

The Farmers' Leader

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ORDER OUT OF CHAOS

ITALY'S KING REPORTS SITUATION NEARING NORMAL

American Ambassador Wires Secretary Root, Presenting a Feasible Proposition of Meeting the Emergency in Italy.

Having done all that it was possible to do in the districts laid waste by the earthquake, the king and queen of Italy have returned to Rome. They passed four days among the ruins of Sicily and Calabria, the king directing the work of rescue and relief and the queen ministering to the injured. There is a feeling of relief in Italy that their majesties have returned.

The American ambassador, Lloyd C. Griscom, has appointed a committee of Americans to which will be entrusted the work of utilizing the money received from the United States to the best advantage of the earthquake sufferers.

Both at Messina and Reggio the guards are having difficulty in protecting the survivors and the vast treasury in these ruined buildings from the bands of thieves that are swarming everywhere. It is reported that six Russian sailors have been shot by looters at Messina and that sixteen criminals have been killed at the same place within the last twenty-four hours. Six hundred persons engaged in pillaging have been arrested. In an engagement at Reggio between the police and bandits two of the police were killed.

Reports still reach Rome of the continuance of earth shocks, some sufficient to do further great damage. According to these reports new shocks Saturday at Pellaro precipitated the entire population into the sea, including both the dead and the living victims of the first quake.

At Reggio the people are becoming more calm, and it is to be noted that they are being systematically forwarded. Military zones have been established throughout Calabria.

101 RANCH SHOW ROBBED.

Safe Blown on Circus Train and \$15,000 Secured.

Undue haste in purchasing a ticket to Chicago and the nervousness displayed by E. J. Berk, who gave St. Louis as his home, led to his arrest at Fort Worth, Tex., and to the discovery that the safe aboard a train conveying a west circus (known as the 101 Ranch) to Fort Worth had been blown during the night and robbed of \$15,000.

When asked to explain the possession of \$750 in silver coin, which he carried in a leather satchel, the man, formerly an attaché of the circus, told of the robbery, declaring that he had been made the tool of a professional safe blower who had escaped with the rest of the money. The robbery occurred as the train was nearing Fort Worth, and so quietly was the work performed that the circus proprietor knew nothing of the occurrence until told by the police of the arrest and statement of Berk. The police declare Berk is implicated, and other arrests will follow.

CHINESE ALLEGE CRUELTY.

Soldiers at Puget Sound Said to Have Mistreated Them.

Alleging that their race is being made the victim of unprovoked and brutal assaults at the hands of soldiers from the artillery corps of the Puget sound district, Chinese merchants and prominent members of the celestial colony at Port Townsend, Wash., have petitioned the Chinese consul general at San Francisco for relief. It is asked that the war department officials be advised that a serious situation exists and that murder may result.

FINCH SENTENCED TO HANG.

Judge Brough, of the state circuit court at Portland, Ore., sentenced Jas. A. Finch, convicted of the murder of Ralph B. Fisher, late prosecutor for the Oregon Bar association, to be hanged February 5. Finch displayed little emotion while the sentence was being pronounced.

MILWAUKEE'S COAST EXTENSION.

Preliminary steps have been taken in New York toward the capitalization of the Pacific coast extension of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway company, which will provide for a total bonded debt of \$200,000,000, covering the extension, should that amount be found necessary.

SHOOT HIS SISTER'S BETRAYER.

With the accusation that he was responsible for his sister's downfall, and that he had abducted her from the Doog of Hope, where she was sent to escape his wife, William Mitchell, of Los Angeles, Cal., an iron worker, shot and killed Cecil Thayer, a messenger, 18 years old.

SIoux CITY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Saturday's quotations on the Sioux City live stock market follow: Top beefs, \$5.50. Top hogs, \$5.85.

CASTRO GROWS WORST.

The London Daily Mail's Berlin correspondent says that Senator Castro, former president of Venezuela, has grown decidedly worse and returned to Dr. Eberle's hospital, where he will undergo an operation in a few days for some disease in the region of the kidneys.

SHOOT HIS SWEETHEART.

Edward Strickland at Chandler, Ind., shot and killed Hazel Williamson, probably his sweetheart, at Hammond, Ind., Saturday afternoon. The shooting was due to jealousy.

SCENES OF DEVIATION.

Vivid Story Told by a Correspondent in Italy.

The special correspondent of the Paris Matin, who has just arrived at Messina after an adventurous journey on foot through the wasted Calabria region, sends a vivid story of the scenes of devastation. The dispatch was sent by special boat to Naples, from whence it was telegraphed to Paris.

"I arrived at last at Messina with my legs almost dropping off, after covering a distance of 67 kilometers (41 miles). My nerves will never recover from the atrocious impressions to which they were subjected, and my eyes will retain as long as they remain open the vision of death and destruction which oppressed them. A mournful silence covers the country like a funeral pall.

"I proceeded as far as Palmi by train, and thence afoot. Six or seven inhabitants accompanied me to Tropea, and I decided to reach Reggio (41 miles) at whatever cost. Two or three railroad firemen, cut off from home while at duty by the catastrophe, were returning to seek news of the fate of their families. They proceeded by brandishing resinous smoking torches. We proceeded in the night through the tunnel from Palmi to Bagnara, holding hands and stumbling over ballast heaps. The roof of the tunnel was cracked everywhere and now and then rocks fell in the niches of the trackmen. Whole families were encamped around wood fires and smoking torches. Many of them were wounded.

Men, women and children, tattered by the catastrophe and crouching under the stones, looked at us with a vacant glare, as if their thoughts were wandering.

"Later we came upon families roasting sea birds which had been killed by the tempest and cast upon the beach. After two hours' march we saw Bagnara, perched on the spur of a mountain overhanging the sea.

"The country house of the mayor on the summit of the rock was half tumbled into the sea, but the mayor was safe. He was giving orders for the installation of a telegraph wire in a freight car. How many dead? One thousand, 2,000, who knows?

"After eleven hours we had covered only 34 kilometers, every step at the cost of great exertion. Our clothes were soaked and the torches had burned out. At Scylla the whole countryside except the north was completely blotted out. The victims numbered between 150 and 1,000.

A PANIC AVERTED.

Cool Work of a Fireman Saves Many in a Theater Conflagration.

A fire broke out in the Park opera house at Erie, Pa., during the performance Friday night, but owing to the cool work of fireman Abraham Louch a panic was averted and all escaped.

Before the audience realized the situation, the house had been almost emptied. There were many narrow escapes and a dozen women fainted and had to be carried out, but no one was seriously injured and much of the building was saved from destruction. Every one of the 1,500 seats in the theater was occupied.

Louch saw smoke issuing from the floor of the gallery and sent in a still alarm. He reached the rear of the stage before the audience was advised of the danger, and speaking just loud enough for the actors to hear appealed to them to continue. Then he stepped to the front, asked the auditors to retire, giving them to understand that the fire was in an adjoining structure. No one tried to crowd until the smoke began to fill the building. Then a crush began. The department saved scores from jumping from the third story fire escapes by getting ladders up.

SEE A BURNING CRATER.

Phenomenon of Volcanic Nature Located in West Virginia.

Great anxiety is being shown by the inhabitants of Green Bank, W. Va., over the steadily increasing appearance of a burning crater of seemingly volcanic nature on the side of a neighboring mountain.

Flames are distinctly visible at intervals, accompanied by rumbling noises as if from internal disturbances. The air in the vicinity is strong with sulphur fumes. The area of the molten mass has spread until it now covers some fifty square yards.

PROF. HOUGH DEAD.

George Washington Hough, professor of astronomy at Northwestern university and director of the Dearborn observatory, died suddenly at his home in Evanston, a suburb of Chicago. Prof. Hough, who was 72 years old, was one of the leading astronomers of the country.

TO CONVULS CUBAN CONGRESS.

As a result of a conference between Gov. Magood and Alfredo Zayas, vice president-elect, it was decided that Gov. Magood should shortly issue a decree convoking the Cuban congress for January 13.

CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION.

The Canadian government has granted \$100,000 for the sufferers of the earthquake. This will be supplemented by generous contributions from unofficial sources.

GOV. HOCH ISSUES AN APPEAL.

Gov. Hoch, of Kansas, has issued an appeal in the names of the state Red Cross society, of which he is president, for relief funds for the earthquake sufferers.

ONLY ONE WILL BUILD.

The Railway Journal prints letters from the heads of six railway systems in which is shown among other things that only one of the Northern Pacific, contemplates extensions during the coming year.

FORTY-NINE BODIES RECOVERED.

Forty-nine bodies have been removed from the Lick Branch colliery at Bluefield, W. Va., the scene of Tuesday's explosion. The rescuing parties have been called from the mines by the state mine inspectors.

DEATH ROLL GROWS.

110,000 Perish at Messina and Reggio Alone.

The immensity of the disaster in southern Italy and Sicily can only be measured by the fact that it is now estimated that 110,000 people perished in Messina and Reggio alone. A score and thousands of victims in these places must be added to the roll. In the face of these awful totals, all Italy stands appalled.

King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Elena were in Messina Wednesday. The king explored the ruins regardless of the danger to which he exposed himself. He was often moved to tears at the heartrending scenes he came upon at every turn. The king was held in his palace by the splendid work accomplished by the Italian, Russian and English blue-jackets, who saved many persons who otherwise would have inevitably perished. The queen spent the day in the wards of improvised hospitals visiting the wounded, many of whom have lost all that is dear to them. Her majesty did her best to cheer them with womanly words of consolation, often breaking into sobs as she listened to their dreadful tales of suffering. The king left for Reggio Wednesday night.

Catania, the largest city nearest to the scene of the disaster, is crowded with refugees, and the continuous stream of fugitives coming in the sight of the wounded and repining have real or imaginary quakes. They are becoming uncontrollable. There is no longer any place where the refugee may find shelter.

HIG CAR SIGN SWINDLE.

Fraud Order Issued Against Number of Companies.

The postmaster general at Washington, D. C., has issued a fraud order against Theo. Kharras and various movable car sign companies promoted by him, among them being the Omaha and Sioux City companies. The inspectors report Kharras has received probably at least \$50,000 from syndicates formed to promote movable street car signs, but that practically nothing has been done to put the signs in operation, except at Alton, Ill.

Kharras is charged with having falsified receipts to have patents and foreign rights he did not possess to induce investments in the enterprise. His one patent is declared of small value. Advertisements of his promotions stated his signs were in operation in street cars of Davenport, Muscatine, Clinton and Sioux City, among other cities, but the inspectors report none of the signs are used in the cities named.

GREGORY LAND SALE.

Government Will Dispose of All Unclaimed Homesteads.

Early next spring the government will dispose of the lands of unclaimed homesteaders. The transfer going directly from the government to the purchaser without residence, the only limitation of purchase being that no one will be allowed to purchase more than 640 acres. The sale will be either at public auction, or sealed bids. As most of the land in that county which has not been taken by homesteaders consists of small tracts scattered about among homesteads, the purchasers will probably be largely the holders of adjoining lands. A report from the general land office at Gregory county lands October 1, gives the receipts from disposal of lands at \$1,169,612. At the time the bill for open lands was passed, it was estimated that the government would receive \$1,000,000 for the million dollars which was to go to the Indians for the land. The receipts have already exceeded that amount and more to follow.

RECOVERS FROM BROKEN BACK.

Lead Woman Able to Leave Hospital After Long Illness.

Despite the fact that she sustained a badly broken back as a result of jumping from the second story window of a fire, Dorothy Watson, of Lead, is not only able, but has just left the hospital and is able to walk with but slight impediment. Hers is said to be the most remarkable case in surgical annals in the Black Hills.

MINE HORROR IN VIRGINIA.

Fifty Men Believed to Have Perished in Explosion.

The fatalities in the Lick branch mine at Ennis, W. Va., as the result of the explosion Tuesday probably will reach fifty. Twelve bodies have been taken out.

According to the mine foreman, there are thirty-eight men still in the mine, with little chance of recovery. The cause of the explosion is unknown. There is no excitement at the mine. Practically all the women and children of the victims are bearing their grief in silence at their homes.

TO PRESERVE HIS FORESTS.

A policy of managing its timber lands so that there will be a permanent growth of spruce timber was adopted by the board of directors of the International Paper company. The department in charge of the forests owned by the company was influenced to put into effect a plan of practical forestry.

ARGUES FOR PAROLE SYSTEM.

As showing the success of the parole system in Canadian prisons it was announced by Inspector Archibald that since its inception nine years ago 2,000 prisoners, serving lengthy terms, secured their liberty and only thirty-nine of these went back to a life of crime.

COUNT BONI LOSES FIGHT.

The petition of Count Boni de Castellane that the custody of his three sons be given to his mother was denied Wednesday at Paris. The court ruled the children remain in the custody of their mother, Princess de Sagan, and that they should not leave the continent without the count's permission.

TWENTY-FIVE MEN HELD UP.

Two masked men held up twenty-five men in the outskirts of Tulsa, Okla., and secured about \$200 and a number of watches from them. Most of the victims were returning from the oil fields where they are employed.

BECOMES HIS MOTHER.

While in a fit of insanity, Arthur Trotter, 33 years old, killed his aged mother, Mrs. Ann Trotter, by beheading her with an ax and a knife, in her apartments in West Nineteenth street, New York.

SUPPLY SHIP AT SEAS.

The American supply ship Culgoza put in advance of the battleship fleet under Rear Admiral Sperry. The warships are expected January 3.

STATE DEPARTMENT ACTS.

Every effort is being made by the state department to obtain news of American citizens who were in the earthquake zone in Italy and whose fate caused their friends much uneasiness and appeal to the department there to help locate them.

BIG HAUL BY ROBBERS.

Five robbers dynamited the bank at Wallston, Okla., early Wednesday, and after exchanging many shots with the citizens escaped with \$5,000. No one was hurt.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE NEWS

OLD BUSINESS MAN QUILTS.

P. F. Wickhem, of Alexandria, Retires from Active Life.

The recent sale by P. F. Wickhem of his business at Alexandria, Minn., is worth of more than passing mention, for the reason that Mr. Wickhem was one of the pioneer business men of Dakota territory. His mammoth mercantile establishment was purchased by Michael Pitts, who purchased it for his sons, Ora and John. Ora Pitts has been employed in the establishment since 1901, and for some time has been manager, so he is familiar with the business. The sale includes the brick store building in which the business is carried on, the mammoth stock and some other property. The purchasers will take possession on March 1. For a period of thirty-five years Mr. Wickhem has been identified with the business life of Alexandria. During the hard times following the war he was a successful trader in real estate, and by extending credit enabled many of them to ride over those discouraging years and remain in the country and accumulate the fortunes which have since come to them.

Mr. Wickhem, as he is familiarly known, for many years has been a prominent figure in the state and has planned the popular winter resort at Alexandria and Jackson school. His retirement from active business will enable him to take a well earned vacation and enjoy the large fortune which he has accumulated by his business for more than a third of a century.

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EXPLOSION CAUSES SERIOUS DAMAGE AT CHAMBERLAIN INDIAN SCHOOL.

An explosion occurred at the United States Indian school in Chamberlain, which completely destroyed the gas plant of the institution. In some manner the gasoline from which the gas is manufactured was supplied so rapidly as to cause a violent explosion about 10 o'clock. This in some manner became ignited, causing an explosion which completely obliterated the building. Four men were in the building at the time the accident occurred, and one of whom was blown through the roof, but in some miraculous way none of them sustained any injury further than a slight burning of their faces. The monetary loss is not heavy. Superintendent J. Young placing the loss to building and plant at \$700 to \$800, and to window glass in surrounding buildings at about \$300.

TWO NEWSPAPER CHANGES.

Editors of Burke and Orient Dispose of Properties.

Two South Dakota newspapers recently have changed hands. L. E. Howard, who for some time has been editor and proprietor of the Argus, a weekly newspaper published at Orient, has sold the property to C. P. Forrest, a competent newspaper man, who will conduct the paper in the future.

DEADLY DIPHTEHRIA AT DALLAS.

The city council of Dallas ordered the public schools to be closed for a week on account of an epidemic of diphtheria. The city baker, John Rogers, of the City bakery, died of diphtheria, and it is feared others have been exposed.

POLICE CHIEF RESIGNS.

Charles E. Zirres, chief of police in Aberdeen for the past five years, has resigned his position and after a trip to Hot Springs, Ark., will again enter the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad.

FACTORY FOR MITCHELL.

Archie Hillyard, of Spencer, Ia., has decided to locate in Mitchell for the purpose of establishing a cement tile factory. He will invest about \$15,000 before starting business, and after beginning the manufacture of the tiles will employ about 30 men.

ODD FELLOW LEADER DEAD.

Peter Marquardt, past grand master of the grand lodge of Odd Fellows of South Dakota, died of a heart attack while engaged in the work of switching engine and killed in the depot yards at Madison Tuesday forenoon.

MERCANTILES WILL MEET.

President J. Grimm, of the State Retail Dealers' association, Parkston; Secretary N. S. Tyler and T. M. Arne, both of Sioux Falls, are making arrangements for the big gathering of state merchants which will be held in Yankton February 2, 3 and 4 next.

CHARGED WITH FORGERY.

D. A. Adams is under arrest at Aberdeen, charged with forging a check on the Bank of Pierpont for \$10. Adams cashed the check at Nonnegger Bros. saloon in Aberdeen, signing the name of A. C. Roberts.

INDIAN WOMAN SHOT.

While celebrating the incoming of the new year at the Omaha dance house, on the Mission flat, near Pine Ridge agency, Emma Black, near Pine Ridge, was accidentally shot through the thigh by a six-footer in the hands of some unknown Indian or mixed blood.

BANK PRESIDENT SUICIDES.

T. H. Radcliffe, president of the People's State bank at Howard, suicided recently. Mr. Radcliffe took carbolic acid. Dependency over ill health was the cause of the act.

MILWAUKEE WANT \$30,000.

Will Ask Legislature to Make Appropriation.

A meeting of the officers of the South Dakota National Guard held in Huron was well attended. The election of officers of the association resulted in the choice of Col. J. E. McDougall of Britton, president; Capt. G. E. Kelsey, of Twin Brooks, first, and Capt. George Hoelke, of Brookings, second. Vice president, Maj. Hazel, of Aberdeen, secretary, Capt. Cecil Campbell, of Huron treasurer, Capt. Englesby, of Watertown, Capt. Beckwith, of Pierre, and Sergeant Woolley, of Highmore, executive committee.

It is understood that the incoming legislature will be asked to revise the state military code to conform to the laws adopted by the United States governing military organization. The purpose of the organization being to remain absolutely non-political; schools of instruction to advance the efficiency of the guard.

Gen. Englesby gave a detailed account of the financial condition of the guard. The appropriation by the legislature of two years ago was not sufficient to meet the expenses, and an amount sufficient to meet the expenses of the guard was transferred from the state treasury to the general fund with the state treasury. The legislature will be asked to make an appropriation of \$30,000 for the expenses of the guard for the coming two years.

STATE LODGE OF ELKS.

Representatives Meet and Organize.

A meeting in Sioux Falls of representatives of the eight lodges of Elks in South Dakota, a state organization of Elks, for social purposes, was organized under the name of the State Organization of Elks in South Dakota, the following officers being elected: President, R. J. Woods, Sioux Falls; vice president, E. G. Edgerton, Yankton; secretary, E. L. Richards, Deadwood; treasurer, C. M. Johnson, Aberdeen; sergeant at arms, P. W. Schoenberger, Watertown.

John Carlson, Sioux Falls; C. N. McIlwaine, Huron; George E. Porter, Deadwood; John L. Neary, Lead; M. Hockman, Watertown; William M. Powers, Yankton; E. J. Buholz, Aberdeen, and H. G. Nichols, Mitchell, were elected members of an executive committee.

Deadwood was selected as the place for holding the next meeting of the new organization. This meeting will be held on August 17-19 next.

GLAS PLANT DESTROYED.

Explosion Causes Serious Damage at Chamberlain Indian School.

An explosion occurred at the United States Indian school in Chamberlain, which completely destroyed the gas plant of the institution. In some manner the gasoline from which the gas is manufactured was supplied so rapidly as to cause a violent explosion about 10 o'clock. This in some manner became ignited, causing an explosion which completely obliterated the building. Four men were in the building at the time the accident occurred, and one of whom was blown through the roof, but in some miraculous way none of them sustained any injury further than a slight burning of their faces. The monetary loss is not heavy. Superintendent J. Young placing the loss to building and plant at \$700 to \$800, and to window glass in surrounding buildings at about \$300.

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STATEMENT

PIERRE QUAT.

A communication has been received by the secretary of state asking that amendments to the constitution of the United States be adopted at the coming legislative session. Both deal with psychology. The amendments were sent in by Samuel W. Ross, who styles himself the "Oracular research" of Washington, Jefferson, J. Q. Adams, W. H. Harrison, Pierce, Taylor, Buchanan, Lincoln, Grant, Hayes and Cleveland and others. He wants an approval of W. H. Harrison. He wants an amendment providing for a board of interstate arbitration. One of the duties of this board is to compel the adherence of the presidential electors to the psychological duties of that office, and to prohibit any and all other persons from candidacy and election. The other amendment is to provide for the election of governors by the popular vote. It provides: "The laws which shall be established by law, and the office of governor shall be elected by psychology of each election. That when the regular cabinet, and secretary of state, and the president of the United States of America, by such election, shall be deemed to have been elected to such offices. And all shall have the right of superseding to challenge any and all competitors in the presidential election. The result of the president's election shall be determined by oracular session of congress. The author does not attempt to state who shall be at the head of the oracular bureau, but he suggests that in his letter accompanying, he lays out a claim for himself, which will keep any opponent going some to equal, let alone to exceed."

From reports which are gaining circulation in the press of the state the coming session of the legislature will be asked to make this state a cat's paw to pull nuts from the fire for some syndicate of North Carolina bondholders, and will use the money to make a cat's paw as bait for their purpose. Just who is back of the move remains to be revealed. The report is that Taylor is to turn over to the state a block of North Carolina bonds to make up the deficit from his defection as state treasurer, and in return is to receive certain property secured by the state as a result of such defection. It is hardly likely that the legislature will swallow such bait as any present of bonds means that the state is to bring suit to test the validity of the same, and may or may not win after the expense of the suit. At the same time the holding syndicate of state should win in any suit brought, that state, and secured payment after less than two years ago a tender of \$1,000,000 of such securities was made to the state on agreement that suit be brought to collect, but the offer was turned down by Gov. Crawford. Several years ago the state did accept a gift of \$25,000 of the securities of the state, and secured payment of a suit in the supreme court of the United States, receiving the money less attorney's fees and at the same time Schaefer Bros., of New York, secured the validity of the holding, which, at the same time of bonds on which they could not bring suit, and got the benefit. At the session of two years ago Senator Dillon introduced a bill to return the money to North Carolina, but it failed to pass. The money so secured yet lies in the state treasury, but the temper of the legislature as shown in the discussion two years ago would not indicate any desire to make another try at collecting such bonds.

O. C. Dokken, the state commissioner of school and public lands, has issued his tenth biennial report of the business of that department, which, it helps to reduce the school tax of the state, is of vital interest to every taxpayer in the state. While it is filled with detailed information of the workings and financial affairs of the department, which will be of value to legislative members at the coming session, it also contains recommendations directly as to what Commissioner Dokken considers of special import in the way of legislation affecting the department.

As the secretary of state and the state treasurer both go to the office the state insurance department is checking up both of these departments and at the same time going through the affairs of the state insurance department.

Gov. Crawford has named Al Israel, of McIntosh, superintendent of election at McIntosh school house, in Perkins county, for the election for the organization of that county on the 26th of January.

The total return of state taxes received from the December call has brought to the treasury \$245,832.25. Of this the general fund shows \$261,339.56.

LOANED.

Knicker—Where is his residence? Becker—For voting, in New York; for divorce, in Dakota; and for good, in Europe.—New York Sun.

CONCERNING FAIRY TALES.

"I say, mamma," asked little Tommy, "do fairy tales always begin with 'Once upon a time'?" "No, dear, not always," replied mamma; "they sometimes begin with 'My love, I have been detained at the office again to-night.'"—Glasgow