

Aldrich
Historical dept

THE DENISON REVIEW

VOLUME 46

THE DENISON REVIEW, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4, 1911

NO. 1

BANK ROBBERY AT DOW CITY

Bank Safe is Dynamited and Over Three Thousand Dollars is Secured.

THE ROBBERS LEAVE NO CLUE

Yeggmen Work Silently and Swiftly Wreck the Safe, Secure Coin and Leave by Automobile.

On Thursday night the Bank of Dow City was entered by robbers, the brick vault was rapidly demolished with picks and crowbars, the steel safe was dynamited and completely wrecked, upwards of thirty-three hundred dollars in coin and currency was secured and no real clue was left as to the perpetrators of the deed.

When Assistant Cashier Wiggins opened the Bank of Dow City at eight o'clock on Friday morning a single glance told the story of depredation. The bricks and mortar of the vault were strewn about the floor, there were splinters of steel upon the floor, both the inner and the outer doors of the big safe had been torn from their hinges and the goodly amount of cash, more than three thousand dollars of it, was missing. The alarm was immediately given, but up to date no clue that could lead to the arrest of the bold bandits has been discovered.

It was evidently the work of professional yeggmen, men who had done like jobs before, who had studied the lay of the ground and who had their plans perfectly laid before they made their midnight raid.

The story of the deed can only be pieced together from the evidences they left behind them. In the first place the tool house of the Northwestern road had been broken into and picks and bars had been stolen. Next there was a well arranged barricade of barrels and boxes, purloined from the Wiggins store across the street. These had been placed by the side of the bank in such a position that a man could hide behind them and still maintain a lookout up and down the business street. Had the robbers been interrupted and fired upon the barrels afforded a sufficient protection against a revolver shot. The bank had evidently been entered from the front door, probably by the use of a skeleton key. Once inside, and with their lookout posted, the robbers proceeded to the back room of the bank. This partition served their purpose well as even had some one passed they would have been unobserved. To go through the brick wall with picks and crowbars was evidently but the work of a few minutes. Next the cracks of the safe door were well soaped, then the charge of dynamite was placed with a sufficient fuse to enable the robbers to get out of danger.

The explosion was violent but there was comparatively little noise. After waiting a few moments to make sure that no alarm had been given by the sound the burglars re-entered the bank. They found that their work had been complete and satisfactory; not only the outer door, but the inner door of the safe had been blown off, even the lock of the cash box had been demolished. It was but the work of a few moments to transfer the coin and currency to satchel carried for the purpose. There was no time to search the safety deposit boxes which the vault also contained; there was no desire to take any of the valuable papers. They could not be converted into cash readily and to do so would be to leave a clue. All the robbers wished was the cash and this they took as quickly and quietly as possible. Down the street, probably back of the Wiggins store, their auto waited for them; they ran across the street, sprang into the machine, which was ready for instant flight, and left the scene of their crime. They went quietly and slowly through the deserted streets of the sleeping village, but when once out of hearing they went like mad. Farmers near Dunlap report hearing an auto going at a high rate of speed during the night. There is a report that a machine tore westward through Logan about four o'clock in the morning.

Since the robbery every effort has been made to get some tangible clue to the robbers. Up to this time it is reported that nothing has been accomplished. The officers may know more than they are willing to tell, but we believe this is not the case.

The Bank of Dow City is a branch of the First National Bank of this city and is owned by the McHenry family. The loss will not in any way interfere with the solvency of the institution, nor would a loss a hundred times as great. There was no insurance. It appears that the McHenry's have been carrying insurance on the deposits in their three banks, the policies expired at different dates and it had been thought best to renew them all together on January first. In this way the insurance on the Dow City bank was allowed to lapse last November. Rather an unfortunate lapse for the owners of the bank. It would seem almost impossible that such a robbery could take place in the very heart of Dow City without arousing anyone of the inhabitants. It would seem that the night watch, if the city has one, must have been asleep along with the rest of the people. Probably it was fortunate for him that he did not detect the robbers, as they were evidently determined, professional criminals and would have put up a fight before being captured.

Everyone will sympathize with the owners of the bank in their loss and it is certainly a reflection upon our civilization and upon our methods of police protection that such crimes can be committed with apparent impunity.

M'CORMICK SALOON BURNS AT VAIL

Well Known Thirst Parlor of That Place is Totally Destroyed by a Midnight Fire.

LOSS IS ESTIMATED AT \$4,000

Entire Business Section Threatened and Only Saved by Prompt and Efficient Action of Firemen.

At midnight Tuesday night the J. J. McCormick saloon, a prominent landmark on the corner of Vail's main business street, was totally destroyed by fire. The building and stock are a total loss, estimated at \$4,000, with insurance at \$1500.

The fire had made such headway before it was discovered that it was soon realized that all efforts to save the building would be in vain, the firemen therefore turned their energies towards saving the building on the north, occupied by the Farmers State bank, and on the west, occupied as a creamery depot. It was only by the greatest effort that these buildings were saved, and had they gone it is probable that the entire business section on the west side of Vail's main street would have been destroyed. The bank building was injured somewhat by water and the creamery building was practically uninjured.

The fire demonstrated the fact that Vail has a fine fire department and that the water pressure is sufficient to deal very effectively with the flames. Vail people regret the loss which Mr. McCormick sustains, but are congratulating themselves that the town escaped as luckily as it did from what might have been a serious conflagration.

Board in Session.

The board of supervisors are now holding their January meeting. The board convened on Tuesday and Mr. H. D. Baeth was elected chairman for the year. The following committees were appointed:

Supplying coal for court house and jail—J. T. Carey.

On poor farm and buildings—Whole board.

Overseer of poor in the city of Denison—J. T. Carey.

Paying county officers—H. D. Baeth.

To look after and construct bridges and county road work—Thos. Ahart, Boyer, Union, Paradise and Willow; H. D. Baeth, Otter Creek, Morgan, Soldier and Charter Oak; John Holland, Jackson, Stockholm, Milford and West Side; John Hage, Iowa, Nishnabotny, Washington and Hayes; J. T. Carey, Denison, Goodrich, East Boyer and Hanover.

Mr. E. H. Swasey is up from Dow City today transacting business.

CONG. SMITH TO HELP DENISON

He Promises That if Any Appropriation is Passed Denison Will be Favored.

ARCHITECT'S OFFICE IS BEHIND

There is Thus no Immediate Prospect That Denison's Building Will Be Built on This Account.

Hon. J. P. Conner, through whose efforts while a member of congress Denison first secured recognition in the appropriation of \$10,000 for the purchase of a site for a federal building and who later secured the authorization for a \$50,000 building to be erected here, has been pushing the matter of getting the requisite appropriation through congress. He has been in communication with Congressman Walter I. Smith, a member of the appropriation committee of the house, and he has secured his promise that in event that any appropriation bill is passed for public buildings at this session he will do his best to secure the required amounts, both for this city and for Red Oak, which is in his own district. At the same time Mr. Smith points out that the supervising architect of the government is fully twenty months behind in his work and that an appropriation at this time would not hasten matters. In fact, it is probable that Denison will be obliged to wait several years for its new postoffice, but it is at least comforting to know that it is on the way and that we have in congress such a powerful friend as Walter I. Smith.

Mr. Smith's reply to Judge Conner's letter is in part as follows:

Hon. J. P. Conner, Denison, Iowa.

Dear Friend:—I received your letter of December 13th. At the time the last public building bill was passed it was announced quite generally that so many public buildings had been authorized in the recent years that the supervising architect was then more than twenty months behind in the preparation of plans and it was partly upon this assumption that the passing of the public building bill did not in fact require any money for substantially two years that it was allowed to pass. If, as a matter of fact, public building bills are to continue authorizing as many new buildings as recently, of course we should enlarge the force of the supervising architect, but as it is quite generally the policy not to build buildings except in towns of about ten thousand receipts or better and as substantially all such towns have now been provided for, it has been the impression that public building bills would fall off. If, as a matter of fact, it can be done without delaying any of these buildings in the next fiscal year, it would not seem wise to appropriate this money at this time when nothing was to be attained by it.

Under a new law the expenses of the supervising architect's office are paid by separate appropriations and do not come out of the authorization for public buildings so that the fail-

ure to appropriate anything for Denison and Red Oak would not delay the preparation of the plans for those buildings and an appropriation would not expedite the putting up of the buildings. Of course, if any towns are provided for I shall try to take care of both Red Oak and Denison. Cordially yours,
WALTER I. SMITH.

SHAW REMEMBERS DENISON.

Sends Christmas Gift of \$200 to the First Methodist Church of This City.

The officials of the Methodist church here are delighted with their success in raising the money to pay the expenses of improvements recently put upon the church. They especially appreciate the donation of Hon. Leslie M. Shaw, who, on Christmas morning, had delivered to Mr. E. Gulick, the treasurer of the church, a check for \$200. Mr. Shaw proves his affection for Denison in so many ways that his old friends here have come to look upon him as one of the dependable supports of the city.

The expenses for decorating and remodeling the church cost in the neighborhood of \$2,000, almost all of which has been provided, and it is safe to say that the remainder will be forthcoming without much effort. The beautiful pipe organ, furnished by Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Voss, was put in at an expense to them alone of \$3,000. The members of the church are delighted, not only with the organ, but with the improvements made on the church, which are of permanent character and will relieve the church of any expense along this line for many years to come.

DEATH OF A RAILROAD MAN.

Frank Wagner Dies at Boone December 27th, and Buried at West Side, Iowa.

Hundreds of people on the division of the Northwestern between Boone and Council Bluffs will be sorry to hear of the death of Conductor Frank Wagner, which occurred at his home in Boone on Tuesday, Dec. 27th. He had been affected with a heart trouble for some years, but pneumonia, which he contracted in line of duty, caused his death. He was born at Low Moor, Clinton county, on Christmas day, fifty-two years ago. In 1871 the family came to West Side, where he grew to manhood. He was railroading for twenty-five years with his home at Boone during much of the time. He leaves a wife and three children and his mother, Mrs. S. J. Wagner of Denison. There was a short funeral service at Boone and then the casket was brought to the old family church at West Side, where regular exercises were held. The Northwestern road sent a special coach made up of Boone friends to the funeral which took place Thursday.

SHOULD CHANGE TRAIN SCHEDULE

Northwestern Schedule is a Disappointment to Denison People and Ought to be Changed.

CHICAGO PASSENGERS KICK.

Have to Change Cars at Carroll and Wait for Local—Chicago Train East Does not Stop Mornings.

The Northwestern officials complained of the criticism made in the Denison papers of last week on account of the change of schedule recently made which discriminated against Denison. The Review has no desire to do the company any injustice, and hastens to correct the statement that in going east at night it would be necessary to take the local and change at Carroll in order to make proper time to Chicago. It is said the change does not affect the evening train going east, and that the trains due at 7:23, 8:16 and 8:24 all stop here, but there are other changes that are exceedingly disappointing to Denison people who have occasion to travel over the Northwestern road.

There are but two trains from Chicago through here in the morning, neither of which is scheduled to stop. They leave Chicago about six o'clock in the evening and until recently stopped here. A passenger from Chicago to Denison is compelled to get off the train at Carroll on an unseasonable hour in the morning and wait for the local that arrives here about 7:20. Another change which is disappointing is that a fast train passing through here between nine and ten o'clock in the morning for Chicago does not stop in Denison, but a local train runs perhaps a half an hour ahead of it that stops here and also at Carroll, where the Chicago passenger from Denison can change and take the fast train. As there are no other trains in the morning for Chicago, it is hardly fair to a Denison passenger that he must change cars in order to make proper time to the city. In these two respects the schedule should be changed so that passengers from Chicago can reach here in the morning without having to wait around the station at Carroll for several hours to take the local. We imagine the company will be compelled to correct their schedule or else suffer severe criticism.

Council Meeting.

The council met in regular session Monday evening. The resignation of C. R. French was accepted but no action was taken for the filling of this vacancy. An ordinance was passed that water meters shall be installed by the people of the city before May 1, 1911.

75 Ladies Waists worth up to \$2.00
Choice 89cts

Ladies' Fur Capes worth up to \$2.48
Choice \$1.29

January Clearance Sale

January always finds us with broken lines and odd sizes and styles that we must clean up. We are this week offering all short lengths in piece goods and every garment in our regular stock at 1-2 price and less.

Ladies' Belts. any in our stock 50c
choice 10c

Ladies' Muffs Large Size, Skinner's Satin Lined, worth \$5.00
choice \$2.39



Ladies' Cloak Clearance

25 Ladies' Cloaks, worth up to \$12.50 all colors and blacks, at

\$5.98

An Over Shoe Special

Ladies one buckle Artic 89cts.
Gent's one buckle Artic 98cts.

Leggings & Gater Sp'l

Men's heavy canvas leggings at 50 cents.
Men's and Ladies' Gaters, in Black, at 50 cents.

Special in Meat for this week only.
Roasts only 11cts.



Men's Suit Clearance

Every high-grade gent's suit in our stock is being offered at the one price of

\$10

Be sure to see them.

Ladies' Suit Clearance

Your choice of any suit left in stock, worth up to \$35, at

13.98

Others 3.50 to 9.85 21265



Geo. Menagh & Co., Broadway and Main Sts.