

FOUR OF ONE FAMILY
LOSE LIVES IN RIVER

FATHER AND THREE DAUGHTERS
AT LECLAIRE DROWN IN
MISSISSIPPI.

THOMAS THOMAS DIES
IN RESCUE EFFORTS

Daughters Go to Aid of Child Who
Waded into Deep Waters and Others
Sacrifice Lives in Heroic Effort to
Rescue Others—Mother Witnesses
Distressing Tragedy.

LeClaire, Aug. 22.—Four people, a father and three daughters, lost their lives in the Mississippi two miles north of here last night, the father drowning, while making a heroic but vain attempt to rescue his struggling children.

The dead are: Thomas Thomas, a farmer, 56 years old. Dorothy Thomas, 11 years old. Elizabeth Thomas, 17 years old. Katherine Thomas, 11 years old. The oldest daughter, Dorothy, left the boat in which the family was rowing to wade. The girl came to a step-off and went beyond her depth. Her two sisters, seeing her struggling in the water, leaped out of the row-boat to assist her.

Within thirty seconds all three girls were helpless. The two younger daughters attempted to tow her in, but were dragged beneath the surface of the water by the clutching hands of their drowning sister.

Father Loses Life. The father, panic stricken, dropped the oars, and leaped into the water in a frantic effort to save the lives of the girls and attempt to tow her in. The fear-maddened child clasped her arms about her would-be rescuer, and pulled him down. Wildly the man struggled to free himself from the grasping arms of his drowning daughter. But the other girls' hands were locked in the clothing of their sister.

The four were down with arms interlocked. The bodies were all recovered within a circle of ten feet. The father's hand grasped the torn string of the apron of the youngest girl.

Child Rescues Brother. While the death struggle was going on in the water, another heroic rescue was made from the rowboat. When Thomas leaped from the rowboat to the rescue of his daughter, he left his two grandchildren, Martha and Harry Burgess in the boat, aged respectively 10 and 7.

The little boy became excited at the rescue attempt going on within a few feet of the boat and leaning too far out over the side of the skiff, lost his balance and plunged into the river. His little sister grasped him by the collar and, although she could not lift him into the boat, held his head above water until help arrived.

Fishermen Rescue Child. Fishermen and clambers on the shore, who witnessed the daring but futile attempt of the father to rescue his daughter, immediately put off in boats to the scene of the fatalities. Upon hearing the rowboat they lifted the struggling child into the boat and commenced the hunt for the bodies of the four who had been drowned.

Fifteen minutes after the drowning the first body was recovered. It was that of Dorothy, the oldest girl. Efforts at resuscitation were made while awaiting the arrival of the doctor. Further attempts were made to revive the drowned girl after he arrived but with no success. The other bodies were taken from the water within the following hour and a half. The father's body was the last one found.

As each one was brought to the surface, the physician attempted to revive life. His efforts were of no avail.

Widow Sees Family Die. The Thomas home is but a short distance from the river and at the time of the drowning, Mrs. Thomas was watching the wading child.

TWO KILLED IN AUTO.

Freight Train Crushes Them to Death Near Perry.

Perry, Aug. 22.—The worst automobile accident which has yet occurred in this vicinity was that of last night when a car owned by John H. Van Scoy, cashier of the First National Bank of Rippey, and driven by Gale Duitman, was struck by the engine of a Milwaukee freight train at the east end of the Herndon yards, about a mile from the depot.

George Murphy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Murphy, was instantly killed and Denby Duitman, the 14 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Duitman, was so badly injured that he died at the King's Daughters hospital in this city about five hours after the accident.

In the car were Gale Duitman, Max Van Scoy, George Murphy and Denby Duitman. The young men are all from Rippey, and are all members of prominent families.

At the crossing at the east end of the Herndon yards, they were driving leisurely along, none of them seeing a freight train which was on one of the tracks until they were within about ten feet of the engine. The driver threw on the emergency brake but was unable to stop the car and the monster engine struck the auto just back of the hood.

BUCKNER GOES TO KANSAS.

U. S. Alumnus Made Associate Professor at University. Special to Times-Republican. Iowa City, Aug. 22.—The university

of Kanma has elected Prof. Chester A. Buckner, of Iowa City, associate professor of the department of education in the university at Lawrence. His new work will begin in September. Professor Buckner is an alumnus of Iowa university, class of 1909, and was in the government's school service in the Philippines during a two-year period thereafter. He was captain of the Iowa university basketball team, in 1908, and one of the best players Iowa ever boasted.

NEW HOTEL PROJECT.

Cedar Falls to Remodel and Enlarge Its Hotel.

Cedar Falls, Aug. 22.—The Commercial Club is financing an enlargement and remodeling of the hotel here to make it strictly modern and up-to-date. The new hotel is to have an eighty-eight foot frontage on Main street and a depth of 132 feet. This means the hotel will extend on Main street from the alley that adjoins the present building upon the north to and including the building at present occupied by the Waterloo, Cedar Falls & Northern railway. The north ell will be completed and the entire building extended to the alley at the rear. When completed the edifice will be three stories in height and will be composed of fifty guest rooms.

Grinnell and Vicinity.

Special to Times-Republican.

Grinnell, Aug. 22.—Further news regarding the sudden death of Mrs. W. O. Willard, 66 years of age, of her son, Dr. Harry Willard, at Deer Lodge, Mont., is that she had a stroke of apoplexy, from which she did not rally. She had been as well as usual and had made all her plans to go from Deer Lodge to Spokane on the next Monday to visit a brother. Her death came on Wednesday evening, she being ill less than two days. Mr. Willard and his daughter, Miss Ruth, started from here as soon as the telegram telling of the illness was received but turned back at Aberdeen on receipt of another telegram telling of the death. Dr. Harry Willard will reach Grinnell on Wednesday evening. His funeral services will be held from the home, 915 High street, at 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

The funeral of Miss Sadie McDonald took place from the home of the two sisters on South Park street at 1:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Rev. J. M. Brown, pastor of the Methodist church of this city, having charge of the services. The singing was by Miss Floy Korns and the pall bearers were the members of the clerking force at the Ramsey store, where the surviving sister is bookkeeper. The two sisters were all that were left of the McDonald family and they were very closely attached to each other. Miss Sadie was less than 37 years of age.

The reports at the annual meeting of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of this city show a prosperous and helpful year passed with money left in the treasury. The following officers were elected for the next year: President, Mrs. Robert Lincoln; first vice president, Mrs. Isabella Brande; second vice president, Mrs. D. P. Brande; third vice president, Mrs. G. O. Wadland; secretary, Mrs. Effie Stocks; treasurer, Miss Jennie Bailey; superintendent, Mrs. Frank Lewis; Mrs. Mary Meacham, Mrs. Emma Bailey, Miss Sarah Clark, Miss Jennie Bailey, and Mrs. T. K. Clarkson.

Eight years ago two young Germans with their wives came to Grinnell direct from the heart of Germany. All four were hard working, thrifty and frugal and began at once to make homes for themselves. Last spring, having prospered as thrifty foreigners do in this land of high price for labor, they determined to take steamer that day to the old home on a visit of three months. In the midst of their visit to the old home the war cloud comes up quickly and the storm bursts before they can escape its fury. And so Henry and Willy Martens and their wives and one little son are held in Germany. Henry had taken out naturalization papers and may be able to come back. Some error in the taking out of the papers of the other brother occurred and they have not been completed and it is rumored here that he has been forced into the army, though this has not been verified.

Mrs. O. Robinson, aged nearly 52 years, died Thursday morning at her home nearly two miles west of the extension of Sixth avenue. Funeral services were held at the home this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Grinnell high school opens up a new department this fall in commercial lines which will include a two years' course in English, bookkeeping, penmanship, shorthand, typewriting, commercial arithmetic, geography and law. R. C. Trumbo, a graduate of the commercial course at Simpson College, has engaged to take charge of this department for the coming year. A normal training course will also be furnished.

J. C. Pierce, whose home has been in Iowa City, resolved to change the residence of himself and family to Grinnell and has bought the residence at 1419 Third avenue, of Mrs. J. H. Alexander and is making preparations to occupy it at once.

Roy Freeman has bought the residence property at 1817 Third avenue, of Samuel B. Jenkins and will occupy it Sept. 1. Jenkins goes east to visit indefinitely with relatives.

GATHERED BY THE WAYSIDE

[By Ora Williams.]

Des Moines, Aug. 22.—There is appropriate the meeting of the American prison congress in St. Paul in October. On the program of the association is time given for a visit to the new state prison at Stillwater and also time for a visit to the famous workhouse.

When the Iowans attended the national conference of charities and corrections in Memphis last spring they were much struck with a discussion which developed that among the advanced students of penology there is strong sentiment of opposition to the continuance of the cell house system of housing convicts. Some of them condemned it unsparingly. The alternative suggestion was the dormitory system, or housing the men in groups and families, or the use of smaller houses. One speaker is said to have specifically referred to Minnesota's new \$2,000,000 cell house at Stillwater as a building that ought to be torn down. Yet the cell house at Stillwater is the last word in the construction of such places for the detention of offenders against the law. Now the delegates to the prison association will have a chance to see the cell house and to study at first hand what is being done in Minnesota.

BLACKMAIL IS CHARGED

COUNCIL BLUFFS RESIDENTS SUED TO RECOVER MONEY AND REAL ESTATE.

SAY THEY PARTED WITH PROPERTY UNDER THREATS

Alleged Omaha Detectives and Their Wives Accused of Blackmailing Council Bluffs Man and His Wife Out of Large Sums — Perpetrators Claimed to Be Members of Mabray Gang.

Council Bluffs, Aug. 22.—Charles C. Jeffries and his wife, Mina L. Jeffries, filed a sensational suit in district court here, charging Lloyd W. Longnecker and his wife, Blanche E. Longnecker, and George W. Longnecker and his wife, Emily J. Longnecker, well known Omaha people, with conspiracy and successful extortion of a large amount of money from them in addition to the title to their homestead in this city valued at \$2,800.

The plaintiffs allege that on Dec. 11, 1913, a certain Omaha man and wife went to the Jeffries' home in this city, while Mr. Jeffries was out of the city, and told Mrs. Jeffries that her husband had become implicated with an Omaha woman and that this woman was going to make trouble. The stories told when her husband returned she was in a state of excitement. She told him all that had been said to her. Later, it is alleged, the Longnecker got into the case and further increased the fears of the Council Bluffs people by telling them they had been marked as victims of a powerful band of blackmailers who would stop at nothing not even murder to accomplish their ends.

Suggests Employment of Son. The petition alleges that the elder Longnecker advised them to protect themselves by employing the most skillful detectives, and recommended his son, Lloyd W. Longnecker. He said, according to the petition, that his son was a detective of national repute, was worth \$50,000 in his own name and maintained offices in the Karbach block, Omaha, and that the son could prevent the conspirators accomplishing their work.

In statement, sworn to in the suit, he says he believed it, and on March 9 of this year employed Detective Longnecker and fully credited the stories that he says were subsequently told him to the effect that the conspirators were "high class criminals" with branch headquarters in all of the big cities.

Jeffries' Charge. Jeffries said he was told that two of them belonged to the famous Mabray gang, and that it would cost much to run them down and break up their plan, that at least \$5,000 would be required to "unearth the conspiracy," and save the intended victims, that he gave Detective Longnecker \$100 at once and later gave him \$1,200 in cash and a deed to their property, lot 8 in Benjamin Fehr West End addition, worth \$2,800; that he afterwards gave a note for \$2,000, bearing 7 per cent interest, and even assigned the title to the home property and obliging assigned the \$2,000 insurance policy upon it; that at the urgent request of Longnecker the \$2,000 note was paid on April 8; the deed of property was made to Emily Longnecker, mother of the detective; that it was fraudulently obtained and that there was no consideration.

Jeffries asks that the deed be set aside, the defendants be restrained from incurring or disposing of the property and that the \$2,500 in cash be returned. He says that there was no truth in the story of the Mabray gang of blackmailers.

ARMORY CORNERSTONE LAID.

Glenwood People Start Building to Cost \$25,000 For Public Use.

Glenwood, Aug. 22.—The extreme heat of Wednesday did not prevent Glenwood hustlers from planning and carrying out a genuinely novel homecoming welcome for Company I on its return from encampment at Des Moines. Ceremonies incident to the laying of the cornerstone of the new armory were carried out after the arrival of the soldiers. The institution band escorted the company from the Burlington station to the armory, where Mayor Genung initiated the program. John Y. Stone, W. S. Lewis and L. T. Genung addressed the big crowd in patriotic vein, Company I sang "Home Sweet Home" and as a fitting finale everybody joined in swelling the volume of that grand old hymn, "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

The Summer Side. Cleve ever to the summer side of doubt.—Tennison.

the board before the new cell house at Fort Madison was started. It was recommended very strongly by legislative committees. But political considerations prevented any fair consideration of the proposition at that time. Now the situation has again become acute. A determined effort is being made to interfere with the plans of the state officials for adoption of reform methods at the prison. The city of Fort Madison is engaged in heckling the warden. Next week will be tried out the legal question of the right of the city to make it an offense for the warden to undertake to aid in the reform by making use of convict labor other than on the old contract. It is known that a very powerful clique at Fort Madison has been tenacious of the contract labor system. Doubtless there is dissatisfaction because it is being abandoned. The board of control and the state officials generally feel that the attitude of the Fort Madison officials is wholly inexcusable. That fact is sure to compel an investigation by the legislature. The alternative of securing a new location for the prison will have to be considered. Then will come up, naturally, the discussion of the question whether a cell house, even a modern and fairly decent one, is a requisite at a state prison. If the views that were expressed at Memphis have sound basis that fact will become known. The meeting of the American Prison Association at St. Paul may develop discussions that will throw light on the subject.

It is probable that a somewhat better showing will be made in the next report of the board as to compensation to prisoners for work done than in the past. The Sanders system is along the line of methods now universally approved. Two years ago the board reported to the legislature that the prisoners were paid at Anamosa in the biennial period \$2,864.87 for overtime work and at Fort Madison the men received \$9,841.74. This is what went to the men direct. It will be interesting to recall now what the board then said of the contract labor in vogue, as indicating how entirely different it has been in Iowa from that in vogue in some other places.

The work done under these contracts, with few exceptions, is neither hard nor wearing. The prisoners are housed, clothed and fed by the state, medical and surgical attention and hospital care are furnished by the state under the direct supervision of guards employed by the state and no abuse of prisoners is tolerated. The contractors have no power to punish, nor have they any right to select the prisoners who are to work for them. Prisoners may be removed from contracts by order of prison physician for physical disability, and by order if in our opinion such removal is for the best interests of the prisoners. They are always permitted to talk with us or any of us in private whenever we are at the prison, and that happens every two or three months, and sometimes oftener, and complaints of overwork or abuse are made by few and when made are rarely found to have any merit. We make these statements to correct any belief there may be that the prisoners in the reformatory or penitentiary are subjected to the evils of slavery. They are not, except in so far as they are required to work if able whether they wish to do so or not. The system in vogue in this state should be distinguished from that which exists in some states and now exists in few if any, of delivering the prisoners to be the contractor, who is required to furnish food, quarters and clothing to guard the prisoners, with power to work them and punish them. That such a system is an unjustifiable form of slavery will not be denied by any well-informed persons.

The board at that time—two years ago—recommended the entire abolition of the contract system and substitution of the state account labor system, the end toward which affairs are now

working gradually. Farming and road making were discussed as entirely possible, and the advantage of teaching the young men trades. There are always a good number of old or ill persons who cannot be employed in productive labor. This of necessity will be the manufacturing of goods for use in the prisons and for sale. The prisoners cannot consume all of the goods which could be manufactured in them nor could the other state institutions take the surplus. A market elsewhere would have to be found. Our observations convince us that men work better and are more interested and that the discipline is better when they have a pecuniary interest in their labor as they now have when they complete their tasks and are paid for overtime. A system which would give all of the prisoners some recompense for their labor and a means of contributing to the support of dependent relatives or in cases where there are none to accumulate a fund for their own use when released is desirable, but the system now practiced in this state is greatly superior to one which would not occupy the full working hours of the prisoners. Hence, while favoring the use of prison labor on state account and the payment to prisoners of something for their labor, we most earnestly ask that if the contract system should be abolished and manufacturing on state account substituted that ample funds be provided for manufacturing and that sufficient markets be permitted to the end that the horrors of idleness shall be avoided and the prisoners be employed full time in remunerative labor.

The fact that where the industrial part of a prison is properly handled a fair wage can be paid the workman is now accepted as settled. Every one knows about the enormous profits to the state of Minnesota from operation of its prison. In Illinois \$600,000 is available for a new 2,000 acre farm where a new prison will be built and Joliet abandoned after it cost \$17,000,000. In Ohio a similar movement is under way for abandoning an old prison and starting all anew. In Mississippi the state made a half million profit in two years on a prison farm. The Kansas prison is said to be operated at a net profit to the state. The Maryland prison has an earning capacity of a million a year. These and other interesting facts are brought out in the report made by Messrs. Gosson, Roberts and Sheldon, have a bearing on the possible establishment of a new prison for Iowa.

It is recalled that some of the present members of the Iowa board visited Stillwater and other prisons to look into industries. They were much impressed with the results accomplished by that man. While the present board has not as yet gone on record it is certain that the members are in favor of going right ahead to establish industries of some kind. The custodial farm plan will not affect the situation at the prisons, for the custodial farm is a place for the persons who at present are either fined or sent to jail for short terms.

Some years ago a very earnest and patriotic member of the legislature from Howard county made a hard fight in two or three sessions for an appropriation sufficient to start a twine factory at the state reformatory. Members of the legislature considered various sums that might be needed for the work, varying from \$300,000 to a million dollars. Always, at the end, the bills were all defeated because of unwillingness to spend the money necessary. And this has been the fate of every bill looking toward establishment of any state industries for prisoners. One and all these efforts of good men to put Iowa right before the world and

to aid in the real forward movement of the state has been defeated by the spirit of the "Little Iowans"—that spirit which refuses to permit any going forward unless it can be done by the state as a moocher, the spirit which classifies every expenditure of the state as a waste of money, the spirit which refuses to look at but one side of the ledger account. Not until the millage tax idea was adopted was it possible to take a forward step. Every one recognizes that if the state should wait for a direct appropriation, or a submission to a vote of the people as has been suggested, there never would be any establishment of a custodial farm or a woman's reformatory or equipment for industries. The millage tax method of providing the funds is sometimes the only way to circumvent the evils of the "Little Iowans." The hope of prison reform rests upon it today.

For one thing, the state of Iowa depends entirely too much on the experience of other states in handling the penal institution problem. Iowa has never done very much for herself in making a study of crime or criminals, thus preparing for an intelligent handling of the question. The state is doing something new. For instance, the Binet-Simon system of measurement and examination of persons in prison is being applied in a small way, and information is being obtained as to individuals in prison. But it is just a small step in the right direction. The parole board ran across a case illustrating the need of study of individuals. Past records of all men are looked up in order that a judgment may be formed as to their chance of return to useful citizenship. A prisoner told where he had always lived. Investigation failed to confirm his story. He had been an engineer on a railroad. He told of his experiences in apparently intelligent way, but he located railroads wrongly and showed plainly that he was suffering from aberration of mind. But the board has no way of making a study of the mental condition of that man. Somebody ought to find out all about him and about his present mental condition. He ought not to go out under present conditions. It is the opinion of Dr. Howe, of the board, that at each of the prisons there should be a permanent resident physician, who should give his whole time to the men, and should make a study of them and report on individual cases. But nothing of the sort is possible now.

Probate Notice. Office of the clerk of the district court, state of Iowa, Marshalltown, ss., district court, September term, A. D., 1914. To Whom It May Concern: You and each of you are hereby notified to appear at the courthouse in Marshalltown, Iowa, in said county, at 9 o'clock a. m., on the 8th day of September, 1914, to attend the proof and to probate an instrument in writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Emma J. Bartholomew, late of Marshall county, Iowa, deceased, at which time and place you will appear and show cause, if any, why said will should not be admitted to probate. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of the district court, this 7th day of August, A. D., 1914. S. H. REILLY, Clerk of the District Court.

YOU CAN SEE NEW YORK CITY IN A DAY.

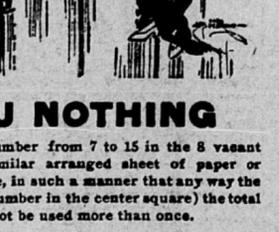
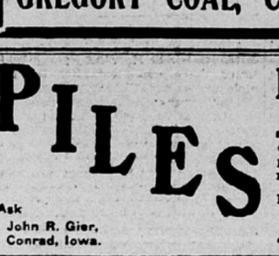
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