortured with a truncheon beating upon the shoulders, the thighs and legs, causing great agony. This was repeated on eleven different occasions. He was placed in solitary confinement for a fortnight and other prisoners were similarly treated. When the delegates from the embassies came to inspect the prison they displayed the marks of their beating. "But," Aslanian continued, "fearing vengeance I said they were due to rheumatism and begged for my release. Four days later I was liberated."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The Turkish legation has received from the sublime porte the following telegram under today's date: "This morning about 10 o'clock two Armenians, living at Kilithan, at Stamboul, quarreled about a money question, one of them firing at the other a number of shots from a revolver. These shots caused a gathering of people and, some Armenians having immediately spread the false report that, owing to the arrival of the foreign boats, the Mussulmans were going to attack the Christians, a few shops were closed. But thanks to the assurances of agents of the police, tranquillity was very soon restored.

RED CROSS UNDERTAKES THE WORK

If Sufficient Funds Are Available a Party Will Start for Armenia.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The American Red Cross society has decided to accept the duty of distributing the relief to the Armenian sufferers and has issued the following statement:

Owing to frequent and urgent appeals from friends of humanity, representing nearly all of the people of this country, the American National Red Cross has decided that it must accept the sacred trust of endeavoring to relieve the starving Armenians in Asia Minor. According to conservative estimates there are 35,000 utterly destitute people in that country who will have to be assisted six or eight months—until the next harvest.

Only realizing the difficulties and dangers to be met, the Red Cross will start for Turkey as soon as sufficient funds are placed at its disposal, or guaranteed, to insure success. Funds may be sent to Miss Clara Barton, president and treasurer of the American National Red Cross, Washington, D. C. Authorized agents to receive funds and materials will be published in a few days. The Red Cross also suggests that goods, grains and other material may be sent by chartered steamer.

AMERICAN RED CROSS,
CLARA BARTON, President.

The society has had this plan of relief under consideration for some time, but, it is said, was reluctant to assume the dangers and responsibilities involved. Miss Barton feels that it will be the most extensive relief work ever undertaken. Letters and telegrams have come from all directions urging that the work be undertaken. Rev. F. D. Green, the writer on Turkish questions; the heads of missionary and relief bodies, editors of leading Christian papers, as well as public men and private individuals, have asked that the Red Cross assume the duties of distributing the funds. Such widespread want, Miss Barton says, can be met only by relief funds running into the millions. It is estimated that the cost of relief per capita will be much heavier than in the case of the Johnstown and Sea Island sufferers, owing to the inaccessibility of the sufferers.

The Red Cross party, including Miss Barton, will leave immediately after being assured of a sufficient sum to carry forward the work. The start must be made at an early day, as it will take five weeks to get to the distressed district, and the demands of the suffering people are urgent.

Offers to Purchase the Provinces.

LIMA, Peru, Dec. 13.—It is asserted that President Pierola has offered to repurchase the Tacna and Arica territory from Chili for 10,000,000 piasters.

STEWART AS THE CHAIRMAN

Nevada Senator to Have Charge of the Pacific Railroad Committee.

HUNTINGTON IS ACTIVELY AT WORK

Points Out to Members the Advantage that Will Accrue from His Plan for Extending the Debt to the Government.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—There is strong reason to believe that a number of changes have been made in assignment of committee chairmanships by the steering committee of the senate in the last twelve hours. It had been rumored that Senator warren of Wyoming would head the committee on Pacific roads, but it is now almost certain that Senator Stewart of Nevada is to be placed at the head of the railroad committee which will have charge of much important legislation affecting western railroads. It is surprising that Senator Stewart should be given seniority on this committee, his friendship for Collis P. Huntington being well known here. All sorts of rumors are in circulation as to Huntington's desire to forestall all congressional legislation looking to a settlement of government interests in both Union and Central Pacific, with the hope that if a fight is precipitated the government will hold the bag and get nothing after the foreclosure of the first mortgage, which is inevitable if the present suits are allowed to run their legitimate course.

Collis P. Huntington has already felt the temper of some of the members of congress by sending to those supposed to be favorable to a funding scheme a confidential circular, the substance of which states "the time is approaching when the bonds advanced by the government will become due. Their nonpayment will, of course, make it possible for the government to take possession by paying the first mortgage bonds of that part of the Central Pacific railroad aided by it and lying between Ogden and San Jose. Bonds must be issued to pay the bonds, and the most we can hope for is a reduction of the interest. Many companies are now issuing bonds to run 100 years, and the bonds of one company—the West Shore—have been issued to run 476 years. For the sake of a final settlement, the Union Pacific will accept a bill equal to something less than forty-four years. This proposition gives the government larger interest on its money than the government itself would have to pay if it went into market to borrow. The time is equal to an extension of little less than forty-four years on the whole amount of the debt, and this is as short a period as it would be at all safe for any of the aided companies to agree to. I know the Central Pacific would carry out this agreement, paying currently every six months the interest and some of the principal, until the entire debt would be extinguished and the government would have security that would be many times as valuable as it is today."

OMAHA CASE DELAYED.

It will be some time before the Interstate Commerce Commission hands down an opinion in Omaha bridge case, the commission now being engaged on its report to congress. Outside of brief presented by complainant, the only railroad which has supplemented its argument by offering another brief is the St. Paul, which is short and gets into but one feature of the case, that if Council Bluffs and Omaha were placed on an equality in the respect of freight rates as regards three relative locations to the eastern and western markets, Council Bluffs would have a lower rate than Omaha from the east and Omaha a lower rate from the west.

On November 19, Secretary Smith of the Interior department issued an order suspending the patenting of lands to land grant railroads. Today he amended his ruling so it would apply only to bond aided railroads. This does not apply, however, to branch lines acquired by purchase.

Captain Eugene L. Swift, assistant surgeon, has received an extension of fifteen days leave.

First Lieutenant Charles Riche, corps of engineers, is relieved from duty as a member of court martial at Willetts Point, New York.

Lieutenant Colonel William B. Hughes, deputy quartermaster general, is granted four days' leave.

Leave of absence for sixteen days, to take effect about December 20, is granted the following: Second Lieutenant James H. Reeves, Fourth cavalry; Second Lieutenant Paul Wolf, Third infantry; Second Lieutenant Frank D. Webster, Sixth infantry; Second Lieutenant George McD. Weeks, Fifteenth infantry; Second Lieutenant Herbert O. Williams, Eleventh infantry.

Julius G. Iler of Omaha is at the National.

Nat Brown, who was here Wednesday, has gone to Chicago.

Eugene Moore has returned to his home in Nebraska.

A number of congressmen will go home for the holidays.

Dr. Thomas A. Throckmorton was today appointed an examining surgeon for the pension bureau at Chariton, Ia.

TO KEEP AWAY FROM VENEZUELA.

North Atlantic Squadron Maps Out Its Winter's Cruise.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The program of the maneuvers and movements of Admiral Bunce's North Atlantic squadron has at length been arranged. The squadron will depart from the rendezvous at Hampton Roads on the 21 inst., and it is expected to return to that place May 12 next year. The first stop will be at St. Thomas, December 22, and after that the ships will put into a number of ports on the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean sea. During the stay at Trinidad, the squadron will have drills and target practice in the Bay of Paria, just off the Venezuelan coast and near the territory which is now in dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela. It is a matter of note, however, that at no point in the itinerary does the squadron enter a Venezuelan port, and Admiral Bunce doubtless is influenced in this respect by the wishes of the Department of State, for the assemblage of an American fleet in Venezuela at this juncture might be construed as a threat, and in the end greatly complicate the negotiations now in progress with the British foreign office over the Venezuelan boundary question. To prevent any such impression from gaining ground, the Navy department has been particular to state explicitly that the winter maneuvers of the North Atlantic squadron are absolutely uninfluenced by any foreign issues and are simply in continuance of the summer drills as outlined last spring.

Hill's Successor Appointed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—A. B. Hurt of Mississippi has been appointed assistant superintendent of the free delivery of the postoffice department, vice W. W. Hill. He probably will also receive the appointment of commissioner of the United States court of claims to adjust letter carrier's claims.

Death of General Royal, Retired.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Brevet Brigadier General William B. Royal, U. S. A., retired, died at his residence in this city today, aged 75 years. He was born in Virginia in 1825, and served with distinction in the Mexican and civil wars.

Grandson to Contest the Will.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—Herman Oelrichs, jr., will contest the will of his grandfather, James G. Fair. This is the result of the decision of Judge Slack, who today denied Herman Oelrichs' petition that the court's appointment of Van R. Patterson as guardian of his infant son be revoked and that he, as father of the child, represent him in the litigation. Under the pencil will the boy receives nothing and his mother one-third of the estate. Under the trust will Mrs. Oelrichs has a life interest in less than one-third, the remainder going to her son on her death.

FOR A PROTECTIVE TARIFF.

English People Becoming Tired of Free Trade Theories.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—At the conference at St. James' hall today, called to consider the present fiscal system of the country, Mr. James W. Lowther, conservative member of Parliament from the Middle division of Cumberland and formerly under secretary for foreign affairs, stated amid uproar and applause that he desired "to see in this country a reinstitution of protection."

Mr. Lowther added: "Since the institution of what is called free trade, public feeling has veered to protection, and it is our duty to convince the country that the present fiscal system is not satisfactory. I am not a believer in specific duties, but in a sliding scale which would accommodate the duties to the needs of the country. I wish to see preferential trade established between the mother country and the colonies."

Mr. Lowther also maintained that protection in its most extreme form had improved the condition of agriculture in France, and added: "As for the Royal Commission on Agriculture, it has been packed and every protectionist excluded; therefore its report will be worthless."

A resolution in favor of the protection of native industries was carried.

SURROUNDING THE INSURGENTS.

Spanish Troops Gradually Closing in on the Main Body.

HAVANA, Dec. 13.—The column of troops commanded by Generals Oliver and Palanca and others, are moving toward Manicaragua and forming a circle around the main body of insurgents, commanded by Gomez and Maceo, in the province of Santa Clara. At Zeiba, in the Trinidad district of Santa Clara, Colonel Rubin has routed the insurgents under Quintan Bandera. The troops lost three killed and had thirty wounded, including two officers seriously wounded. The insurgents had twenty-seven killed and many wounded.

Heavy musketry firing, lasting several hours, has been heard in the direction of Remento, province of Santa Clara. No details of the engagement have been received.

General Campos is at Cienfugos, the seaport of Santa Clara.

Belgian Minister Resigns.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 13.—The Belgian minister of war, General Brassine, has resigned on account of the shelving of the project of military reform.

SAYS GARCIA HAS SURRENDERED.

Spanish Reports Allege that He Has Laid Down His Arms.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—A local paper says: A dispatch received from Havana at the headquarters of Hijos Leales de Espana states that Francisco Garcia, one of the insurgent chiefs, has presented himself at General Campos' headquarters at Santa Clara and asked to be pardoned. Garcia signified a desire to join the Spanish ranks.

"Not that I want to turn traitor and fight my own countrymen," he said, "but to assist in putting down a war which was ill-timed and ill-advised, and the continuance of which means dreadful misery and poverty on the island. It is impossible for the insurgents to win."

RUMOR OF INSURGENT DEFEATS.

Combined Army of Maceo and Gomez Routed by Spaniards.

HAVANA, Dec. 13.—A dispatch from Santa Clara says that the troops commanded by General Liver have fought and routed the insurgent forces commanded by Maximo Gomez and Antonio Maceo at Manacas. The dispatch also says that the insurgents have entered the town of Siguanea, not far from the battlefield, and that the column of troops commanded by General Olive and two other columns are in pursuit of the insurgents. No further details of the fighting were given.

Worst Storms Ever Known.

ST. JOHN'S N. F., Dec. 13.—Incoming ships report frightful weather. The steamer Uhluandui, from Liverpool, never met such storms before. The coastwise steamers have been unable to leave the harbors for thirty hours. The schooner Effie Lake is ashore at Bay Butte. The steamer Portia, running between New York, Halifax and this port, is twenty-eight hours overdue from Halifax, and must have been driven out to sea and has probably broken down. Much apprehension is felt here about her.

Sad Death of a Little Child.

MILAN, Mo., Dec. 13.—William Mendonhall and his wife probably received fatal injuries and their little daughter was killed by being thrown from a wagon here. They were going down a steep incline, when the team became unmanageable and ran away. A piece of the tongue struck the little girl on the head, completely tearing her skull away. The parents also received injuries which may prove fatal.

Rioting in Madagascar.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—A report from Antananarivo says that an anti-European mob, numbering 6,000, destroyed the mission station at Ramairandro. Rev. Mr. McMahon, the missionary in charge, and his family escaped a few hours previous to the looting of the mission. All Europeans residing in the country districts have been ordered to the capital and 600 French troops have been dispatched with orders to put down the riots.

Chinese Re-Enter Port Arthur.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—A special dispatch from Shanghai says that several Russian warships today watched the formal re-entry of the Chinese into Port Arthur. It is believed that China, as a reward for Russia's intervention in her favor after the war, will permit the Russian Pacific fleet to winter in Kaio-Chen bay.

Prince of Wales Entirely Recovered.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The prince of Wales, who had some grains of powder blown into his right eye while shooting on the estates of Sir Edward Lawson at Beaconsfield yesterday, has almost entirely recovered and suffers no inconvenience from the effects of the accident.

Lord Dunraven Sails Wednesday.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—Lord Dunraven will sail for New York on Wednesday next in order to assist the committee of the New York Yacht club in its investigation of the charges brought by his lordship against Defender.

Minister of Public Works Resigns.

MADRID, Dec. 13.—The minister of works, Senor Bosch, has resigned in order to clear himself from charges connected with the municipal scandals over the misgovernment of Madrid, which are agitating the public mind.

Counter Revolution Breaks Out.

BUENOS AYRES, Dec. 13.—Advices have been received here from Quito that a counter revolution has broken out in Ecuador against the successful insurgent general, Alfaro.

Demand the Evacuation of Corea.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Berlin correspondent of the Standard says: "The powers have addressed to Japan a peremptory demand for the evacuation of Corea."

Suit Against the Overland Settled.

CHEYENNE, Dec. 13.—Special Telegram.)—At the United States court today the suit of Bernard McGuire against the Union Pacific company to recover $60,000 damages for personal injuries received by the plaintiff while in the company's employ, was withdrawn, a compromise having been effected. The amount paid in the settlement is not definitely known, but is thought to be about $1,500.

Young Woman Stabbed in Church.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 13.—George Rubright, a weak-minded young man, tonight, while in church, suddenly attacked Miss Carrie Daum and stabbed her fatally. Rubright was arrested.

SHOT HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW

Councilman DuBois Lying at the Point of Death in the Hospital.

QUARRELED OVER MONEY MATTERS

Wounded Man Grappled with His Assailant and Finally Secured the Revolver—Assailant Under Arrest.

Councilman Samuel C. DuBois was shot twice and seriously injured shortly after 6 o'clock last evening by Claude H. Hoover, his brother-in-law. The latter is under arrest. DuBois is at the Presbyterian hospital and his life depends upon the result of an operation which has just been performed. The two shots entered the body just above the stomach. The affair occurred in a shoe store at 418½ South Thirteenth street, kept by Gustav Saalfeld.

Hoover lives with his mother at Eleventh and Dorcas streets, and is occasionally employed by DuBois in repairing elevators. During the last week he has been drinking quite heavily, it is said, and was more or less under the influence of liquor when the shooting was done. About three evenings ago Hoover asked DuBois for $12 which the latter owed him for work done. DuBois replied that he did not have the money then, but would get it for him at an early day. Yesterday afternoon the two met and the little debt was the subject for a fresh quarrel. DuBois gave him the money, Hoover promising to leave town at once if this were paid.

He did not keep his word, however, and about 6 o'clock last night DuBois was compelled to borrow $2 additional to satisfy the demands of his brother-in-law. It lacked ten minutes of 6 o'clock when the councilman-elect went into the saloon of Kelly Bros., 1324 Howard street, and asked for a loan of $2. He said that his brother-in-law was on the bum again and wanted $2. "I'll give him this money and let him get good and drunk," said DuBois. "I'll return it in the morning." He remained in the saloon for ten minutes and seemed in no great hurrry to go out. He left the place about 6:05.

GRAPPLED WITH HIS ASSAILANT.

It was not more than five minutes later when the shooting was done. The two men met in the shoe store, and, after an exchange of a few heated words, Hoover whipped out a bulldog revolver and shot DuBois twice. DuBois is much larger than his relative and immediately grappled with him. He clenched Hoover's hands within his own, as though he would prevent him from shooting any more. The two went out of the little shop, DuBois having his arm around Hoover's neck and holding tightly to his assailant's hands. Although DuBois was fast becoming exhausted, his superior size and strength stood him in good stead, and he dragged his brother-in-law into the drug store adjoining. He handed the revolver, which he had wrested from the hands of Hoover, to Mr. J. P. Fenton, who was standing near by, saying as he did so:

"For God's sake telephone for a doctor; I'm shot."

The injured man then removed his coat and vest and lay down in the rear of the store, calmly awaiting his removal to the hospital.

After the two entered the drug store Hoover appeared to be afraid that DuBois would turn the revolver and shoot him. Their hands were tightly grasped together, but DuBois had the firmer hold on the weapon. DuBois assured him that he would not shoot, and he kept his word, although he might have returned the shots with an additional one. The revolver was a 38-caliber and had five chambers. It is in the possession of the police.

WENT OUT THE WINDOW.

Gustav Saalfeld, the proprietor of the shoe shop wherein the shooting occurred, was seen late last night at his home, 2731 Blondo street, by a Bee reporter, and said: "Hoover came in the shop about ten or fifteen minutes before the thing happened. Yes, he often came in the shop, as he worked around the corner. When DuBois came in there was no quarrel or fight. He had been in there not more than a minute when Hoover reached down in his overcoat pocket and drew out his revolver. He said: 'Now I've got you,' applying a vile epithet to DuBois. With that he shot him twice. The men were not more than two feet apart. When I saw the revolver flashed I ran to the back window and jumped out. My brother, alongside of whom Hoover had been sitting, went out the same way. The negro in the shop was named Andrew Jackson. I think he must have gone out the front door, as he was not in there by the time we came around to thefront. No, Hoover was not drunk at the time, although Ithink he had been drinking during the afternoon. The two men clutched together, and in their scuffle they broke the top part of my machine. I'm awfully sorry DuBois was shot, for he was a mighty nice fellow. I believe the trouble started over DuBois' discharging Hoover in the afternoon.'!

Miss Katherine Brophy is a half sister to Hoover and Mrs. DuBois. Yesterday afternoon about 1:30 o'clock Hoover came into Schneiderwind's coal office, 1206 Howard street, where Miss Brophy was, and began abusing the young woman. He said that she had not been going with the kind of company that he liked. During this tirade of abuse DuBois entered the place. He was provoked, and after censuring Hoover for his ungentlemanly conduct, took him by the arm and led him out of the place, telling him to keep away. It is said that Miss Brophy saw Hoover afterward and begged him not to make any further trouble or disturbance. But Hoover went away vowing vengeance for what he considered an affront.

HOOVER EXPRESSES REGRET.

Captain King refused to allow the reporters to see Hoover last night at the police station. The prisoner is a short, well built man, somewhat over 30 years of age. He was but slightly under the influence of liquor when he was brought into the station by Sergeant Cory and Officers Kirk and Hoff. At first he was not very greatly concerned over the shooting he had done, but later in the night, when he was told of the seriousness of DuBois' condition, grew nervous, as though just realizing the enormity of his offense. He said that he had bought the revolver during the afternoon at a pawnshop, but he could not tell the location of the pawnshop. He said he had paid $1.90 for the revolver, and made the purchase because he was going west and thought he might need it. He admitted that he had been west several times before and had never before armed himself. He said that he was sorry for what he had, done, but said that DuBois had threatened him.

The police have possession of the revolver, and the articles of clothing which DuBois wore, and through which the bullets passed. There is one hole alongside of the second buttonhole of the vest, the other is about two inches further away on the left side. The necktie also shows a hole where the latter bullet probably passed through.

DuBois was removed to the Presbyterian hospital in the patrol wagon, and Doctors Allison, Summers and Coulter gave their attention to the case. A consultation was held, and it was decided that an operation to discover the bullets was advisable. The operation was performed, and one bullet was extricated. The other had entered the bowels, and it was deemed hazardous to undertake its removal. Both bullets had entered the abdominal cavity and taken a downward course. The patient stood the operation well, and at an early hour this morning the physicians thought that there were slight chances for his recovery. Mrs. DuBois and her two little girls were present and spent the night at the hospital.

DuBois is a man nearly 40 years old. He has a splendid physique, and appeared especially large when alongside of his brother-in-law. The wounded man came to Omaha from Iowa, and for a number of years was a patrolman in the local department. At the recent election he was chosen councilman. Of late his business has been the repairing of elevators, and it was in this work that he had employed Hoover until quite recently. DuBois also sold coal for James Schneiderwind.

THE BEE B[illegible]ETIN.

Neb. State Historical Society Box 1521

Weather Forecast for Neb[illegible] Generally F[illegible]robably Colder.

Page.
1. Constantinople in a P[illegible]
Stewart of the Railro[illegible] Committee.
Councilman Sam Dubois Fatally Shot.
Extensive Fire at Council Bluffs.
2. Carlisle the Next to Be Investigated.
Speaker Reed Keeps Very Busy.
3. Third Day of the Ish Trial.
Labor Favors Postal Savings Banks.
Murder Mystery Still Unsolved.
4. Editorial and Comment.
5. Morse Heirs Get a Verdict.
Hall County's Accounts Mixed.
Overland and the Coming Rate War.
6. Council Bluffs Local Matters.
Thompson's Record at Cherokee.
7. Commercial and Financial News.
Business Review of the Week.
8. Tragedy of a Money Match.
Bruton Gang Almost Annihilated.
Navy to Try the Mexican Gun.
9. Opening Another Cross-Town Street.
10. Judge Goodwin for One Senator.
11. Potency of the Modest Goober Pea.
12. "Mistress of Herself."

STILLWELL'S SON ON THE STAND.

Told of Dr. Hearne's Actions After the Murder.

BOWLING GREEN, Mo., Dec. 13.—Richard H. Stillwell, son of the murdered man by his first wife, was the first witness on the stand today when the case of Dr. Hearne was resumed. His was the principal evidence of the day. The first part of his testimony related to the position of his father's body after the murder and corroborated that of previous witnesses. As to the search for clews, the witness said the searching party found all the doors open to the alley, matches scattered alongside the silver, the bills, the wallet and the axe. Dr. Hearne, who was ahead, found several of the clews. He did not pick up what he found, but kicked it over with his foot, calling other people's attention to it. He could not remember who found the axe. All the windows and doors were examined and no traces were found of any attempt to get in the house from without.

Witness said his father and his wife got along reasonably well together, but that he knew she was not in love with him. Mrs. Stillwell had told him this. She had said his father was too old a man for her and she wished she had married a young man. Dr. witness testified that he had heard Dr. Hearne declare he was looking for a rich woman for a wife. Dr. Hearne had also asked him repeatedly after the murder how much he thought the estate would pan out. After the murder Dr. Hearne spent most of his time at the Stillwell residence. The relations between Dr. Hearne and the widow were very close, he being very attentive to her and very officious about the house. Stillwell's story was not weakened on cross-examination.

The defense this afternoon sprang a sensation during the examination of Richard Stillwell in the shape of a letter written by him to Mrs. Hearne while she was the widow of Amos J. Stillwell and stopping at a sanitarium in Battle Creek, Mich. The letter, which was written in answer to a telegram from Mr. Hearne, read as though Mr. Stillwell could never believe either Dr. Hearne or his wife could be guilty of the murder of his father. In explaining his reason for writing the letter Mr. Stillwell said: "It was only natural for me, so long a member of my father's family, to believe and maintain that my father's wife was innocent of this crime." He then related in detail his reasons for changing his mind in that respect.

Toward the close of Mr. Stillwell's examination, late in the afternoon, the defense sprung another surprise by producing a copy of the telegram Richard Stillwell sent Mrs. Amos J. Stillwell at Battle Creek, assuring her of his confidence in Dr. Hearne's innocence. The witness turned the table by remarking: "The preservation of that letter and that telegram is proof positive of guilt."

As he finished the remank Mrs. Hearne fairly gasped for breath and moistened her parched lips with her tongue.

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE CALLED.

Will Settle the Place of Holding the Convention on January 16.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—W. F. Harrity, chairman of the democratic national committee, this afternoon requested the secretary of the committee to notify the members thereof to assemble in Washington on January 16 next, for the purpose of selecting the time and place for holding the next democratic national convention.

Chariman Harrity has received letters from commercial bodies in fifty cities urging the national committee to select a late date for the convention. Business people contend that a long campaign unsettles trade, and they therefore want the political battle made as short as possible. It is believed that a date not later than the middle of July will be selected.

The committee is to meet in the Arlington hotel in Washington at 11 a. m. The resolution offered by General P. A. Collins in the democratic national convention of 1892, requiring the democratic national committee to provide accommodations only for the delegates, the alternates and the members of the democratic national committee, will be acted upon. The resolution is now in the hands of a subcommittee of the national committee, composed of William F. Harrity of Pennsylvania, who is chairman of the committee, B. B. Smalley of Vermont, Arthur P. Gorman of Maryland, Ben T. Cable of Illinois and Edward S. Wall of Wisconsin.

CUBANS SPEEDILY ACQUITTED.

Trial of the Men Arrested at Nassau Only Lasted Ten Minutes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The State department received a dispatch stating that the twenty-one Cubans on trial in Nassau on the charge of conducting a filibustering expedition from this country, were acquitted yesterday after a trial lasting only ten minutes. This is the same party arrested at Wilmington, Del., and acquitted after an exciting trial. Through the viligance of Minister de Lome of Spain, they were traced to a point within British authority, taken by a British gunboat and sent to Nassau for trial.

President Palma, head of the Cuban movement in the United States, will join Secretary Quesada about next Monday. They will establish a legation, and Mr. Palma will exercise the functions of minister for the Cubans with Mr. Quesada as first secretary of the legation. It is probable, also, that efforts will be made to establish relations with the government authorities.

Experiment May Be Costly.

CANTON, O., Dec. 13.—At the beginning of the late panic certain manufacturers here and at Massillon issued interest bearing scrip, which circulated as currency among local operatives and trades people. Secret agents of the United States treasury are now here working up these cases, with a view to assess the 10 per cent taxes on issues by other than national banks.

Jealousy Caused a Double Tragedy.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—Max Goodrich, aged 35 years, in a fit of jealous rage shot his young wife in the abdomen at their homet his afternoon and then sent a bullet through his own brain. The wife is in the hospital in a dying condition. Goodrich died instantly.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, Dec. 13.

At New York—Arrived—Kensington, from Antwerp.

At Naples—Arrived—Ems, from New York.

At Hamburg—Arrived—Phoenecia, from New York.

At Bremen—Arrived—Saale, from New York via Southampton.

BLUFFS' BIG BLAZE

Quarter of a Million Dollars Burned Up in a Few Hours.

IMPLEMENT DISTRICT WAS HARD HIT

Three Large Warehouses and Their Contents Entirely Consumed.

EVERYBODY WAS BUSY FIGHTING FIRE

Entire City Was Menaced with Destruction for a Time.

FLYING EMBERS STARTED MANY BLAZES

Origin of the Fire Unknown—Started in a Small Wooden Warehouse Belonging to the Weir-Shugart Company.

It may have been that the bottom fell out of the lantern of the watchman as he started on his first round last night just after 6 o'clock; it may have been spontaneous combustion from waste piled in one corner of the warehouse, or it may have been a spark from a locomotive. It is certain that the fire which had its beginning in one of these minor incidents did damage of from $200,000 to $225,000 in Council Bluffs between 6:15 and 8 o'clock last night.

It was located in the implement district near the end of Main street, and for an hour it seemed as though every one of the great buildings in that locality was doomed. It was only by the most energetic efforts of the firemen that the ravages of the flames were confined to three buildings, those of the Empkie-Shugart company, Deere, Wells & Co. and the Consolidated Fence works. As near as could be ascertained last night the damage amounted to $225,000, of which about $175,000 is covered by insurance.

The fire started in the roof of the Empkie-Shugart warehouse. This building is a frame structure, and one of the first erected in the implement district, as dry as tinder without being too rotten to burn. It is completely hemmed in by railroad tracks. It has long been feared that some catastrophe like that of last night would happen and the whole district would be in danger. Many efforts have been made by the neighboring implement dealers to have it removed, but without success.

SPREAD WITH GREAT EASE.

The first alarm was turned in from the C., B. & Q. switch tower at 6:20 o'clock. Two other alarms were sent in soon after, and in a few minutes the entire local fire department was hard at work. There was a strong wind blowing from the southeast, which made the fire an exceedingly hard one to handle. The Empkie-Shugart building burned rapidly, and soon huge brands were being carried all over the city, landing a mile or more away. Wherever they struck sidewalks and clumps of weeds would be ignited, and in a few minutes the people living all along the line were fighting fire with garden hose, broomsticks and anything else that came handy.

Directly north of the Empkie-Shugart building was the warehouse of Deere, Wells & Co., a three-story brick, with every floor full of agricultural implements. In a few minutes fire communicated to the interior of this building through the windows. It crept through the building from south to north, and the fire department was utterly powerless to stop it.

Across the street stood the Combination Fence works, a frame building, covered with corrugated iron. Two or three times it caught, but the department played on it a few minutes and extinguished the flames. Finally the heat became so great that the firemen had to retreat and the building was given over to the flames.

North of the main warehouse of Deere, Wells & Co. is a smaller frame building, also full of implements. For a time it looked as if this was also doomed, but the play of the hose kept it wet until the danger had passed, and the twenty-five yards intervening between the two Deere-Wells buildings marked the dead line. Still further north, the freight house of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy caught fire once from the fire brands, but a little water at the right time saved it.

SAVED THE BIG VAULT.

The main fear with Mr. Lucius Wells, of the firm of Deere, Wells & Co., was that the vault would be destroyed by the caving in of the walls. At 7:20, just one hour after the first alarm came in, a large section of the west wall of the building fell with a crash. Three minutes later fell a piece of the north wall, and then came another piece of the front wall. This left the middle brick partition standing to the full height of its three stories without a prop. Just south of it was the vault, containing the books and valuable papers of the concern, and great anxiety was manifested as to the direction in which the wall should fall. It tottered, swayed an instant, and then fell to the south, right in the direction of the vault. An instant later the light of the flames showed that the wall had just missed the vault and left it standing intact.

Thaddeus W. Edwards, a traveling man with Deere, Wells & Co., came in from a collection trip on the road, bringing with him a valise containing over $2,000 in notes. He set the valise in the office, and there it burned. Mr. Edwards stated, however, that he had fortunately taken such precautions as would prevent the company from losing the face of the notes.

One fortunate thing was the fact that the two outside walls, for the most part, remained standing. The south wall was almost entirely intact, and so prevented the wind from getting at the flames. On the north, likewise, such parts of the wall as remained standing protected the buildings beyond, and these two things, more than anything else, account for the greater part of the implement district being standing today.

LOSSES AND INSURANCE.

Only an approximate estimate of the insurance could be obtained last night for the reason that a majority of the agents could not be found or could not be induced to go to their offices and get the list of companies from their books. The total amount on the Deere-Wells building and contents is somewhere near $78,000. The W. S. Wadsworth & Co. agency had the most of it, but the books were locked up in the vault and the only man who knew the combination was out in the country visiting. Mr. Wadsworth was able to recall from memory $32,000 on building and contents, divided as follows: North American, $1,500; London Assurance, $4,500; London and Lancashire, $4,500; German of Freeport, Ill., $4,000; Commercial