

OFFICERS WINK AT FIGHTS

Naval Cadets Testify that it is Indirectly Encouraged by Officials.

CLASSMATES DEFEND THE MAN ON TRIAL

Statement Made that He Would Have Forfeited Respect of Pupils Had He Not Accepted Challenge.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Nov. 25.—Today's session of the court-martial which is trying Midshipman Meriwether in connection with the death after a fight, of Midshipman James R. Branch, Jr., were very largely occupied with the testimony of classmates of the accused members of the first class of the Naval academy. The evidence was intended by the defense to show that Branch harbored animosity against Meriwether and persecuted him and also that the existence of the practice of fighting was known to and in a manner condoned at by high officials of the Naval academy. Prominent officers of the navy mentioned in this connection were Admiral Willard H. Brownson, now commanding the cruiser division of the North Atlantic fleet, and who was the predecessor of James H. Sands as superintendent of the Naval academy; Captain Charles J. Badger, who succeeded as commandant of the midshipmen by the present commandant, Captain G. P. Colverman and Commander C. E. Colahan, deceased, who preceded Captain Badger in the same office. It was testified that Admiral Brownson, while superintendent of the academy, had promised that in consideration of the abolition of fighting there would be no investigation of fights sanctioned by the first class. One of the important developments of the day was the ordering by the secretary of the navy of the disinterment of Branch's body for the purpose of holding an autopsy. The body will be exhumed tomorrow morning.

The Judge Advocate announced that Surgeon Charles H. Stokes had been detailed by the Navy department to assist in the prosecution.

Graduates Between the Two Middies.

Midshipman T. C. Corstien of the first class for the defense testified that at the end of last term, while on duty, he had reported Meriwether for a breach of regulations. Branch had manifested great interest in seeing that the report was made. He had asked the witness to be sure to forward the report and the sheet having been stolen, reminded him of the report against Meriwether. He seemed to have a deep-seated grudge against Meriwether.

Final Formalities in Relation to Treaty of Portsmouth Take Place in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—Without formality the final chapter in the bloody war between Russia and Japan was enacted in the diplomatic room of the state department this afternoon, when at 4:05 o'clock Baron Rosen, the Russian ambassador, and Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister, on behalf of their respective sovereigns, exchanged ratifications of the treaty of Portsmouth, which was signed September 5 last. The only witnesses were Prince Kudacheff, the secretary of the Russian ambassador, who was with him at Tokyo when the war began and again served as one of the official secretaries throughout the peace conference at Portsmouth, and Mr. Hooki, consul and first secretary of the Japanese legation. Sidney Smith, chief of the diplomatic bureau of the state department, and Eddie Savoy, the personal messenger of the secretary of state, were also present when the exchange occurred.

LETTERS FROM AN EXPLORER

Norwegian Consul at San Francisco Receives Word from the Amundsen Expedition.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 25.—Henry Lund, the Norwegian consul at this port, is in receipt of information relative to the Amundsen Arctic expedition, which convinces him that the report from Dundee, Scotland, that the expedition ship Gjøa has been crushed in the ice at Boothia Felix is erroneous. The Dundee report was received from Equimauk, Consul Lund has information directly from Captain Amundsen, in the form of letters, which go to show that the expedition passed Boothia Felix, where the disaster is reported to have taken place, some months ago in safety. These letters contain much information of interest with regard to the expedition. It appears from them that the expedition expected to get through the Northwest passage this year and to have cleared the ice and sailed for San Francisco during the present fall.

THE WORLD'S FAVORITE

For Preserving, Purifying and Beautifying the Skin, Scalp, Hair, and Hands.

Advertisement for Colgate Soap, Medicinal Toilet, and other products. Includes text: 'THE WORLD'S FAVORITE', 'For Preserving, Purifying and Beautifying the Skin, Scalp, Hair, and Hands.', '1608 Harney St. Phone 252'.

Advertisement for Barber Shop and Bath Rooms. Includes text: 'Barber Shop and Bath Rooms ARE NOW OPEN AT 314 South 15th Street E. W. French, Prop.'

RUSH WORK ON STATE HOUSE

Senate and House Chambers Not Anywhere Near Ready for Session.

COMMITTEE ROOMS ALMOST UNTOUCHED

President Roosevelt to Be Invited to Address Presbyterian Assembly Which Meets in Des Moines in May.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) DES MOINES, Nov. 25.—(Special.)—Only the most energetic efforts will complete the work on the senate and house chambers at the state house for the legislative session which convenes January 3. In the house chamber the new carpet is half down. The new carpet for the senate has been purchased, but is not in the city yet. There are only six weeks remaining to complete all the work, and the furniture of both houses is in the hands of the upholsterer and the woodwork is in shape, but the walls and ceiling have not been touched. The work is being crowded with all possible speed. It was stated today at the senate house that the work had to be completed by the time the legislature convenes and hence would be. The only furniture that has been completed is the new desks for the speaker, clerk and reporters in the house. All the other furniture is being scraped, sandpapered and varnished and upholstered, and thus far but little of it has been completed.

Invite President Roosevelt.

The committee in charge of the arrangements for the Presbyterian assembly, which will meet in Des Moines next May, has issued an invitation to President Roosevelt to be present and address the assembly. The committee was given an intimation that the president might accept such an invitation and is therefore hopeful that he will attend.

To Settle Old Cases.

In the federal court today Judge McPherson announced that before adjourning court for the term, which will be some time next week, he will take up a number of old cases on the docket and dispose of them. Among these will be those against Max Keokuk, formerly assistant postmaster at Marshalltown, and indicted four years ago for embezzling the funds of the office. He was released on good behavior. Another is that against Thomas Clark, accused of writing threatening letters to Congressmen. Another is that against Bluffs, and also against Hudson Criss of Winterest, all old cases that attracted attention at one time.

Old Soldier Wants Job.

Mevin Stone has employed Major Charles Mackenzie and will ask for a writ of mandamus to compel the Board of Public Works of this city to employ him. The position of street commissioner, now held by John Stewart. Stone is an old soldier and Stewart is not. The decision of the supreme court sustaining the old soldiers' preference law, it is believed, will be the cause of any number of proceedings of this nature.

Philippine Soldiers Banquet.

Those living in this city who saw service in the Philippines will banquet at the Wellington hotel Tuesday evening and lay plans for the annual session of the national society, which will be held in this city. It is expected that about 100 will be present including officers and soldiers of the Eleventh cavalry at Fort Des Moines.

Soldier Fined \$500.

Otis Meliza of Red Oak was fined \$500 today for contempt of court in the pension department. He asked for leniency, claiming that his family was starving and that he had no money. He will be put in jail for a month and on a showing that he cannot pay the fine of \$500 will be released.

M'WILLIAMS IS UNDER ARREST

Iowa Man Accused of Killing His Family May Be Found Guilty. DES MOINES, Ia., Nov. 25.—William S. McWilliams, aged 39 years, under arrest, accused of killing his wife, four sons and one daughter, near Independence, Ia., Friday. Additional evidence has been secured against him since the trial, and the coroner's jury which convened today is expected to return a verdict naming McWilliams as the alleged murderer. McWilliams maintained his innocence. His neighbors say that he has acted peculiarly since the trial.

LET YOUR STOMACH HAVE ITS OWN WAY.

Do Not Try to Drive and Force it to Work when it is Not Able or You Will Suffer All the More. You cannot treat your stomach as some men treat a balky horse; force, drive or even starve it into doing work at which it is rebelle. The stomach is a patient and faithful servant and should be treated as such and not as a 'balky' horse, but when it does you had better go slow with it and not attempt to make it work. Some people have the mistaken idea that they can make their stomachs work by starving themselves. They might cure the stomach that way, but it would take so long that they would have no use for a stomach when they got through. The sensible way out of the difficulty is to let the stomach rest if it wants to and employ a substitute to do its work.

Advertisement for Carter Case Tablets. Includes text: 'CARTER CASE IS RESUMED', 'Accountant Who Has Examined Books Placed on Stand for the Defense.', 'CHICAGO, Nov. 25.—After a protracted adjournment the case of Oberlin M. Carter, the ex-army officer who is endeavoring to prove his legal title to funds which he is declared by the United States to have embezzled, was resumed this morning. An accountant who has gone over the books of Carter was placed on the stand as the first witness for Carter. It is expected that the evidence to be submitted by Carter will consume several weeks.', 'Johnson Brothers Bankrupt.', 'Late Saturday evening a petition was filed in the United States district court by the creditors of the Johnson Bros. Transfer company, asking that the firm be declared bankrupt.', 'Earlier in the afternoon the firm went into the hands of a receiver, J. L. Baker being appointed as receiver of the concern. Mr. Baker will continue the business of the concern in the interest of the creditors without interruption so far as its general business affairs is concerned.'

ROBBERS AT CHARLES CITY

Milwaukee Agent Knocks Down Man Who Has Revolver.

CHARLES CITY, Ia., Nov. 25.—(Special.)—An attempt was made to hold up and rob Chris Johnson, night operator at the Milwaukee depot, at midnight. Just after the accommodation train had left for Mason City Operator Johnson stepped out of the depot with a coal bucket in his hand to go to the coal house for some coal. As he opened the door he was confronted with a revolver in the hands of a man who demanded that he hand over his money. Johnson is a big six-footer and an athlete. He replied to the request for hands up with a blow. The robber in the meantime had fired one shot, but it went wild. The robber fell to the platform as soon as struck by Johnson. Two of the man's pals then rushed up and attacked Johnson, but he fought them off and managed to get inside the door of the depot. He then turned off the lights and telephoned up town for the marshal. It was some little time before the marshal arrived and during the interim the robbers went into the waiting room and attempted to effect an entrance to the office part where Johnson was locked in, but failed to make connections. They carried their pal away and concealed him somewhere and later he is supposed to have come to, as a dilapidated state of all the boxes and various hiding places about the depot failed to reveal the robbers. Johnson had about \$50 in the till, the proceeds of ticket sales for the Chicago Limited train that goes east about 9 o'clock.

Farmers End Meeting.

ONAWA, Ia., Nov. 25.—(Special.)—Onawa's Farmers' Institute closed yesterday with an address on "Good Roads," delivered by J. S. Trigg, editor of the Des Moines Register-Leader, who paid special attention to the use of the King drag on gumbo roads for good results. George Rawlings of Maple Valley won sweepstakes on best ten ears of corn over the Whitney Exhibit company by a quarter of a point, accorded by Prof. Holden and students. George Fisher won a Duroc-Jersey pig for the best ear of corn. The institute was a big success.

Keokuk Bank Run Stops.

KEOKUK, Ia., Nov. 25.—The run which began yesterday on the State Savings bank stopped this morning almost entirely after the arrival of four wagonloads of silver dollars from Chicago and St. Louis. The wagons backed up to the door of the bank. A half-million dollars was carried into the bank and piled up in sight of the people. The run was probably caused by a statement that the president's health was failing, the word "failing" being repeated to depositors.

EVENTS ON THE RUNNING TRACKS

Long-Priced Horses Take the Money at Benning. BENNING, D. C., Nov. 25.—Not a favorite won at Benning today and a number of long-priced horses did the money. The attendance was the largest of the meeting, the attraction being the Benning special "Cobb" team. It was the general sentiment that the several hunters' chase-teams were the best ever seen. Results: First race, six furlongs: The Cure won, Echodale second, Sun Ray third. Time: 1:28. Second race, five and a half furlongs: Fanny Bird won, Nellie Burn second, Royal Chum third. Time: 1:34. Third race, one mile and seventy yards: The Hunters' Champion steeplechase, about three miles: Pure Pepper won, Knight of Eway second, Paddy third. Time: 6:30. Fourth race, sixth Benning special, one mile and half: Banker won, Louis H. second, Boush third. Time: 1:45. Fifth race, one mile and seventy yards: Ormonde won, Chick George second, Gateway third. Time: 1:40. Sixth race, one mile and a sixteenth: Jack Holly won, Northside second, Gambler third. Time: 1:20. SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 25.—Results: First race, six furlongs: Magistrate won, John H. Kirby second, Peggy third. Time: 1:14. Second race, five and a half furlongs: Duane won, Leber second, Claude third. Time: 1:35. Third race, one mile and seventy yards, gentlemen: Lights Out won, Pats second, Laura K. third. Time: 1:40. Fourth race, one mile and a sixteenth: Little Echin won, Double second, Steeltrap third. Time: 1:24. Fifth race, one mile and a sixteenth: Nine won, Sincerity Helle second, San Craig third. Time: 1:49.

LEAD TEAMS IN ASSOCIATION BOWLING LEAGUE AND SPRUCE IS HIGH MAN

Standing of teams in the Omaha Bowling league at the end of the tenth week: Cudahy 21 9 200 27.28; Armours 19 11 222 27.45; Storm Blues 18 12 200 27.17; Krac Parks 11 16 167 27.25; Ormonde 14 14 187 27.43; Benos 8 22 221 28.83; Black 7 23 222 28.72. Detailed work of teams: P.C. 81k Spr. Spl. 2; Krac Parks 911 544 687 170 119; Storm Blues 904 501 629 184 128; Cudahy 899 522 624 176 124; Ormonde 898 520 623 187 124; Benos 885 520 627 182 129; Storm Blues 841 439 661 182 129; Black 832 466 627 177 126. For cash prizes on the association alleys W. S. Sheldon won at tenpins with 263, Matt at seven with 18, Blake at 3-11-2 with 26. Mrs. J. S. Hunter won the women's tenpin prize with 174. Huntington is still high for the Storm Blues prize. Following are the individual averages: Sprague 186 Zapp 179; Blank 182 French 178; Conrad 191 Marble 174; Gether 190 Engell 172; Gether 190 Engell 172; McGee 189 Harrison 171; McLaugh 189 Hartley 171; C. J. Francisco 188 Hodges 170; Potter 185 Pickering 170; Zimmerman 184 Hunter 169; W. G. Johnson 183 Denman 172; Cochran 182 Tracy 172; Fontenau 181 Nicol 169; French 184 Schneider 170; Angelle 182 Welly 169; Brunk 182 Welly 169; Clay 182 Davis 167; French 181 Head 167; Neale 181 Head 167; Jones 181 Hughes 167; Sheldon 180 G. E. Johnson 166; Huntington 181 Chandler 166; Williams 181 Kempke 166; Wether 180 Johnson 166; Head 179 Mullis 165; Huber 178 Waber 165; Griffiths 178 Lowry 165.

GRAND ISLAND APPOINTS COMMITTEE TO ARRANGE DETAILS

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Nov. 25.—(Special.)—Grand Island has set up a State Baseball league project in a way that promises to produce early results. At a largely attended meeting of devotees and supporters of the cause last evening it was decided that all representatives of five other interior cities of Nebraska to attend a meeting to be held here for the purpose of discussing the feasibility of organizing a state league. A committee was appointed to take the matter in hand, correspond with base representatives in other cities

Advertisement for Piano Sale. Includes text: 'REMOVAL PIANO SALE', 'In thirty days we expect to open our new five-story building on Farnam street. Only brand new goods direct from the cars will be displayed there. In the meantime we throw our entire immense Piano and Organ stock on the market with the', 'PRICES CUT IN TWO', 'Come to our factory, 1407 Harney. Everything here will be closed out. All Pianos, Organs, Pianola Pianos, Pianola Electric Pianos, Music Boxes, four Cole Hot Blast Stoves and other fixtures will be sold regardless of cost. Make your selection while stock is complete. Special easy terms if desired.', 'Schmoller & Mueller Piano Co.', 'Closing Out the Old Stock at 1407 Harney Street.'

Advertisement for Quaker Maid Rye Whiskey. Includes text: 'ANOTHER GOLD MEDAL FOR QUAKER MAID RYE', 'THE WHISKEY WITH A REPUTATION', 'This latest recognition of the superior qualities of QUAKER MAID RYE comes from Portland where, at the Lewis and Clark Exposition, it was awarded the Gold Medal—the highest prize.', 'QUAKER MAID RYE also received the Diploma of Honor and Gold Medal at International Pure Food Exhibition at Paris, France, and the Gold Medal at the St. Louis World's Fair. This unbroken series of triumphs decided by unbiased, competent Juries of Award, is most convincing evidence of the absolute purity and unsurpassed excellence of QUAKER MAID RYE.', 'If you would have a Whiskey of the highest uniform quality, ask for QUAKER MAID RYE, at bars, cafes and drug stores.', 'S. HIRSCH & CO. Kansas City, Mo.'

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Advertisement for Browning, King & Co. Includes text: 'Browning, King & Co.', 'Originators and Sole Makers of Half Sizes in Clothing', '500 Suits and Overcoats', 'make a whole lot of clothing. That was the number we put And we sold a on Sale Saturday at Ten Dollars goodly portion of them. At times we were unable to wait upon the people who were anxious to get one of these excellent values. Compliments and enquiries have induced us, together with a desire to close out the entire lot of broken lines, to place an additional 200 light-weight top coats with the others and give you an extra chance and continue this great sale', 'One Day More--MONDAY', 'There is still a good selection among the Suits and Heavy Coats, and together with the extra Top Coats you will find bargains such as you have not seen in Omaha for a long time. Come early and take advantage of a good thing.', 'S. W. Cor. 15th and Douglas Sts., Omaha. R. S. Wilcox, Mgr.'