

# Webster City Freeman

ESTABLISHED IN 1857.

WEBSTER CITY, IOWA. TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1911.

No. 19.

## BURGLARS GET LITTLE

Enter Spahn & Rose Lumber Company Office, Open Safe and Pry Out the Iron Money Chest.

### GET ONLY A SMALL AMOUNT

Safe Was Not Locked and Thieves Were Poorly Rewarded—No Clue to Robbers.

Some time during Friday night thieves entered the office of the Spahn & Rose Lumber Company, located on Des Moines street between the Chicago & Northwestern and the Illinois Central railroad tracks, opened the safe, pried out the money chest, took it into the rear part of the lumber yards, broke it open and took a few dollars in change that happened to be in it. The loss to the company is slight and the safe was but little damaged.

Manager G. W. Roberts was surprised next morning upon opening the office to see evidence that someone had been there during the night. The thieves gained access to the office through a window opening into the big lumber shed, having entered the shed by way of the rear door which they pried open. They raised the window by means of an iron bar about two feet long. Entering the window they found it easy to open the safe, which was not locked. The safe is a large one and is used only as a protection against fire. It contained a small amount of change and some papers of value to the owners but of no value to anyone else. The thieves pried loose the iron chest, which is probably eighteen inches long and twelve inches deep. This they took out into the rear of the lumber yard, where they opened it and took what little money there was in it. The papers were unaccounted for.

There is no clue to the robbery and the officers have little information of value in attempting to ferret out the perpetrators.

That evening shortly after five o'clock a couple men going nutting saw a stranger in the vicinity of the Northwestern railroad bridge in the southwestern part of town. The fellow acted strangely, so strangely as to attract attention. He was fairly well dressed and seemed uneasy. He walked first in one direction, then in another and seemed to be waiting for somebody. It is possible he is the man, or one of the men, who committed the robbery.

Some one also entered the Crooked Creek depot Friday night, gaining entrance through a window. All the valuables were in the safe in the vault and nothing was taken. The vault door was forced open with a crowbar, but the safe was not opened. It is evident that the thieves were frightened away before they had completed their work.

## BUSIER THAN A CRAN- BERRY MERCHANT

B. F. Keltz Receives Many Letters From all Over Country Regarding Gotch Song.

B. F. Keltz is kept busy these days with the typewriter answering correspondence in connection with the Gotch-Hack wrestling song entitled, "Put me Down Gently," for which a prize of \$60 is offered.

Mr. Keltz is in receipt of about forty letters from all corners of the United States, each containing several verses of jingle, and each considered the very best by the writer thereof. The competition will be open until the offerers of the prize are satisfied that they have something that will make their song one of the popular hits of the day. It will then be copyrighted and placed on sale in every city where the big Humboldt wrestler is known.

Mr. Keltz is also considering the

## THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR WATERMELON DAY

Anticipations are for the Greatest Time in the History of Webster City and Hamilton County.

### EXPECT 20,000 PEOPLE HERE

Something Doing Every Minute of the Day—Two Carloads of Melons are Here.

The various committees looking after the arrangements for the observation of Watermelon Day in Webster City this year are doing everything possible to make the event one long to be remembered by the people of this part of Iowa. There will be many attractions for the entertainment of the big crowds anticipated. It is expected that four militia companies will be here. One from Story City, one from Fort Dodge, one from Eagle Grove and the local organization. These companies will give exhibitions of battalion drill, dress parade, etc. It is expected that four brass bands will furnish the music. The Story City and Woolstock bands have already been engaged and it is hoped that the Lehigh and East Marion bands will be here. Two carloads of Muscadine melons arrived here today and they are very fine ones—large, juicy and delicious. It is expected that President Taft and party will arrive in the city about noon, coming on the Illinois Central from the west. The president's party will be met at the depot by the reception committee and

escorted to the grounds and back to the special train in automobiles. The streets must be kept clear while the president is passing, as every precaution is taken to insure the personal safety of the nation's executive head. The secret service men take no chances, as they never know when some crank with criminal designs may be encountered. The streets will be roped off to prevent any possible accidents or injury to the president. The automobiles will meet the president at the depot and proceed to the grounds in the following order:

- FIRST AUTOMOBILE. The President. C. D. Hilles, private secretary. Major A. W. Butt, military aid. One member local committee. James Sloan, secret service officer, who will ride on seat with the chauffeur.
- SECOND AUTOMOBILE. R. L. Jervis, secret service officer. Joseph Murphy, secret service officer. W. W. Mischler, stenographer. Dr. Rhodes, president's physician. Note.—No local people in this car.
- THIRD AUTOMOBILE. Charles Wagner, stenographer. Cincinnati Times Star publicity man. Local committee to fill car.
- FOURTH AUTOMOBILE. Five newspaper men who accompany president. One member local committee or one local newspaper man.
- FIFTH AUTOMOBILE. Same as above. Then will follow Gov. Carroll and party and other distinguished visitors.

## RABBIT SLAUGHTER IS UNPOPULAR

To the Credit of Fort Dodge People They Refuse to Patronize the Orgies.

The rabbit chase at Fort Dodge, advertised to continue for several days, has been called off. To the credit of the people of Fort Dodge it can be said that they refused to patronize the affair, demonstrating that they are more humane and have a more refined taste than they were credited with by the men who promoted the brutal affair. There is no "sport" to a real sportsman in seeing helpless rabbits, so tame that they offer little resistance, torn to pieces by bloodthirsty dogs. In speaking of the calling off of the chase, the Fort Dodge Messenger says:

Fort Dodge men who got behind the coursing proposition hoping to boost the fund for good roads, are heartily disappointed because the meet is proving so unsuccessful. The chief trouble is the quality of the hares shipped here for the meet. They are so tame and slow that they offer no good sport for the spectators and only cause an exhibition of cruelty to animals. The local men did not anticipate any such circumstances and take the earliest possible opportunity to stop the meet, even though the coursing fund will be depleted because of the experiment. All energies will now be devoted to making the aviation days a success and the support of Fort Dodge people is heartily urged and expected. If these days prove good money-makers, the good roads fund will benefit from the weeks of work local men have given to this movement.

feasibility of placing the song with some noted singer to be sung into the phonograph. However, nothing definite as to this has yet been settled. Among the many contributions which Mr. Keltz has so far received, he has not found anything which seems to meet the requirements.

## ANOTHER RECK- LESS AUTO DRIVER

Young Farmer has Narrow Escape From Fatal Injury—Buggy Demolished.

Edward Wearda had a very narrow escape from fatal injury Friday night while on his way to his home, about three and a half miles south of town. He was driving slowly along and was about three miles out of town, when an automobile going at a terrific rate of speed struck his rig, completely demolishing his buggy and tearing the harness from the horse. Young Wearda was thrown in the air from the rig and came down on the horses back, rolling from there to the ground, luckily escaping the heels of the horse, which was terribly frightened and at once began kicking and plunging. The driver of the automobile did not stop to ascertain the extent of the damage done, but threw on the speed and before Wearda could arise, was lost in the distance. However, Mr. Wearda considers himself very lucky, as he escaped with a few scratches, although his buggy was completely destroyed.

The auto driver had his lights going all right and Mr. Wearda turned his horse to one side to allow the automobile to pass him, but instead of doing so, the driver turned his car full tilt into the horse and buggy. It is presumed this was an accident, but the action of the auto man in running away after striking the Mr. Wearda's rig is inexcusable.

Decorations for the Big Day. The decorating committee for Watermelon Day will erect a big welcome arch and do considerable decorating of the streets, poles, etc. The business men, however, should look after decorating their own stores, shops, and offices. Large pictures of President Taft may be secured at Schroeder's drug-store at a nominal price as a part of these decorations. It is hoped by the committee that the merchants generally will fix up their places in fine shape for the big day.

## AGED CITI- ZEN CALLED

Benjamin Millard, Nearly 96 Years of Age, Dies at the Home of His Son in This City.

### CAME TO WEBSTER CITY IN 1855

The Infirmities of Old Age Cause of Death—Survived by Wife and Four Children.

Benjamin Millard, probably the oldest man in Hamilton county, and one of Webster City's earliest settlers, died at the home of his son, Fillmore Millard, at 3:15 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Mr. Millard's death comes as a result of his extreme age, he being 95 years old on his last birthday, Feb. 4, 1911.

During his earlier years the deceased was one of the most active and best known men in Hamilton county. He braved the hardships of the early pioneer days in Iowa, coming to Webster City in 1855, and was one of the men who have borne an important part in the development and upbuilding of this city and Hamilton county. Up to within a few years ago, Mr. Millard had been very active for one of his advanced age, but during the past few years he has been very feeble.

Benjamin Millard was a native of Humberstone, Canada, born February 4, 1816, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Doan) Millard. His paternal grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. The parents moved from Humberstone to Yarmouth township, five miles from Port Stanley and six miles from St. Thomas, Canada, where our subject was reared. In March, 1837, he came west and settled in Ottawa, La Salle county, Illinois, and soon after moved to Putnam county. In 1855 he moved to Marshall, Illinois, and in 1855 to Webster City, Iowa. In the spring of 1856 he built the old Hamilton House, now known as the Park Hotel, which he carried on a year; then sold out, but a year later bought it again, and continued the hotel business until the death of his wife in 1860. He then went to Fonda, Pocahontas county, and engaged in the mercantile business four years, and in 1864 moved to his farm south of town where he resided many years. Mr. Millard was married in October, 1840, to Samantha Servis, a native of Letart Falls, Meigs county, Ohio. Four children survive this union—A. B. Millard and Fillmore Millard of this city, Ira C. Millard of Chehalis, Wash., and Mrs. Del Lake of Los Angeles, California. His wife died in August, 1860, and he was married again, October 10, 1893, to Sarah A. Warner of Calhoun county, Iowa, the latter surviving the husband.

The funeral was held at the A. B. Millard home, 912 Division street, this afternoon at 2:15. Rev. N. E. Spicer conducted the service.

## ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO GET AUTOMOBILE

Taken Partially From Garage, but Left Standing in the Open Doorway.

A Freeman-Tribune man had occasion this morning to visit the office of the Charles Younker Lumber Company and was surprised to find the usually good natured junior member of the firm in anything but a tranquil frame of mind. He was telling his troubles to a number of sympathizing friends who happened to be in the office. He brought his fist down upon the table with such violence that the ink stand jumped two feet high and the office cat sought safety in flight. "By the eternal," shouted George, "if I catch the fellows who did it I will give them the full extent of the law!" We hope he'll catch 'em. After he had cooled off a little he was

## FALL HATS.



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## ARRANGEMENTS ARE ALL O.K.

Hugh B. Mills, Secret Service Man, Approves of the Plans for President's Reception.

### HE MAKES AN INVESTIGATION

Assures the Presence of Mr. Taft Here on Watermelon Day, September 28th.

Hugh B. Mills, secret service man, who visits the various towns where President Taft is to stop on his trip through the west and makes investigation of the arrangements for the reception of the president, was here Saturday forenoon and commended the plans of the commercial league, hence there can be no doubt of Mr. Taft being here as advertised.

The president will be met at the depot by the committee and taken in an automobile to Second street, thence to the city hall corner, thence south on Seneca street to the south side of the city park, thence east to a stand in the center of Superior street north of Water street. Here the president will deliver an address. After the address the president and party will return as follows: West on Water street to Willson avenue, south on the avenue to Elm street, west on Elm to Prospect, north on Prospect street to Bank street and east on Bank street to Des Moines street, thence north to Illinois Central depot. The president, at the request of Secretary Sparboe, will be taken past the school house that all school children may have opportunity to see him.

School teachers from the country who wish to bring the children in a body are requested to report to Secretary Sparboe, that arrangements may be made for them and places secured where they may see the president.

Now that the plans for the reception of the president in this city have received the official endorsement of Mr. Mills there can be no doubt of the presence here of the nation's head on that occasion.

### New Way to Address Mail.

Wesley Martin received a letter this morning from a New York firm which was addressed in a new manner. His picture had been cut out of some publication, probably a law journal, and this was pasted upon the envelope, with "Webster City, Iowa," written beneath it. Of course when the letter arrived at the local postoffice the clerks at once recognized the handsome physiognomy of Mr. Martin and put the mail in the box.

Lost, gold watch, and fob enamelled in blue. Return to this office, or Miss Melita Mickelson.