

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871.

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## SIoux CITY HARD HIT

Fire Destroys Business Property Estimated  
to Be Worth Millions of Dollars.

NEARLY TWO BLOCKS ARE SWEEP CLEAN

Starts in Basement of Pelletier & White  
Crowded with People

FORTUNATELY ALL THE SHOPPERS ESCAPED

Pay, Commercial and Manufacturers  
Entirely Destroyed.

ONE FIREMAN IS THE ONLY INJURED

Outside Towns Requested to See Aid,  
but Flames Are Under Control  
Before Many Could Reach  
the Scene.

SIoux CITY, Ia., Dec. 23.—A fire which resulted in the death of one fireman, a monetary loss roughly estimated at \$2,000,000 and the destruction of nearly two entire blocks, started in the basement of the Pelletier department store, located at Fourth and Jackson streets, at 8 o'clock tonight. The district burned over lies in the center of the business portion of the city, and among the buildings were several of the most substantial structures in the city. In these buildings were located many large stores and several wholesale establishments and three national banks. The fire started in the basement of the store, but its origin is in doubt.

A large number of Christmas shoppers crowded the Pelletier and other stores and it was with difficulty that all managed to escape from the burning building. The flames enveloped much of the building before the fire department arrived and were well beyond control. For three hours and a half, until they had gotten beyond range of the large buildings, the flames carried everything in their path. Both telephone companies were put out of business by reason of their wires all being burned out and the office of the Western Union was destroyed. Although a great number of telephone circuits were within the district, long distance circuits were later established with outside points.

The fire was gotten under control at 11:30, with the assistance of several outside departments.

Starts in Big Store.

The fire started in the Pelletier department store, located in the Toy building, a six-story stone block, at the corner of Fourth and Jackson streets, occupied also by the First National bank. The entire building, together with its contents, was destroyed, but before the firemen could secure control of the flames they had spread also to the Manufacturers block on the west another large, five-story building. With the heat sufficiently intense to keep the gathered holiday shoppers a block away, the firemen were unable to get near enough to do any material good in stopping the ravages of the flames, which rapidly spread to the westward, assisted by a brisk wind.

In the course of their flight the flames were communicated to a score of other business places, located in the buildings to the west of the Toy block. Among these were the following, which are entirely destroyed:

The Manufacturers building, occupied by seven large stores, including the Gillette Hardware company, the Pullman hotel, Johnson & Aronson, clothing and furnishings, Orkin Bros., clothing and furnishings, George Conway, wholesale tobacco and cigars, and the American Express company. Several families lived in the rear of the building, but so far as known all the occupants escaped.

The next building destroyed was the Commercial block. In this structure were located the City National bank, J. J. Prugh, quensware; Warfield-Pratt-Howell company, wholesale grocers; Peavey & Nash, furniture; Dow Clothing company, Harned & Harned, shoe store; Becker-Railroad company, Weld Hardware company and Western Union Telegraph company.

Flames Jump Alley.

Leaping across the alley the fire next spread to the smaller buildings facing Fourth street. These included the North-Western National bank, Selzer Bros., wholesale liquors, and Wagner & Walsh's saloon. The wires of both the Postal and Western Union Telegraph companies were in the path of the flames, and in addition to burning the Western Union office also destroyed nearly a block of cables connecting its system of wires with the main office. The Postal company's office was not in the burned district, but its wires were destroyed. The telephone company had a great number of wires destroyed, but was able to furnish partial communication to outside cities.

Other buildings burned include the Leader hotel, at Third and Pierce streets; the West hotel, a large, new structure, at Third and Nebraska streets; Hignam & Skinner, wholesale boots and shoes, and a large number of small establishments.

When the flames had reached a point near the Tribune building, facing Pierce street, the firemen concentrated their efforts and managed to prevent the destruction of that structure, although it was considerably damaged.

The outside departments did not arrive in time to offer material aid.

Blinds Seize Aid.

In response to a call for assistance from Sioux City last night Fire Chief Nicholson of Council Bluffs and the company from No. 4 house, with its equipment, left for there at 9 o'clock on a special train over the Northwestern. The special consisted of a boxcar for the horses, a flat car for the hose carts and a caboose for the men. Mayor Macrae and City Clerk Zumbach accompanied the firemen.

Last night about 9:45 Fire Chief Satter received a telegram from Fire Chief Kellogg of Sioux City asking for apparatus. Chief Satter at once put himself in communication with Mayor Moore, who at once ordered him to take such apparatus and men as could be spared.

These company No. 3 and engine company No. 5 from Hastings and Harney, with one steamer and two hose wagons, was taken to the Union Pacific freight depot, but before they could be loaded and start for Sioux City a telegram was received that the fire was under control and their services would not be needed. All was in readiness for the start when this telegram was received.

Police Look for Woman.

COLORADO SPRING, Colo., Dec. 23.—The police are now searching for Miss Minnie Swift, who left her home at Cripple Creek last night on a special train for the city. This is an entirely different person from the Miss Minnie Swift who was reported missing from the Cripple Creek train and to have been unheard of by her family since she left home.

## PRINCESS RISKS ALLOWANCE

Income May Be Taken Away from  
Her for Visit to  
Dresden.

DRESDEN, Dec. 23.—Countess Montignono, formerly the Crown Princess Louise and divorced wife of King Frederick Augustus, by coming to Dresden and trying to see her children yesterday has probably forfeited her allowance of £2,500 a year of the conditions of which she should not set foot on German soil.

This condition, however, may not be enforced, as popular sympathy with the countess is so strong already that the court will avoid anything giving the empress more punishment for her natural womanly feeling. The version of the countess' misadventure commonly believed in the kingdom of Saxony is that she is guilty of actual wrongdoing and is the victim of an intrigue of the center party, which is being used as a pretext for means to prevent a strong liberal from becoming queen. The circumstance of the countess leaving the court are so overlaid with fiction that the truth probably will be unknown to the present generation of Saxons.

LEIPZIG, Saxony, Dec. 23.—Countess Montignono (former Crown Princess Louise) is still here. Inquiries at the villa of Dr. Sehmé, her counsel, brought an answer from the attorney's wife that the countess was not yet in a condition to travel, the mental excitement of the last few days having taken away her physical strength. It seems that the countess was overcome by a sudden impulse to see her children and left Florence without informing her parents at Salzburg or anybody in Saxony. Dr. Sehmé's first intimation of her arrival was when Countess Montignono's visiting card was handed in at the door of his villa. He tried vainly to dissuade her from going to Dresden, pointing out to the countess the impossibility of seeing her children, but the lawyer went with her when he saw further arguing was useless. The countess was accompanied from Dresden to Leipzig by Chief of Police Dresden, who was met at the railroad station here by a high police official of Leipzig. The countess made the impression on the crowds at the station that she was suffering from deep despondency.

MORACCAN SITUATION IS GRAVE

France Takes Steps to Show Dis-

pleasure at Present Trend.

PARIS, Dec. 23.—The foreign office considers the situation in Morocco extremely grave. The Sultan's dismissal of his French and other military advisers has been followed by a number of other acts showing his intention to interrupt the execution of the French policy. Accordingly the French minister at Tangier has been instructed to secure the immediate withdrawal from the Moroccan capital of the French consul, the commander and all the members of the military staff, and all French citizens unless the Sultan vacates his position as offensive action and offers a suitable explanation.

The French minister has been instructed to communicate to the Sultan at the same time he notifies the consul, military men and officials to prepare to depart. The French minister has also been instructed to demand that a demonstration in force will follow if a suitable explanation and reparation are not promptly given.

DISCUSS THE ESPIONAGE SYSTEM

French Opposition Accuses Officials of

Making Secret Reports.

PARIS, Dec. 23.—There was a violent discussion of the spying system in the Chamber of Deputies today. The opposition deputies asserted that the secret official reports touched members of President Loubet's family. Minister of War Berteaux denied the action of the opposition in appearing to defend the president. He said an officer would be immediately relieved from duty because of that he had made a report referring to the presidential household. Many noisy demonstrations followed, requiring a suspension of the session.

ADMIRAL DAVIS MAKES CALLS

American Member of North Sea

Commission Visits Cabinet Officers.

PARIS, Dec. 23.—Rear Admiral Davis, the American member of the international commission of inquiry into the North sea incident, today continued making calls on cabinet officers. Admiral Campbell received and entertained Admiral Davis at the ministry of marine, in the absence of Marine Minister Pelletan, who was attending a meeting of the council of ministers.

Fog Is Dispersed.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The fog in London practically disappeared this morning before a western breeze. Reports from the coasts show a continuance of the dislocation of traffic. According to a telegram from Liverpool at 10 o'clock this morning the White Star liner Oceanic and Cedric were still fogbound in the Mersey.

The White Star liner Oceanic, from New York December 14; the White Star liner Cedric, from New York, and the Canadian liner Saxonia, from Boston, December 12, were all fogbound at 4 p. m. off the Mersey bar. It is considered that there is little prospect of the Oceanic or Saxonia landing their passengers at Liverpool tonight. This is the longest detention of ocean liners by a fog within recollection.

Dr. Chadwick Not Fogbound.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The vessel, said to be the Hamburg-American line steamer Pretoria, reported last night, with others, as being fogbound in the Mersey, was not the Pretoria, but was the Allan line steamer Pretoria, bound from Liverpool for St. John, N. B. The Pretoria, having on board Dr. Chadwick of Cleveland, O., and his daughter among its passengers, was last reported leaving Boulogne Sur-Mer December 18 for New York and is due at the latter port December 28 or 29.

French Soldiers Defeated.

PARIS, Dec. 23.—Private reports received here say that the French military force of occupation in Central Africa has suffered a serious reverse, accompanied by heavy losses, near Timbuctoo. There is no official confirmation of the report.

Orders Prayer for Peace.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—The archbishop of Warsaw has sent to all the Catholic priests of his diocese a special prayer imploring God to send peace, with instructions to read it during the celebration of mass.

Abolishes Freedom of Press.

BEIGRADE, Servia, Dec. 23.—King Peter today signed the new press law, which practically abolished freedom of the press in Servia, though aimed principally at the anti-dynastic and opposition papers.

## RED CLOUD TAKES HIS LAND

Aged Chief of the Ogallala Gives Up After  
a Long Contest.

THOMAS FAVORS RAILROAD LEGISLATION

Speaker Cannon Opposes Passing Any

River and Harbor Bill and

Favors Holding Down All

Appropriations.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—(Special Telegram.)—Major John Brennan, the agent at the Pine Ridge agency, has reported to the Indian office that the head of the Ogallala Sioux, Red Cloud, has after years of opposition taken his allotment of land. Red Cloud has been bitterly opposed to allotment and has led a strong faction of the Sioux in opposition to the government's policy to make allotments whenever the same could be done without friction. In the case of the Pine Ridge Indians allotments have been going on for some time, but Red Cloud could not be induced to take the land to which he was entitled, until the other day he came into the agency and announced his willingness to be good.

Thomas for Railroad Legislation.

Representative Thomas of the Sioux City district thinks there should be legislation giving additional power to the Interstate Commerce commission in the matter of railroad rates and rebates. This he told the president this morning and agreed with the chief executive in hoping that something would be done at this congress to broaden the scope of the Interstate Commerce commission.

Cannon for Economy.

Speaker Cannon spent a few minutes with the president this morning. It was reported that he and the president are in thorough accord as to an economic session and reduction of appropriations. It is believed to be the attitude of the speaker that no river and harbor bill shall go through at this session.

Postal Matters.

Postmasters appointed: Nebraska, Albany, Sheridan county, Charles A. Bouck vice C. M. Rebeck, resigned; South Dakota, Bnd. Mead county, Peter Rosenkrantz, vice Ira L. Hackett, resigned; Wyoming, Cheyenne, Laramie county, Mason A. Crawford, vice Charles S. Mills, resigned.

Rural routes ordered established February 1: Iowa, Dallas center, Dallas county; route No. 4, population, 40 houses, 98. South Dakota, Howard, Minn. county; route No. 4; population, 40 houses, 98.

Rural carriers appointed for Iowa: Columbus Junction, Route No. 1, Nathaniel C. Duncan, carrier; Bennie Cutoch, substitute. Redwood, Route No. 1, H. H. Hinchshaw, carrier; Z. L. Hinchshaw, substitute.

WICHITA ALLEGES DISCRIMINATION

Complaint Filed on Freight Rates on

Sugar from New Orleans.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Acting immediately on a complaint from shippers of large railroads threatening to advance the rates on sugar from New Orleans and that these as well as the published tariff constitute a serious discrimination against Wichita in favor of Kansas City, St. Joseph, Omaha and St. Louis, the Interstate Commerce commission today set a hearing to be held at Chicago on December 29 to investigate the subject. The complaint was filed with the commission by the Lehman-Higginson Grocery company, the Wichita Wholesale Grocery company, the Aylesbury Mercantile company and W. J. Jett and Frank C. Wood against the Atchafalaya, Topeka & Santa Fe, the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, the St. Louis and San Francisco, the Missouri Pacific, the Illinois Central and the Texas & Pacific railroads. It is set out that the distance from New Orleans to Wichita is shorter than the distance to St. Joseph, Omaha and St. Louis, and that the published rates from New Orleans to St. Joseph and Omaha pass through Wichita at the published rate of one hundred cents, while the rates to St. Joseph and Omaha are 10 cents in advance of the rate to Wichita, and an advance of 40 cents is threatened, whereas to Kansas City, St. Joseph, Omaha and Sioux City the rate in each case is 20 cents, and an advance of 20 cents is threatened. The complainants allege that the rates charged and threatened to be charged are unjust and discriminatory in favor of the Missouri river ports, and that the railroads violate the long and short haul clause of the interstate commerce law as well as the orders of the commission. The complainants ask that the commission request the Attorney General to direct the United States attorney for the district of Kansas to institute necessary proceedings for the enforcement of the law against the defendant. This step would not be taken by the commission except after a hearing of the case. Representatives of all the roads named have been summoned to appear at the Chicago hearing.

PULAJANES ON THE WARPATH

Lieutenants and Members of Philippine

Scouts Are Killed on

Samar.

MANILA, Dec. 23.—The Pulajanes have ambushed and killed at Dolores, on the island of Samar, a lieutenant and thirty-seven enlisted men of the Thirty-eighth company of native scouts.

Two thousand Pulajanes threatened the lives of Dolores and the situation is said to be critical. Lieutenant Abbott in command of the scouts, has requested that aid be sent him.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—First Lieutenant George F. Abbott, who commands the Thirty-eighth company of Philippine Scouts, which was ambushed by natives at Dolores, Samar, and one lieutenant and thirty-seven enlisted men killed, was a corporal in the Ninth United States Infantry in the fight at Tien Tsin, China, during the Boxer troubles.

Officers in Washington familiar with his record say that he distinguished himself in that engagement by seizing the colors when the colorbearer fell, and holding them in the line. No advice regarding the ambush had yet reached the War department.

"TED" MURPHY IS IN CUSTODY

Man Charged with Taking Nelson's

Money Under Arrest in

California.

STOCKTON, Cal., Dec. 23.—"Ted" Murphy, who is accused by Battling Nelson of the larceny of \$5,000, has been arrested here on a Santa Fe train. Two hundred and fifty dollars was found on Murphy by the police.

Murphy was greatly surprised at his arrest. He said that he did not have Nelson's money and that Nelson had bid him goodbye at the depot when he left San Francisco.

Will Increase Best Crop.

RUTHERFORD, Neb., Dec. 23.—(Special.)—This week the shipment of this season's crop of sugar beets from Rutherford was completed. One hundred and fifty carloads were sent from here to the factories, and the nearby stations did their share also. The prospects are good for a large increase in the average next year, as the crop has been a paying one and many farmers have realized more per acre than their land was valued at.

Stabbed by Drunken Indian.

CHADRON, Neb., Dec. 23.—(Special.)—John Killersno, a young Indian from Pine Ridge, was stabbed and seriously, perhaps fatally, wounded by Black Horse, who had been drinking heavily and while under the influence of liquor is always a dangerous man. Black Horse was arrested this morning, taken into court, given a preliminary hearing and bound over to the district court under \$500 bonds.

Neither He Nor Congressman Hermann

Will Talk About Oregon Land

Fraud Charges.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 23.—Senator John Mitchell and Congressman Hermann arrived in this city tonight from Washington to deny by their presence and by their testimony, if permitted to do so, the charges made in certain quarters connecting them with the land frauds in this state which are being investigated by agents of the government at the behest of President Roosevelt.

Neither Mitchell nor Hermann would

make a statement except to deny any

wrongdoing. Neither of the men seems to

know the exact nature of the charges

against him.

## M'Greevy's Generous Offer

Abandoning Banker Tenders Eight

Thousand Dollars for His

Liberty.

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 23.—(Special Telegram.)—Eight thousand dollars is the price Bernard McGreevy, the abandoning banker president of O'Neill, Neb., offered for liberty. Captain H. McDonald, the arresting officer, said that McGreevy, who had been taken from his home in Phoenix, had offered McGreevy the price upon his own head. That was the trick which gave McGreevy possession of McGreevy's receipts for \$25,000 deposited in Arizona banks.

McGreevy wriggled like a worm in McDonald's clutches when first arrested. "They do," McDonald asserted, "and perhaps they will get \$50 for this. Call it off and I will make it \$5,000."

"Where would you get \$5,000?" McDonald asked.

McGreevy fell into the trap when the question was sprung.

"Do these look good?" he asked, as he presented deposit slips for \$5,000.

"No," McDonald said, "I will keep them and you, too, I'm too old in the business, McGreevy, for your game."

Today McDonald had McGreevy taken from his comfortable quarters in the woman's ward and saw him safely stowed in a cell below.

"No more ladies' trials go," the officer said, "McGreevy had a special deputy escort him to dinner at a swell restaurant. He had another guard of honor which he did not suspect, nor has he been taken for a meal without this double shadow."

BROKEN BOW MAN KILLS HIMSELF

Meets Woman at York Hotel Shortly

Before.

YORK, Neb., Dec. 23.—(Special Telegram.)—W. H. Penn of Broken Bow, Ind., as told at the York hotel, was shot and killed at the York hotel, where he had been staying, after the breakfast hour and made inquiry if a certain woman had arrived and where she was. The clerk told him that the woman who registered as Mrs. Stephens from Lincoln, Neb., had gone to the convent school. When Mrs. Stephens returned Penn is supposed to have had a conversation with her in the hotel parlors, as he was seen to go in the morning. No loud words, however, were heard. At noon Mrs. Stephens left the hotel and is supposed to have left York. Penn made some purchases just before dinner, carrying the packages to his room, and in ascending the stairs ran up the stairs at a trot. His gun went off and he was killed. The bullet entered near the right temple and death was instantaneous.

Of this the woman who registered as Mrs. Stephens, at one time constantly in York and now commandant of the Soldiers' home at Milford. He is a young man about 30 years old, of slender build, about five feet six inches in height, dark complexion, black hair, blue eyes, wearing a suit of clothes, with a light-colored shirt and a dark tie. He was carrying a .38 Smith & Wesson revolver in his grip and a cigarette box, with six cartridges gone, and a large photograph of the woman who registered as Mrs. Stephens. No letter or any written statement could be found. The woman who registered as Mrs. Stephens, at one time constantly in York and now commandant of the Soldiers' home at Milford. He is a young man about 30 years old, of slender build, about five feet six inches in height, dark complexion, black hair, blue eyes, wearing a suit of clothes, with a light-colored shirt and a dark tie. He was carrying a .38 Smith & Wesson revolver in his grip and a cigarette box, with six cartridges gone, and a large photograph of the woman who registered as Mrs. Stephens. No letter or any written statement could be found.

Only One Ballot Taken.

Interest centered in District At-

torney Jerome's future action. He has not

said what he will do, but it is intimated

that the way the jury stood may influence

his action. The jury took but one

ballot, according to the foreman, and

devoted the remainder of the time to dis-

cussion. From first to last the division

was even. For twenty-four hours they dis-

cussed the case, and at the end of the

trial the jury stood as follows: One juror

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