

BYERS HAS BEST OF IT

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ARGUMENTS FOR LOWER EXPRESS RATES UNANSWERABLE.

SHOWS RAILROADS COULD CARRY BUSINESS FOR LESS

People of State Taxed Heavily to Maintain Needless Express Companies—Talk of James A. Smith for Senator Revisited—Young May Withdraw From Contest Before Legislature.

Special to Times-Republican.

Des Moines, Dec. 28.—The fight put up by Attorney General Byers for reduction of rates on express business is declared by attorneys for the express companies to be the most effective ever made in any state, and the case which has been pending in Iowa the past year is regarded as one of the most important ever brought affecting the transportation business and its relation to the building up of industries. The evidence brought to the surface by Secretary Wrightman of the Iowa Manufacturers' Association is said, also, to be the most complete on record.

Attorney General Byers, in his argument to the commission, declared that a large percentage of the present expenses of the express companies is a needless tax upon the people, and when it operates as it has to prohibit the people from using an important branch of the transportation service of the country it is an intolerable burden. He shows that the companies pay the railroads from 40 to 57 per cent of the gross earnings as rental of the cars and 10 per cent of the gross receipts go to the railroad agents, so that in actual practice the railroads get about 70 per cent of the gross charges of the express companies. Most of this service could be done by the railroad itself.

If the express companies can not render this service at reasonable charges," he said, "and make a profit, the railroads can, and the country is under no obligation to tax itself to maintain the express companies."

The suggestion on the part of the state, thru the attorney general, that unless the express companies can perform this service at reasonable rates it ought to be done directly by the railroads, has led to the story being circulated that Mr. Byers had urged government or state ownership and operation of the companies. This is not true; but his argument has gone to the length of insisting that it would be better for the railroads to take over and handle all the express business direct. It is expected that in the decision of the case soon to be made this phase of the matter will be discussed at length.

Incidental to the coming of Senator James A. Smith of Mitchell county, to the city yesterday, there was substantial revival of talk of the availability of the veteran legislator and floor leader of the state senate for the Dooliver succession. The talk did not proceed from Senator Smith himself, however, for he has been elected for himself nor any other man. But word came to the city that among the legislators themselves there has grown up a decided movement for the selection of Senator Smith, and it is based upon the theory that in choosing the senator the legislative caucus ought to select someone whose name is well known, who has been active in the cause of good government in Iowa, who is in line with the republican party policy in regard to corporations, railroad control and regulation, and similar live issues.

Senator Smith will have a card following in northern Iowa, where he is best known should he permit use of his name, and he has never yet taken himself out of the list of available. After hasty conferences with a number of senators and representatives from other parts of the state, Senator Smith left this city yesterday.

S. M. Leach, of Dallas county, one of the close friends of Governor Clarke, who was in the city yesterday, scouted the story that the friends of Clarke could be induced under any considerations whatever to give their support to the direction of a trade or dicker that would aid Governor Carroll to the senate. There is no doubt, however, that some persons have been very active in causing some discussion of the advantage that might come to Governor Carroll and to Mr. Leach by following in northern Iowa, where he is best known should he permit use of his name, and he has never yet taken himself out of the list of available.

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capitol and grounds, in his report filed with the governor renews the recommendation of his predecessor for an appropriation of \$15,000 for reconstruction of the west and north wings of the state house. It is almost a disgrace that these steps have been so long neglected. They were constructed originally of amblin rock with seams which have caused breaking up of the surface and the steps are in very bad condition. In fact they were so bad that in winter it was impossible to clean off the snow and the ice which was formed the first week in December, and it remained until in March. The plan is to have the steps made of granite like the east steps.

W. B. Barney, state food and dairy commissioner, is at work on a bill providing for extensive sanitary regulations in Iowa in regard to food and for restaurants and factories where food-stuffs are prepared. At present the pure food department can only prevent the adulteration of food by means of food inspectors in the factory, warehouse, shop, restaurant or store the most unsanitary conditions may prevail without the department having any authority to compel a better system. In many other states the laws forbid unsanitary conditions and prove quite valuable in safeguarding the health of the people. When the Iowa food laws were prepared it was feared that if a sanitary clause was tacked on it would endanger the whole plan.

NEW PLAN WORKS WELL.

Sioux City Method of Dealing With Drunks—Casson Law Effective.

Sioux City, Dec. 28.—The "common sense plan" of handling "plain" drunks—which means sending them home with friends or placing them in a cab if they are alone and have the "price" has worked out satisfactorily, according to the report of the police chief. It is a statement today gives a resume of the work of the police and fire departments since the change to the commission plan government last April. As a result of the inauguration of the plan there has been a decrease in the number of arrests for drunkenness. The number of arrests for the same offense in the past year was 1,121. Because of the Casson law the amount of police court fines has been greatly reduced. For the eight months the amount imposed is \$4,499.36. The busiest month was August, when the amount reached \$740. The total arrests has been 2,431, and the ambulance has answered 141 calls. The police have captured 31 fugitives from justice.

WETS WIN IN LEE.

No Contests Before Board at Keokuk and Peticion is Approved.

Keokuk, Dec. 28.—The petition of consent which will legalize saloons in Keokuk for the coming five years was granted yesterday by the county board of supervisors, in session at Fort Madison. There was no contest and no contestants appeared from Keokuk before the board. There were 2,121 signatures on the petition of consent. As the total number of votes cast at the last general election in November was 3,074, the number of signatures required to legalize the saloons was 1,538, so there were 583 in excess of the necessary number.

The ministers of Fort Madison offered contest against the petition of consent in that city. One name was withdrawn from the petition and objections were made to seventy-six names. However, this did not affect the petition.

TO DISCUSS MILITARY MATTERS.

Fifty-Third Regiment to Hold Officers' School of Instruction at Vinton.

Vinton, Dec. 28.—The officers of the Fifty-third Regiment of the state militia will meet in Vinton on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 5 and 6, and will conduct an officers' school of instruction. The school will be under the direction of Colonel Allen and will consist largely of papers and discussions relative to military matters and of the regiment in particular. In connection with this meeting there will be several other officers present, who will take part in the opening of the new armory here on the evening of Jan. 5.

NOTIFY HAUGEN OF CONTEST.

Irregularities Are Charged in 200 Precincts in the Fourth District.

Major City, Dec. 28.—Formal notice of a contest was served on Congressman Haugen thru the attorneys of D. D. Murphy, democratic candidate, as Haugen stepped from the train at his home in Northwood from Washington. The notice is a voluminous document containing sixty sheets of typewritten paper charging irregularities in 200 precincts of the Fourth district. Haugen made no comment.

IOWA WILL NOT LOSE.

Basin of Reapportionment Set by Committee Will Prevent Loss in House.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The congressional reapportionment will provide for a total membership of 435 in the house of representatives according to present indications. This would mean one member to every 211,700 of population. This increase is the least that will save every state from any loss in numerical strength of its delegation.

Paved Only Four Blocks.

Sioux City, Dec. 28.—Less paving was laid in Sioux City the past year than for any like period since it became a city of the first class. The total was only four blocks, that being done by special request. Protests were responsible for much public improvement being postponed. Councilman E. O. Wesley, who has charge of the street department, expects the coming year to be a busy one. The council already has ordered over two miles of pavement and as much more has practically been agreed upon.

Promotion For Lake City Man.

Special to Times-Republican. Lake City, Dec. 28.—The Register Life Insurance Company of Davenport, has appointed M. V. Keith, of this city, to the position of general manager of a ten-county territory, comprising Calhoun, Hardin, Hamilton, Wright, Boone, Vista, Pocahontas, Humboldt, Sac, Franklin and Webster counties. Mr. Keith's headquarters will be at Fort Dodge and he will move his family there in the near future. He enters upon his duties next Monday.

Counterfeit Dollars

buy trouble, but a genuine quarter buys Dr. King's New Life Pills; for constipation, malaria and jaundice. McBride & Will Drug Company.

There is gossip among politicians to the effect that Senator Young is on the verge of withdrawing from the senatorship contest, having satisfied himself that it is impossible for him to win. One wag was made yesterday that Senator Young would make announcement of his withdrawal not later than New Year's day. In the event he does take himself out of the contest, it is generally anticipated that he will support Governor Carroll as the candidate of the standpatters, the latter's friends having already become active in his behalf on the theory that it is impossible for Senator Young to be elected.

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STATUS OF SHORT LINE

PREVALENT OPINION THAT MILWAUKEE HAD CONTROLLING INTEREST DISPELLED.

BUSINESS OF LATE DIVERTED TO C. & N. W.

Close Traffic Arrangement Apparent Between St. Paul & Des Moines Road and Northwestern at Iowa Falls—Evidence That Short Line Still Maintains Its Independence.

Special to Times-Republican.

Iowa Falls, Dec. 28.—The general opinion that the Milwaukee road owned a controlling interest in the Des Moines Short Line, and would eventually take over the road as a connecting link for a short cut between the Twin Cities and Kansas City, seems to have been knocked in the head of late by the traffic arrangements between the St. Paul & Des Moines and the Chicago & Northwestern. The Milwaukee has been turning its east-bound business originally going its line over to the Northwestern, bringing freight to Iowa Falls and turning it over to the Northwestern here for shipment east to Tama and then over the main line to eastern points. This change in routing seems to be of recent origin, for it was not long ago that the road's traffic was turned over to the Milwaukee at Mason City or Cambridge. It is evident that the road is still maintaining its independence.

TO OPEN LINE TO WAVERLY.

Bremer Metropolis Connected With Waterloo By Interurban.

Waterloo, Dec. 28.—As a result of the inspection trip made by W. C. F. & N. officials over the new Waverly line yesterday, it has been decided to put on a regular service Thursday of this week. Six trains a day will be run each way at intervals of about three hours apart.

The only drawback to present to the successful operation of the line is the limited amount of power that can be had at the Waverly end. It will probably be impossible to improve on this condition for about a month, or until the new power house in Waterloo is completed. When this is completed, an hourly service will be instituted, which will no doubt prove a great convenience.

As a result of the opening of the new line, Denver Junction will be dropped off the map, and the road will leave the town of Denver and run direct to Waverly, doing away with the three-mile stretch connecting with the Chicago & Great Western at Denver Junction. Hereafter parties who desire to take the Great Western will be carried to Waverly.

REAL D. A. R. BURIED.

Mrs. Mary Fahey, Long Time Resident of Iowa, Passes Away.

Fort Madison, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Mary Fahey, daughter of an officer who fought in the American revolution, was buried here today. Until her death in Chicago Sunday Mrs. Fahey was one of the three surviving original daughters of the American Revolution.

Mrs. Fahey was born in York county, Pennsylvania, July 10, 1813. She was the daughter of Robert Elliott, who was a member of the Seventh Pennsylvania Continental line and who took part in the fight of the battle of Bunker Hill.

Mrs. Fahey moved from Williamsport, Md., to Illinois with her husband a railroad contractor, in 1833. She came here in 1839 and for sixty-five years was a resident of Fort Madison. In 1904 she went to Chicago to end her days at the home of her daughter.

RISKS LIFE FOR DOG.

Iowa City Boy Has Perilous Adventure In Ice Waters of River.

Iowa City, Dec. 28.—Clint Anderson, the 13-year-old son of Charles Anderson, had an exciting and dangerous adventure. He was hunting down the river. Near the lower Rock Island bridge his dog ran out onto the ice and slipped into open water. Owing to the smoothness of the ice, the dog was unable to get out, and Clint started to his rescue.

The boy crept toward the edge of the ice but before he could reach the dog the ice gave way and he too was precipitated into the water, which was over his head and swift.

Clint struck for the dog, and shoved him up onto the ice. Then he attempted to clamber out, but had a hard time of it. Finally he managed to get out, almost exhausted and numb. The boy is a strong swimmer, he would certainly have drowned.

SCHOOLS ABAND NED.

Deaths of Teachers in / ma County Results in Special Examinations.

Special to Times-Republican. Creston, Dec. 28.—School ma'ams in Union county are at a premium; so much so in fact that Mrs. Sylvia Cook, county superintendent, has applied to the state superintendent for authority to conduct a special examination. One gentleman by the name of Dan Cupid is blamed for the predicament in which Mrs. Cook finds herself. A number of country schools have been abandoned because teachers could not be found to take them. The examination is expected to result in a brand new supply of available ones.

TWO MYSTERIOUS DEATHS.

Bodies of Des Moines Miners Found in Rooming House.

Des Moines, Dec. 28.—City Physician H. L. Saylor, Police Surgeon Huff and Coroner Iver Newlin held a post-mortem on the bodies of Otto Stark and Charles O'berg, who were found dead in a room at 411 East Second street yesterday afternoon.

The double death presents many mysterious features which may never be cleared up. The bodies were found side by side on a bed in a rooming house on East Second street. Death

had evidently ensued more than four days previously.

There were no signs of violence on the bodies nor could the physicians detect evidence of poisonous substance in the mouth which might indicate a suicide pact. The gas jets were turned off and there was not the slightest odor of gas in the room.

Three empty whiskey bottles stood in one corner of the room and one half filled occupied a place on a dresser. That the men consumed too much liquor and then froze to death while in a stupefied condition is the theory on which Coroner Newlin is now working.

Both men were coal miners, O'berg being employed at the Enterprise mine and Stark in one of the mines close to the city. They are said to have been old cronies and celebrated together every payday.

The last seen of the men was about a week ago, when they were together on the east side. Friday of last week Mrs. Casey Holmes, landlady of the house, tried the door of the room occupied by O'berg to secure the bodies of clothing and found it locked. Yesterday she made another attempt and on finding it still locked called a roofer, who forced it open. It was then that the gruesome discovery of the bodies was made.

The police were summoned and took charge of the bodies. They were buried in the city by Iver G. Newlin.

O'berg was a widower about 56 years old. He is survived by two sons, one a student in a college at Newton and the other a farmer near Grinnell. Both have been notified. O'berg was about 50 years old. Nothing is known of his relatives.

FRANK TORREY'S PROMOTION.

Former Master Mechanic at Creston, Heads Motive Power.

Special to Times-Republican. Creston, Dec. 28.—Frank Torrey, former mechanic for the Burlington at Creston, going from here to Burlington, has received a big promotion. He has been named to succeed E. H. Clark as general superintendent of motive power on the Burlington. Mr. Clark having resigned to take a similar position with the Baltimore & Ohio.

Announcement has also been made of the appointment of J. W. Cyr as superintendent of motive power east of the Missouri river. Creston employees of the company greeted the announcement with special pleasure, as he was extremely popular here.

WATER UNTIL MARCH.

Creston Supply Deemed Sufficient if Economy is Practiced.

Special to Times-Republican. Creston, Dec. 28.—Creston has enough water in sight to last until March. That is the statement given out by Manager Jackson, of the water works company, in a report to the city which the city gets its supply. It is extremely low. The Burlington railway people, in an effort to do their part in preventing a water famine have issued orders that only fast passenger traffic take on water here and then only the minimum amount. The school board has also taken steps to save water in the public schools from wasting water and people all over the city are being urged to practice economy.

Applinton Local Affairs.

Special to Times-Republican. Applinton, Dec. 28.—Mr. Arthur Dahm, of Eldora, has been visiting with relatives here the past week.

Mrs. E. C. Waudby and son arrived from the western part of the state Tuesday for a visit with relatives and friends.

Mrs. C. Cutler and daughter Mildred, of Worthington, Minn., are visiting at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Clark.

The Christmas programs of the various churches were well attended and enjoyed.

Mrs. G. Barber has recovered from her recent illness.

The marriage of Miss Carrie Schuler to Mr. Jacob Poppinger, of Rock Rapids was solemnized here. The couple will make their home on a farm in South Dakota.

Mrs. Britten returned to her home at Vorhies Monday, after a visit with her daughter, Mrs. M. J. Hill.

John Onjles, of Sioux Falls, S. D., spent Christmas at the home of his parents.

Harm Jurgens and wife, of Milbank, S. D., are here to spend the holidays.

Mrs. F. Hill and daughters, Ruth and Mabel, of Anson, have been visiting relatives at this place for several days.

Mrs. J. Dreyer arrived home Tuesday from her Allison visit.

TWO KILLED IN C. G. W. WRECK.

Dubuque Fireman One of Victims on Great Western.

Dubuque, Dec. 28.—A head-on collision occurred at Stockton, Ill., at 6:30 last night between Great Western work trains. Two persons were killed outright and one other was fatally injured. The dead are Otto Kraft, fireman, of Dubuque, and Lewis Mericle, brakeman of Chicago. The injured man is William Norton, engineer, of Dubuque, who was brought to a Dubuque hospital.

Farm House Burned.

Special to Times-Republican. Lake City, Dec. 28.—As he was reading a newspaper at his home on the Dave Park farm, two miles east of Lakesboro, Mr. Burrells was startled by a gust of smoke blowing in his face, and looked up to see the roof of his house in flames. It was too late to save anything of value and the building burned to the ground in a very short time. It is inferred that the conflagration was caused by a defective chimney. The fire could be seen for miles around.

Gasoline Leakage Cause of Exodus. Cedar Rapids, Dec. 28.—All fires within a block hastily were extinguished early yesterday and there was a general exodus of inhabitants when it was discovered that a stock hop had been broken from an oil tank car and 8,000 gallons of gasoline were flowing into the Milwaukee tracks. The attempts to stop the flow were in vain and the gasoline was a total loss. After that it was covered with cinders and trains were detoured to avoid an explosion.

New Interurban Running.

Special to Times-Republican. Lake City, Dec. 27.—Service on the newly electrified Rockwell City branch of the Fort Dodge, Des Moines & Southern railroad was started Saturday, when the first car made the trip over the new line. It contained General Manager Biko and Passenger Agent Crooks. The cars on the new branch run between Rockwell City and Fort Dodge Junction, where they have connections with transportation for Fort Dodge and Des Moines. Regular service in the new extension was started Saturday, and cars will leave the county seat every two hours.

Iowa Hotel Man Dies.

Burlington, Dec. 27.—"Bush" Delano, aged 76 years, for a score of years connected with the Delano hotel here and popular with the traveling public, died at the Burlington hospital.

Falls Into Scalding Water.

Sioux City, Dec. 27.—Robert, the 4-year-old son of Mrs. M. J. Orr, a plumber, fell into a tub of scalding water and died Christmas morning.

History of a Wedding Ring.

The ring used in the wedding of Mr. Harry and Lady Verney is a ring which has been used for centuries in the wedding ceremonies of the family and is cherished as a precious heirloom, says the Pall Mall Gazette. It contains an excellent miniature of Charles I., encircled with diamonds, and was given by that monarch to Sir Edmund Verney, his marshal and standard bearer, who fell at Edge Hill on October 23, 1642. Sir Edmund's body was never found, only a severed hand bearing on one of its fingers this very ring, which was soon identified as his. The hand was buried in the family burial place, and the ring has during successive generations been religiously treasured by the owners of Claydon house.

The Husking Bee in Mains.

One of the old rural institutions, which is still in vogue in spite of the progress of modern inventions, is the old-fashioned husking bee, says the Kennebec Journal. The Journal's correspondents from various sections of the state have been giving interesting accounts for the past two weeks of gatherings of this nature in their locality with the accompanying harvest suppers which seem to differ in but few points from those recorded in the pages of New England story writers of 25 and 50 years ago. About the only difference seems to be that the modern farmer can call all his guests together by telephone instead of waiting for slower methods of summoning them to bring results.

Famous Names and Their Owners.

Somebody has been looking through the names in the London directory and finds that a Sebastian Bach is today a horse dealer; John Milton a grocer, a William Shakespeare a tailor, a Julius Caesar a chemist, Homer a lamp-lighter, Pindar an electrician, Mars a beer seller, Venus a purveyor of sweetmeats, Francis Bacon an architect, and Bayard a dairyman. The Paris directory offers similar surprises. It contains hairdressers who rejoice in the names of Charlemagne and Lamartine; Justinian is a baker, Racine a milkman, Lesage a spirit merchant, Daudet a maker of lemonade, Berthelet a bootmaker, Boissier a grocer, and Dumas a furniture dealer.