

CURRENT COUNCIL BLUFFS POLITICS AMONG TEACHERS

BASIS OF BLACKMAIL CASE

Farmer Johnson Tells of Disappearance of Man and His Son Years Ago.

BOTH HAD BEEN EMPLOYED ON HIS FARM

Angered Because Guests at House Kept Them from Retiring and Simply Picked Up and Left—No Hint of Murder.

F. T. C. Johnson, for trying to blackmail whom J. B. Richards and Joseph Westrip, the two farmer boys from Underwood are now in jail here, called on Chief of Police Richmond yesterday afternoon, to whom he related the story of the disappearance of the man and boy referred to in the blackmailing letter sent Johnson by the two young men.

Mr. Johnson formerly lived in Council Bluffs and was a member of the contracting firm of Harmer & Johnson, which built the first courthouse in this city. In the early '70s he moved onto the farm where he now lives near Bentley. He became a member of the Board of Township Trustees, the members of which were in the habit of meeting when they had official business to transact at one another's homes.

In 1874 a man named John Penny, who came from Missouri, was working for Mr. Johnson husking corn. In the fall of that year, after the husking was finished, Penny returned to Missouri, but in the following spring came back to Mr. Johnson, accompanied by his son, and they both went to work on the farm.

One night a meeting of the township trustees was held at Mr. Johnson's house, which in those days was not as commodious as his present residence.

The trustees were accompanied by their wives and other members of their families, and after the business had transacted Mr. and Mrs. Johnson served supper, and the entertainment continued until late in the night. Penny wanted to go to bed, but could not until the company dispersed, and he became somewhat grouchy, finally saying, "I guess I and the boy will go over to Dewey's to sleep," and left the house with his son. Dewey was a neighboring farmer and a friend of the Johnsons.

That was the last Mr. Johnson saw or heard of Penny and his son. They never went to the Dewey house and it was supposed they returned to Missouri. The two satelings containing the few effects of Penny and his son are still at the Johnson house, where they have been for the last thirty-one years.

The disappearance of Penny and his son, Mr. Johnson told Major Richmond, did not cause any particular sensation at the time and the blackmailing letter sent him by Richards and Westrip was the first intimation that he had ever been accused of doing away with them. Mr. Johnson, who has lived in the same community for about thirty-five years, said that there had never been a breath of suspicion against him in connection with the disappearance of Penny and his son. He told Major Richmond that he intended to prosecute the young men to the full extent of the law. They will, it is expected, be given a preliminary hearing this morning.

N. Y. Plumbing Co. Tel. 250. Night, L600.

Mrs. Mary E. West Dead.

Mrs. Mary E. West, widow of Francis M. West, died yesterday at her residence, 2502 West C. from heart disease, aged 65 years. She had been a resident of Council Bluffs since 1881. Three daughters, Mrs. Will Bluffe, Mrs. A. L. Riche and Mrs. Harry Davis, and one son, William West, all of this city, survive her. The funeral will be held Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the residence, and interment will be in the cemetery.

MINOR MENTION.

Dance every Thursday evening. Only 25 cents. Buy Dances at New Army.

Get your upholstery, feathers, mattresses and repairing done at Morgan & Klime's, 18 South Main street.

The docket for the January term, which opens Tuesday, January 2, contains 316 cases, including 212 civil, 104 criminal and 82 equity cases.

At the regular meeting of Ivanhoe Community, Monday evening, December 19, the newly elected officers will be installed at the close of the business session.

At the First Congregational church last evening the choir and Sunday school gave a Christmas program of anthems, songs and recitations under the direction of Mrs. W. P. Kimball.

D. M. Stacey of Laramie, Wyo., was the guest over Sunday of C. W. McDonald and family, on their home from Chicago, who are attending the stock show and incidentally captured several awards.

William Peasey was sentenced in the county jail for disturbing the services at the Pentecostal mission was suspended during good behavior, will eat Christmas dinner at the city jail. He was arrested Saturday for being drunk.

Tracy Rodwell and Roy Hardesty, deputies in the office of the clerk of the district court, are spending the Christmas holidays with relatives, the former at Oakland and the latter at Walnut. They are accompanied by their wives.

Mrs. Louisa Reed, in her suit for \$15,000 damages for injuries received in an elevator accident in the Sapp building, has been dismissed as to the Traversers insurance leaving the owners, A. A. Gaines and E. E. Hart and John Barand, the janitor and elevator conductor, defendants.

Following the retirement of W. G. Woodbury from the management of the Woodbury company, announcement is made that the company will reorganize and the name of the firm be changed to that of the E. Hunter Co. A. E. Hunter of Superior, Neb., will become interested in the firm and assume the management.

At the regular meeting of Harmony chapter, No. 26, Order of Eastern Star, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year and will be installed Monday evening, January 1: Worthington, Mrs. Charles E. Walters; worthy patron, W. H. Kullback; assistant patron, Mrs. A. B. Bennett; secretary, Mrs. Bennett; conductor, Miss Crystal Diggins; assistant conductor, Miss Jennie Diggins.

DIAMONDS, Frenner, 15th and Dodge.

Mr. Sargent, the Shoe Man.

Has a phrase in his advertising which we admire and we claim the same thing for all THREE OF OUR STORES.

He says his store is a place "WHERE A CHILD CAN BUY AS CHEAP AS A MAN." Do you know SOME MORE "CHANTS" to take advantage of a child and sell them inferior goods?

No one need hesitate sending their child to our stores with prescriptions or for anything else we sell, "because if there is any DIFFERENCE in our DEFERENCE to customers, it is in favor of the customer WHO IS NOT AS CAPABLE AS WE AS TO WHAT THEY WANT."

We have a nice line of CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

WE DELIVER FREE. DRUG CUT PRICE. SCHAEFER'S STORES.

E. T. YATES, Proprietor.

Cor. Fifth and Main, Council Bluffs, Ia. Phone 32. Cor. Sixteenth and Chicago Streets, Omaha, twenty-fourth and N streets, South Omaha.

SCAVENGER WORK.

I had dead animals, \$1.00 per head. Garbage, ashes, manure and all rubbish; clean vaults and cesspools. All work done is guaranteed.

Call promptly attended to. Phone, Ash-1022.

J. H. SHERLOCK.

LEWIS CUTLER MORTICIAN

28 Pearl St. Phones, Res. 63, Office 97

Sty. Attendant if Desired.

DIAMONDS, Frenner, 15th and Dodge.

Scramble for Position of President of the State Association.

RETAILERS OPPOSE PURE FOOD BILL

Insist Such a Measure Will Be of Benefit to the Mail Order House of Which Are Not Subject to Its Provisions.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

DES MOINES, Dec. 24.—(Special.)—At the convention of the Iowa State Teachers' association next week considerable interest will center in the contest for the position of president. There are four candidates in the race, and while the association professes each year to rule out politics there is always a big scramble under the surface for the position of president, which is an office with much honor and with little real power.

Grinnell college seems by force of circumstances to be in the lead for the position, but is far from having the position secured. According to custom, which rotates the office between the college men, city superintendents, county superintendents and secondary school men, the election this year goes to a college man. Dean Stanton of Ames is the leading candidate, and R. C. Barrett, also of the State Agricultural college, is president of the college conference, and the other colleges object to two such offices going to the same institution. Prof. F. E. Bolton of the State university is talked of as a candidate, but a year from now will be the ranking member on the executive committee, which has the real power of the association, and will then be made chairman. W. H. Betz of Cornell is a candidate, but four years ago when the college men had the office a Methodist minister was elected to the position, and the denominational schools object to its going to a Methodist again. This leaves Main of Grinnell with no serious objection made against him.

Boost to Pure Food.

The objections of the retail grocers to the pure food bill are grounded in the fact that it would assist the mail order houses to do a bigger business because by doing interstate business they could not be reached by the state law being turned to account by the friends of the pure food measure.

The wholesale grocery firms will be reached by having the retailers who then refuse further to do business with the wholesaler unless the firm pays the fine. The friends of the bill have made an investigation and discovered by watching the freight depots in smaller towns and by inquiries of the agents that in any number of instances the mail order houses consumer amounts to 100 per cent of the total received at the town. It has also been ascertained, according to the same people, that half of the mail that goes from Iowa to Chicago goes to mail order houses. With these facts to show the importance of the matter, it is proposed to require the state food commissioner to secure samples of all foods coming into the state, have the same examined by the state chemist and publish at intervals bulletins showing the results. It is claimed that the mail order houses will then be unable to compete with the provisions of the law the same as all others.

Membership Clause Questioned.

At the convention of the Iowa State Traveling Men's association, to be held next month, there will be a lively discussion of the membership clause of the constitution. The membership clause admits traveling salesmen to the association who have been so engaged in the business of traveling by public or private conveyance as a buyer, collector or solicitor for himself or any other. Under the interpretation that they are solicitors and collectors of information, state officials and employees have been admitted to membership, including Auditor of State B. F. Carroll, State Dairy Commissioner H. R. Wright and others. Including state officials, it is claimed that about 3,000 of the membership of 25,000 have been questionably admitted. If not legally admitted they are not entitled to the benefits of the society, and if not entitled to the benefits they are entitled to the return of their money, which has been \$5 a year. This would bankrupt the order and hence there is a grave question as to the outcome.

Teachout for Chairman.

H. E. Teachout of Des Moines, from Polk county, is slated for chairman of the committee on municipal corporations of the house, one of the important committees, to succeed the late Representative Buchanan. Mr. Teachout is the ranking member of the committee.

Bill Abolishes Delegates.

According to Representative Henry English of Mason City, who was the author of the present primary election law, says the state wide bill which will be introduced at this session of the legislature will abolish the delegate system. The count of the votes at the primary will determine the selection of a candidate and delegates to the state convention will be provided if at all only for the purpose of drafting the party platform.

Governor Urges Pure Food Law.

Governor Cummins' message to the state legislature will recommend the enactment of a pure food law. The governor has lately inquired into the matter with considerable care, and it is ascertained from those who have conversed with him on the subject that he is strongly in favor of such a law.

Many Return in Iowa.

The agricultural statistics published in the census volume soon to be ready for distribution shows that there are 138,224 farms in the state occupied by the owners and 70,939 occupied by renters. There are 13,862,464 acres, valued at \$16,204,236, occupied by the owners and 11,271,448 acres, valued at \$10,962,214, occupied by renters. The total value of farm lands, buildings and implements is \$1,529,088,732. The number of head of cattle of all ages is 4,766,222, and the value \$30,907,824. As regards nativity the native born white farmers are shown to own \$1,633,448, and the foreign born white farmers own 49,007 farms.

Was Hearst's Manager.

A. W. Maxwell, who has been appointed by President Roosevelt receiver of the public moneys at Lawton, Okla., was the chairman of the state central committee of the democratic party of Iowa during the last presidential campaign, and favored Hearst. On the nomination of Parker he left the democratic party and supported Roosevelt. He resided at Seymour before leaving for Oklahoma.

Asks for Rehearing.

Jennie M. Tuttle has petitioned the supreme court for a rehearing in the suit brought by her against the Iowa State Traveling Men's association. The suit involved difficult legal questions and has attracted considerable interest.

Farmer Frozen to Death.

WEBSTER CITY, Ia., Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram.)—The body of Asa Jones, a prominent farmer residing north of this city, was found this afternoon near the roadside, four miles from home, frozen. Jones had been to Duncombe, drinking, and on the way home he had fallen from the buggy and died. It is likely that a legal action will follow.

Hearing on Ditch Project.

ONAWA, Dec. 24.—(Special.)—The joint board of Supervisors of Monona and Harrison counties will meet at Onawa December 28 to hear complaints of the assessments of the big Monona-Harrison ditch and to act in relation to other matters thereon. About twenty objections to date have been filed with the county auditor. Objections may be filed up to Tuesday noon, December 28.

The total amount of the assessment on the lands in the drainage district is \$164.65. The lowest assessment per acre is 10 cents and the highest per acre \$9.52.

Boy Stabbed to Death.

BURLINGTON, Ia., Dec. 24.—Polly Freitag, 15 years old, was stabbed to death today by Otto Shumbers, 20 years old. The boy was cutting a butcher shop, when Shumbers seized a big meat knife and plunged it into Freitag's heart. Shumbers was arrested.

Lid is on at Burlington.

BURLINGTON, Ia., Dec. 24.—The "lid" was on tight in Burlington today. The town was dry for the first time in its history, and not an intoxicated person was arrested.

JAP DIPLOMATS START HOME

Ceremonial Concludes Negotiations for a New Treaty with China.

PEKING, Dec. 24.—The Japanese commission, headed by Baron Komura, which negotiated the Chinese-Japanese treaty, left today on a special train for Tien Tsin on its way to Japan. At Tien Tsin the commission will be entertained with great ceremony by the viceroy, Yuan Shi Kai.

The farewell at the station was a picturesque one. Many mandarins, dressed in their ceremonial robes of sables and wearing the traditional hats of a high rank, and a detachment of Yuan Shi Kai's crack troops acted as a guard of honor.

The negotiations of the Chinese-Japanese treaty makes it clear that Yuan Shi Kai has inherited Li Hung Chang's place as the master of the situation in China. All the meetings of the commission attended in all the discussions, notwithstanding the fact that the Foreign office nominally conducted them.

The ceremonial observed by Baron Komura and his retinue while in Peking greatly impressed the Chinese. Baron Komura was accompanied by General Fukushima and H. W. Denison, and the negotiators never moved without a large and imposing escort.

Opening of sixteen Manchurian towns to foreign trade on the terms of the Chinese-Japanese treaty will take place at the end of the eighteen months allowed by Japan for Russia to evacuate that territory.

Turbine Has Good Trip.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 24.—The new Cunard line turbine steamer Carmania arrived in the Mersey from New York at this morning, after a most successful voyage. Notwithstanding the fact that heavy weather had impeded the passage, the vessel was steady and comfortable throughout the trip. The salon passengers left Liverpool at 3 o'clock this afternoon by special train.

Child's Life Saved by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

Mrs. John Engelhardt of Gera, Mich., tells of the anxious moments spent over her little 2-year-old daughter, who had taken a hard cold, resulting in croup. She says: "I had tried everything, but Chamberlain's Cough Remedy she would have choked to death. I gave this medicine every ten minutes and she soon began to throw up the phlegm. I can recommend it in the highest terms, as I have another child that was cured in the same way."

WATCHER, Frenner, 15th and Dodge.

FORECAST OF THE WEATHER

Fair Monday and Tuesday is the prospect for Western Section.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Forecast for Monday and Tuesday:

For Nebraska, South Dakota and Kansas—Fair Monday and Tuesday.

For Indiana and Illinois—Fair and warmer Monday; Tuesday, fair, fresh southwest winds.

For Missouri—Fair Monday and Tuesday, but for Iowa—Fair Monday and Tuesday, but for Wyoming—Fair Monday and Tuesday, except snow in extreme northwest portion.

Missouri—Fair Monday and Tuesday.

For Iowa—Fair Monday and warmer in north and east portions; Tuesday, fair.

Local Record.

OFFICE OF THE WEATHER BUREAU, OMAHA, Dec. 24.—Official record of temperature and precipitation, compared with corresponding days for the three years: 1895, 1904, 1903, 1902.

Maximum temperature... 45 27 44 35

Minimum temperature... 22 22 22 20

Mean temperature... 32 28 32 28

Precipitation... 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00

Temperature by the station department from the normal at Omaha since March 1:

Normal temperature for the last two years: 32

Excess for the day... 0.00

Normal precipitation... 0.00

Deficiency for the day... 0.00

Normal precipitation since March 1... 2.81 inches

Deficiency since March 1... 2.81 inches

Excess since March 1... 0.00 inches

Normal precipitation... 2.81 inches

Deficiency since March 1... 2.81 inches

Excess since March 1... 0.00 inches

T indicates trace of precipitation.

Indicates below zero.

L. A. WELSH, Local Forecaster.

Dizzy Spells

That dizzy spell is an important message from the heart—a plea for help. If this message receives no attention others come. Shortness of breath, palpitation, weak or fainting spells, smothering chest, or aching pains around the heart, in the side or shoulder, and a feeling that it receives the necessary help, or is completely satisfied.

You may furnish this aid with

Dr. Miles' Heart Cure

which cures heart disease in every stage. Every day we read of sudden deaths from heart disease, yet it is a fact that the heart had been pleading for help, and gave up the struggle only when it had exhausted the last spark of vitality—and they call it sudden.

For more than six years I was troubled with my heart. I would have dizzy spells, then difficulty in breathing, choking sensations, my heart would flutter, become painful. I could not breathe lying down. I was in a few weeks I was entirely cured.

MINNIE E. JOHNSON, Omaha, Minn.

Druggist will return your money, if not, the

SUPREME COURT SYLLABI

In the supreme court of the state of Nebraska the following opinions were filed December 24, 1905:

1290. State against Paxton. Error. Douglas. Affirmed. Duffie, C. Division No. 2. Holcomb, J., not sitting.

1291. State against Paxton. Error. Douglas. Affirmed. Duffie, C. Division No. 2. Holcomb, J., not sitting.

1292. State against Paxton. Error. Douglas. Affirmed. Duffie, C. Division No. 2. Holcomb, J., not sitting.

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1300. State against Paxton. Error. Douglas. Affirmed. Duffie, C. Division No. 2. Holcomb, J., not sitting.

1301. State against Paxton. Error. Douglas. Affirmed. Duffie, C. Division No. 2. Holcomb, J., not sitting.

1302. State against Paxton. Error. Douglas. Affirmed. Duffie, C. Division No. 2. Holcomb, J., not sitting.

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