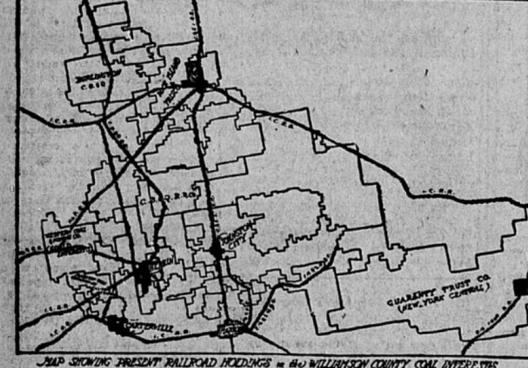


RAILROADS in a GREAT STRUGGLE for SHARES in A BLACK KLONDIKE

A Little Section of Southern Illinois into which \$20,000,000 has been poured in the last few years, making PLUTOCRATS of PLAIN FARMERS and building CITIES where before were open fields. — The marvelous COAL FIELDS of WILLIAMSON and adjoining Counties, and how Railroad Kings are battling for them.



MAP SHOWING PRESENT RAILROAD HOLDINGS IN THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY COAL INTERESTS.

IN THE heart of Southern Illinois—in "Little Egypt" once a term of derision, but now synonymous with prosperity and modern progress—a section of perhaps a thousand square miles, embracing parts of four counties and not all of any one of them, has developed almost untold wealth and has become the theater of struggles none the less titanic because the outer world has not heard much of them, so silently have they been carried on. Fortunes have been made, and what is more marvelous, have not been lost, in the rapid advancement of the section. Communities have grown prosperous far beyond the dreams of the earlier settlers, and their prosperity continues. Within these precincts the busy hum of trade has never been stilled. "Everybody who wants to be making money" is the way one of the busiest of business men puts it.

Such in brief and in general terms is the recent history of the immense and new coal-producing area of Williamson, Franklin, Saline and Jackson counties. There lie the immense deposits of bituminous coal, which in a few short years have brought Williamson County from a negligible part of the coal-producing State of Illinois to the very first rank in the coal counties of the commonwealth, now fifty-five in number, and every one of them high in the race of fuel production. How this has come about, all within less than a decade, if we neglect the little local shafts which have existed merely for provision of home consumption, makes an interesting chapter in the history of Illinois which has not yet been written. Such history is compressed within that decade, indeed, in large part within the last half of that decade, as to be almost unbelievable were not the confirmation so ready to hand. And the end is not yet, for with it all scarcely more than a quarter of the total coal-bearing area is in the hands of actively operating companies. The other three-quarters is still held by the original owners, some even held under the original government patents without a single transfer since the days of the homestead, of the "bit act," when land was purchasable for 12½ cents per acre, and of the 1825 act. The railroad struggle for traffic and ownership supremacy is still on, beneath the surface. New lines are to be built, new surveys are being made, and with the coming of the Panama canal this little section of Illinois will bear its share not alone in the production of long-haul tonnage to the gulf ports, but in the provision of the power for other tonnage, and as a centering point for the big transportation lines which are reaching out for the gulf coast against the time when the annual traffic will have its weight with the movement of freight from the Northwest and from all the Middle West and the Upper Mississippi valley.

Such railroad kings as Hill, Gould and Youkam all have had their eyes glued upon this favored spot, and all have shown their interest in the grasp which they already have upon it, but there is more to be done, and more will be done, even though it be silently and without the sounding of brass.

All this by way of explanation, for the sudden accretion of wealth in the heart of Little Egypt has come about through the railroad battle for coal and coal traffic. The other developments have been concurrent with it and are only to be understood with the aid of this knowledge. Every move that has been made has been in the silence of a hubbub which has come when they reach out for anything they really want, and with these moves have come the rapid growth of town and country and the sudden increase in individual prosperity. The last decade has seen Harrisburg grow from a village of 1,000 or more souls to a thriving inland city of 12,000, with national banks, handsome business blocks, beautiful churches and paved streets.

MOUSE IN THE CHOR.



During a service in the Presbyterian Church at Milford, Mich., a little mouse crept out from a hole in the wall and darted toward a row of young ladies who sat back of the pulpit and composed part of the choir. One of them espied the little rodent and instantly there was a hubbub which interrupted the service for several minutes. Skirts were hastily gathered together and the female singers quickly got off the floor, using their chairs as temporary retreats. Alarmed at the racket the mouse made off in another direction, to the relief of all present. The minister then resumed his sermon.

Avoiding the Dilemma.
"By Jove, I find it quite impossible to lift my new style of spring hat to a lady, don't you know?"
"What can you do?"
"Cross the street, don't you know?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

ATCHISON GLOBE SIGHTS.

About the only vacation some people get is in interruptions in their work.

A woman is immensely flattered if her husband tells her she is "broad minded."

As soon as we get rid of one difficulty, we usually find another waiting to take its place.

The older people get, the less regard they have for looks in their "nighties," and the more for comfort.

Women use the same expressions of sorrow in telling of a disappointment in a dressmaker as of a disappointment in love.

A man was trying to speak of a pacifier to-day, and referred to him as "pacifier." Why isn't "pacifier" a good word?

Forgiveness doesn't rush around and show the same disposition to violate the speed ordinance which characterizes drivers.

PLAN OF THE ARENA FOR THE JEFF-JOHNSON FIGHT.

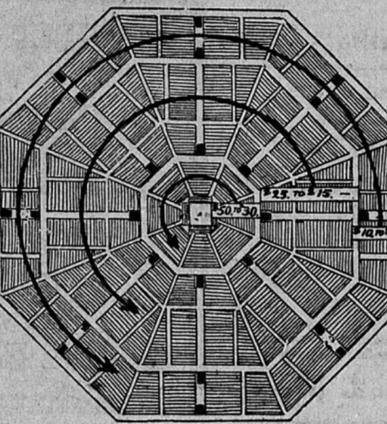


DIAGRAM OF THE SEAT PLAN OF THE FIGHT ARENA.

Those who are going to see the Jeffries and Johnson fight can glean some sort of an idea regarding the location of the seats from the accompanying reproduction of the architect's blue print of the seating scheme. Octagonal in form, the arena is planned to seat 30,000 at present, but it can be enlarged to accommodate twice that number should the occasion warrant. The highest priced seats will be \$50. These will be ringside boxes. Right behind them are the \$30 seats, then two divisions of \$25 and \$15 seats, and around the outside the \$10 and \$5 seats.

Practical Charity.
"See the poor stray cat."
"Why not toss him some meat?"
"No; I believe in teaching others to help themselves. I will throw out some crumbs to attract the birds and maybe the cat can catch one."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Definition.
"What's a pyromaniac, sis?"
"One of them folks that's crazy about burnt wood work."—Baltimore American.

The Old Character.
Ethelyn—Oh, grandma, Jack and I were to see the new play last night! All the players were dressed to represent barnyard fowls.

Grandma—Why, that's nothing! The summer before I was married, I had a duck suit, a leghorn hat trimmed with canary ribbon, and everyone said your grandfather was the biggest quack in town.—Judge.

Seven-eighths of the best consumed in Great Britain is home produced.

BOY LASSOS CAR AND IS DRAGGED FOUR BLOCKS.



Playing "Wild West" with a rope tied around his body, the small son of Mortimer Duffield succeeded in lassoing the Port Norris trolley car near his home in Bridgeton, N. J. He was dragged behind the fast-moving car for nearly four squares. Then the conductor happened to turn around and noticed that something tied to the rope was being pulled along. He stopped the car, and the boy was dragged nearly unconscious and badly bruised. No bones were broken.

The Gossiper.
"They say she will create no end of gossip."
"Well, I guess the jobbers in that community will be able to handle her output."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Fido's Portion.
"Did you give the scraps of meat to the dog, Nora?"
"You forgot, mum, but I've got 'em!"
"You forgot, mum, but I've got 'em!"
"He's been blowing about what he blew in at his blowout!"

Why Tiresome.
"Brags is a dreadfully tiresome chap."
"What's he been doing now?"
"He's been blowing about what he blew in at his blowout!"

It Happens.
The Woman—Here's a wonderful thing. I've just been reading of a man who reached the age of 40 without learning how to read or write. He met a woman, and for her sake he made a scholar of himself in two years.

The Man—That's nothing. I know a man who was a profound scholar at 40. Then he met a woman, and for her sake made a fool of himself in two days.—Exchange.

Turn over a new leaf.—Middleton

News of Iowa

FARMER HAS CORN WELL UP.

Ten Acres Planted in March Makes Fine Showing.

A farmer near Parkersburg, just to experiment and observe what the effect would be, planted ten acres of ground to corn the latter part of March. The genial sunshine and the rains of early April coaxed the corn up out of the ground, and it grew and thrived and showed strong. Though there has been some light frosts since the plants have peeped through the soil, they were not severe enough to kill the tender plants, and the corn in now four or five inches tall and has been ploughed through once. The like of this experience has never been heard of before, and it is believed that it sets the record for all time for the Northern and Central States. With no killing frost from this time forward, this corn will be tassel and eared by July 1.

STARBLING CASE NEAR MURRAY.

Girl Admits Buying Babe to Escape Her Parents.

A sensation was caused when the dead body of an infant was found buried in hay in a barn one mile west of Murray. The girl, the name of Lewis lives on the farm and the daughter of the Lewis, broke down and confessed to the crime. She is a corner and that she was the mother of the child and that it was born last March 25 and died shortly afterward. In an attempt to escape disgrace she buried the body of the child in the hay. She made a sworn statement to this, also to the effect that the child's father was Placard Dinamore of Charleston. She was bound over to the grand jury in the sum of \$400 on a charge of manslaughter.

STAR OF BETHLEHEM A COMET?

Pastor Says Heavenly Visitor of Long Ago Was Halley's Wanderer.

The star of Bethlehem was only Halley's comet, says the Rev. Dr. Spicer from his pulpit at St. Paul's Universalist Church, in Webster City. Bible students say Jesus was born four years prior to the year 1 A. D. according to the present calendar, figuring back at the interval the comet is due, the Rev. Dr. Spicer finds that this heavenly visitor was due when the star of Bethlehem was seen. The comet, like the star, appears in the east and takes a southerly course. These deductions Dr. Spicer gives it as his belief that the star and the comet are one.

PERCENTAGES ARE LOW.

First Record of Iowa Worst in History.

Secretary Green of the State Horticultural Society has compiled the report for the first of May on condition of Iowa fruit. "It shows a smaller percentage for this time of the year than ever before in the history of the state," he says. Percentages: Strawberries, 38; grapes, 20; black raspberries, 12; red raspberries, 10; cherries, 6; currants, 5; apples, 8; blackberries, 21; gooseberries, 4; American plums, 1; pears, domestic plums, Japanese plums and peaches, all less than 1 per cent.

INDICTED FOR DYNAMITING.

Dr. Ida M. Guthrie Makes Plea of Not Guilty at Newton.

Dr. Ida M. Guthrie was formally arraigned in Newton on the indictment charging her with the dynamiting of the J. A. Quick home at Prairie City. She pleaded not guilty and waived formal arraignment. Her trial was set for June 13. Dr. Guthrie was represented by W. H. Harzsell, Carthage, Ill., and Morgan and Scott of Newton. Her bail has been fixed at \$3,000. E. J. Salmon has been retained by J. A. Quick to assist in the prosecution.

ARREST FIREBUG IN ACT.

An Important Capture is Made by Dubuque Policemen.

Charles W. Smith, aged 24, was caught in the act of starting a fire in the Grand Opera House in Dubuque. Fire was discovered early in the afternoon and officers becoming suspicious kept a close guard the rest of the day. Smith sneaked into the basement and started the fire. The officers followed him and caught him on the stairs. He is said to be a dope fiend and a degenerate.

NEWTON BOYS TO PEN.

William Neal, Jr., and Jasper Bowie Get Ten Years.

William Neal, aged 19 years, and Jasper Bowie, his pal, aged 20 years, indicted at Newton, pleaded guilty in court, and were sentenced to ten years each in the Anamosa reformatory. They broke into the Frank Baldwin hardware store and sold the plumbing material on an East Side dealer in Des Moines.

Will Build New Line.

A proposition to build an interurban line between Logan and Magnolia is being considered by business men of both towns. A new \$50,000 hotel will probably be erected in Logan.

Fond Dying Under Floor of Barn.

Joseph Breen, aged 35, a farmer residing near Farley, drank a quantity of carbolic acid and died soon afterwards. He was found under the floor of the barn in a dying condition.

Dubuque Child Dies of Burns.

Rosellia, the 6-year-old daughter of Edward Welter, a farmer three miles from Dubuque, died from burns received when her dress caught fire from an old stump that had been burned out.

Will Shorten Line.

The Northwestern Railroad is preparing plans to shorten the route between Des Moines and Sioux City, according to reports. The prospect of a new interurban is said to have forced the road to make this decision.

Search for Oil Around Ottumwa.

J. R. Davis, of Salem, Ill., an old and experienced oil prospector, is of the belief that there are large deposits of oil between Ottumwa and Eddyville. He is in Eddyville and will be joined in a few days by a party of Illinois prospectors, and if oil is found they will lease 10,000 acres.

Queen's Son in Jail.

Calaficus Gorgodji, who claims to be a son of Queen Lil of the Sandwich Islands, has been in jail in Council Bluffs for being drunk.

IOWA'S TUBERCULOSIS SITUATION

White Plague Causes Six Per Cent of Deaths.

Of the 1,854 deaths in Iowa from forty-one different diseases, during the month of January, over 6 per cent or 113 of them were the direct result of tuberculosis of the lungs, according to the report of the state registrar of vital statistics for the month of January, made public the other day.

Typhoid claimed 24, white appendicitis 23. The highest number of deaths, 196, were the result of pneumonia, which when taken with the number of deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs, indicates that Iowans are a weak lunged crowd of people. The greatest number of deaths occurred between the ages of 70 and 80 years, there being 344 between those ages for January. During the month, 1,028 deaths were among the males, while the balance, 836, were females; and 1,345 native born Iowans were claimed by death, while only 483 of foreign birth were victims of disease. More married people than single ones died during the month, indicating either that single blessedness is conducive of longevity or that the proportion of married to single persons is sufficiently greater to cause the increase in the death rate. A total of 881 single people died, while 790 married ones crossed the great divide. Only twenty-four divorcees died during the month and 148 widowed people were claimed by the grim reaper.

FERNALD HAS HEAVY FIRE LOSS.

Little Town Suffers Property Loss of \$25,000.

A fire which destroyed property to the value of \$25,000 and threatened to wipe out the little town of Fernald, on the Short line, broke out the other afternoon. The Western Grain Company elevator, valued at \$5,000, was destroyed together with 6,000 bushels of cribbed ear corn, 2,000 bushels of oats, and 100 tons of soft coal belonging to the company. C. A. Duntz, owner of the lumber and implement business, lost a \$10,000 stock of lumber, \$2,000 stock of implement and a building worth \$2,000. One small frame store building worth \$500 was consumed, four gondola cars on the tracks were burned, and many nearby buildings were fired at different times but were saved. There was absolutely no fire protection in the town and the wind was blowing a gale. The fire started from a bonfire, spread to a barn, then to the crib, east to the elevator, then to the lumber yard. The grain company was insured, but there is doubt as to whether the Duntz property was covered by insurance.

DOUBLE TRAGEDY AT DECORAH.

Family Trouble Believed to Have Resulted in Murder and Suicide.

The lifeless bodies of Hans Gold and his wife were discovered in one of the upper rooms of their home in Decorah, and from the evidence of neighbors at the coroner's inquest it was evident that Gold shot his wife and then took his own life by shooting himself through the heart with the weapon (a shotgun), which he took the life of his wife. Gold was a man about 36 years of age and was a stone mason by occupation. He was much given to liquor and when intoxicated it is said would invariably assault his wife, and when in one of these paroxysms of intoxication, recently he threw a window through one of the upper chamber windows, through sash and glass, out into the yard below. Mrs. Gold commenced proceedings for a divorce last spring, but on protestation of better treatment, the bill was not obtained.

SWALLOWS SPOON AT TABLE.

Girls Laugh Heavily and Utterally When Debra Hae Theat.

While laughing at something which had been said, Grace Cantonwise, 13 years old, swallowed a teaspoon in Oxford Junction. Her mother and sister Pearl, on seeing what had happened, both fainted. One of their friends, E. summoned a doctor, who after many failures, succeeded in getting hold of the bowl of the spoon with an instrument and taking it out.

Arm Blown Off in Wolf Hunt.

Word reaches Clear Lake from Tilden, Neb., that H. Edson had his arm blown off while wolf hunting.

ALL OVER THE STATE.

A special grand jury at Newton indicted Dr. Mary Ida Guthrie on a charge of dynamiting the residence of Jesse A. Quick at Prairie City April 23.

H. D. Copeland, a banker and a member of the Republican State Central Committee from the Eighth Iowa District, died at his home in Charleston.

Little Florence Gerber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Gerber, of Burlington, is dead as the result of injuries received while at play at the West Madison school. The child slipped and struck her head on a board.

Judge Woodruff, of Council Bluffs, has ordered the removal of Chief of Police George H. Richmond in deciding the ouster case brought against the chief, in which he was accused of remissness in his duties during the operations of the Mabray gang of swindlers.

The Old Catholic Church Building at Remsen, with the foundation material, was sold at public auction to Cornelius Ludwig for \$1,025.

Warren Garst of Coon Rapids, lieutenant governor during the last term of Senator Cummins as governor, announces himself as a progressive candidate for the Republican nomination for governor of Iowa, opposing Gov. B. F. Carroll. Mr. Garst's announcement is the political sensation of the year in Iowa.

For refusing to give information to a census enumerator a Des Moines woman faces prosecution in the federal court. The defendant, who had been arrested, was bound over to the federal grand jury.

The winners of the 33rd annual State declamatory contest held in Waterloo were as follows: Oratorical class, 1st, Julia Swisher, Sigourney; 2d, Fred Dean, Glenwood; dramatic class, 1st, Judge Stoker, Sheldon; 2d, Ruth Hips, Centerville; humorous class, 1st, Robert Byrnes, Elkader; 2d, Lois Charter, Guthrie Center.

Roy Cummins, a young man about 13 years of age, walked into the police station in Clinton and gave himself up to the chief. He says he is guilty of passing forged checks bearing the name of Holden, secretary of the Middle-Evans Mfg. Co., of Chicago, for \$6.75. He was locked up and will be taken to Chicago.

For some unknown reason humming birds are disappearing from the island of Trinidad. Half a century ago there were eighteen species; now there are but five.

ON BOARD A LEPER SHIP

Three Thousand Afflicted Were Transferred to Philippine Isolation Pen.

STORY OF AMERICAN SAILOR.

Heartrending Scenes When Relatives and Friends Attempted to Rescue the Victims.

"Alf" Jorgenson, second mate of the American ship Atlas, in port from the far east, is back in his native land after an absence of three years with a thrilling narrative of his experience during that time, says the New York Evening Telegram. Jorgenson hails from Seattle and shipped on a sailing vessel from San Francisco three years ago. He landed in the Philippines, and there attached himself to one of the numerous coast guard steamers maintained by the government to patrol the coasts of the islands and keep down the piratical Moros, whose main desire in life is to murder the pearl divers and destroy the native industries of the Philippines.

"After a year on various coast guard steamers doing patrol duty," said young Jorgenson to-day, "I was transferred to the Basilian, also a coast guard vessel, which, however, had been detailed to transfer lepers from the various ports of the Philippines to Culion Island. For three months we transferred hundreds of the lepers to the isolation pen on Culion.

"While the American officers used every kindness and gentleness in the work of taking away the unfortunates from the villages and towns to the lonely island, they often had to use force to prevent rescues by friends and relatives. Sometimes the scenes were heartrending when families had to be separated because there was no room for the lepers to take their kin to Culion.

"In many instances the Moros, under the pretext of assisting the friends and relatives of the lepers, would attack us, and on one occasion a numerous force surrounded the Basilian, but were repulsed.

"As leprosy is so contagious to the European or American, none of us were afraid to handle the lepers. Three months of this was enough for all of us on the Basilian, and to a man we asked for a transfer to another steamer. Capt. T. A. Hillgrove, who, by the way, is a New York man, was in command of the Basilian. In all, we transferred about 3,000 lepers in the three months we were on this detail. I quit the leprosy transfer

AUTHOR, AND WOMAN HE GAVE TO ANOTHER MAN AS BUSKIN DID.

John Ruskin's world famous act in giving his wife to his friend, Sir John Mills, has been duplicated by J. M. Barrie, author of modern days. The divorce which Barrie sought in England, when he found that his wife loved Gilbert Cannan, a young dramatic critic, has been made absolute and the infatuated couple is free to wed. Barrie gave his former wife a deed to a palatial home at Franham and \$750 a year income for life. The author admits that he deeply loves the woman he divorced, but for the sake of her happiness gave her to Cannan.



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GOVERNOR HUGHES OF NEW YORK.

Whom President Taft has named for the Supreme bench, is to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Justice Brewer of Kansas. Justice Brewer was the second of his family to serve with Chief Justice Fuller in the capacity of associate justice. Stephen J. Field, whom Justice McKenna of San Francisco succeeded in 1897, was his uncle. Others who have been members of the court since Fuller was appointed by President Cleveland are Joseph P. Bradley of New Jersey, Stanley Matthews of Ohio, Horace Gray of Massachusetts, Samuel Blatchford of New York, Lucius Q. C. Lamar of Mississippi, Henry B. Brown of Michigan, George Shiras Jr. of Pennsylvania. Chief Justice Fuller is the oldest member of the court, though Justice Harlan, who is the oldest in point of service, having been a member since the Hayes administration of thirty-three years ago, is a close second. The baby of the court, William Henry Moody, is 57, while the other four range in age from 61 to 69, so the court is a living exemplification that old men are for counsel.

THE HONOR AND RESPONSIBILITY OF NAMING THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THIS TRIBUNAL IS GIVEN TO COMPARATIVELY FEW PRESIDENTS.

In 1890 the centenary of the Supreme Court was celebrated with fitting ceremony in New York, the city where it first sat. At that celebration Edward S. Phelps said of this tribunal: "Judges will be appointed and will pass. One generation rapidly succeeds another. But whoever comes, and whoever goes, the court remains, keeping alive through many a century we shall not see, the light that burns with a constant radiance upon the high altar of American constitutional justice."

SPLINTERS.

It is a mistake to grab more words than you can carry away.

After an exchange of hot words a coolness is sure to set in.

You cannot always judge a man's friendship by the way he shakes your hand.

Boyes—Did I understand you to say that your friend is a stage hand?
Joyce—No, a stage foot; he does a dancing turn.

The right way is the hardest way at the start, but the easiest way at the finish.

Bills—Do you think that man tried to show his gallantry in guessing that Miss Antique's age was only 20 years?
Wills—No, he is the weather prophet.

"Father sent me over to borrow your paper; he wants to read it."
"Tell him I'm coming over to borrow his breakfast; I only want to eat it."

Bowers—Were they a long time drawing the jury? Powers—When they drew the last man they had to take the first man out and get his hair cut.



GOVERNOR C. E. HUGHES.

thirty-four years. He and Taney together covered a period of sixty-three eventful years.

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FOOLING THE COMET.

"I don't care whether Halley's comet hits the world on May 18 or not," said Mike.

"You don't, eh?" said Pat.

"I do not. I'll be safe anyhow, for I'm going to be out of town on that date."—Detroit Free Press.

"Here's Luck, Evelyn!"
"Evelyn is not very handsome. Why do you call her a belle?"
"She's waiting for some man to ring her."

Applicable.

"Pa," asked little Philander Phypas, "who was it said, 'The first shall be last'?"
"I don't remember, son," answered Mr. Phypas, who is keenly interested in automobile track records. "Probably some fellow who had tire trouble in the final lap."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Every day the railroads of New York move 85 per cent of the population of the city.