

ROBBERS MAKE A BIG HAUL

Gold and Jewelry Worth Over Two Thousand Dollars Taken from Barton Home.

TRICK TURNED DURING DINNER HOUR

Many of Articles Stolen Were Rare and Curious Gold Ornaments Picked Up During Mrs. Barton's Travels.

The largest haul that has as yet been made by a porch-climber was made last night between 8 and 9. While the family of Guy C. Barton was at dinner one climbed up the front porch and entered the window of the second floor. The party of parties secured about \$2,000 worth of jewelry and \$100 in money. When the family awoke from the table they discovered the loss at once, but had heard no word during the course of the meal which aroused the least suspicion. The window above the front porch was found to be the one raised. The articles taken were largely a number of gold pieces in the nature of ornaments, brooches and vessels of various uses. These Mrs. Barton had bought in various parts of the world during the course of her travels abroad. Many of these articles were of odd and curious design and cannot be replaced. She valued some of them very highly as keepsakes. Several of her rings and a few diamonds were taken. Mr. Barton went at once to the police station and gave a description of the missing articles. Detectives were sent out on the case at once.

Mrs. Barton in speaking of her loss said: "They seemed to know just where to go to and everything I had. They might have taken much more, but confined themselves to the gold ornaments and brooches which I had so much store of. They did not take many diamonds. We may find some of the articles, for they are of designs which are unknown anywhere except in the places I visited while abroad. The money they took was all in gold."

Dislike Publicity.

Up to a late hour no arrests had been made in connection with the crime. It is likely the men will not try to dispose of the property here. Mrs. Barton was not very willing to talk about the matter for the benefit of the press, and Mrs. Barton said: "Please say as little about it as you can." This robbery was similar in every way to the entrance effected to several well known residences two months ago. The man who entered Senator Millard's residence was caught. It appears that the system still survives. The loss in the former burglaries was not nearly so great as in the one last night. It was a matter of doubt whether there were two men engaged in the work or only one. Some of the detectives think if there had been more than one the two would have taken more of the heavier articles of value which were in the room. All think it likely that there is more than one in town, if not engaged on this case.

Shortly before the Barton robbery a porch climber, supposed to be the same one who turned the successful trick, made an attempt to enter the residence of R. C. Howe, 219 South Third street, only a few blocks from the Barton residence. In attempting to enter the second story window the robber made a noise which attracted Mr. Howe's attention. Mr. Howe rushed upstairs, and while he heard the man slide down off the porch and run away, he was unable to get a view of the would-be robber.

Suspected Leader of Gang

Man Arrested at Millard Under Suspicion of Being Head of Hotel Thieves.

William Eddy, registering from Boone, Ia., was arrested at a late hour Sunday night by Detective Donahue at the Millard hotel and locked up in the city jail on suspicion. The officers believe they have caught the leader of the crooks that have been operating in Omaha hotels during the last week or two. Aside from this, Eddy was recognized by the police officers as an old offender, being one of the quartet of hotel thieves that was arrested at the Thurston hotel about four years ago.

Eddy arrived at the Millard hotel about 10:30 Sunday night and registered. He paid for his room, but his actions at once excited the suspicions of the night clerk and the porter of the hotel, and they kept tab on him. The man was observed to leave his room about an hour after going to it, with his coat and shoes off. He made a tour of the halls on each floor and tried several rooms, but he did not succeed in entering them. While the porter and night clerk were keeping watch on his actions, the police station was notified and Detective Donahue hurried up to the hotel and arrested Eddy. He remonstrated at first, but finally concluded to accompany the officer. He was at once recognized as an old offender and will be held for further developments.

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OUR LETTER BOX.

As Railroad Tax Shirked.
GLENWOOD, Ia., Dec. 18.—To the Editor of The Bee: The general solicitor of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad company, in an apology for railroad tax shirking in Nebraska, is allowed in a recent issue of The Bee almost an entire page of the paper to state his side of the case. Permit me as one of those on the other side to give a few examples (which will occupy a part of a column) of how real estate in Nebraska is bearing too great a burden of taxation.

To make the case as brief as possible I shall take a piece of well improved real estate in the city of Omaha just five blocks from the Bee building and an eighty-acre farm in the western part of the state, and call these examples "Exhibits A and B."

EXHIBIT A.
A piece of Omaha real estate. Gross revenue from rentals in 1905.....\$2,000.00
Current taxes paid in 1905.....\$2,000.00
Net income.....\$0.00

EXHIBIT B.
An eighty-acre improved farm land. Gross revenue in 1905.....\$1,000.00
Current taxes for year.....\$1,000.00
Net income.....\$0.00

Those who are sufficiently interested can call at the office of The Bee and inspect the tax receipts and get particulars of the property.

Extended comment is superfluous, but it may not be out of place to say that if a valuation in made of the gross Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad company business transacted in Nebraska during the current year 1905 and 10 per cent of the same was taken for taxation purposes the general solicitor's apology would be accepted with better grace, but as a count on more than 10 per cent is used for taxation purposes he better take the advice of a recent editorial in The Bee and "lie down."

WALTER BRENN.

FINDS WIFE DEAD ON FLOOR

Berta Mathauer's Return from Work Betrays Tragedy to Light.

At 6 p. m. last night, when Berta Mathauer returned to her home, 123 South Fourteenth street, he found his wife lying dead on the floor with her throat cut from ear to ear. At her side was a razor with which she had taken her own life. What cause she had for the act has not been learned. No one seems to know of any difficulty in the family. Mathauer is a laborer and of a quiet disposition it is said.

Coroner Bailey was called to take the case in hand. He took the body to the morgue. He considered it a plain case of suicide, but was unable to supply a cause.

Holiday Prices.

Via "The Northwestern Line."
By fare round trip, Dec. 23d, good 30 days, to points in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, New York, Canada, Pennsylvania, West Virginia.

By fare Dec. 23d to 25th and Dec. 30th to January 1st, good until January 4th, to all system points and to points in Illinois, Minnesota and the Dakotas.

By fare Dec. 23d to 25th and Dec. 16th to 18th, good until Dec. 24th.

Offices 161 Farnam St., Union Station, Webster Street station.

Greatly Reduced Rates

Via Wabash Railroad
to points in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Ontario, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York and West Virginia.

Tickets sold December 23, ONLY, good returning thirty days from sale. For all information call on Wabash City Ticket Office, 161 Farnam St., or address, HARRY E. MOORES, G. A. P. D., Wab. R. R., Omaha, Neb.

Brass Goods for Gifts.

Mathwinney & Ryan, the jewellers, are showing a magnificent line of brass goods, such as Ink Stands, Calendars, Stamp Cases, Letter and Magazine Files, Twine Holders, Ash Trays, Blotter and Pen Wipers, Match Holders, Vases, Candelsticks, Jardines, Book Racks, Letter Boxes, Smoking Sets, Candelabra, Fern Dishes and Thermometers.

Holiday Rates.

The Erie Railroad, the Picturesque "Frank Line of America," announces special holiday rates over its line from Chicago December 22, 24, 25, 30, 31 and January 1, to Columbus, O.; Akron, O.; Youngstown, O.; Jamestown, N. Y.; Salamanca, N. Y.; Buffalo, N. Y., and local stations. Apply to your local ticket agent or J. A. Dolan, T. P. A., Railway Exchange Bldg., Chicago.

Holiday Rates.

Christmas and New Year's. Greatly reduced rates via the Missouri Pacific railway. Tickets on sale December 22, 23, 24, 25, 30 and 31, 1905, and January 1, 1906. Good to return to and including January 4, 1906. Full information at city offices, southeast corner 15th and Farnam streets, Omaha, Neb.

Watche, \$1 to \$50. Edholm, jeweler.

Error in Brandeis' Ad.

Through an error in the ad columns of The Sunday Bee, Louis B. Brandeis' Little Men and Women books were advertised at 50c each instead of 55c each. These regular \$1.50 books are now on sale at 55c each in the basement.

Harry B. Davis, undertaker. Tel. 1224.

The public is requested not to arrange for any event requiring music on February 12, 1906, as every member of the Omaha Musician's association is engaged for the musicians' ball at the Auditorium on the above date.

LOCAL BRIEVITIES.

Evangelist Redding and co-workers at the People's church, where special services are being held, are meeting with gratifying success. A goodly number of conversions have been made.

Mels Morris, who has been in jail on a continuous series of charges for the past two weeks, was booked yesterday for forgery in that he forged an order for the delivery of liquor to a South Omaha firm.

J. H. Gardner of San Francisco was returned to jail last night on a charge of insanity. He was arrested Sunday night for being drunk and was taken to the police station where he was held.

The damage case of William M. Mullen, a minor, against the Omaha Electric Light and Power company for \$5,000 damages was settled Monday afternoon in the United States circuit court by agreement of attorneys for \$200. The plaintiff in the case was injured December 1, 1905, by being run over by a repair wagon of the defendant company in South Omaha.

The application for an injunction in the case of the Citizens Insurance company against Martin Hersholsheimer and others to restrain the latter from bringing a suit to recover on a fire loss was dismissed by Judge Munger in the United States circuit court Monday afternoon. The dismissal was on the ground that the amount in controversy was insufficient to give the court jurisdiction.

The next case to come up for trial before a jury in the United States circuit court will be that of John Riley, who brings suit against the Cudahy Packing company for \$100,000 for personal injuries sustained while in the employ of the company. Riley was employed in the fertilizing department of the plant and on March 12 was permanently injured by some part of the machinery falling on him, which is alleged to be old and defective.

Each Gets Twenty Days.
Tom Lawless and William Keil, both well known to the police, were arraigned in police court Monday morning on charges of petty larceny. The prisoners were arraigned on charges of stealing an overcoat from Osthoff's hall Saturday evening and were

sentenced twenty days on that charge. Then Keil was arraigned on the charge of stealing an overcoat from E. M. Slater of the Payne-Roswell company. Keil pleaded guilty to that charge and was sentenced thirty days for that offense.

PAST POINTS OUT THE FUTURE
Nebraska's Growth to Be Duplicated by Wyoming Within a Few Years.

"I read in some newspaper the other morning the startling statement that 'the egg crop alone of Nebraska was worth more than the entire gold and silver, lead and copper products of Canada,'" said John H. Martin of Cody, Wyo., who is a guest at the Merchants. "Now, isn't that food for thought, as well as food for the millions? Bull for the busy old hen. I was a farmer's boy in Ohio county where there was nothing but a cherry creek, where Denver now stands. In 1881 I had an uncle who followed the flicker of this gold so soon as the news reached the straggling string of settlement along the west bank of the Missouri river that then constituted the explored part of Nebraska territory. A paragraph in his first letter from the Pike's Peak Eldorado still lingers in my mind." He said, "After you get twenty-five miles west of the Missouri river, clear to the mountains, the land would not raise white beans. Knowing what we know now, how would you like to see a man with that quality of judgment to look for a home for you? And he was not a fool. He just did not know the soil; could not foresee that rain, irrigation, the plow and the railroad would make that strip of soil down which the Platte slips from the Rockies to the Missouri a granary for the millions."

"We have seen the same thing like a page from the 'Arabian Nights' Dream." We recall the rush of gold seekers to Pike's Peak. How they toiled up the Platte and the Smoky Hill fork of the Arkansas, passing by unheeded riches greater far than all their toil these forty-five years has been west in all the region from Pike's Peak to Alaska. The only man I know who foresaw this and said so almost a half century ago was J. Sterling Morton.

"We have seen the wild men give way to the white homemaker, the buffalo vacate for the horse and the stage coach, the 'bull trail' and the 'bull trail' of the place car and the long trains of commerce, the sod shack for the farm house and barn. The bare, bleak prairies dotted now with trees, hedges and orchards, the towns grow from nothing to cities, the land from a homestead to a value of \$50, \$50 and \$100 a acre, and the saying, 'What fools these mortals be,' have been more applicable than applied to those gold seekers of—well, ever since '49."

"The Mormons passed this paradise in '47, but they had to. They were seeking peace and quietude, as well as homes, but they were the pioneers of the west. They did not these industrious toilers ship the result of wedding water to the sun-parched soil of the arid desert? Show us that forty acres intelligently tilled under irrigation was equal in production to 80 under rainfall?"

NO PROFITS IN TRAFFIC

Lack of Revenue Forces Rock Island Out of Hauling Meat.

OTHER LINES EXPRESS NO SURPRISE

Great Western Still Has Its Contract with Packers to Haul Certain Percentage of Their Products.

The announcement by the Rock Island that that road would no longer haul fresh meat from the Missouri river to Chicago came as no surprise to the other roads converging in Omaha. All have maintained there was nothing but a loss made by hauling this meat at the prices which the packers will pay.

The price on fresh meat from Omaha to Chicago, when destined to points beyond, is 18 1/2 cents, while, with a minimum of 20,000 pounds, makes a revenue of \$100 per car. It costs \$1.50 to switch at South Omaha and \$2 to switch at Chicago. Add to that the expenses of icing, the rental of the railroads are compelled to pay the packers for the use of the refrigerator cars when moving under a load, quite a hole is cut in the revenues. In addition to this the Rock Island has had to pay the Union Pacific for use of track from South Omaha to Council Bluffs.

Rock Island Not Satisfied.
A good share of the fresh meat business has been hauled by the Rock Island and inquiry at the local offices as to the reason for quitting this business did not reveal anything new. The statement was simply made the company did not consider there was enough in the business to continue the service which is required to handle these trains to Chicago. Past time, almost equal to passenger service, has to be made with these fresh meat trains and the business is said not to be sufficient to make up at the prices which are paid by the packers. One official said:

"Since the Rock Island has withdrawn there may be enough money for the rest of us in the business to continue the service. If you figure the way Jim Hill does it may be so. Hill figures the revenue of the first twenty cars of a freight train is consumed in operating expenses, and when you can hitch some more cars onto your train after that you can begin to see the profit. And so it is in the meat business. The Rock Island hauled about three trains per week, and when these trains were short there was a loss. The Chicago Great Western made a contract some time ago whereby that road was to receive a certain per cent of the packing house products in return for a certain low rate which was announced. This contract gives the Great Western considerable business."

REED SMOOT NOT WYLYING

Utah Senator Ascertains He is Paying No Attention to His Celebrated Case.

Senator Reed Smoot of Utah was a passenger on the new Los Angeles limited Monday morning on its first flight across the country and was bubbling over with good humor when seen at the train. He inspected the new gasoline engine which is to revolutionize the branch and service of the country and expressed himself as surprised at the progress which had been made in the manufacture of these cars.

Mr. Smoot was a regular passenger and not of the official party which was traveling the route of the new train. He had become acquainted with the newspaper men and said he was having the time of his life.

"Well, really, I don't know how that contest of mine is coming out; in fact, I don't pay any attention to it, but, you see, I am still a member of the contest. I like, I never met such a bunch in my life, but I don't see how I can get off the train, as the conductor has my ticket, which reads through to Salt Lake City. But I guess that my friend, Little, here, who has been to all parts of the globe, won't let any of these newspaper men do me any injury."

As the train pulled out Mr. Smoot boarded the observation car, saying he was simply going home to spend Christmas and would soon be back this way.

SYMONS CASE GOES OVER

Chances of Reconciliation Between Organist and His Wife Seem Quite Remote.

When the case of wife abandonment filed in police court against John Prover Symons, organist, was called for hearing Monday morning Attorney English, representing Symons, asked for a continuance until Thursday morning, which was granted. Mrs. Symons and her 13-year-old son went to court, but remained in a rear room, there being no meeting between Symons and the woman who says she is the man's deserted wife.

As to a reconciliation of husband and wife before the case comes to trial neither party seems to think such a thing possible. The defendant and plaintiff appear equally positive they have a strong case against the other and are willing to fight it out. Questioned regarding a telegram from Cincinnati stating it is believed Symons has a wife living there, the organist said such information was absolutely without foundation and that he never hoped in that city in his life. Symons will be defended in the case by Attorney J. P. English.

The announcement that the case might be heard in police court Monday morning served to draw a number of Symons' musical associates to the police court.

YEISER AND CATHERS DIFFER

Two Lawyers Unable to Agree on the Interpretation of a Fine Point.

John O. Yeiser and John T. Caters had a disagreement before Judge Troup Monday morning.

Mr. Yeiser is a man of amiable tendencies, who views the statutes as the embodied palladium of the people's rights and privileges. Mr. Caters is inclined at times to questioning the wisdom of statutes, ordinances or other printed things, has little patience with those who cannot see the woodchucks that he discovers.

After much wrangling the two attorneys found themselves absolutely unable to agree on what constitutes a defendant, or when a party to a suit is properly served. The lines of argument were so curiously divergent that Judge Troup evidently decided to preserve the entire cordial and asked that all the papers be submitted to him for examination. And Messrs. Yeiser and Caters went back to their offices to smooth out some of the casual thoughts of perplexed clients.

Sherbet Seis. Edholm, jeweler.

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BLACKBURN CAUSES REVOLT

Alienates Faction of Fontanelles by Constant Use of His Big Stick.

SOME MEMBERS PROMISE TO SHOW HIM

Hot Time for Dark Lantern Brigade When It Comes to Endorsing Candidate for Mayor.

"There is blood on the moon." A great black cloud has arisen over the horizon of the Fontanelle club personified by Thomas W. Blackburn, which will culminate in a storm on the second Saturday in January, when the club meets to endorse a candidate for mayor.

At the meeting held Saturday night Charlie Leslie and John McDonald were elected members of the executive committee and at that meeting it cropped out that Blackburn had created considerable dissension in the ranks by trying to use the club to further his own personal and political affairs, especially in his efforts to get the candidate to look with favor upon his telephone proposition and in his suit to restrain the mayor and council from going on with the gas contract.

Tumors to the effect that the club was tired of the bullying methods used by Blackburn in trying to get the club to stand for his personal acts have been current for some time, but it remained for a member of the club Monday morning to express himself and stamp the truth upon the rumors.

Hot Time in Old Club.

"Something will be done when the executive committee meets January 16 to endorse a candidate for mayor, and it is Tom Blackburn and his friends who have caused the dissensions," said this man, who is a city official. "A great many things have been left for Blackburn to do because no one else had the time to attend to them and wouldn't attend to them, but now there is going to be a change. Mr. Blackburn is to be sat down upon. He is looking out for No. 1 and there are some members of the club who are tired of it. He has used the club on all occasions as his sponsor for things he is doing and has done and we can stand for it no longer. I, for one, am tired of being behind his movements."

"We have a number of candidates for mayor, among them being Broatch, Bingham, Benson and Saunders, and I expect a red-hot time when the day comes for making the endorsement. As Saunders and Broatch are both candidates, and both are members of the executive committee, they will have to resign from the latter place, as no candidates for office can be on the executive committee. It will make another red-hot time selecting their successors."

"But the main thing I intend to do is to get after Tom Blackburn and his losses and followers. He cannot use the club to further his own interests, political and business, and that is what he has been doing all along."

STURGESS TO SUCCEED GOSS

Omaha Methodist Social Union Elects New President at Its Meeting.

The board of managers of the Omaha Methodist Episcopal Social union met last night at the Hamilton Park hotel. President H. O. Chapman filled the chair, owing to the absence of President Charles A. Goss, who sent in his resignation, which was accepted. Thomas F. Sturges was elected president to succeed Mr. Goss. The bylaws were amended so as to provide for a banquet to be held annually in May. Some financial matters were attended to. The union is an organization that embraces all of the Methodist churches in Omaha.

Diamonds—Frenzy, 15th and Dodge.

Thornton Rifles Celebrate.
Last evening the Thornton Rifles, Company 1, First regiment, Nebraska National Guard, celebrated the twelfth anniversary of the muster of the company into the guard. The armory, Eagles hall on Fourteenth street, was made the scene of a merry reunion in which all the present members of the company, all who were mustered in twelve years ago, and nearly all who have been connected with the company during the interim, were present. Stories, songs, reminiscences and short talks filled out the evening.

...WE OFFER FOR... XMAS

An exquisite lot of Violets, Lilies of the Valley, Hyacinths, Narcissus, Stervias, Roses, Carnations, Poinsettias, Holly, Holly Wreaths our own make.

Potted plants in bloom—Azaleas, Poinsettias, Cyclamen, Begonias, Cinerarias, Oranges, Jerusalem Jerries. Our Palms, Ferns and other oddities are excellent. Japanese Vases, Wall Pockets and Fancy Baskets, make a fine Xmas present.

Hess & Swoboda
1515 Farnam
Paxton Hotel

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