

# THE OMAHA DAILY NEWS

VOL. XXXVI—NO. 206

OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 13, 1907—TEN PAGES.

SINGLE COPY THREE CENTS.

## THE LATEST NEWS

### ABOUT ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DEAD

### NEARLY ALL VICTIMS FROZEN TO DEATH

### Passengers With Little Clothing Exposed to Gale for Several Hours.

### Forty-eight Bodies Have Been Found

### Steamer Sinks in Ten Min. Life Boats Are Launched Pro.

### Each Crew Places Blame on

### Accident Happens About 11 P. Monday and Vessels Had Been in Sight of Each Other for Some Time.

### Block Island, R. I., Feb. 12.—About 150 persons went to their death in Block Island sound last night as a result of a collision between the three-masted schooner Harry Knowlton and the Joy Line steamer Larchmont, bound from Providence to New York. It is estimated that including the crew there were nearly 300 persons on board the steamer when she sailed from Providence. Of these only nineteen appear to have survived the disaster. Ten members of the crew and nine passengers were awakened from their slumbers in their state rooms, the unfortunate passengers were at the mercy of the waves. Many, it is believed, went down with the ship. Others, temporarily thankful that they had escaped drowning, prayed that they might be relieved of the terrible pain caused by their frozen bodies, and one identified passenger plunged a knife into his throat and ended his sufferings.

### Six Bodies Identified.

### The few who survived were in a pitiful condition when they were rescued. Their arms and legs hung helplessly as they were lifted out of the boats in which they reached shore. During the day forty-eight bodies came ashore, either in boats or thrown up by the sea. Only six of the forty-eight bodies were identified.

### The bodies identified were those of James B. Harrison, steward, Brooklyn; Jasper Hest, first assistant engineer, Albany; Jacob Zandrus, nest watchman, Waterson; George Smith, waiter, Providence; Harry Eckles, Block Island.

### An investigation will be made by the United States steamboat inspectors of the disaster.

### Owing to the condition of the survivors it was impossible to get from them an estimate of the loss of life. From seventy-five to 150 persons went to their death, and at a late hour tonight it was believed that the latter figure is nearer correct.

### Captains Blame Each Other.

### The cause of the accident has not been satisfactorily explained. It occurred just off Watch hill, about 11 miles west of Watch hill, when the three-masted schooner Harry Knowlton, bound from South Amboy to Boston with a cargo of coal, crashed into the steamer's port side amidships. Captain George McVey of the Larchmont declares that the Knowlton suddenly swerved from its course about half an hour before it crashed into his vessel. Captain Haley of the Knowlton asserts that the steamer did not give his vessel sufficient sea room.

### The steamer, with a huge hole torn in its side, was so seriously damaged that no attempt was made to run for shore, and it sank about 11 miles west of Watch hill. The Knowlton after it had backed away from the wreck began to list rapidly, but the crew manned the pumps and kept it afloat until it reached a point off Quonochontaug, where they put out in the lifeboat and rowed ashore. There were no fatalities on the schooner.

### Sailing Vessel Change Course.

### The Larchmont left its dock in Providence last night with a heavy cargo of freight and a passenger list estimated at from 150 to 200. A strong northwest wind was blowing as the steamer plowed its way down through the eastern passage of Narragansett bay, but the full effect of the gale which was blowing out in the sound was not felt until the Larchmont rounded Point Judith. Captain George McVey was preparing to retire after a turn around his ship when he was started by several blasts of the schooner's whistle. He rushed into the pilot house, where the pilot and quartermaster pointed out a three-masted schooner sailing eastward before a strong wind.

### The schooner, which proved to be the Harry Knowlton, coal laden from South Amboy for Boston, has been bowling along on her course almost steadily from the time she was launched until she struck the Larchmont and the impact of the big vessel was so terrific that the big clumsy bow of the sailing craft forced its way more than half through the breadth of the Larchmont. When the force of the impact had been spent the schooner temporarily remained fast in the steamer's side, holding in check for a moment the rushing water. The pounding seas soon separated the vessels, and the water rushed into the hole in the steamer with tremendous force. As the water struck the boiler room, great clouds of steam were seen and the passengers were first under the impression that a fire had broken out on board. Captain McVey could not communicate with his subordinate officers below deck, the signal apparatus being wrecked.

### The passengers, meanwhile rushed to the deck. Few of them had wanted to clothe themselves. The intense cold made them want to obtain their clothing, but they found it impossible to return below and do so. Their rooms were flooded soon after they had been deserted and the steamer, foundering around in the high seas that

(Continued on Second Page.)

## SUMMARY OF THE BEE

Wednesday, February 13, 1907.

1907 FEBRUARY 1907	
SUN	MON
3	4
10	11
17	18
24	25

### THE WEATHER.

FORECAST FOR NEBRASKA AND IOWA—Fair Wednesday and Thursday.

Hour	Temp.	Wind	Clouds
5 a. m.	21	1 p. m.	20
8 a. m.	22	3 p. m.	23
11 a. m.	23	6 p. m.	24
2 p. m.	24	9 p. m.	25
5 p. m.	25	12 p. m.	26
8 p. m.	26	3 p. m.	27
11 p. m.	27	6 p. m.	28

### LEGISLATIVE.

The subcommittee of the Nebraska legislature which was to draft a state-wide primary law, has blocked out the main provisions of the bill and will soon have it ready to report.

### Some of the senators who voted against the county option bill at Lincoln last week profess to be ready to vote for it if it is amended.

### For Greater Omaha are reported to the senate without recommendation for passage.

### Nebraska house makes the anti-passenger fare bills a special order for Thursday.

### Nebraska senate puts in most of day on special Lincoln day exercises.

### Campaign contributors and reciprocal demurrage bills, South Dakota administration measures, go to the governor. The house also passes several important senate bills.

### Lower house of the Iowa legislature passes bill fixing passenger fares without a dissenting vote. Under the terms of the bill roads roads are divided into three classes and the fares are 2 cents, 2 1/2 cents and 3 cents, respectively.

### Representatives of Nebraska railroads appear before legislative committee and argue that the proposed 2-cent fare would not be a compensatory rate.

### NEBRASKA.

Railroad agents work up sentiment against 2-cent fare law by argument that it will end all low fares.

### Wife of human hair taken from the body. Theory is held Mrs. Emily Greenleaf, who disappeared, may have drowned herself.

### Sensations are promised in the suit of Etten Hart at Fremont against Mac Cabeen for insurance on life of her father, who was killed in Wyoming.

### Young Men's Republican club of Lincoln holds its annual banquet, which is attended by the governor, Senator-elect Brown, most of members of legislature and a large delegation from Omaha.

### Four people drowned at Columbia while attempting to escape from flood of Loup river, which had surrounded their home. Much damage at other places.

### Captain Mapsa, formerly in charge of a company of the Twenty-first Infantry, Kingstons, has been ordered to return from the Philippines and rejoin that regiment at once.

### FOREIGN.

King Edward opens British Parliament and takes occasion to thank United States for prompt and kindly response to Kingstons. Hint is dropped that something may be done to curb the power of the House of Lords.

### An infernal machine was found in a stove in the residence of Count Witte, which for some reason failed to explode. It was charged with nitro-glycerine.

### WASHINGTON.

Congressman Kinkaid defines his position on court bill. Never opposed holding term at North Platte, but simply demanded an additional place in the Sixth district.

### Congressman Kennedy writes Mr. Kinkaid, defining his position on ship subsidy and pointing out possibly legislators may not understand the situation.

### The senate committee on agriculture has decided to let the Burkett amendment regarding grazing lands remain in committee.

### DOMESTIC.

Hundred and fifty persons drowned or frozen to death as result of sinking of steamer Tachmont by schooner Harry Knowlton, near Block Island.

### District Attorney Jerome accuses Thaw for insurance on life of deceiving the jury and sensational scene ensues. Court allows remarks to stand and Mr. Delmas notes an exception. Another expert says prisoner was insane.

### Former Governor Frank W. Higgins is dead at his home at Olean, N. Y.

### LOCAL.

Milage books for 2,000 miles will be sold in Nebraska at 2 cents a mile hereafter.

### Young Women's Christian association serves notice on tenants that it must have possession of ground at Seventeenth and St. Mary's avenues.

### John D. Creighton said to have been selected to optimistic benefactions of Count John A. Craighead.

### Dr. F. J. Sweboda accuses insanity board of acting so slowly that insane ward at county hospital is filled. Dr. Tilden says the board does all it can.

### Omaha retail grocers threaten to establish co-operative wholesale house if jobbers do not refuse to sell to consumers, including their employees.

### SPORTS.

Wasson, though smaller, the lighter man, spent the afternoon and secured two out of three falls from Stimmer, the Iowa giant.

### COUNCIL SLEEPS AND IOWA.

Jeremiah Eckley, a pioneer and prominent resident of Sioux City, dies in carriage as result of heart disease, induced by excitement of nephew's wedding.

### FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

Omaha live stock market.

### FRANK W. WIGGINS IS DEAD

Former Governor of New York Expires After an Illness of Several Days.

### OLEAN, N. Y., Feb. 12.—Former Governor Frank W. Higgins died at 8:40 p. m. He remained unconscious to the last, death coming in his most peaceful form and free from pain.

## JEROME AND DELMAS CLASH

### Thaw's Counsel is Accused of Trying to Deceive the Jury.

### CHARGE RESENTED AND EXCEPTION NOTED

### Incident Reveals Fact That State Has Statement from Mrs. Holman—Expert Says the Prisoner Was Insane.

### NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—District Attorney Jerome and Delphin M. Delmas came together late today in the Turbett amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill providing for the leasing of public lands for grazing the senate committee today agreed to adopt the amendment. Several amendments to the Burkett proposition were adopted, however, designed to protect the interests of the homesteaders. The policy outlined, which is favored by the president, was agreed upon by a bare majority of the committee. It is not unlikely that a point of order may be made against it in the senate and it is conceded to be general legislation.

### The amendment provides that the secretary of agriculture, who is to have control of and manage lands, shall organize grazing districts. The Department of Agriculture is to organize control of and fix the fees to be charged for grazing.

### Following is the text of the grazing amendment accepted by the committee: Hereafter, for the purpose of restoring, protecting and increasing the grazing value of the public domain and promoting the interests of agriculture, who is to have control of and manage lands, shall organize grazing districts. The Department of Agriculture is to organize control of and fix the fees to be charged for grazing.

### Mr. Jerome hotly accused Mr. Delmas of trying to instill into the minds of the jury the implied suggestion that the operation performed on Evelyn Nesbit in 1903 before Thaw took her to Europe was of a criminal nature, when "as a matter of fact," he said, "it was for appendicitis."

### Mr. Delmas called the attention of Justice Fitzgerald to this, saying that the district attorney was stating facts not in evidence and that a very serious exception must be taken to his remarks.

### "Send the jury out of the room if you want to," exclaimed Mr. Jerome, "but I am not going to get this thing straight. I am not going to have these false impressions fostered before the jury."

### Cause of the Row.

Dr. Britton D. Evans, superintendent of the state hospital for the insane at Morris Plains, N. J., was testifying at the time of the disagreement. He had declared he was of the opinion that Harry Thaw was sane at the time of the tragedy.

### He had been called upon to answer a long hypothetical question in which reference had been made to a "serious if not capital offense" on Miss Nesbit when the storm broke.

### Mr. Jerome seemed thoroughly wrought up. Mr. Delmas did not for an instant lose his calm demeanor, but he gave emphasis and force to his words, new to his hearers.

### Mr. Jerome said he would withdraw objection to the term "capital operation" if Mr. Delmas would give him the word of counsel that they did not know the nature of the operation. Mr. Delmas gave his word that he did not know of its nature. "But you may consult with counsel," suggested Mr. Jerome.

### "I do not care to do that," replied Mr. Delmas. "It is not essential."

### "Ah!" cried the district attorney at a loud voice, "then you do not make this insinuation?"

### "The district attorney strangely forgets his character and position when he charges me with an attempt to deceive," retorted Mr. Delmas with more feeling in his voice than at any time during the trial. "He must, upon deliberation, see the injustice of his implied insinuation."

### "I see injustice plainly," retorted Mr. Jerome. "But not in my remarks."

### Justice Fitzgerald did not rule out any of the district attorney's remarks before the jury, and Mr. Delmas took care to have every exception he made "seriously noted."

### Mr. Jerome won his point, and the words, "I do not care to do that," were deleted from the transcript.

### operation, were withdrawn by Mr. Delmas.

### During the trial Mr. Delmas asked the district attorney how he learned of the character of the operation on Miss Nesbit without a violation of confidence. Mr. Delmas said he had been told by Miss Nesbit's mother, Mrs. Holman, of Pittsburg. It thus became known for the first time that the district attorney is in possession of a long statement by Mrs. Holman.

### Says Prisoner Was Insane.

Dr. Evans was on the stand nearly all day, occupying the course of the afternoon session perusing the letters written by Harry Thaw.

### Dr. Evans was by far the most satisfactory expert witness to the defense so far produced. He detailed to the jury the observations and symptoms of Thaw's insanity during eight visits to the prisoner in the Tombs and he declared it to be his opinion that Thaw was "suffering from a brain storm, or explosive or fulminating condition of mental unbalance" at the time he shot and killed Stanford.

### Dr. Evans gave many and elaborate reasons for his opinion, and during his examination Mr. Delmas deftly brought out the fact whereas Thaw was suffering from "storm and stress" when the alienist first visited him in August last his condition was steady and gradual improvement was shown. He had no delusions, no ruder. Ordeals of stress had added their work to the psychopathic taint which came from heredity.

### Mental Condition Improves.

Dr. Evans said that after his first three visits to Thaw following the tragedy he was convinced that the patient had improved. As the result of his last visits he found that while still suffering from a somewhat exaggerated opinion of self-importance, he was much improved. The improvement was progressive. This testimony was brought out in line with the contention of the defense that while Thaw was insane just prior to and at the time and immediately subsequent to the homicide, he has improved to a sound condition of mentality on the removal of the cause of stress. Dr. Evans may be cross-examined tomorrow, although District Attorney Jerome had not indicated his course.

### It may be that Mr. Delmas and his counsel Mrs. Thaw. The defense has other allies, however, who may be called to testify.

### MAYOR AND CHIEF ARRESTED

Rumpus in Council Chamber is Followed by Charge of Assault.

### PIERRE, S. D., Feb. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—The council row in this city resulted today in the arrest of Mayor Albert and Chief of Police Oldfield on a charge of assault, sworn out by Alderman Billingshurst, over a rumpus in the council room last night.

### Low Fares for Missouri.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Feb. 12.—The senate today unanimously passed a bill approving the 2-cent rate bill. The bill is identical with one passed by the house.

## BURKETT AMENDMENT STANDS

### Without Completing Hearing, Suggestion of Nebraska Senator is Accepted by Committee.

### WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Without continuing its hearing on the Burkett amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill providing for the leasing of public lands for grazing the senate committee today agreed to adopt the amendment. Several amendments to the Burkett proposition were adopted, however, designed to protect the interests of the homesteaders. The policy outlined, which is favored by the president, was agreed upon by a bare majority of the committee. It is not unlikely that a point of order may be made against it in the senate and it is conceded to be general legislation.

### The amendment provides that the secretary of agriculture, who is to have control of and manage lands, shall organize grazing districts. The Department of Agriculture is to organize control of and fix the fees to be charged for grazing.

### Following is the text of the grazing amendment accepted by the committee: Hereafter, for the purpose of restoring, protecting and increasing the grazing value of the public domain and promoting the interests of agriculture, who is to have control of and manage lands, shall organize grazing districts. The Department of Agriculture is to organize control of and fix the fees to be charged for grazing.

### Mr. Kinkaid, admitting the fairness with which the Bee has presented his side of the story, has, however, prepared the following statement regarding the whole judicial matter:

### At a meeting held by the Nebraska delegation preparatory to drafting a bill to be introduced in the house in lieu of the Burkett bill, I named as places for holding county offices, Lincoln, Hastings, Norfolk, Grand Island and McCook, making in all nine divisions.

### But is Changed.

Subsequently, on the suggestion of the subcommittee or some of its members, but without my knowledge, a new bill was introduced, which named the following places and the places named in the former bill O'Neill and Alliance, both in the Sixth district, were dropped, the other places named being left intact. At the hearing on the bill I maintained that one division was inadequate in the Sixth district, and that the places named in the former bill should be retained, pointing out that the people in Sheridan, Dawes and Kearney counties would be inconvenienced three times as far to reach North Platte and could go with less inconvenience to Omaha. The subcommittee stated that the places in the state were enough and that one was adequate for the Sixth district. I refused to yield North Platte to any other place for holding county offices, and I maintained that the inconvenience to the counties named on the Northwestern railroad and other members of the Nebraska delegation were agreeable to such solution. This privilege has been accorded me at all times by the subcommittee, and I have constantly refused to yield North Platte to any other place for holding county offices, and I maintained that the inconvenience to the counties named on the Northwestern railroad and other members of the Nebraska delegation were agreeable to such solution. This privilege has been accorded me at all times by the subcommittee, and I have constantly refused to yield North Platte to any other place for holding county offices, and I maintained that the inconvenience to the counties named on the Northwestern railroad and other members of the Nebraska delegation were agreeable to such solution. 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