

THE NEWS IN IOWA

NEW ROAD CONNECTIONS.

Plans Said to Have Been Made for Duluth and New Orleans.

Des Moines dispatch: Correspondence received in Des Moines from President Wardell, of the Duluth & New Orleans road, states that the company has practically arranged with Winona, Southern & Western and the Green Bay & Winona roads for merging the projects into one system with the Duluth & New Orleans as the latter road is completed from Des Moines to Osage. The Green Bay & Winona road extends from Green Bay, on Lake Michigan, to Winona, and the Winona, Southern & Western from Winona southwest through Rochester, Minn., to Osage, in Mitchell county. Both roads were built by Winona capitalists, the Simpson interests in Winona controlling very largely, and at the present time are operated as one system, though the two corporations have not been merged. The correspondence states that it is certain that the new road will be completed this year from Des Moines to Iowa Falls and that it is hoped to have in operation about 100 miles of it before winter sets in, which will bring the road to within forty miles of Osage. He says it is hoped to complete this section next season and to make a start on an extension to the southwest from Des Moines. A survey has been made south of Des Moines to a crossing of the Rock Island's Winterest branch near Springhill. It is announced that it is the intention of the company to eventually build to Patonsburg, Mo., to a connection with the Kansas City Southern, the reorganized Pittsburg & Gulf road, and to secure a traffic agreement with it that will open a continuous mail route from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes through the trans-Mississippi country. The claim that active building operations will commence within a month and that teams and men for the work have been engaged, is reiterated.

A MASKED MAN DID IT.

Held Up a Passenger Train Near Hamburg.

St. Joseph, Mo., March 25.—A lone robber, wearing a false face, with a huge black mustache painted on the mask, held up the south-bound Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs train four miles south of Hamburg, Iowa, at 1:30 o'clock a. m. The train was in charge of Conductor Billy McGee. Flagman Moore was first accosted by the robber at the rear end of the train. Using Moore as a shield, the robber went through the sleeper and chair car, carrying \$200 in cash and a trunk. The train slowed down and he escaped in the darkness. The robbery was reported to the Burlington general offices here from Langdon, the first station south of Hamburg. Dispatches to Council Bluffs estimate the gain of the robber at \$500, and one received in Omaha puts it at \$600. President Burt and Chief Engineer Berry of the Union Pacific road were among the passengers and Mr. Burt was held up for \$50, while Mr. Berry managed to escape loss.

KICKED TO DEATH.

Claybourne Terhune, a Farmer, Meets Death at Des Moines.

Des Moines, March 24.—Claybourne Terhune, a farmer living northwest of Des Moines, while on his way from Des Moines where he had been to get a load of bran, met death in a tragic manner. He had gotten his load and was driving west on University avenue when he had occasion to pass a car that had stopped to let off passengers. His team swerved and started to run and in a moment he was thrown down onto the single trees and from there to the ground. He held to one line, according to the statement of an eye witness, until it was cut in two by the friction of the wheel, but when he was released, his lease on life was no more. He had been kicked to death, the bones of his face being crushed in, and the imprint of a shoe showed in the fatal stroke.

BUILDING WORKMEN ON STRIKE.

Cedar Rapids is Having Its First Labor Trouble.

CEDAR RAPIDS, March 24.—Cedar Rapids is having the first labor trouble in its history. Painters and paper hangers have been on ten days on a demand for a minimum scale of \$2.50 and \$3 per day. The bosses offered \$2.25 and \$2.50. Journeyman plumbers have served notice that they will demand ten hours' pay for eight hours' work, and the carpenters' union demands a minimum scale of \$2.25 for eight hours. Building is practically suspended because of the uncertainty, although hundreds of buildings will go up this season if a settlement is reached.

INFANT CREMATED.

Followed Its Mother Into a Burning Building and Died.

QUASQUETON, March 23.—The home of John Melick was burned. Mrs. Melick carried her two-year-old boy from the building and then returned for the baby. She was found by rescuers in a faint in the road holding the baby in her arms. The other child must have followed its mother into the burning building, as its badly charred remains were found in the ruins.

Dynamite Jokers Sentenced.

CEDAR RAPIDS, March 23.—The seven dynamite jokers were sentenced in police court. Two were fined \$100 each and five \$25 each for unlawful assembly. Mettie has been returned from Michigan and will be held to the grand jury.

ASSESSMENT IS MADE.

Census Completes Figures on Railroad Valuation.

DES MOINES, March 24.—The executive council has completed the railroad assessment and formally adopted it. State Treasurer Herriott was present at the meeting which took the final action, and it is stated he will file a statement of his objections to the assessment. The figures show that, leaving out of the consideration the new roads, built within the last year, there is a reduction of \$100,000 in the total assessment. The Chicago & Northwestern main line is increased from \$11,250 to \$11,500 per mile. The Rock Island southwestern division is reduced from \$7,700 to \$7,200 per mile, as shown in the table. No change is made in the main line, and practically none in the branches of the Milwaukee system. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy gets some reductions on a few of its branches. The Pullman Car Company made a strong plea for a reduction from \$14,000 to \$10,000 in the actual value of its sleepers, but it was denied, and the assessment is left unchanged. The net reduction allowed the Rock Island amount to about \$230,000; the net increase of the Northwestern is about \$90,000. In 1899 the aggregate assessed value of the railroads of the state was \$44,633,661. On the same mileage, the aggregate this year is just about \$44,530,000; but the 600 miles of new lines are assessed at a total of \$1,500,000, so that there is a net gain of \$1,400,000 in the assessment, making the total \$46,330,000.

INGULAR SUICIDE OF A FARMER.

Shot Himself for the Edification of a Bystander.

FOREST CITY, March 25.—Ed Steadman, a well-to-do farmer, living about two miles north of Forest City, committed suicide by shooting himself with a .32-calibre Winchester. He was walking along the street near the Methodist church, and arriving at the step by the rear of the church asked a bystander if he ever saw a man shoot himself. On being answered in the negative, he seated himself on the church steps, and placing the rifle between his knees, with the muzzle to his throat, pulled the trigger. The ball passed up through his brain and lodged just under the skin on the right side of his head. He was about 33 years old and unmarried. He had managed a large farm for his widowed mother since the death of his father two years ago. Nothing is known as to the cause of the tragedy.

TAKES WOOLSON'S PLACE.

Congressman McPherson Selected for Federal Judge.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—Congressman Smith McPherson has been selected by the Iowa congressional delegation for the federal judgeship made vacant by the decease of John S. Woolson. There were present Senators Allison and Gear, Congressmen Hedge, Lane, Cousins, Lacey, Hull, Hepburn, McPherson and Dolliver. In all forty-two ballots were taken. Congressman McPherson was elected by a vote of 37 to 5.

TO TALK ON FREIGHT RATES.

Iowa Railway Commissioners Invited to Meet at St. Louis.

DES MOINES, March 24.—The railway commissioners of Illinois and Missouri have requested the Iowa board of railway commissioners to meet with them at St. Louis in the near future for the purpose of having a conference looking to a uniform system of classifying freight rates upon agricultural implements. It is also thought that Minnesota will join the other three states.

Big Fire at Knoxville.

KNOXVILLE, March 27.—Culver & Co.'s department store was totally destroyed by fire, which is supposed to have originated from an electric wire. The loss on the building is \$25,000; on stock, \$90,000. The insurance on the building is \$10,000, on stock \$16,000. This is the heaviest fire loss that ever occurred in Knoxville. Several families occupying the building lost their entire effects.

BREVITIES.

At Oskaloosa recently Walter Hartgraves and Robert Davenport, held by the state for the attempted hold-up and shooting of Marion Thompson, of Oskaloosa, on the evening of December 18 last, were found guilty as charged in the indictments against them. The first was for assault with intent to commit great bodily injury, and the second for assault with intent to commit manslaughter.

FAVOR PORTO RICAN TARIFF.

Senate Harmony Committee Extracts Chairman's Report.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The republican senate caucus committee authorized Senator Foraker in definite terms to propose the separation of the tariff feature from the Porto Rican governmental bill and to attempt to pass the house tariff bill without amendment. The program voted down all amendments, if possible, and to pass the bill as it came from the house without any changes whatever.

THE ARMY POST.

Bill Lending One at Des Moines Passes the Senate.

DES MOINES, March 26.—The bill to establish a United States army post in Des Moines passed the senate in Washington Saturday, and the post is assured. There remains only the signature of President McKinley to be attached to the bill to make it a law, and there is no doubt that he will sign it at once. The post will be established and a regiment of United States troops will be located on the ground within eighteen months. The post means a \$1,500,000 investment here and the addition of a town of 1,500 people to Des Moines. It will distribute \$1,000,000 here every year.

Jobert Full of Hope.

PRETORIA, March 23.—Via Lorenzo Marquez.—General Jobert has returned from Koonstadt. He is full of hope and may return to Natal shortly.

NEWS IN GENERAL

HILLIS DENOUNCES CREED.

Arraigns the Presbyterian Faith and Calvinistic Theology. BROOKLYN, March 23.—Newell Dwight Hillis, from the pulpit of Plymouth Church—the pulpit of Beecher and Lyman Abbott—fast yesterday in defiance of the doctrines of the Presbyterian church, in which he had grown up and to which he still owes allegiance: "I would rather shake my fist in the face of the eternal and fling every vile epithet toward the stainless throne, where eternal mercy sits with the world's atoning Saviour, than lift my hand with the creed toward God's throne and affirm that I taught or believed it." It was in the midst of his morning sermon, in which he had been discussing Christ's views of future punishment as he saw it illuminated and made clearer by the modern doctrine of evolution, that Dr. Hillis uttered this stinging sentence, which practically removed him from fellowship in his religious denomination and may result in public proceedings against him. He was speaking, indeed, in a liberal and independent Congregational church and to an audience of liberal people, but his attack on the Calvinistic theology of his own denomination was none the less startling for that.

THE DELAY EXPLAINED.

Why English Aggression in South Africa Has Halted.

LONDON, March 27.—The continued absence of an aggressive movement on the part of the British is best explained in a dispatch from Bloemfontein, dated Sunday, March 25th, which says: "The conditions existing in occupied territory render a somewhat prolonged halt at Bloemfontein necessary, that the effect of the proclamation may have time to make itself felt. The declared danger of annoyance to our line of communication may be appreciated unless the territory behind our advancing forces are rendered absolutely secure. The accuracy of this view is proved by the fact that the enemy is breaking up into isolated groups such as that which attacked the garrisons of Friday."

FOUR OFFICERS ARE LOST.

British Scouting Party Is Entrapped by Boers.

LONDON, March 25.—At a late hour the war office posted the following dispatch from General Roberts: "BLOEMFONTEIN, March 24.—Yesterday Lieutenant Colonel Crabbe, Captain Trotter and Lieutenant Hon. E. Lygon of the Grenadier guards and Lieutenant Colonel Cottingham of the Coldstream guards rode eight or nine miles beyond their camp on the Modder river without escort except one trooper. They were fired upon by a party of Boers and Lieutenant Lygon was killed. Lieutenant Colonel Cottingham and Captain Trotter were wounded. The trooper was also wounded. One of the officers held up a white handkerchief and the Boers came to their assistance and did all they possibly could attending to their wounds. The Boers then conveyed the wounded to the nearest farm house, where they were taken care of."

SHREWD MOVE BY BOERS.

Offer to Lend Portugal \$6,000,000 to Meet the Delagoa Bay Award.

NEW YORK, March 24.—George W. Van Sicken, president of the American council of the South African republics and advocate in America for the Transvaal, has sent the following letter at Washington: "Dear Sir:—I am in a position to offer to you, as I do, to lend the government of Portugal the sum necessary to pay the award known as the Delagoa Bay award, which has just been made by the Geneva arbitration tribunal, say \$6,000,000. Fair and satisfactory terms to be arranged."

CRUGER RETURNS TO PRETORIA.

Says the Next Battle in the Free State Will Be a Hot One.

LONDON, March 23.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Pretoria dated Monday, says: "President Kruger returned from Koonstadt yesterday. He says the fight in the Free State will be desperate. I am informed that the Transvaal government has taken no resolution to destroy mines or property as a last resort."

Gen. Gomez Says It Is Best to Go Slowly and Surely.

HAVANA, March 25.—The Patria says: "The promises of the senators (Messrs. Platt, Aldrich and Teller, senate committee on Cuba, now on a visit of investigation to the island) in regard to granting independence is most important, since these senators are the trusted representatives of the senate." Continuing the paper declares it now has confidence in the fulfillment of the joint resolution of the United States congress: "In an interview with the visiting senators Gen. Maximo Gomez is quoted as saying that the Cubans are in no haste for independence, and it will be far better for them to go slowly and surely."

Boers Strong at Koonstadt.

LONDON, March 24.—A Bloemfontein correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing Thursday, says: "A letter from Mr. Pountney, an interpreter in the Free State courts, has been received by his wife here, in which he declares that General Jobert is commanding the combined forces at Koonstadt, where there is a plenty of men, guns and foodstuffs for a determined resistance."

Is Steyn Relieved?

SPRINGFONTEIN, March 24.—It is reported here that Mr. Steyn has been deposed from the presidency and the public affairs of the Free State are being administered by a committee at Koonstadt.

Small Pox is Spreading.

CHICAGO, March 24.—According to statistics gathered by the local health department, the country is fairly saturated with small pox. March 16 there were 2,953 cases reported from thirty-six states and territories for the week preceding.

French Advances.

BLOEMFONTEIN, March 24.—General French with a brigade of cavalry and mounted infantry has arrived at Thabanchu and opened heliographic connection with Maseru. He reports all well.

Helen M. Francis, aged 3 years and 3 months, left New York without escort for Strand, O. T., and has reached her destination safely. Helen's mother was dead and she went on a visit to her grandmother.

A Deacon in a Baptist Church in Trenton is a stickler for decorum. He saw a young lady whisper to another during prayer at church service, and loudly rebuked her. In indignation she was passing out of the edifice, when he said that the church was no place for her. Arouned by this taunt she proceeded to return to her seat, but he clutched her back hair and thus drew her out of the church.

TRIAL OF KENTUCKY CASES.

Chief Prosecuting Witness Makes Some Sensational Statements.

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 25.—"John Powers told me they had two niggers here to kill Goebel. They were Hockersmith and Dick Coomba." This statement was made yesterday by Wharton Golden, a frail, consumptive looking Kentucky mountaineer, while on the witness stand in the preliminary examination of Secretary of State Caleb Powers, charged with conspiracy to kill Goebel. Golden told a story of the events leading up to the murder that, if substantiated, will, in the minds of those connected with the prosecution at least, probably go far toward proving the contents of the commonwealth that the murder was the result of a plan in which several prominent men are involved. Whether the defense will seek to improve Golden's testimony in this preliminary examination is not known, as the attorneys for the defense will not talk on the subject, but unless such attempt is made the commonwealth will rest its case, both County Attorney Polsgrove and Attorney Campbell being satisfied that enough evidence has been presented to hold the defendant on the charges. Golden, who claims to have been a friend to Secretary Powers, and his brother, John Powers, for years, gave testimony that was particularly damaging to John Powers, but he also brought in the names of many others, including Charles Finley, W. H. Culton and Governor Taylor, in his story of the bringing of the mountaineers to Frankfort, previous to the assassination. Governor Taylor, however, was not directly implicated, and the attorneys for the commonwealth intimated to-day that they do not expect to have his name brought forth prominently in the story of the alleged conspiracy.

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