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IN POLITICS 45 YEARS

COLONEL PALMER'S RETIREMENT RECALLS LONG PUBLIC CAREER.

KINDERGARTEN LESSONS AS TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR

Beaten Only Once in Long Career as Candidate For Office, and Then by Three Votes Only—Parole Board Outlines Reason For Refusal to Grant Freedom to Betsy Smith.

Special to Times-Republican.

Des Moines, Jan. 4.—When the associates of Col. David J. Palmer in the office of railroad commissioner presented him with a splendid pigskin grip, on the occasion of his retirement, and signed up a little address to him, only one mistake was made. No one of the party was old enough to have a memory reaching back to the time when the colonel really commenced serving the public. Not referring to his service in the war—and he has one of the most interesting war records—his public service commenced when he was elected county auditor in 1876 but long prior to that when he was elected road supervisor and later held the high and honorable position of township assessor. These were his kindergarten lessons on politics. So, as a matter of fact, Colonel Palmer held office most of the time for nearly forty-five years. Another chapter in his career was missed, also, for he ran for one office and was beaten. That was member of the house. He lacked three of having as many votes as the democrat; but had the consolation of a lot of his friends telling him that for the other fellow as a personal compliment and never dreamed of electing him. Then the colonel, as a defeated candidate for representative, ran for the state senate and was elected by 1,300 plurality. Governor Shaw took him on and tried to make him a member of the railroad commission.

Few of all the men about the state house have ever been so well and so favorably known, so well beloved by his associates or with such warm friends. The refusal of the state parole board to recommend release of Mrs. Betsy Smith, of this city, life term, who has served twenty years or more, for first degree murder, caused no surprise; but the action taken is not regarded as in any way either in the reasonableness to the position of the governor or a reversal of previous policies. It will be recalled that the governor pardoned Orman McPherson, after the board had recommended no clemency in his case. He was a first degree lifer. In the case of Betsy Smith the board put it on record that all the conditions for a parole were present—good conduct, a home, prospect of proper life. But here are the reasons made of record for not granting clemency:

"For reasons stated frequently to you and your predecessors, we think a fair and reasonable construction of the laws of this state is that when a prisoner has been found guilty of murder in the first degree and there is nothing to support a claim that the offense could have been of any less degree, and the jury has seen fit to relieve the accused of the death penalty, the person should not be released. We do not want to be understood as claiming the life sentence should be served as punishment, but rather that by the commission of such an offense, the perpetrator has, under the law of this state, forfeited his right to gain mileage with his life. If in the case of murder in the first degree the jury should conclude to inflict the death penalty the court would not reverse, if the legal rights of the defendant had been given him.

"Prisoners in our state are humanely cared for, and while it is a serious thing to deprive a fellow man of his liberty, yet it was a much more serious thing to premeditatedly and maliciously deprive a man of his life.

"If it be the desire of the people of this state to provide that persons found guilty of murder in the first degree shall be, after serving a certain period of life sentence, or when age has come upon them, released of imprisonment and allowed liberty with or without conditions, they can so declare thru the general assembly. This does not mean that in the case of a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree should clemency be extended, because it will occur that new facts may arise showing the crime that has been one of less degree, or even of absolute innocence, or that owing to excitement and prejudice existing because of the killing, it might be said that these influenced the verdict. We do not want to be understood as holding that you could not, or should not, under such circumstances, extend clemency as you might think right and just, both to the prisoner and to the state."

Attorney General Cossen is of the opinion that unless it can be definitely shown that the Atlantic Southern railway can be operated without net loss, it is hardly worth while to pursue the effort of patrons living along the line to force the owners of the property to continue running trains. The issue was first called to the attention of the state officials in October and it has been under investigation some time. The owners have announced intention to abandon operation soon. Mr. Cossen has advised that a competent engineer and report on the cost of putting the line into usable condition and accountants investigate as to what has been the business done on the line and

Advertisement for Scott's Emulsion featuring a fisherman carrying a large fish on his back. Text: 'INDOORS From 8 to 5 often weakens even a strong constitution as shown in nervous symptoms, languor and repeated colds. SCOTT'S EMULSION is helping thousands every day; its rare oil-food enriches the blood, aids the lungs—it is a sure cure for all ailments of the throat and chest. Price 25c. Sold everywhere.'

cost-of-handling same. It will be recalled that when the issue of the old Newton and Northwestern railroad came squarely before the federal courts, the controlling question was that of profit or loss, and when it was shown that the portion proposed to be abandoned could not be operated profitably, the legal department of the state got out of the case. The patrons can not force a railroad company to operate a losing business. A branch line need not show profits on all business, but where it is an entire system the question is different.

It is the intention of the law department of the state, the attorney general and commerce counsel in conjunction, to investigate and if a case can be made have the railroad commission make an order for the running of trains under the "adequate services" law, and this will bring it squarely into courts. It will be in the state courts, however, and not the federal courts. The preliminary inquiry is now under way.

An important conference was held all day Saturday in the state house by the force of examiners of county accounts with State Auditor Shaw and Chief Joe Wall. These examiners expect to hold conferences at least twice each year to compare notes, to exchange views, and to bring their work into perfect harmony. They now have practically gone over the entire state once. Each and every county has been reported on once. When the next force of examiners go into the county it will have before it the first report for comparison. It is plain, so the examiners say, that they are able to do much better job the second time and probably be able to complete the work in much shorter time.

"JIM" CALLAHAN DEAD.

Man Associated With Pat Crowe in Cudahy Kidnaping Case, Dies. Special to Times-Republican.

Council Bluffs, Jan. 4.—"Jim" Callahan, the man who was associated with Pat Crowe in the kidnaping of the Cudahy boy many years ago, died suddenly at a local hospital where he had been taken from a cafe where he became suddenly and violently ill. Eddie Cudahy has stood guard over him as he has always been credited with being the man who stood guard over Eddie Cudahy in his stony near Omaha while negotiations were going on for the ransom. Callahan has been living in this city for a number of years and often told friends he was trying to live down the reputation he gained at the time of the Cudahy seizure. He was 48 years old and unmarried.

RURAL CARRIERS' CONVENTION.

Annual Meeting of Iowa Association at Fort Dodge, Feb. 22. Special to Times-Republican. Fort Dodge, Jan. 4.—Rural mail carriers of Iowa will meet in Fort Dodge Feb. 22 for their annual convention. J. P. Larson, of Kanawha, state treasurer, will be in the city today making arrangements. Mayor John A. Callahan will be the welcome and Postoffice Inspector George S. Bassett will deliver a talk on mail carriers' duties.

Des Moines.

Robert Litton, aged 8, was probably fatally injured at 1 o'clock Thursday afternoon when the sled on which he was coasting down hill crashed into an auto.

Washington. William Riskey, a wealthy farmer, was found dead in a well Wednesday at his home, nine miles northwest of town. It is believed he fell while engaged in repairing the well. The body was found by neighbors, who went to his place to assist him in some work he had planned to do.

Fairfield. Ralph Matthews, a young man who was reared south of this city, is in jail at Shelbyville, Mo., charged with the theft of a wagon. Authorities here are making an effort to secure him because it is thought he is guilty of stealing a horse from H. A. Topping, a farmer living between Fairfield and Birmingham, the latter part of November. It is said that in traveling thru Missouri Matthews committed several other thefts.

Montezuma. A. C. Lester, of near Deep River, keeps cows, sells butter, and also keeps a record of the income. During the year 1914, up to Dec. 22, he sold butter to the amount of \$511.89 from seven cows. Beside this the family, consisting of eight, was supplied. This does not take into account the milk, etc., that may have helped to fatten the hogs, neither does it take into account the value of seven of them, which are valued at about \$10.

North English. Rev. Martin M. Loftus, pastor of the Catholic church at North English, passed away Wednesday. Father Loftus was born in Burlington in 1875. He received his early education at Lourdes Academy. He next attended St. Ann's college in Davenport, completing his theological studies in St. Paul, being ordained in 1901. He was located at Centerville before coming to North English. He was a brilliant and accomplished clergyman and had a fine future before him.

Ottumwa. A justice court jury decided Wednesday evening that the seventy cases of whisky seized by the chief of police last May should be returned to the freight house. The claimants, Mayor Bros., of Cincinnati, O., held that the liquor was misdirected and should have gone to Ottawa, Ill., instead of here. A hard fight was made by the law and order counsel to have the whisky destroyed. The cargo filled all available space at the city hall and part of it was stored in the court house.

Ottumwa. Hundreds of fight fans were turned away from the Grand opera house here Wednesday night by Chief of Police Gallagher when the advertised round bout between Eddie ("Kid") Kelly, of Des Moines, and Eddie Surry, of Peoria, was forbidden by the officer. The glove exhibition was to follow a wrestling contest between Jack Rosauer, a miner of Hitemen, and Jim Beem, of Pleasantville. Rosauer won the match in two falls of seventeen and one-half and two and one-half minutes. A preliminary between two local lads opened the entertainment.

Des Moines. Card playing probably saved a Des Moines family from death by fire late Wednesday night. As it was too dangerous to employ to use a knotted rope as an exit from the second floor of the E. D. Strayer home. Mr. Strayer carried his 3-year-old son in his teeth down the rope to safety. "My wife and my brother, N. F. Strayer, and a room-

BROOKS ALIBI STRONG

MAN ON TRIAL FOR MURDER OF MENZIE AND MISS SIGNAL HAS INNING.

SEVERAL WITNESSES TESTIFY HE WAS NOT IN GEDDES

Defense Assumes Menzie Killed Miss Signal, Set Fire to Building and Then Shot Himself—General Opinion is That State Has Not Made Strong Case.

Wheeler, S. D., Jan. 4.—The alibi depended on by the defense in the Menzie-Signal murder case to clear Robert Brooks of the charge now is being spread before the jury in the court house here. That William H. Menzie, manager of the lumber company, murdered Blanche Signal, his bookkeeper, with a hammer and then set fire to the building and shot himself is the assumption on which the defense is based, according to the opening statement of Attorney D. H. Sullivan.

Witnesses from Niobrara, Neb., testified to seeing Brooks on the street and in the hotel at Niobrara on the night of April 16, when the murder was committed. Harry Rogers, night constable, testified that he heard the hammer and pistol in the Koster hotel and when he went to investigate he found Brooks in a guest room with an empty revolver. The latter explained that he had thought the gun was empty and had pulled the trigger. The bullet pierced his coat, hanging on a chair.

Thus the defense will seek to explain the bullet in Brooks' coat, Attorney Sullivan also stated to the jury that the scar on Brooks' back, which has been called a blemish of long standing, "Gentlemen, the hand that held the hammer that robbed that young girl of her life, the hand that drew a bullet thru the temple of W. H. Menzie has forever been consigned to eternity," declared Attorney Sullivan.

Brooks Alibi Strong. The Brooks alibi in which he has put great confidence since the crime, sets forth that he left the hotel at 11:30 p. m. on the night of April 16, 1914, and from that place to Running Water, where he crossed the Missouri river to Niobrara.

It is claimed he was seen in each town and that he remained in Niobrara, seventy-five miles from the scene of the crime, until April 25, 1914.

Two witnesses have testified for the state that Brooks was seen in Platt on April 17, 18 and 19. The telephone record book from Niobrara

er, Harry Hague, decided to have a game of cards before going to bed," said Mr. Strayer, while the firemen were putting out the flames. "We were playing in a sitting room on the second floor, and had been playing just a short while when we smelled smoke. I opened the door and saw flames in the stairway leading to the street." The firemen say they believe the fire was caused by a cigarette in a box on the table. He said he had no idea how the fire started. The family spent the night in a nearby hotel. Most of their clothes were destroyed in the fire.

Davenport. Miss Lura Parker has been appointed deputy clerk of the United States federal court for the southern district of Iowa. The first woman ever to be appointed to the position in this district. She succeeds Harry J. McFarland, who retires the first of the year as county clerk. Miss Parker has for eight years been stenographer and assistant clerk in the district clerk's office. Mr. McFarland, the retiring incumbent, has been the deputy federal clerk since the office was established in 1904. The appointment was made by William C. McArthur, of Des Moines, clerk of the district, and confirmed by Judge Smith McPherson.

Muscatine. When the farmers of Muscatine Island, residing near the big timber, started to put up ice they met with a peculiar condition, which promises to delay their ice harvest for at least a week, and probably make it impossible to put up ice at this place this year.

When the river froze over this fall the stage of the water was rather low and since that time it has raised about six inches. About four inches of this water came above the surface of the first layer of ice and froze, leaving a two-inch space of water between the first and second layer of ice. With this condition prevailing it is impossible to get the ice. There is about twelve inches of ice but this is in two layers, neither of which is thick enough to cut.

Davenport. According to unofficial figures, the Davenport police department made arrests to the number of 2,258 during the year 1914. In other words about one twenty-fifth of the population of the city said, "Good morning, judge." The state and city cases were about equally divided. In the former class, plain drunks head the list by a big majority with vagrants a close second. Under the city ordinances, peace disturbers are in the vast majority, as the above covers a multitude of sins. Inmates of disorderly houses win second honors as to numbers. The patrol wagon traveled approximately 7,000 miles and made nearly 3,000 runs. Nearly 3,000 prisoners were given freedom during the year. About 2,500 tramps were lodged at headquarters during the year.

Fort Madison. The fire department answered a call early Thursday morning to extinguish a blaze at the millinery establishment of Mrs. M. E. Moyer, at No. 827 Second street. The fire was discovered by the night policeman, who roused the door and awakened the inmates. Mr. Moyer has been ill and his condition was rendered critical from the effects of the fumes. He was barely able to break a window and secure air to revive himself after opening the door into the burning room. The entire stock of hats and trimmings was destroyed and the loss from that is estimated at \$1,300. In addition to that the furniture in the living apartments was damaged by at least \$100. The building was also damaged, but it is entirely covered by insurance.

brara was introduced as evidence that Brooks, in the Niobrara hotel, talked over the phone with his wife in the Padley hotel at Geddes on the night of April 16.

Special stress is laid by the defense on the fact that Chief of Police Lytle, of Wymore; Sheriff Hire, of Lincoln, and two other persons have already filed with the county auditor a claim for the reward offered for Brooks' arrest and conviction. Two of the claimants were material witnesses against Brooks.

ROMANCE OF TOM LONDON.

Iowa Recluse Lived in Memories of the Long, Long Ago. Special to Times-Republican. Muscatine, Jan. 4.—The death of Tom London, brother of Jack London, the noted author, after an adventurous career of many years, has provided the answer to the enigma which his hermit life presented. Tom London lived for a quarter of a century in a wood cabin built by his own hands and far removed from civilization, while his brother, sailing almost unknown seas in quest of romance and adventure, attracted world wide attention. Jack London sought romance in strange places. Tom found it right next door. The secret of his life of seclusion was to be discerned from a button he wore on his shirt or coat lapel, but only his most intimate friend knew the story. A tender affection for a girl who died before their wedding day prompted Tom London to live alone with his chickens and a memory of the past.

The story of his affection was told by an intimate friend shortly after his death. "May I ask you whose picture that is, Tom, that you wear? One of the neighbor girls?" was the question which brought forth the only answer to the mystery surrounding his strange life. "She used to be a neighbor girl," Tom responded. "It was when I first lived in Iowa. She lived not far from father's house. She and I were engaged and when I came to marry her I found her sick with the fever. She died before we could be married," he continued.

"She gave me this picture and I had a pin made some years ago. We—" Tom fumbled at the pin, then looked out thru a window and perhaps thru his years of loneliness back to what might have been and then abruptly changed the subject. He had revealed his heart which had turned cold years ago.

ROAD BOOSTERS TO MEET.

Interstate Trail Organization Meeting at Mason City Excites Much Interest. Special to Times-Republican. Mason City, Jan. 4.—Secretary Ralph Bolton, of the Greater Des Moines committee, will attend the Interstate trail organization meeting and the good roads convention to be held here. It is also announced the St. Paul Association of Commerce will send a representative to the meeting. The northern terminus of the interstate trail has been placed as the Twin Cities but whether Minneapolis or St. Paul will be selected has not been determined. This will be decided at this meeting.

Another matter which will probably cause a fight at the meeting will be the route from Iowa Falls to Des Moines. The route was to go thru Story City but recently Nevada boosters have put up a strong fight to have the road go thru that place. A delegation arrived today from Nevada to make the ground early and attempt to get the new route for their town.

Sac City Items.

Special to Times-Republican. Sac City, Jan. 4.—Rev. Norman R. Hill, pastor of the First Baptist church in Sac City, will leave Sac City today for Eagles Mere, Pa., where he formerly had a pastorate, and where on Jan. 12 he will be united in marriage with Miss Edith Turrell Chase, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Embley S. Chase of that city, the ceremony taking place in the Baptist church.

On Jan. 7 will take place at the Presbyterian church in Sac City the installation of Rev. C. G. Butler, who recently became pastor of the church. Rev. W. M. Hamilton, D. D., of Sioux City, Dr. R. D. Echlin, president of Buena Vista College, Storm Lake, and Rev. T. A. Ambler, of Storm Lake, will assist in the exercises.

The marriage of Miss Mabel A. Poland, a rural school teacher of this county, to Mr. Charles William Carter, a prosperous young farmer of northwestern Calhoun county, took place at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Poland, north of Sac City, Rev. J. Irving Brown, of Sac City, performing the ceremony. They will live on the Poland farm the coming year.

Brief News of Traer.

Traer, Jan. 4.—Mrs. Will Henderson and children, late of Colorado left for Fairfax, Iowa, where they will remain indefinitely. Mr. Henderson recently arrived there from Colorado with their household goods. Rev. Rev. J. M. Henderson is pastor at this place and they will occupy the parsonage. William Hill, formerly of Carroll township, now a resident of Des Moines, was here a few days ago. He had left a team of small horses on the farm and these were brought to Traer and sold to a horsebuyer. Instead of taking a check or draft he

SCROFULA AND ALL HUMORS GIVE WAY

There are many things learned from experience and observation that the older generation should impress upon the younger. Among them is the fact that scrofula and all the humors are most successfully treated with Hood's Sarsaparilla. This great medicine is a peculiar combination of remarkably effective blood-purifying and health-giving roots, barks and herbs, and has been tested for forty years. Get it today.

put the cash in his pocket. When he arrived at Toledo it was gone. He retraced his way but found not a trace of the money. Mrs. John Wulf has purchased the Al Chamberlain property. She will occupy it for probably two years and will then remodel or rebuild. She will rent the property in the meanwhile. The Clzcek Manufacturing Company, of Clutter, is anxious to come to Traer. The company has outgrown the town and capital, and would like to increase the capital stock and erect a larger plant in a larger place where railroad facilities are better, and has made an offer to the commercial club of Traer which is under consideration.

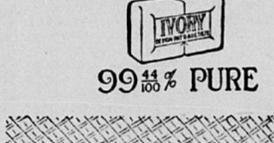
A number of weddings were solemnized during the holidays. Among them Miss Thigola, Clark, of Traer, and John Mitchell, of Mainey River, Ont., who will make their home near the latter place where the groom is farming; Miss Donetta Gates and Terrin Roe, both of Traer; Miss Mary Vogt, a former Traer girl, and a Missouri man, William Kidwell, an undertaker; Peta Frederickson and Mrs. Bertha Andrew, and Miss Alice Dalziel and Mathyas Rodden, both of Carroll township.

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You like a perfumed bath is no reason why you should buy high priced perfumed soaps. Buy Ivory Soap at a few cents per cake and follow the suggestion below. Not only will you have the desired perfume but you will enjoy the purest, cleanest, most refreshing bath that soap can give.

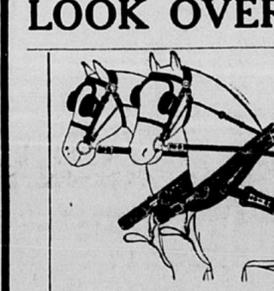
Perfumed Bath Bags Grate Ivory Soap and add a little powdered orris root. Put in bags of convenient size and use instead of washcloth or sponge.

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RAILROAD TIME TABLE

Table with columns for Railroad Name, Route, and Time. Includes Chicago Great Western, Chicago & North Western, and Chicago & Northwestern.

Chicago Great Western. No. 42—Local Freight... 11:30 a. m. No. 4—Des Moines Passenger... 8:25 a. m. No. 12—Denver Special... 1:10 p. m. No. 18—Oregon and Wash- ington Special... 3:30 p. m. No. 30—Clinton Passenger... 8:11 p. m. No. 6—Atlantic Express... 8:18 p. m. No. 22—Chicago Special... 11:55 p. m. No. 10—Eastern Express... 6:13 a. m. No. 42—Local Freight... 1:10 p. m. No. 5, 43, 44 and 42 daily except Sunday. No. 30 daily to Cedar Rapids.

MINNEAPOLIS & ST. LOUIS

NORTH BOUND. St. Louis and Kansas City Mail (daily)... 5:30 p. m. Peoria Express (ex. Sun)... 8:00 p. m. St. Louis and Peoria Limited (daily)... 8:00 p. m. Twin City Limited (daily)... 8:18 p. m. Local Freight (ex. Sun)... 6:40 a. m. SOUTH BOUND. St. Louis and Kansas City Mail (daily)... 5:30 p. m. Peoria Express (ex. Sun)... 8:00 p. m. St. Louis and Peoria Limited (daily)... 8:00 p. m. Twin City Limited (daily)... 8:18 p. m. Local Freight (ex. Sun)... 6:40 a. m. STORY CITY BRANCH. Leave. 9:40 a. m. Stock Express (ex. Sun)... 8:00 p. m. 6:10 p. m. Mixed (ex. Sun)... 4:45 p. m.