

BIG FIRE LOSS AT FLORENCE

Entire Business Block Consumed at Early Hour Yesterday Morning.

COSTLY BRIC-A-BRAC IS BURNED

Hydriants in Florence Are Frozen and Two Companies from Omaha Rush to the Scene—Telephone Girl Heroic.

The starting in Minardi's fruit store at 4 o'clock yesterday morning, caused a loss of \$25,000 and wiped out a full block of business houses in Florence. The cause of the fire is not known.

The local company could have put out the fire before it made such great headway had it not been for the fact that the hydrants were frozen. A call for help was made upon Omaha, and two companies responded. The hydrants were thawed out and a good pressure was secured, but by that time it was impossible to save any portion of the block.

Less than half the property destroyed was covered by insurance, the exact total of the policies held being \$12,000. The losses are enumerated as follows:

- A. & H. company, general merchandise store, \$10,000; insurance, \$1,000.
- James Brennan's, barber shop and building, \$1,500; insurance, \$1,000.
- Benjamin DonNaud, butcher shop, \$500; no insurance.
- Minardi's fruit store, \$200; no insurance.
- Eagle's loss on building, \$1,000; and paraphernalia and furnishings of hall \$3,000; insurance, \$1,000.
- Dr. W. H. Horton, \$500.
- Immagine Study Club, furnishings, \$3,000.
- L. O. O. F. lodge paraphernalia, \$500; no insurance.
- Court of Honor, lodge paraphernalia, \$100; no insurance.
- M. W. A. lodge paraphernalia, \$100; no insurance.
- H. N. of A. lodge paraphernalia, \$200; \$100 insurance.

Valued Bric-a-brac Burned.

The Immagine Study club suffered a discouraging loss. The club had a social session in Eagle's hall Thursday night and all the elite of the classic suburb were present. To make the affair a success in the matter of appointments, a rare rug, china and cut glass, valued at \$500, had been taken to the hall. These were destroyed. The rug and other valuable property was owned by Mrs. A. B. Hunt. Miss Christine Anderson, a Nebraska telephone operator, stuck faithfully by her post while the flames were roaring about her, and managed to arouse the whole town. Ralph Cutting, manager of the Independent company, called all the numbers on his system, getting the men to come out and fight the flames.

THEY RUN FROM WORK

THEY PRETEND TO SEEK

Miss Ida V. Jonts of the Associated Charities discovered that a dozen applicants for work really wanted something for nothing. They were standing in the hallway and the lobby of the charities office with long faces, telling their troubles individually and collectively. Miss Jonts detailed one man to the janitor, for a buff, and told him to get a bucket of water and help mop up the stairs and floors. When this climax of the situation occurred a dozen strong men had urgent business elsewhere and in three minutes the office was deserted.

HUSBAND AND DAUGHTER WANT PART OF ESTATE

Jonathan Merica, widower of the late Sarah J. Merica of Omaha, has gone into court to contest the will of Mrs. Merica, which leaves the bulk of her \$200,000 estate to two sons, S. L. Merica of Omaha and O. J. Merica of Des Moines. A daughter, Mrs. Lulu M. Oetting of Lincoln, attacks the will with her father. They allege Mrs. Merica was insane when she made her will and was unduly influenced by her sons. Mr. and Mrs. Merica were separated about two years before the wife's death.

Standard Oil Shares Attain Record Price; Melon Growing Ripe

NEW YORK, March 8.—Shares of the old Standard Oil company of New Jersey had a record-breaking price on the curb today, selling at \$90 each, 25 to 40 points over the previous day and an advance of almost \$200 from the price at which they were quoted when the United States supreme court ordered the company's dissolution.

Trading today was quite active, comprising, it was said, more than 500 shares, and there was considerable curiosity as to the source of the demand. Brokers known to be in close touch with the company were open buyers, but either could not or would not throw any light on the reasons which caused this security to soar to new heights.

Ever since the parent company disintegrated into some thirty odd subsidiaries there have been rumors of the ripening of a "reunion" by the old New Jersey company. Confidence attached to these rumors by reason of the fact that several of the constituent concerns have already made handsome "extra" disbursements. No news touching upon the matter is obtainable at the company's office, where the utmost reserve prevails.

From 1901 to 1911, inclusive, the old Standard Oil company paid dividends ranging from 25 to 45 per cent, the highest rate having been paid the first year mentioned and the lowest in 1904. Dividends to be paid this year are an unknown quantity, aside from the \$1 derived from subsidiaries, which was declared in January.

Today's price for the stock is much more than double that of the lowest reached in the panic year—1907—when it sold down to 39 on unloading by frightened holders. On the assumption that the Rockefeller's own considerably more than a majority of the stock of the company, which consists of 1,000,000 shares, the fortunes of that family may be said to have increased by over \$100,000,000.

ADAMS SAYS THAT COURTS SHOULD BE CONTROLLED

Alleging that the courts had arrogated to themselves powers not conferred by the constitution, Charles Frederick Adams, author and lecturer, in an address at the Commercial club yesterday declared that the constitution makes provision for control over the courts by the president and congress, and that it is the duty of the president and congress to control the courts.

He uttered a warning that unless the people perfect their machinery for controlling such institutions as the courts and congress, an instance of which is the adoption of recall of judges in California, that state and anarchy will result. H. A. Wheeler of Chicago, vice president of the Union Trust company, invited the club to send representatives to a council of commerce to be held in Washington next month for the discussion of business problems growing out of governmental and political administration.

REV. J. M. KERSEY TO PREACH LAST SERMON HERE SUNDAY

Rev. J. M. Kersey, pastor of the First Christian church, who recently resigned to look after his business interests at Parsons, Kan., will leave Tuesday or Wednesday of next week. A committee of the church, composed of Messrs. Slabaugh, Perry, Jones and Worley are now corresponding with a view of finding a successor. Rev. A. D. Hatmon probably will fill the pulpit a week from Sunday.

THUMMEL GIVEN POWER IN WATER WORKS HEARING

A decree giving Special Master Thummel the power to rule on the supplemental bill filed several weeks ago by the water company has been signed and filed in federal court by Judge Minger. At the hearing Thursday the question was raised as to whether or not Mr. Thummel's jurisdiction extended to the supplemental bill, the point being raised upon interpretations of the decree by which he was appointed.

THESE WERE LIVELY DAYS

Exploits of "Pony Bob" Haslam in Pioneer Times.

RECORD RIDES OF PONY EXPRESS

Notable Example of Nerve and Strength Developed on Trails—Which Were Beaten by Perils.

Accounts of the death in Chicago of Robert Haslam, one of the very few remaining pony express riders of the west, mistakenly locate his exploits in Nebraska. "Pony Bob," as his intimates called him, scouted over the mountain trails of Nevada and Utah. Through a section of both, 130 miles in length, he carried the news of Lincoln's election in 1860, covering the distance in eight hours and ten minutes, using thirteen relays of horses. He was ambushed by Indians, shot with flint head arrows through the lower jaw, fracturing it on both sides, and knocking out five teeth.

"As nerve and daring as possible for man to be," was Robert Haslam, in the conclusion of Colonel Will Vischer, historian of the pony express. He was the hero of many fights with Indians and road agents, and the principal actor in a number of hairbreadth escapes, several of which were related by the hero to Vischer and incorporated in the latter's story.

"About eight months after the pony express was established the Pi-Ute war commenced in Nevada," said Mr. Haslam. "Virginia City, then the principal point of interest, and hourly expecting an attack from the hostile Indians, was only in its infancy. A stone hotel on C street was in course of construction and had reached an elevation of two stories. This was hastily transformed into a fort for the protection of the women and children. From the city the signal fires of the Indians could be seen on every mountain peak, and all available men and horses were pressed into service to repel the impending assault of the savages."

Out for a Fight.

"When I reached Reed's station, on the Carson river, I found no change of horses. As all those at the station had been seized by the whites to take part in the approaching battle, I fed the animal that I rode and started for the next station, called Buckland's, afterward known as Fort Churchill, fifteen miles farther down the river. It was to have been the termination of my journey, as I had changed my old route to this one, in which I had many narrow escapes, and been twice wounded by the Indians. "I had already ridden seventy-five miles; but, to my great astonishment, the other rider refused to go on. The superintendent, W. C. Marley, was at the station, but all his persuasion could not prevail on the rider, Johnson Richardson, to take the road. Turning then to me Marley said:

"Bob, I will give you \$50 if you make this ride."

"I replied, 'I will try at once.' "Within ten minutes, when I had adjusted my Spencer rifle, which was a seven-shooter and my Colt's revolver, with two cylinders ready for use in case of emergency, I started. From the station onward it was a lonely and dangerous ride of thirty-five miles, without a change, to the sink of the Carson. I arrived there all right, however, but pushed on to Sand Springs, through an alkali bottom and sand hills, thirty miles farther, without a drop of water all along the route. At Sand Springs I changed horses and continued on to Cold Springs, a distance of thirty-seven miles. Another change and a ride of thirty more miles brought me to Smith's Creek. Here I was relieved by J. G. Kelley. I had ridden 100 miles, stopping only to eat and change horses."

A Record Run.

This run is on record as the fastest of the entire route of 2,000 miles. Continuing, Bob said: "After remaining at Smith's Creek about nine hours, I started to retrace my journey with the return express. When I arrived at Cold Springs to my horror I found that the station had been attacked by Indians, the keeper killed, and all the horses taken away. I decided in a moment what

Fashionable Spring Apparel

CLOAK DEPARTMENT

Our Cloak department today is a veritable exposition of new spring wearing apparel for women, misses and children. Thousands of suits, coats, dresses, costumes and waists have found their way to our spacious show rooms, where you will find the proper garments for every occasion, of the highest quality and lowest prices. We invite your inspection.

Suits at \$15

Equal in many ways to \$25.00 suits for their value shows in the excellent materials the really fine workmanship. If you would try on one of these fine garments before our spacious mirrors you would then appreciate their style and fit. Materials, blue serges and light novelty cloths.

Stunning Suits \$25

Distinctive styles of handsome suits for women and misses, copies of Persian models, finest whipcords, Bedford cords, imported serges in all new shades. The most clever styles ever shown.

Silk or Wool Dresses at \$12.75

One of the greatest values we could secure in a popular priced garment. Made of fine light weight serge or fine changeable silk, cleverly trimmed, a full line of sizes, most unusual value at the price.

New Spring Coats at \$10

Women's and misses' full length coats, made of fine serges and beautiful mixtures, well tailored, splendid styles.

Novelty Coats at \$25

Full length, chic models in English whipcords, serges, silks, light weight mixtures and new Terry cloth, beautifully trimmed with glass, metallic or bone buttons.

Girls' Spring Coats at \$5

A large assortment of girls' coats at this price—serges, fancy mixtures, large collars in contrasting shades. Sizes 6 to 14 years.

Nebraska Clothing Co.



For All News

The Omaha Sunday Bee is the only paper you need to buy. It also is the only Sunday paper in Nebraska that contains the splendid articles by Mme. Cavalieri, Lady Duff-Gordon, Annette Kellerman, Frank Carpenter and others; that publishes the famous comic series which include Mutt and Jeff, the Katzenjammer Kids, and Happy Hooligan and that has the delectable drawings by Nell Brinkley. Advertisers cover Omaha at one cost by concentrating their store messages, in The Sunday Bee, for this paper goes into more homes than all the other Omaha papers combined.

Hiding Through Perils.
"When I arrived at the Sink of the Carson, I found the station men badly frightened, for they had seen some fifty warriors decked out in their war-paint and reconnoitering. There were fifteen white men here, well armed and ready for a fight. The station was built of adobe, and was large enough for the men and ten or fifteen horses, with a fine spring of water within a few feet of it. I rested here an hour, and after dark started for Buckland's, where I arrived without a mishap and only three and a half hours behind schedule time. I found Mr. Marley at Buckland's, and when I related to him the story of the Cold Springs tragedy and my success, he raised his previous offer of \$50 for my ride to \$100. I was rather tired, but the excitement of the trip had braced me up to withstand the fatigue of the journey. After a rest of one and a half hours, I proceeded over my own route from Buckland's to Friday's station, crossing the Sierra Nevada. I had traveled 300 miles within a few hours of schedule time, and was surrounded by perils on every hand."

On one of his rides he passed the remains of ninety Chinamen, who had been killed by the Indians, only one escaping to tell the tale. Their bodies lay bleaching in the sun for a distance of more than ten miles from the mouth of Ives Canon to Crooked-creek.

Stage Illusions.
"You left the roses at Miss Tootie Limber's room?"
"Yes, sah."
"Did she say anything?"
"I didn't hear her say nuffin', sah. Her husband took de flowers."
"Her husband?"
"Yes, sah. Mistah Jim Sawyer, dat's his name. He said, 'No flowers.' An' den he turned 'round' an' called out some-thing else."
"What did he say?"
"He said, 'It's a pity dese phindaded folks ain't got enough sense to see a bunch of dollars instead of dese fool points!'"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Bitter End.
"Do you think," asked the girl's mother, "you have succeeded at last in convincing Mr. Youngblood that he can never have our daughter?"
"I'm afraid not. Somehow, I can't help feeling that he may get her yet."
"But you told him this morning when he asked you for the seventh time that you would not give your consent."
"Yes. The trouble is that he has not threatened to carry on his campaign to the bitter end. As long as a chap refrains from referring to the bitter end there is a chance that he may win out."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Don't be surprised if you have an attack of rheumatism this spring. Just rub the affected parts freely with Chamberlain's Liniment and it will soon disappear. Sold by all dealers.

Omaha's Greatest Sale of High Grade Linoleums Saturday, March 9th

Consisting of several car loads of such well known makes as Nairns and Blabons in full rolls and mill lengths in printed and inlaid patterns. Thousands of yards of 6 and 12 feet width linoleums.

This season's patterns to be sold Saturday at tremendous price reductions.

Our second floor devoted to this showing and sale, and plenty of salespeople to promptly serve you. These goods were purchased at such favorable prices that we are able to offer our customers in this sale linoleum in all grades at such positive reductions that will stamp this the greatest sale of the season.

Bring measurements of your room if possible

- 55c and 65c Printed Linoleum 6 ft. wide, ranging in pieces up to 15 yards. 27c
- 75c and 85c Printed Linoleum 12 ft. wide, ranging in pieces up to 15 yards. 45c
- \$1.25 and \$1.35 Inlaid Linoleum 6 ft. wide, ranging in pieces up to 12 yards. 75c
- \$1.50 and \$1.65 Inlaid Linoleum 6 ft. wide, ranging in pieces up to 12 yards. 85c
- 55c and 65c Printed Linoleum 6 ft. wide, ranging in pieces up to 100 yards. 45c
- 75c and 85c Printed Linoleum 12 ft. wide, ranging in pieces up to 100 yards. 57c
- \$1.25 and \$1.35 Inlaid Linoleum 6 ft. wide, ranging in pieces up to 100 yards. 89c
- \$1.40 and \$1.50 Inlaid Linoleum 6 ft. wide, ranging in pieces up to 100 yards. 98c
- \$1.65 and \$1.75 Inlaid Linoleum 6 ft. wide, ranging in pieces up to 100 yards. 1.22

Orchard & Wilhelm Carpet Co.