

## MANY PEOPLE ARE INJURED IN A RAILROAD WRECK.

Passenger Coaches Jump the Track on Illinois Central North of Cherokee.

Between twenty-five and thirty passengers on the Illinois Central passenger train were injured when two coaches jumped the track north of Cherokee near Primghar this morning at 9 o'clock. This train

connects with the one which passed through here this morning at 2:52. Of the most seriously injured Conductor Sage received internal injuries. H. Host of Cherokee received serious injuries to his spine and an unknown passenger is in a precarious condition. A relief train was sent out immediately from Cherokee bearing doctors and nurses to the scene of the accident. It was impossible to learn whether any Webster City people were aboard this train.

## A PROFITABLE GINSENG PATCH

N. J. Loring Took \$900 Worth of Roots From a Small Area and Sold Them This Fall.

PLANTED SIX YEARS AGO Now at a Stage Where Good Returns May Be Expected From it Each Season.

N. J. Loring of this city is in possession of an acre patch of ginseng near his home in the west part of town from which he netted a tidy sum this fall when he sold two hundred pounds of the dried root to an eastern firm for about four and a half dollars a pound. This is the first large quantity Mr. Loring has shipped away and is but a forerunner of what may develop into a very profitable business.

Mr. Loring's first experiments were made with a small bed of ginseng a number of years ago and since then by degrees he has planted in rotation ten beds, each measuring four by sixty feet. The different beds are so planted that they will reach maturity one at a time in as many successive seasons and as one crop is harvested, seed is put in the same ground to yield in its turn a quota of medicinal herb. The ginseng acre would appear to the unfattened to be equal almost to the proverbial gold brick, but when one takes into consideration the length of time necessary to develop the tiny seed first placed in the ground to the finished product, the enthusiastic gardener is less imbued with the project. The seed must freeze in the ground two winters. That is, the planting is done in the fall and in eighteen months, or the second summer, it will sprout and the pale green shoot must grow and mature in practically entire shade for four years before it can be dug preparatory to drying the root for commercial purposes. Artificial shade is secured by building a light frame work perhaps six feet from the ground on which lathes are placed about an inch apart. This arrangement allows the slanting rays of the sun to reach the young plants and also keeps the soil, which must be rich and loamy, damp. After being dug the matured root is placed on a frame in the sun to dry, the same process being followed as that for the drying of fruit and vegetables. However, of late years it has been found that the kiln dried product is slightly better and manufacturers pay a higher price for it.

The word ginseng is derived from the Chinese and the root of the plant, *Aralia Schmenseng*, was by that people first valued as a medicine. The Chinese variety has, however, become so rare that the American genus has largely taken its place and its root is now an article of export from America to China.

The root when dry is of a yellowish white color with a sweetness in taste somewhat resembling that of licorice, combined with a slight aromatic bitterness. Its medicinal value cannot easily be overrated, composing as it does the better part

of many tonics and elixirs. Mr. Loring may be congratulated on his perseverance, which has brought him to the period when he may expect to reap a rich harvest from the barren years, six in all, since the bed of ginseng from which the harvest was made this fall was first put in the ground.

## HAS BEEN OPEN FOR FOURTEEN MONTHS

Webster City Has Reason to Be Proud of Successful Rest Room.

The Webster City rest room, used every month by hundreds of Hamilton county residents, has just completed a successful cycle of fourteen months of existence. The latest report, for the month ending Jan. 13, 1916, shows the number of visitors from other towns during the month to have been 229; number from the country, 94; number of children 69; number from Webster City 307; total for the month \$90.

The total number of visitors to the rest room during the fourteen months of its existence has been 10,428. Many of these have been girls, women or children who were ill and required the services of the very efficient matron, Mrs. J. C. Robison. Only those who visit the rest room every day have any idea of the number and variety of calls upon the matron.

A stack of post cards and letters addressed to her attest to the aid which has been received by girls or women traveling and in doubt what course to pursue; women in distress; girls who missed their trains and were properly directed or suitable lodgings found for them; girls who have no home in the city and have needed counsel or advice; calls for servants or clerks or other help. Many a night the rest room has been kept open to accommodate some lonely woman who has been waiting for friends or a train and otherwise would have been compelled to spend her time in a hotel or a station.

The mission of the room has not only been a place of repose for weary travelers, but it has branched out and is now a combination of information bureau, counsel office, and general headquarters for many things.

During the fourteen months, several improvements have been added to an already well equipped room. The Commercial League has purchased a new vacuum cleaner for the rugs and added a drinking fountain. A gas heater has been added. Beautiful fancy pillow slips have been given, also two chairs, a fern, towel racks, and all the magazines that could be taken care of.

## "ALL EUROPE IS LAUGHING AT US!"



## ELLSWORTH IS DEFEATED

The Local High School Basketball Team Wins by Score of 23 to 22—Game Played in Ellsworth.

GAME IS HARD FOUGHT BATTLE Webster City Five Handicapped by Poor Condition of Ellsworth Floor.

The Webster City high school basketball team won its second straight victory of the season at Ellsworth Saturday night. The game was close and hard fought throughout. The Ellsworth team was leading 8 to 13 at the end of the first half, but Webster City soon regained the lead in the second session and maintained it to the end of the game. The final score was 23 to 22 for Webster City.

Ellsworth has one of the best basketball records for a town of its size in the state, and last year defeated Webster City decisively in the opening game between the two schools.

The visiting team was handicapped by the poor condition of the Ellsworth floor, the surface being unusually slippery. In addition, the room was poorly lighted and heated. In spite of the obstacles to fast team work, the game was hotly contested and the issue was in doubt until the final whistle.

The Webster City line-up consisted of Greenwood at center, Froning and Tatham at guard, and Wilkinson and France in the forward position, with DeFrance as substitute. The most spectacular player of the game was Olson of Ellsworth, who played center. His work was considerably marred at times by unnecessary roughness, but was otherwise very effective.

The Webster City team, having defeated Nevada and Ellsworth in out-of-town games, will initiate the home season next Saturday, Jan. 22, in a game with the strong Pomeroy five. The game will be played on the new floor above the Mercantile store. Pomeroy has one of the fastest teams in western Iowa, coached by Latham of Iowa University, and the game is considered the hardest on the schedule, next to the two contests with Fort Dodge.

## TO SELL COUNTY BUILDING AT AUCTION

Property to be Sold on January 26, Including Two Hot Air Furnaces.

of Webster City, at public auction, on Wednesday, January 26, at 1:30 o'clock, together with two hot air furnaces. This building was erected 35 or more years ago—that is, the main part of it was. Additions were added later. It contains many thousands of feet of good lumber and the dimension lumber is in excellent condition. The building has been well painted and cared for ever since its erection and the material from which it is made is of the best. Some household furniture will also be sold at the same time.

## ARE YOU GOING TO THE AMES SHORT COURSE?

If you are, Take Along a Pint of Hamilton County Soil to be Tested.

Ames, Jan. 17.—Special: In order to make the Ames winter short course, Jan. 31 to Feb. 5, of as much practical value to the farmers as it can possibly be made, the soils department of Iowa State college has arranged to make a free acidity test of all soil samples brought by farmers to the college during that week. Samples of about one pint should be taken from the surface to a depth of about seven inches from a place that represents average conditions, are the instructions that the soils men give to the large number of farmers who are expected to take advantage of this offer.

## EAGLE GROVE'S GRAVELING RECORD

Now Has a Total of Forty-Five Miles of Roads Out of the Town Graveled.

Eagle Grove, Jan. 15.—There is now a total of forty-five miles of graveled roads leading out of and tributary to Eagle Grove. One stretch, the longest, leading north, is fifteen and one-half miles long, reaching Renwick.

The Kennedy system and feeders, northwest, contains over fifteen miles.

There is, or soon will be, a stretch of four miles west of town, south, east and southeast seven miles. A little showing northeast and southwest.

Over thirty miles of the total has developed since the first good roads booster meeting in July.

Fifteen different crews reported for work Monday morning.

Kenyon is the Man. Ellsworth News: It is said that Chairman Hill of the republican national committee is searching for the best and most eloquent orator in America to act as temporary chairman and deliver the keynote speech at the opening of the Chicago national convention of the G. O. P. on June 7. He need seek no farther. Senator William S. Kenyon of Iowa is the man. The best perfumes are at Teed's.

## HIGH SCHOOL DEBATES END IN TIE

Webster City High School Team Wins in This Place and Humboldt Scores Victory in That City.

LOCAL ATTENDANCE IS SMALL Each Team Wins the Unanimous Decision of the Judges in Its Own City.

A very small audience in Lincoln high school auditorium Friday night, greeted one of the finest debates ever held in Webster City. It is surely not realized generally that the material on the local debating team is of the finest quality, or larger audiences would be present to hear the debates. The decision of the judges in this city was unanimously in favor of the negative side—Webster City's team. The decision of the judges in Humboldt that night was unanimously in favor of the negative side—or Humboldt's team. Hence the joint debate in this city and Humboldt, in which each town sent a debating team to represent their school in the debate, ended in a tie, as did the last football game played between these two high schools.

The boys of the Webster City team who debated in this city were George Worthington, McKinley McCollough and Anthony Sparbo. The members of the Humboldt team which took the affirmative side of the question in this city were Albert Winters, Cecil Munson and Fern Anderson—all boys. They were accompanied by Supt. Bassett of the Humboldt schools. The question was: "Resolved; that the state should adopt a minimum wage law, constitutionality being granted."

The judges in this city were L. G. Focht, an Eagle Grove banker; Prof. Munson of the English department of Ellsworth College; Mr. Stetzel, a manufacturer of Waterloo and an Ames graduate.

The boys have all been trained for the work by Prof. M. L. Mitchell to whom great credit is due. He has worked early and late with the boys after school hours and after supper, zealously training and bringing out the latent debating talent which lies within so many bright high school lads. No matter how much talent may lie dormant, nothing short of a patient, efficient trainer will bring it forth, and this has been splendidly done by Prof. Mitchell.

Friday noon the members of the team from this city went to Humboldt. They were Harold Lane, Arthur Wahl and Merville Gilmore. The boys were accompanied by their trainer, Prof. Mitchell, and took their defeat in that city with characteristic good grace. Prof. Jackson and Prof. Siefert acted as timekeepers in this city, with Supt. Kelly presiding.

LOST—a fur scarf in alley back of Ferndell Grocery. Finder, leave at this office. d11\*

## PUBLISHERS OF THE MENACE ACQUITTED

Jury Decides That Charges are Not Sustained—Jury Out all Night.

A few days ago the Freeman-Tribune contained an item concerning the trial of the publishers of the Menace, an anti-Catholic paper, charged with violating the law against sending obscene matter through the mails. The Menace has hundreds of readers in Webster City and Hamilton county, who are more or less interested in the trial, which resulted in the acquittal of the publishers, as the following dispatches from Joplin, Mo., where the trial was held, reveals:

After deliberating since 7 o'clock last night a jury in the United States District court here today returned a verdict of not guilty in the case against the Menace Publishing company and Marvin Brown, Bruce Phelps, Wilbur F. Phelps, and Theodore C. Walker, owners and publishers of the Menace.

The government charged the defendants with sending obscene matter through the mails. Six counts of the indictment charged violation of postal laws and the seventh alleged obscene passages in a book they published.

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## LIVE STOCK MEN IN CITY OF DES MOINES

Are Holding Meeting at the Savery—Will Endorse Senator Kenyon's Bill.

Des Moines, Jan. 17.—Live stock men from all over Iowa are at the Savery today for a two days session of the Iowa State Live Stock Insurance company. They will turn their attention to the foot and mouth disease and the manner in which the quarantine has been enforced.

Endorsement of Senator Kenyon's bill for an assistant secretary of agriculture to take over complete charge of the live stock industry and curb the bureau of animal husbandry which they criticize for alleged inefficiency and arbitrary action in the recent epidemic, is expected. Stock resolutions will probably be adopted for the Iowa delegation in congress and to send to stock men in other midwestern states urging similar action.

The Ambrose Boy Comfortable. George Ambrose, who was accidentally shot on Friday afternoon at the Eli Howd farm north of this city, is resting comfortably today although the bullet has not yet been recovered from the wound. Nothing of the sort will be attempted for several days if his condition continues satisfactory.

## SERIOUS SHOOTING ACCIDENT

Distressing Affair Occurs at Eli Howd Farm, About Three Miles Northwest of This City.

## GEO. AMBROSE SHOT IN BACK

Accident was Purely Accidental—Bullet Enters Back of Boy Above Hip.

A very distressing accident occurred late Friday afternoon at the Eli Howd farm, about three miles northwest of this city, when George Ambrose, the twelve year old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Ambrose, living north of the city, was accidentally shot while hunting pigeons. The lad and two companions were shooting pigeons in the roof of the barn on the Howd farm and the Ambrose boy was hanging to a rafter, preparing probably to jump down upon the hay, when one of the lads below—Hilmer Christopherson of this city—began to load his rifle which was accidentally discharged, the bullet entering the back of the Ambrose boy just above the hip.

The injured lad was immediately taken to the home of his parents north of this city and a local physician called. The bullet was not located that night but the boy rested fairly comfortably all night. The bullet entered the lad's body low down in the back on the right side and the greatest danger is from possible infection.

The affair was of course purely accidental and no blame whatever is attached to young Christopherson, who is terribly grieved over the accident. The supposition is, that the hammer of the rifle caught in the lad's coat just after reloading the gun and was in that manner discharged. All will sympathize deeply with the Ambrose and Christopherson families over the distressing accident.

## Death of Aunt and Uncle.

S. B. Bair returned Friday night from Chicago where he was called early in the week by the death of his uncle, A. L. Beverley, who has frequently visited in this city and is comparatively well known here. He died at the ripe age of 92 years after a short illness with pneumonia. During Mr. Bair's stay in Chicago, his aunt, Mrs. A. L. Beverley, also was stricken with pneumonia and passed away at 8:30 o'clock Wednesday night just after the return of the funeral party at 7:45 from the Chicago cemetery. She was 75 years of age. A son of the deceased couple, J. A. Beverley, who visited in this city Nov. 3rd at the Bair home, has been stricken with pneumonia and is very ill now at his home in Chicago where both of his parents died.

## Underwear

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