

LAST EDITION.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, DECEMBER 23, 1908.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

TWO CENTS.

COLLINS IS FREE.

His Pardon a Christmas Present From Governor Hoch.

Left the Lansing Prison at 10 O'clock This Morning.

WAITED ON DETAILS.

Papers Did Not Reach Warden Till This Morning.

Action of the Executive Was Not Unexpected.

TEN YEARS IN PRISON.

Convicted Day Before Christmas in Year 1898.

Atrocious Murder of Father; J. S. Collins, the Crime.

Lansing, Kan., Dec. 23.—John Henry Collins, the university student, pardoned yesterday by Governor Hoch from the state penitentiary where he was serving a life sentence for the murder of his father, a wealthy Topeka real estate man, left that institution this morning.

The pardon was read to Collins in the warden's office at 10 o'clock. The ceremony was brief and after it was over Collins thanked the prison officials that surrounded him and soon returned to his cell to collect his personal belongings. Shortly before noon, in company with Grant Meade, his stepbrother, Collins departed for Topeka, his former home.

A party of friends were on hand to greet him and with them a number of newspaper reporters. Collins shrank from the newspaper men, saying he wished to avoid all the notoriety possible.

The reporters wished to accompany Collins to Topeka, but he requested that they should not do so. Collins and Meade planned to go to Kansas City first, and from there to Topeka. The departure from here was timed for 11 o'clock.

"I'm going home," said he this morning. "What I'll do after I reach there I have not yet decided."

Announces Collins' Pardon.
Governor Hoch announced the pardon of John Collins, who has been confined in the state's prison at Lansing for the past ten years for the murder of his father, J. S. Collins, in Topeka May 13, 1898, late Tuesday afternoon. It has been expected for some time that the Collins pardon would be forthcoming from the governor's office. Miss Grace Collins, the young man's sister, has been at work for years securing evidence that would move the governor's heart to clemency. She had on file in the executive office a large number of letters, papers and petitions from persons all over Kansas. These and the governor's well known sympathy for the cause, and the pardon came in the nature of a Christmas gift for the man serving a life sentence in prison.

GOVERNOR HOCH'S STATEMENT.
Explains Why He Granted John Collins' Pardon.

Governor E. W. Hoch, gave out the following statement concerning his pardon of John Collins:

"The John Collins case is one of the most remarkable in annals of Kansas criminology. Ever since the beginning of the history of the state has attracted more attention, or provoked more comment. The case has many peculiar features. The manner in which it was conducted with the aid of the sensational features of many of the most disreputable characters who ever gave evidence in a court of justice, the testimony which seemed to be corroborated by circumstantial evidence, which, however, loses force the more it is analyzed. Very questionable detective methods in the interest of insurance companies were conspicuously in the case. Other matters not submitted to the jury, but known to me and to others, commensurate the same. John Collins is perhaps the only prisoner in our penitentiary who never was accorded the right of every convicted man—the right to a review of his case by the supreme court—and this from no fault of his own, but a fault of a technical provision of the law at that time, which was changed by the next legislature as a result of this revelation of its injustice.

"During the trial of John Collins, I read at my home in Marion every scrap of evidence that was presented in the case published in the Topeka newspapers, and nearly every day discussed with lawyers and other gentlemen the case as it was thus reported. Opinions of my fellow citizens at that time, all in possession of the same information, differed greatly as to John Collins' guilt or innocence. As to myself, I came out of all that reading and daily discussion with grave doubt as to his guilt. All this, of course, long before I ever expected to sustain any connection to the case. For four years I have considered the case from every angle. I have gone patiently through the voluminous case on file in this office; I have listened to conflicting views and heard their conflicting views and various theories; I have investigated every phase of the case, and my original doubt as to John Collins' guilt has constantly grown until it has passed into an absolute belief of his innocence. Here in Topeka, where the family and all the faces concerned were well known, scores of people quite as competent jurors as the twelve men who sat in the case believe in his innocence, while scores of others believe on the same facts believe him guilty. Surely, in a case of such wide publicity and of such general interest, and with every member of his family who contended that he is innocent, he should, I think, have the benefit of the doubt and as one of my last official acts I not only give him the benefit of this very prevalent doubt, but I also give him the benefit of my own personal belief in his innocence. A belief



John Collins, convicted of the Murder of His Father and Who Has Been Pardoned by Governor Hoch, After Serving Ten Years in Prison.

which is shrouded, as letters on file in this office will show, by such old and influential citizens, who were familiar with all the circumstances of the case, as H. H. Croxson, K. Coddling, K. Rodgers, John P. Rogers, Chas. K. Holdway, W. A. L. Thompson, Ralph F. Moore, L. M. Penwell, Geo. W. Crane, J. G. Walters, Thos. J. Lord, W. B. McCarter, H. G. Larimer, W. W. Manspeaker, J. D. Norton, Geo. M. Noble, T. E. Sweet, M. Sattlinger, D. W. Neils, W. F. Roehr, James Hayes, Dr. C. F. Menninger, Guy D. Adams, W. W. Connors, Warren M. Crosby, Senator Chas. Curtis, Mrs. Margaret Hill McCarter, and many others equally prominent, while scores of others have filed letters expressing great doubt as to his guilt and urging executive clemency, including such well known people as P. I. Bonebrake, J. N. Doleay, Dr. L. Y. Grubbs, Prof. Erasmus Haworth, Prof. W. H. Carruth, Eugene Hagan, Bishop Millsbaugh, Dean Kaye, Geo. Leffler, John E. Lord, W. B. McCintock, Dr. J. C. McClintock, J. D. McFarland, W. D. Macfarland, A. B. Quinton, A. P. Riddle, D. A. Valentine, John W. Walker, and the Hon. Sheriff J. M. Wilkerson, perfectly familiar with all the details of the case and himself a professional detective, believes thoroughly in the innocence of John Collins.

"I have made an exhaustive examination of all the evidence of the case and filed an elaborate document in this office in support of my contention that John Collins is innocent.

"I have also written in a letter on file in this office, lays great stress upon the fact that John Collins was denied an opportunity to make any statement in support of his innocence, and upon the part of those acting for the state, to deny justice. He has been deprived substantially of his liberty without any trial, and without the protection of the law. These are the two most sacred guarantees of the constitution, and I have no doubt that I am strongly urged the pardon of John Collins. This view of the case is also emphasized by the testimony of the lawyers, including the late R. B. Welch, J. K. Coddling, W. S. McFarland, T. F. Doran, Hamilton, J. D. McFarland and others.

"All of John Collins' relatives have remained loyal and true to him during all these years and have continually asserted their belief in his innocence. He has made a model prisoner and has the respect and confidence of all the officers of the institution.

JOHN COLLINS NOT SURPRISED.
Received News of Pardon Quietly—Has Excellent Prison Record.

Leavenworth, Kan., Dec. 23.—In his cell, almost entirely quiet, almost apathetic manner, John Collins received the information of the pardon granted by Governor Hoch. He accepted the news cheerfully, but with reserve, maintaining little apparent effort at self-control.

Collins was in his cell house when Deputy Warden Dobson, met him last evening with the tidings that after ten years in the prison he was to regain his liberty.

"John, are you prepared to hear good news?" asked the official, who told him that he was to be pardoned. "I am sure glad to hear it," said Collins, taking the hand of the deputy warden.

"I had rather thought that the governor would do something, but I had not received any information in regard to action in the matter," said the prisoner. "My sister and mother are responsible to a great extent for efforts to secure my pardon."

As soon as the guard turned in their division and "all right" bell was sounded over 40 of them called on Collins and congratulated him. All told him they believed that he was innocent and wished him well.

"I am feeling fine," said Collins. "This makes a big difference from the Christmas ten years ago. I was in the prison for ten years and had to stay there until the day before Christmas. Now this Christmas it is a pardon and freedom."

"Did you expect a pardon?" Collins was asked.

"I had hoped the governor would do something for me. I did not know what it might be and felt that I might have to stay another year."

"When the governor was here two years ago he was in the cell house and talked with me about my case. When he visited here the second time a couple of months ago he spoke to me again in the cell house, but my case was not mentioned. Of course I feel deeply grateful to Governor Hoch."

When asked about those working to secure freedom for him Collins said:

Credit to Mother and Sister.
"My mother and sister worked constantly for me. My sister is young and has had most of the work left on her. They worked constantly for me. My sister sent out over 200 letters at one time to prominent people in Kansas and the family and all the faces concerned were well known, scores of people quite as competent jurors as the twelve men who sat in the case believe in his innocence, while scores of others believe on the same facts believe him guilty. Surely, in a case of such wide publicity and of such general interest, and with every member of his family who contended that he is innocent, he should, I think, have the benefit of the doubt and as one of my last official acts I not only give him the benefit of this very prevalent doubt, but I also give him the benefit of my own personal belief in his innocence. A belief

said Collins with a laugh. "John made a good clerk and could be depended on," said Deputy Warden Dobson who was in the room.

"I owe much to you, deputy," said Collins. "You have always treated me right. Those who behave are especially well treated here. I have never been sick and never lost a day's work while confined here. I was convicted on the testimony of two negroes, but I don't recall the names of the men who were my lawyer's reply when questioned on this line. 'Have you been measured for a suit?'" he was asked.

"No, it came as a pleasant surprise. I'll not wait for the making of a new suit. I can be fitted out with some kind of a suit tomorrow."

Collins occupied his regular cell last night. He had been in the prison nearly ten years. It is neatly trimmed. A large picture of his father hangs in the cell over the door. The face of his father was constantly before him. The officers and others do not believe that Collins could have kept that picture up before him for ten long years had he possessed his father's picture.

"I brought my father's picture with me and kept it all these years and will take it along when I go," said Collins with pride and certainly desiring to forget him. Collins was brought to the penitentiary March 27, 1899. He has never broken the rules and has a clear record. He is the leader of the penitentiary band. Collins was strict in his discipline with band members and if a prisoner did not behave or act right he would punish him in the most prompt manner. In addition to other duties he was one of the prison school teachers. Collins wanted to avoid notoriety but at the same time he was pleased to answer the questions of reporters.

What ex-Warden Jewett Says.
E. B. Jewett, former warden of the penitentiary, is in Topeka today and in reply to an inquiry about the pardon of John Collins said:

"Of course I was very much interested in the news, the institution having been under my charge as warden during the last few years of his confinement there. He was a model prisoner, but there are many model prisoners. I said last night when I heard the news in advance that there are many other prisoners deserving of a pardon."

Collins. This can almost always be said following any pardon. I said this before I knew on just what grounds the pardon had been granted. I learned today that it was because he believes Collins innocent. Of course an innocent man ought not to be in the prison, and I am glad to hear of a pardon. I appreciate the position of the governor and the officers of the institution because I was an officer and am familiar with the constant pressure that is brought to bear to secure the freedom of those in prison. It is almost a daily procession of weeping women and imploring wives and children to the officers of the prison see the prisoner apart from his crime and from the circumstances surrounding it. They see him as he appears under them. Collins was an intelligent, capable man with an education capable of doing many things that the ordinary prisoner cannot do.

We did not put him in the coal mine, because he was capable of doing more than manual labor. His qualifications made him a valuable man in the penitentiary. He had clerical ability, which saved the state money. He was a model prisoner, and his education was a great asset to the institution. He was accurate in what he did. He led the band and kept good discipline in the band. The officers and guards had no doubts about his character. Collins is free. He has conducted himself before them in a manner to more or less attach himself to their good wishes. The character of the man which is in the Collins case was bad; but that is not unusual.

"Grace Collins is a happy young woman. I would not say anything to mar her happiness."

Hayden Is Pleased.
Charles Hayden of Holton is in Topeka today. He was one of the attorneys who defended John Collins.

"I am naturally greatly pleased at the pardon of John Collins," said Hayden and he smiled expansively. "I have never believed the young man guilty and do not now. His conduct since he has been in prison has been such as to give me further confidence in his innocence. I am glad that he is free at last and believe Governor Hoch has done an act which will reflect credit upon himself."

EXPECT JOHN HOME TONIGHT.
Mrs. Collins Says This Will Be a Happy Christmas.

"Governor Hoch is a grand good man," was the statement made to a State Journal reporter this morning by Mrs. J. S. Collins, the stepmother of John Henry Collins, when seen at her home, 1011 West Eighth street. "And that doesn't half express it," she added as she talked about the pardon of her stepson from the state penitentiary.

"We are expecting John home some time today and he will likely be here in time for supper, although we do not know the exact time that he will arrive," said Mrs. Collins. "It will certainly be a happy meeting for us. I am sure Mr. Collins' trousers with \$6 in silver in the pockets and his gold watch on the dresser were not touched. I have not the least idea who did the terrible deed. Mr. Collins did not have an enemy in the world."

"I ran to the foot of the stairs and called John and said, 'The boys came down and ran for help. When I went back into the room, Mr. Collins could not talk.'"

"It was not a burglar, of that I am sure. Mr. Collins' trousers with \$6 in silver in the pockets and his gold watch on the dresser were not touched. I have not the least idea who did the terrible deed. Mr. Collins did not have an enemy in the world."

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brightest side of life even when in our trouble. Grace is particularly happy that she has never had to make any efforts to secure clemency for John, in the ten long years since his conviction, and even when things looked darkest about the night of the murder.

"We are making no plans for the future. We don't know what John will want to do and we will wait until he comes. We will probably make no definite plans for some time yet, and will just allow time to take its course. The best of plans, you know, often fail."

FRANCES BABCOCK IS GLAD.
Her Only Comment When Told Collins Had Been Pardoned.

Lawrence, Dec. 23.—When told that John Collins, now serving a term in the state penitentiary at Lansing had been pardoned by Governor Hoch, last night, Miss Frances Babcock said: "Oh, is that so? I am very glad to hear it." She refused to make any further comment upon the case. Miss Babcock was reported engaged to John Collins at the time of the murder.

She testified at the trial for the state. Miss Babcock said Collins had told her wild stories about his father's life being threatened by the negroes. One of John Collins' first acts after he learned of his father's murder was to telegraph from Topeka where he had accompanied his father to the night of the murder. The message, together with Collins' letter to three negroes who testified at the trial, was one of the state's strongest cards. The message read, "Father is dead. Tell the negroes to get out of town."

Collins was one of the most popular men attending the Kansas university. He was a member of the exclusive fraternities and spent money freely.

STORY OF THE MURDER.
J. S. Collins Killed in Home at Topeka Friday, May 13, 1898.

J. S. Collins was killed in Topeka, Friday, May 13, 1898. John Collins, his son, was arrested the day of the funeral. His preliminary was held at the district court of the city of Topeka in the Shawnee district court the following December. He was sentenced March 27, 1899, to serve a life term in the penitentiary for murder in the first degree.

Mr. Collins carried \$28,000 in life and accident insurance of which \$13,000 was payable to John and Grace. The insurance was issued by the Topeka Life and Accident company. The negroes whom it was alleged that he had tried to hire to kill his father and from the fact that he had a sweet-toothed wife, Mrs. Collins, who was anxious to marry but could not because of his small allowance, the burden of the evidence was such that John Collins was convicted of the crime of strong circumstantial evidence.

The following is the story of the Collins murder taken from the State Journal of May 13, 1898:

Used a Shotgun.
"J. S. Collins, the well-known real estate man, was killed at 5 o'clock this morning by a shotgun belonging to Mr. Collins and two shots were fired in rapid succession. The first shot was fired at the head of the bed and the second struck the right hip. Mrs. Collins was slightly wounded in the back.

"The wounds in the range for in both cases the entire charge tore its way into the body. Either would have produced death.

"The man who did the murderous work stood near the foot of the bed and the first shot was fired as Mr. Collins rose up in bed. The second shot was fired as he lay on the bed and the mattress was blood soaked.

"Mrs. Collins was sleeping in the south sitting room downstairs in a folding bed. Adjacent to the room on the west side of the house in which Mr. Collins kept his shotgun and loaded shells. Mrs. Collins says that the gun was never left loaded.

"Mrs. Collins was awakened by the roar of the gun. The two shots came in such quick succession that she could not distinguish between the two shots. She saw Mr. Collins, 'I am shot in the back. Get the camphor, Helen, quick and rub it on my back.'"

"Mrs. Collins bent over the prostrate form of her husband and saw the blood gushing from the wound in the shoulder.

"She ran to the head of the stairs and called John Collins, the son, who was sleeping in the northeast room. 'Some one has shot your father, come down and see what has happened.'"

"John sprang from his bed and ran downstairs. He was followed by Miss Grace Collins, the daughter, who slept on the second floor.

"When John Collins ran into the room where his father was stretched out on the bed he was still breathing but unconscious.

"Both the daughter and son ran across the street and aroused neighbors who telephoned for Dr. Teff, and John Collins was taken to the hospital in time to see him expire.

"The shotgun was found in the front hall with two empty shells in the chamber. The door was open and open, showing that whoever killed Mr. Collins did not leave that way.

"The folding doors between the parlor and sitting room had been closed and Mrs. Collins were sleeping were slightly ajar, enough so as to admit the passage of the body of a man.

"So far as is known not a window or door in the house was found open after the shooting. A north dining room window which is in the room directly north of that in which Mr. Collins was murdered was not fastened and one upstairs window was unfastened but neither were open.

"The character of the crime was the deepest mystery and Chief of Police Steele and Sheriff Cook are greatly puzzled.

Mrs. Collins' Story.
"Mrs. Collins told her story to a State Journal reporter a short time after the shooting. She said: 'I was sleeping soundly when I was awakened by the roar of the gun. I jumped up and Mr. Collins said, 'Helen, I am shot in the back.'"

"Are you much hurt, Helen?" I asked. "Yes," she replied, "I am badly hurt. I ran to the foot of the stairs and called John and said, 'The boys came down and ran for help. When I went back into the room, Mr. Collins could not talk.'"

GOUST'S STANDARD CHILD MOLLING, GOMPERS TO ALL

Supreme Court of Missouri Hands Down a Decision

Barring Indiana Company and Republic From State.

EACH FINED \$50,000.

Order Issued Dissolving the Waters Pierce Company

Effective Jan. 15 Unless It Becomes Independent.

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 23.—The supreme court of Missouri handed down a decision this morning ousting the Standard Oil company of Indiana and the Republic Oil company from the state, forbidding them ever again to do business in Missouri and dissolving the Waters-Pierce Oil company of St. Louis.

In addition each of the companies is fined \$50,000. The order dissolving the Waters-Pierce Oil company will become effective January 15, unless the company on or before that date furnishes to the supreme court satisfactory evidence that it intends to operate as an independent concern.

The court finds that the companies conspired: One—To regulate and fix prices to retail dealers. Two—To control and limit the trade in the refined products of petroleum. Three—To control and limit and prevent competition in the buying and selling of these products.

Four—To deceive and mislead the public into the belief that they were separate and distinct corporations pursuing independently their business as legitimate competitors. The suit to oust the three companies was instituted by Attorney General Hadley in 1895 and the evidence taken by a special commissioner in St. Louis and New York has been before the supreme court for more than a year.

The opinion was written by Judge Woodson. All seven judges concurred. Judge Graves and Lamb wrote separate concurring opinions.

Should Be Fined a Million.
Judge Lamb concurring as to the action against the Standard and Republic companies, adds in his opinion that the Waters-Pierce Oil company should be fined \$1,000,000 instead of \$50,000. Judge Graves in his opinion thinks the Waters-Pierce company should be dissolved.

The evidence showed that H. Clay Pierce who owns 40 per cent of the capital stock of the company did all in his power to prevent the Standard from entering the trust, even losing his position as president of the company on that account.

The minority stockholders, Judge Graves says, could not help themselves and they should be protected.

While Judge Graves urged a greater punishment for the Standard of Indiana, the Republic of Ohio, yet it was due to his influence that the Waters-Pierce Oil company was not absolutely ousted from Missouri.

The Standard Oil company has been guilty of unlawful means in the formation of a trust to control the output of oil and the prices at which it is sold to dealers.

Individual investments have been blighted by the power of the trust and small independent refiners and others have been forced to enter the service of the company as hewers of wood and drawers of water.

In concluding his report, which covers 400 typewritten pages, Judge Woodson says that the action in giving the Waters-Pierce Oil company time to make its own arrangements for the trust is taken to protect the minority stockholders. The evidence, he says, discloses that the majority interest in the company was owned by the New Jersey company and that these interests displaced H. Clay Pierce, the president of the Waters-Pierce company because of his persistent effort to conduct the affairs of the company independent of the Standard of Indiana.

The punishment, he says should be severe enough to meet the crime committed against the state but the good faith of the minority stockholders should be recognized.

SNOW FOR CHRISTMAS.

It Is Accompanied by Serious Hardships for New York's Poor.

New York, Dec. 23.—Snow on the ground for Christmas hailed joyfully by the well-to-do, with the first fall of flakes last evening has nevertheless emphasized a hardship which it brings to the poor. As the flakes drifted and the wind howled last night and early today men and women with babes in their arms applied for shelter at the municipal lodging house. Several declared that they had been dispossessed, being unable to pay their rent.

At the charities department in the Park building, the foot of East Twenty-sixth street more than a hundred men found shelter. Scores of pedestrians and shoppers sustained minor injuries by falling on icy pavements or being struck by vehicles while blinded by snow.

NO MONEY IN IT.

Registered Mail Package Stolen at Kansas City.

Kansas City, Dec. 23.—A mail pouch containing sixty pounds of registered packages consigned to eastern points, was stolen from the baggage car of the 22nd street and Grand avenue depot of the Belt line railway last night. Although the postoffice authorities refuse to make any statement as to the contents of the pouch, it is believed to have contained many valuable packages.

There was no money in it. The pouch was made up in the Kansas City postoffice.

Chairman of New International Educational Committee

Declares That He Can Make Character to Order.

IS AFTER SUBJECTS.

Wants to Select 12 in Chicago for Experiment.

Can Make Musicians, Artists or Inventors of Them.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—Dr. L. E. Landone, president of a Los Angeles institute and chairman of the new international educational committee, is in Chicago to select twelve children to be brought up under a new method under which, he says, it is possible to make a child anything a guardian wishes—good, bad or indifferent, sweet tempered or quarrelsome—if it only is placed in the proper environment and surrounded with the necessary equipment to develop the desired qualities.

Dr. Landone states that his own method is unlimited and that the age of the child and its previous environment and training offer no interference.

"I have taken children of a most vicious type," says he, "and placed them in an atmosphere of refinement, surrounded by cultured children, and kept them in constant contact with these conditions. In some cases the evolution took a long time, but in the end it was invariably successful.

"Some of my greatest successes have been in the rearing of musicians, sculptors and painters. In some cases the children in contact with little things that tend to bring out this trait. I can make a child a musician, an inventor, a musical, or an artistic quality."

Dr. Landone's methods make absolutely no provision for lecturing, schooling and punishing, as in his opinion, these have been tried "since the beginning of the world," with little or no success.

"One of the most needed qualities in this day and age is the quality of executives," says Dr. Landone, "and it is my ambition to make this the predominant trait to be developed in my coming experiments."

ALL WANT TAFT.

Thirty Cities in Texas Invite Him to Come and He Will Go.

Augusta, Ga., Dec. 23.—President-elect W. H. Taft has decided to visit the state of Texas at some convenient time after his inauguration preferably at the end of the special session of congress which he is to call to revise the tariff. While his itinerary for the visit has not been arranged he will make the city of Dallas one of the principal points of the trip.

Thirty cities and towns of the lone star state united in a request for his visit at any time he should choose to come. The invitation expressed a keen desire on the part of the commercial bodies of the places in question to make the personal acquaintance of Mr. Taft and promised him a cordial welcome and courteous treatment. It also dwelt upon the advantage which would result both to the state and to himself through such a visit.

MISTOOK SIGNALS.

Causes Wreck and Injury of Five Persons.

Chaffee, Mo., Dec. 23.—A local passenger train on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railway collided with a freight train here at 10:30 o'clock last night and five persons were injured. The injured:

Clark Deming, Lowwasser, Mo., back broken.
J. S. Springer, conductor, Chaffee, Mo., head bruised.
Seward Carroll, Caneyville, Ky., leg broken.
E. Sanders, Carwood, Mo., bruised.
Charles R. Hardin, Edna, O., burned serious. Is believed to have been in a confusion of signals.

Chaffee is 144 miles south of St. Louis.

Weather Is Cooler.

The weather today is cooler and the prospects of a fine Christmas day are beginning to vanish. Today is quite cloudy and the clouds threaten rain or snow. A change of colder weather is predicted by the weather bureau and the elements today seem to incline towards this prediction. The wind today is 15 miles an hour from the southwest, and the following are the temperatures for today:

7 o'clock.....38 | 11 o'clock.....44
8 o'clock.....40 | 12 o'clock.....41
9 o'clock.....42 | 1 o'clock.....35
10 o'clock.....42 | 2 o'clock.....35

Two Cars of Mail Burned.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 23.—The Union Pacific today brought in the water soaked remains of two cars of mail burned west of Cheyenne, one on Saturday and the other Monday last. They were what are known as "storage" cars, filled with paper mail and bulky, unregistered Christmas packages, there being no clerks with them. It is not known how the fire started.

Special.
A very suitable present for the man who likes a smoke. Get him a box of Rose Hat or Silver Stubs cigars from \$1.00 up. We can send a box of cigars to any place in the United States by express for 15c. The largest line of Meerschbaum and Briar pipes ever shown in Topeka. CHAS. S. EAGLE.

Weather Indications.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—Forecast for Kansas: Partly cloudy tonight and Thursday.

The Head of the American Federation of Labor

Is Sentenced to Serve Twelve Months in Prison.

LOSES BOYCOTT CASE.

Nine Months for Mitchell and Six for Morrison.

Held Guilty of Violating Order of the Court.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The famous contempt case of the Buck Stove & Range company against President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor was decided today by Justice Wright of the supreme court