

CURRENT COUNCIL BLUFFS.

DRUG DOES WORK QUICKLY

Robert A. Johnson Takes Strychnine and Dies in Twenty Minutes.

BECAUSE WOMAN WOULD NOT WED HIM

She Had Just Secured a Divorce from One Husband and That Was Enough to Satisfy Her.

Because she would not promise to marry him as soon as he had secured a divorce from his wife, Robert A. Johnson of Avoca, Ia., committed suicide yesterday morning by swallowing strychnine in the apartments of Mrs. Cora Le High at 602 West Broadway, Dr. Cleaver, whose office is in the same building, was summoned within a few minutes after the young man had taken the poison. Every effort to save the unfortunate young man's life was made, but without avail. The act was premeditated, as before leaving the hotel at which he was stopping to visit the Le High woman Johnson wrote a letter to his mother, in which he said his life had come to an end. This letter was found in his pocket after the body had been removed to the morgue.

Johnson, who was 23 years of age and a son of A. Johnson, deputy sheriff and court bailiff at Avoca, came to Council Bluffs Saturday from Carson, where for several months past he had been employed in a livery barn. He stopped at the Revere house, on Broadway, but a few days from where the woman with whom he appears to have been infatuated lived. Part of Saturday evening he spent with her and, according to her statement, he appeared to have been drinking. After partaking of breakfast at the hotel he wrote a letter in the hotel office, presumably the letter addressed to his mother which was found on him. It was written on the hotel paper. Finishing the letter, he crossed the street to the apartment of Mrs. Le High, where an hour later he ended his life. Mrs. Le High has been living but a short time at 602 Broadway, under the name of Miss Cora Price. Last Thursday she was given a divorce from her husband, William F. Le High, by Judge Macy in the district court here on a statutory ground. She is the widow of Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Price of Carson. Her husband, William Le High, was a brother-in-law of the suicide's brother, Charles Johnson. According to Mrs. Le High's statement, young Johnson had been wanting to pay her attention for the last month.

Story of the Woman.

From the woman's story it appears that young Johnson, after reaching her apartments, at once commenced his protestations of affection for her, asking that she promise to marry him as soon as he could secure a divorce from his wife to whom he had been married about a year, but from whom he had recently separated. She says she told him that she liked him as well if not better than any other man, but that she did not intend to marry again. "Well, if you won't promise me, I will end my life right here by swallowing this strychnine," and putting the action to the words young Johnson rose from his chair and taking a small package from his vest pocket, poured the contents into his mouth. Mrs. Le High had not expected that he intended to carry out his threat, but when she saw him place the paper to his mouth tried to seize it, but he had swallowed the powder before she succeeded in taking the paper from him. With the same deliberation with which he had swallowed the poison young Johnson walked to the table and pouring out a glass of water, drank it. He then stepped over in front of the bureau and looked at himself in the glass. While thus engaged the drug commenced to take effect and he staggered toward the bed, upon which he threw himself. The woman, by this time thoroughly alarmed, summoned Dr. Cleaver, who happened to be in his office. The stomach pump and the usual remedies were applied, but proved of little avail. The young man was a corpse in about twenty minutes.

The father arrived from Avoca in the afternoon and will take the body with him this morning. This sudden taking off of two of his sons within a few weeks proved a terrible blow for him and he was completely prostrated after reaching here and learning the full particulars of his son's death. It is but a few weeks ago that another son, Fred Johnson, was knocked down and killed on the streets in Avoca by a man named Hector.

The letter which young Johnson had written to his mother was turned over to the father. In it the young man wrote: "My life has come to a close. My wife and an outside lady have caused my life to come to an end." Concluding, he wrote that all his debts had been paid and that he had a policy of insurance for \$1,000. Wishing them all goodbye he wrote that he would meet them all in heaven.

The father said that last Friday his son had telephoned from Carson that he was coming home that day, but later in the day they received a letter from him in which he stated he was going away and would be gone about two weeks. He said he had about \$15 and that his mother need not worry about him, as he could take care of himself. Mr. Johnson said he was not aware that his son had formed an attachment for the Le High woman. The young man had been kicked on the head and severely injured a number of years ago, since when at times he has been hardly responsible and was easily led. Three years ago he got into trouble in a case in the district court here, which led to his indictment on a charge of perjury and the case against Johnson was, however, finally dismissed.

Coroner Treynor decided it was unnecessary to hold an inquest.

Notice to Subscribers. All the numbers of "The Living Animals of the World" are now complete and can be obtained for the next few days at the Council Bluffs office of The Bee. It is requested that those desiring to fill out their numbers call at once and get them, as unsold copies will be returned in a short time.

Arrested for Picking Pockets. A man giving the name of John Murphy was arrested about the closing hour of the Elks' street fair Saturday night charged with picking the pockets of Robert Huntington, a former member of the city fire department. Huntington felt a hand in his pocket and grabbed it, but too late to recover his pocketbook, containing a check for \$10 and some small change. He succeeded, however, in keeping his hold on

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White Russian Soap

A household and laundry soap made from the purest materials under modern scientific conditions.

No fatty odor or grease stains in the clothes--the result of poorly made soap.

Call for Premium List, JAMES S. KIRK & CO.

1615 FARNUM ST., OMAHA, or bring the wrappers to our store and select your premium.

MONEY TO MOVE THE CROPS

Western Bankers Say It Will Require Much More Than Last Year.

PLACE THE FIGURE AT THIRTY MILLIONS

New York and Other Money Centers Must Furnish This in Addition to the Amount Now in the West.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—(Special Telegram.)—President Herman Kuntze of the First National bank of Omaha, in answer to a series of interrogatories sent out by the New York Evening Post relative to the probable needs of currency to move crops this year and the amount likely to be taken from New York, says he thinks that the actual needs of currency in the west will be larger than last year. That balances and loans now in New York will probably be called more closely than last year. In reply to a third interrogatory, whether the amount of money now on deposit or loan at New York City is larger than at the same time last year, Mr. Kuntze says he cannot answer, as the immediate locality about Omaha is generally furnished with currency by Chicago and St. Louis. As to the standing of banks he says in his locality they are generally in good condition, with fair cash reserves. To a fifth inquiry he says: "I expect a more active demand for money and higher rates. It is, of course, difficult to say positively what may take place in the next ninety days or four months. Corn is later than usual, but if we have no frost and have warm weather until about September 25 the promise for the corn crop is exceedingly good."

Other replies to these inquiries were received from S. H. Burnham, president of the First National bank of Lincoln; T. C. Rounds, president of the Citizens' National bank of Des Moines, and Arthur Reynolds, president of the Des Moines National bank. To summarize these opinions, nearly all bankers replying agree that the west will need much more money to move crops this year than was needed last year, the reason being that the yield is so much greater than expected earlier in the season. It is thought that between \$20,000,000 and \$30,000,000 will be withdrawn from New York banks in the next four months to meet demands for moving crops.

A very interesting case is to be tried at the coming term of the United States district court in suit brought by the United States against K. W. Pumphrey of this city as surety upon the bond of the "Buck" Taylor, who was Buffalo Bill's right hand man for many years. Taylor in the summer of 1884 started out with a "wild west" show of his own and was on an acceptable Indian act engaged fifteen Sioux Indians of Rosebud Agency, S. D., to tour the country with him, giving phases of Indian life, bareback riding, war dances, etc. Taylor to secure the consent of the Interior Department for moving the Indians from their reservation was compelled to give bond for \$5,000, that the Indians should receive their salaries and at the close of the season be returned to the reservation without expense to the government.

The show prospered for a couple of months and the "ghost" walked regularly. But in a short time bad times set in and the Indians were compelled not only to go without their salaries, but had hardly enough to eat. The show disbanded in the dead of winter at Louisville, Ky. Without money or food or their clothing in rags, they finally succeeded in acquainting the commissioner of Indian affairs with their plight and were promptly sent home to the government's expense. Thereupon suit was brought on the bond to recover back pay due the Indians and the cost of their transportation home. The supreme court of the district held that the bond sued upon was invalid because there was no law requiring it to be taken. The court of appeals, however, reversed this decision and now the question comes before the district court as to how much the Indians are entitled to.

DEATH RECORD.

Pioneer Nebraska Legislator.

ARLINGTON, Neb., Sept. 7.—(Special.)—John A. Unkank, an old and respected citizen of Arlington, died yesterday at 5 o'clock p. m. The deceased was 83 years old. He died suddenly from a stroke of apoplexy. He was a member of the legislature in 1859 and 1860.

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