

CURRENT NEWS OF OMAHA COUNCIL BLIFFS.

Office 15 Scott Street. Both Phones 43.

YOUNG MAN TAKES POISON

No One Found Who is Able to Tell Who the Victim Is.

CAUSE OF THE ACT ALSO MYSTERY

Registers at Kiel Hotel as Johnson and Indications Are He Came to Council Bluffs from Montana.

A young man, who gave his name as Willie Johnson but who failed to register where he was from, committed suicide at the Kiel hotel Saturday night by drinking carbolic acid. The boy had evidently been dead several hours when discovered about 8 o'clock yesterday morning.

The young man appeared at the hotel about 5:30 o'clock Saturday evening, and asked if he could get a room for the night. Having no baggage he paid for the room in advance and registered merely as "Willie Johnson."

At the boy's breakfast for breakfast, the porter was sent to his room at 8 o'clock. Failing to secure any response to his repeated knocks at the door, the porter opened it and found the young man partly undressed lying on the bed.

The label on the bottle showed that the carbolic acid had been secured at the drug store of Fred W. Wessner in the Merriam block but a short distance from the Kiel hotel.

He was neatly dressed in a blue coat and vest, brown trousers and a light gray overcoat and wore a round, soft, brown hat.

BOY INJURED IN INITIATION

Fatality May Attend Frank of High School Frat.

Tom Harvey, a student in the high school, was seriously injured late Saturday night while being initiated into membership in the Omega Ets Tau fraternity.

Young Harvey is a son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Harvey of 209 Park avenue, and a grandson of the late Thomas Tostevin of this city.

During Saturday afternoon young Harvey and a companion who was likewise being initiated into the fraternity, were compelled to parade the business streets of the city wearing long Indian shawls over their shoulders and pushing doll go-carts in front of them.

Young Harvey was injured while being "spanked" with a paddle to one side of which a blank cartridge had been attached. In the darkness the youth, while holding the paddle, by mistake struck Harvey with the side to which the cartridge was attached with the result that the exploding cartridge tore a deep and ragged hole in the young man's anatomy.

The boys who took part in the initiation are naturally greatly grieved over the accident.

Principal Thomas of the high school is not in the city, having gone to spend Christmas with relatives in Marshalltown, and from there was to go to Des Moines to attend the annual meeting of the State Teachers' association which opens there today.

Members of the Board of Education declined to discuss the matter yesterday, but it is understood that the question of stamping out the fraternities in the high school will be discussed at the next session of the board.

Seymour F. Henry died yesterday afternoon at his home, 308 South Eighth street, from Bright's disease, after a protracted illness, aged 72 years.

Mr. Henry was a well-known business man, being president of the Evans laundry. He was a native of North Bennington, Vt., and had been a resident of Council Bluffs since 1855.

Mr. Henry took more than ordinary interest in public affairs and served as a member of the Board of Education. He was a member of Fidelity council, Royal Arcanum, and of the First Congregational church.

Arrangements for the funeral have not been completed.

Maccabees Christmas Tree. Following its annual custom, Council Bluffs tent No. 22, Knights of the Maccabees, made the children of its members happy last evening by the distribution of presents from an immense Christmas tree.

Following the distribution of presents from the Christmas tree an enjoyable and highly meritorious program of vocal and instrumental selections and recitations was given.

Chester L. Sanville, Henry Thomas and A. J. Rupert comprised the committee in charge of the entertainment.

MINOR MENTION. Ed Rogers, Tony Faust beer.

SPEAKERSHIP FIGHT IN AIR

Standpatters of Iowa Will Scatter Support Among Progressives.

MATTER TO BE ENDED IN CAUCUS

Effort Being Made to Reduce Legislative Expenses by Reduction in Clerkships-Indeterminate Sentence Law Safe.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

DES MOINES, Dec. 28.—(Special.)—To some extent at least the air is being cleared in regard to the organization of the legislature within two weeks.

But interests that are especially desirous of a change in state affairs as soon as possible are at work and efforts are being made to fix it up so that there will be no serious contest in organization.

Then it seemed for a time almost certain that the matter of the organization of the house would be framed up along lines of old factionalism.

It was known, for instance, that Harding, who is being counted certainly on having a solid line-up of those who have been classified as standpatters, and around this nucleus it was believed he would gather the strength to land the speakership prize.

On the other hand, Hackler of Webster county broke into the game and took some of the strength to himself, and then it was found that the other candidates were also gaining some of the factional support.

Finally it has come about that there will be no factional lineup, but all will stand on merits. The so-called standpatters will scatter after the first heat and try to pick a winner from the large field of those who have been classed as progressives.

Among these latter there are five or six that will have strong following. They are White, Feeley, Lee, Darrah, Marston, Stillman and Sullivan.

It has been discovered that Feeley, for instance, has pledged from a number who might have been expected to support either Hackler or Harding, and his friends claim that he will easily lead at the start.

It is certain that White and Darrah both have a strong following in southern Iowa which it was expected would support the speaker.

It is now believed certain that a short contest in the caucus will settle the speakership, and organization can be effected very quickly.

To Reduce the Expenses.

The fight again to reduce the expenses of the legislative session will be reopened by members of the house. At the last session they made a good start in the matter of cutting off the clerkships and saved a few dollars for the treasury.

It is planned now to commence early and try to secure action in both houses looking to the cutting off of clerkships. Then will follow a determined effort to reduce the number of days the session holds by crowding the work forward.

There has been so much political capital made in recent years out of the alleged extravagance of the republican party in the handling of the affairs of the state that all the members want to take action reducing expenses.

Want Money for Dredging. Despite these efforts at economy a strong effort is being made to have the legislature appropriate money for dredging the Des Moines river to make it navigable.

This is the revival of an abandoned project of many years ago. Originally the United States government set out to make the Des Moines river navigable, but gave up in disgust.

Now there is desire that some money be spent, especially here at Des Moines, where engineers have been secured who declare that it is going to be possible to revive shipping on the Des Moines river.

Money is asked for to begin this work.

Complaint of Reformatory Law.

There is complaint made of the new Iowa law regarding use of the indeterminate sentence in connection with a modern scheme for reform of prisoners rather than making them confirmed criminals.

A great deal of sentiment has been stirred up in the state over the notion that the indeterminate sentence law is a device for emptying the prisons and showing favor to criminals.

It is known that some of the members will distinguish themselves by introduction of bills to amend the indeterminate sentence law.

Police officials in Iowa are keeping watch of what seems to be a disposition in at least one judicial district of the state to set aside the laws of the state. This is in northwest Iowa, where the judges refuse to obey the indeterminate sentence law and issue commitments contrary to the statute.

In the same district there is also a readiness to use the courts for protection of criminals not manifest elsewhere. Recently requisitions were issued on request of the governor of Nebraska for taking from Iowa three accused persons to stand trial in Nebraska for felonies.

In each case the courts in Sioux City promptly came to the rescue and issued habeas corpus papers by returning the men into Nebraska. The police officers here are wondering if the courts have established Sioux City as a "City of Refuge."

State Teachers' Association.

Already large numbers of the educators of the state are arriving in Des Moines for the annual state teachers' association. It will bring to the city for the week about 1,000 persons.

The program is an extensive one, and there are many interesting matters to come up. The state superintendent will deliver an address before the conclusion of the meeting, in which he will present his views as to the great changes planned for the state laws on school matters.

The report of the state educational commission will recommend a general revision of the school laws.

BUTLER MAY GO TO HARVARD

Rumor President of Columbia is to Succeed Dr. Charles W. Eliot.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A report was current among prominent Harvard alumni in this city today that James S. Storrow was to become the immediate successor to Dr. Charles W. Eliot as president of that university, to be succeeded himself within a few months by Nicholas Murray Butler, now president of Columbia. This report could not be confirmed tonight.

Mr. Storrow is a leading member of the Boston banking firm of Lee, Higginson & Co. If the report is correct, his expected disincantation to accept the Harvard presidency may have been overcome. It is said, by the plan of making his incumbency of the office temporary and having Dr. Butler succeed him within a year.

TROOPS TO LEAVE CUBA SOON

Movement to Be Started on First Day of the New Year.

LAST ARE TO BE GONE BY APRIL

Both Troops and Cubans Rejoice at the Move and Best of Feeling Prevails Between Soldiers and Population.

HAVANA, Dec. 28.—New Year's day will witness the beginning of the evacuation of Cuba by the army of pacification, which has been in possession of the island since the beginning of the provisional government in October, 1906.

The first provisions of the settlement of magpies, numbering about 600, which will be among the first troops to leave, is now concentrating from various posts at Camp Columbia.

About half this regiment will sail from Havana on January 1, on the cruiser Prairie, which arrived here Christmas eve, bound for Newport News. The Prairie will return about the middle of the month and embark the remainder.

Headquarters of Companies A, B, C and D, Twenty-eighth infantry, will embark on the transport Sumner at Matanzas on December 31. From there the transport will proceed to Havana and embark Companies F, G and H, stationed at Guanahay, and Company E, stationed at Guines.

The Sumner also will sail from Havana on January 1 for Newport News, the ultimate station of these companies being Fort Snelling.

From that time on the transport will proceed to Havana and embark Companies I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, and the Seventeenth infantry, now at Cardenas, Sagua and Calbarren, for Plattburg; the Eleventh infantry, now at Santiago and Holguin, for Columbia; the thirteenth, now at Sancti Spiritus, for Port Moresby; and the Fifteenth infantry, now at Camaguey, for Fort McPherson, will leave Havana about February 3 for Newport News.

This leaves only two companies of engineers and two battalions of the Seventeenth infantry, under Colonel Pichel, who will remain at Camp Columbia. The troops will not embark until April 1, which will complete the evacuation.

Purpose of Delay.

The embarkation will be effected with as little ceremony as possible and it is probable that their departure will be attended with as little form as marked in the past.

The purpose in deferring the departure of a portion of the Seventeenth infantry until April 1 has been the subject of considerable speculation, but it is believed this was agreed upon at a conference between Governor Magoun and President-elect Gomez.

It is not thought to be a measure of precaution, for which not the slightest necessity is apparent, but it probably is for the purpose of keeping the barracks and quarters in good order until it is possible to turn over to the Cuban authorities a model camp for occupation by the new permanent army under command of General Pino Guerra, the nucleus of which will be formed, it is intended, with the present corps of Cuban artillery and 1,000 members of the rural guard.

Cubans are greatly pleased at the departure of the American forces as marking the complete establishment of independence. All show the kindest feelings towards the troops.

An evidence of this was given on Christmas eve, when the mayor of Manzanillo, the city authorities and hundreds of citizens escorted a battalion of marines to the steamer sailing for Havana and cheered the departing troops.

The American officers and men are rejoicing that they will soon be homeward bound after the long and tedious occupation. Especially is this true in the case of those who have for more than two years been garrisoning the small posts throughout the interior.

IN MEMORY OF PERRY VICTORY

Centennial to Be Made Occasion for a Peace Jubilee Program.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 28.—In the interest of peace and tranquility between two great world powers, Great Britain and America, plans are being perfected to invite the English government to participate

The Story of Nebraska

The Omaha Bee has planned to publish "The Story of Nebraska," not the story of the prairie schooner, the sod house, the trapper or the fur trader, but of prosperous, progressive, busy, up-to-the-minute Nebraska. Many of the new and some of the older settled counties have been making progress so quietly that the world at large is not aware of their achievements.

Our object is to bring all loyal and progressive citizens into closer touch in the commercial and social relations, and to work for the development of the natural resources of the state, to foster and build up manufacturing industries, and by every consistent effort encourage the employment of skilled labor and improve the conditions of the laboring classes.

There will be a little about the towns and cities, just now somewhat misunderstood and misjudged, and something about the rural districts, the farm and the stock ranch. Here and there will be found a few figures, not many, just a few, as measurements and for the information of those who enjoy such things.

It will tell the achievements of a people, who in less than half a century have wrought out of a boundless prairie a progressive, productive state. It will give in brief the new life in the new country, the swift passing of events, the possibilities of advancement and pleasure.

The Omaha Sunday Bee

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Arrangements are being made by Ohio to promote a grand peace carnival and industrial exhibition to be held on the Island of Put-In-Bay in 1912.

A commission has been appointed by the governor to formulate a program, and this winter the state legislature will be asked to make an appropriation, which will put the matter in concrete form.

REVISING ROMAN HISTORY

Deciphering of Inscriptions on Etruscan Monuments Changes Existing Ideas.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Cal., Dec. 27.—A discovery which will have important results in the world of science has been made public by Prof. George Hempl, Stanford's professor of philology.

According to statements made by him, he has discovered the key to ancient inscriptions on Etruscan tombs and columns so long a mystery to archeologists.

The professor has become widely known by solving the inscriptions on German runes.

Prof. Hempl declared that his find will have far-reaching results upon ancient Italian history and upon the disputed facts of Latin grammar and etymology.

But fifty inscriptions out of a mass of 8,000 have thus far been deciphered by him, but the translation of these, he said, has been period of 1907 to 1908; those from North America and Asia each show a decrease of 45,000,000 from the totals of the corresponding period of last year, and those from South America a decrease of 25,000,000.

Exports to Europe show a decrease of but 3 per cent, while those to North America show a decrease of 2 per cent.

FOOT AND MOUTH PLAGUE GONE

Quarantine Regulations in New York State Are Greatly Modified.

BUFFALO, Dec. 28.—No case of foot and mouth disease has been found in New York state in the last nineteen days, and both state and national authorities are so confident that they have the outbreak modified that orders have been issued modifying

TRADE DEPRESSION GENERAL

All Great Commercial Countries Show a Decrease for Past Year.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—That the falling off of approximately 300,000,000 in imports and perhaps 310,000,000 in exports in the United States in 1908, is merely part of a general condition that has prevailed the world over, is shown by the monthly statement of the Bureau of Statistics.

Of the twenty-five principal countries of the world whose foreign commerce the bureau records month by month, all but four show a falling off in exports and imports.

The principal decrease on the import side occurred in trade with Europe, and on the export side in the trade with North America.

These marked reductions in the United States are not entirely the result of a falling off in the quantity of merchandise moved into or out of the country, says the statement.

Imports from Europe in the ten months for which detailed figures are available, showed a decrease from \$25,000,000 in ten months of 1907 to \$18,000,000 in a similar period of 1908; those from North America and Asia each show a decrease of 45,000,000 from the totals of the corresponding period of last year, and those from South America a decrease of 25,000,000.

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EARTHQUAKE SHAKES MONTANA

Electric Light Plant Put Out of Commission at Virginia City.

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 28.—A Miner displaced from Virginia City, Mont., tonight states that at 4:30 this afternoon that section was shaken by the severest of a series of seismic disturbances that have been going on for more than a week.

The electric power and light plant was put out of commission.

This plant is located ten miles distant from Virginia City, and as telegraphic communication with it has been interrupted it is impossible at this time to ascertain the extent of the damage done.

Virginia City is in darkness tonight and much alarm exists. During the last week Virginia City has experienced more than thirty earthquakes, in which the earth movement was very pronounced.

Last Monday two shocks within ten minutes of each other drove the people into the streets panic stricken, caused cracks in several buildings and dislodged considerable plaster.

This afternoon's tremor further cracked buildings, threw down plaster and scattered dishes from the shelves and tables.

The Yellow Peril.

Jaundice-malaria-billouneux, vanishes when Dr. King's New Life Pills are taken. Guaranteed. 3c. For sale by Beaton Drug Co.

PUREST RICHEST BEST FLAVOR BORDEN'S COLUMBIAN Brand Evaporated MILK Purity Guaranteed See that the label bears the name of Borden's Condensed Milk Co "Leaders of Quality"

Better Stir up Your Liver a Little! Not too much, just a little, just enough to start the bile nicely. One of Ayer's Pills at bedtime is all you need. These pills act directly on the liver. Made for the treatment of constipation, biliousness, dyspepsia, sick-headache. Ask your doctor if he knows a better pill for a sluggish liver. Then follow his advice.