

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1901.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL

Des Moines, March 5, 1901. The board of control has received a report from Dr. F. M. Powell, superintendent of the institution for feeble-minded children at Glenwood, to the effect that the danger from smallpox there was past.

The Nebraska state penitentiary authorities have asked Iowa to take care of some of their prisoners. Since the fire which destroyed the Nebraska penal institution a few days ago the prisoners have been under heavy guard in the prison yard, but this is regarded as exceedingly hazardous and the authorities are asking the neighboring states to help them out of the difficulty until permanent quarters can again be provided.

President Polk of the street railway company has employed J. Caras and a corps of engineers to survey several routes for the proposed interurban line from this city to Indianola. In an interview Mr. Polk stated that he was sanguine a route not more than seven miles in length, as against the twenty-one miles of the road, would be found and a practical grade for the operation of a line run by electricity discovered. He predicted that interurban electric lines would within the next five years place Des Moines in close touch and connection with Winterset, Indianola, Prairie City, Newton, Creston, Knoxville, Ames, Boone, Adel and other points comprehended in a radius of fifty miles of the capital city.

The "social evil" and kindred sins in Des Moines will be fought at their own door. Evangelist Rev. William Bremner of Friends' church and J. E. Farden of the First M. E. church have undertaken the great task of reforming Whitechapel. From the Iowa Loan and Trust company they have rented the principal building at 333 on the east side of "Pelton" avenue. They are now negotiating with a Christian family, which will occupy the second floor of the building. The two evangelists will not sleep in the building, but will conduct services in the large room on the first floor day and night. They ask no money or other aid from the people—simply the prayers of all Christian people, and they feel God will do the rest. They have been engaged in slum work for months and have consecrated themselves to the life they are now undertaking.

An attempt is being made to provide more office room at the state house by moving the carpenter shop and engineer's room from the capitol basement to the power house across the street. This will give one large additional room, and there is talk of disposing of the contents of some of the store rooms and converting them into offices. The growth of some of the departments will make it imperative that more office room be provided. How to do this is a problem of considerable magnitude, and there is no place in which the documents now occupying so large a part of the basement can be stored. When the carpenter shop has been installed there the power house will be completely filled.

The secretary of the state board of health has learned of a statement made recently by Dr. G. J. Ross of Sioux City at the meeting of the Sioux City Medical society to the effect that there was not a case of smallpox in the state and that what is pronounced smallpox in Sioux City, at least, is the Cuban measles or some undefined disease brought from Cuba by the soldiers. Dr. Ross in the course of his talk said that if the disease now so prevalent in the state were actually smallpox there would be some deaths resulting from it, or at any rate there would be at least one virulent case. In reply to this the secretary of the board of health takes occasion to tender Dr. Ross some information. A number of deaths resulting from smallpox have been reported to the board since January 1 and this does not actually present the number that have occurred because of the nature of many physicians to report them. As the virulent cases there have been a large number in many parts of the state. It was stated by Dr. Ross, according to the report received, that he had examined the nine cases of alleged smallpox in Sioux City and found none of them to be real smallpox. He makes the somewhat unique suggestion that if the disease actually is smallpox it would be the part of wisdom to turn all its victims loose in order that the entire state may get it while it is reigning in so mild a form. (Circulation of the disease sent out from the board of health headquarters in which strong criticism of physicians is made because of failure to recognize smallpox in its early stages and so prevent the spread of the disease.)

PORTS HAVE BEEN OPEN. Secretary of the Treasury Answers the House Inquiries.

Washington, March 1.—Secretary Gage yesterday submitted to the house a reply to the resolution inquiring as to whether our ports or waters have been used for the exportation of horses, mules or other supplies for use in South Africa.

Mr. Gage says: "Our ports have been used for the exportation of horses, mules or other supplies for use in South Africa."

Between October, 1899, and January 31, 1901, mules and other supplies to the extent of \$26,685,692 were exported to South Africa.

No steps have been taken to prevent the lawful exportation of horses, etc.

The number of horses and mules shipped from our ports during this period was 76,637.

EXPLOSION DESTROYS A HOUSE. Three Boys Who Were Inside Badly Injured, One Perhaps Fatally. Clinton, March 2.—George N. Dayton, Daniel Malby and George Mitchell, three boys ranging in age from 13 to 16 years, entered an empty house to detect the odor of gas, lighted a match to locate the leak. The result was a terrible explosion, all the boys being seriously burned. It is thought Malby will die. The house was blown to pieces. The boys owe their escape from instant death to the fact they were in the basement when the explosion occurred. The roof was blown off and the walls of the house blown outward. The building was a story and a half frame. The explosion was heard for blocks and windows were broken in nearby houses. Articles fell off the shelves. The shattered building caught fire soon after the explosion. The boys were carried from the burning structure. The fire department was soon on the scene and extinguished the blaze.

DEATH OF MAJOR CURTIS. Well Known Atlantic Man Passes Away After Long Illness. Atlantic, March 4.—Major H. G. Curtis died here Friday evening. Major Curtis was prominently identified with the establishment of a new government in Porto Rico, serving as a member of the Porto Rico commission appointed by President McKinley in February, 1899. The service of Major Curtis was more particularly directed to the legal phase of the question in which he made exhaustive researches.

While in Porto Rico, Mr. Curtis contracted malarial fever, which eventually undermined his health. After returning to Washington the commission concluded its work of formulating a code of laws and was discharged. Major Curtis returned home last June in hopes of regaining the strength he had lost. While he improved somewhat, it was not a lasting improvement and for the past month he had been failing.

CHARGED WITH ABDUCTION. Two Men Are Under Arrest at Clinton—Young Boy the Victim. Clinton, March 4.—Jake Putnam and Eugene Johnson are under arrest at DeWitt, this county, charged with the abduction of Willie McMahon, a five-year-old son of John McMahon, a farmer who lives near DeWitt. The boy was attending school at DeWitt and was last seen with Putnam and Johnson February 14. On the day the boy disappeared he had considerable money in his possession and wore good clothes. When Putnam and Johnson returned to DeWitt a few days after the disappearance of the boy they were questioned and state that young McMahon had been employed by an ice dealer at Savanna, Ill., and was at work there. When he failed to return home, his sister went to Savanna to look after the boy, but could find no trace of him. On her return to DeWitt, Putnam and Johnson were arrested.

INDIANS AT WASHINGTON. Go to Complain of the Conditions at the Tama Reservation. Grinnell, March 4.—The government is having trouble with the Sac and Fox Indians, the remnants of the tribe of the famous Black Hawk, now located on the Tama reservation. The tribe has formulated its grievances in the form of a protest, which a committee of six tribal leaders will take to Washington. The committee has gone to Washington. The tribal laws and customs do not conform with the moral standard of the agent who charged them with polygamy. They claim that the agent forcibly interferes with the family relations resulting from their marriages and they demand exemption from such interference.

CHARGED WITH FORGERY. M. O. Bakke, Whose Home Is Emmetsburg, Under Arrest. Algona, March 4.—M. O. Bakke, giving evidence at the trial of the Sioux City Medical society to the effect that there was not a case of smallpox in the state and that what is pronounced smallpox in Sioux City, at least, is the Cuban measles or some undefined disease brought from Cuba by the soldiers. Dr. Ross in the course of his talk said that if the disease now so prevalent in the state were actually smallpox there would be some deaths resulting from it, or at any rate there would be at least one virulent case. In reply to this the secretary of the board of health takes occasion to tender Dr. Ross some information. A number of deaths resulting from smallpox have been reported to the board since January 1 and this does not actually present the number that have occurred because of the nature of many physicians to report them. As the virulent cases there have been a large number in many parts of the state. It was stated by Dr. Ross, according to the report received, that he had examined the nine cases of alleged smallpox in Sioux City and found none of them to be real smallpox. He makes the somewhat unique suggestion that if the disease actually is smallpox it would be the part of wisdom to turn all its victims loose in order that the entire state may get it while it is reigning in so mild a form. (Circulation of the disease sent out from the board of health headquarters in which strong criticism of physicians is made because of failure to recognize smallpox in its early stages and so prevent the spread of the disease.)

GOES TO CONSERVATIVE LIFE. Southwestern Mutual Life Policy Holders Fully Rejoice. Marshalltown, March 2.—At a meeting held here in which 4,900 out of 5,200 shareholders were represented either in proxy or person, the business of the Southwestern Mutual Life company was transferred to the Conservative life of Los Angeles, Cal. The American Life of Des Moines was also a bidder, but withdrew its offer prior to the vote. The Conservative will leave on deposit with the auditor or Iowa \$100,000 in securities and maintain a branch office in Iowa, which will probably be located at Marshalltown.

HAMMER FOUND GUILTY. Convicted of Attempting to Murder Wheatcraft. Newton, March 2.—Dr. M. R. Hammer was found guilty of the charge of assault with intent to commit murder. The jury was out less than an hour. His alleged victim was Oscar Wheatcraft, who was stabbed several times during a street fight. Judge Bishop of Des Moines heard the case.

IN HANDS OF MONEY SHARKS. Sioux City, March 2.—Not quite consistent with the usual practice, Henry and Thomas Jenkins, who live in the southern part of the county, borrowed \$300 through a money lender, E. J. Norcross of Onawa. Since then they declare they have paid more than \$700 upon this original debt, and today they are defendants in a suit arising out of this transaction, in which they are charged with still owing Norcross \$578 and two years' interest, aggregating about \$670. If the pleadings of the defendants may be believed, that first \$300 was grown marvelously in the sixteen years to a grand sum of more than \$1,300.

Sues Her Wealthy Husband. Charles City, March 2.—Mrs. Carrie M. Palmer of this city has sued her husband for separate maintenance. The petition alleges unkindness and the fact that her husband ordered her not to return to his home in Chicago. The value of the property of the Palmer Steel and Iron company of Chicago is \$50,000, and the proceedings were brought in Chicago.

Escapes From Jail. Cedar Rapids Gets a Carnegie Library. Cedar Rapids, March 5.—Andrew Carnegie has placed this city on his list for library donations and has today announced under the usual conditions these donations have been made.

DOUBLE TRAGEDY NEAR DENISON. Farmer Kills Son, Burns Property and Dies in the Flames. Denison, March 2.—Henry Warn, a farmer living six miles north of Denison, during a fit of insane fury, killed and cremated his son William, burned his house and barn, and, after a struggle, died in the flames. The deed was committed about 9 o'clock yesterday morning, and seven neighbors seeing the smoke, rushed to the rescue, only to be driven back by Warn at the point of a revolver. Warn then went on with his awful work, and when help did arrive, it was too late to save either Warn, his son, or any considerable amount of the property.

NO CHANGE IN THE SYSTEM. Present Officers Will Continue to Rule the Philippines. Washington, March 4.—Following close upon the approval of the army appropriation bill, containing the amended Spooner proposition for a provisional government in the Philippines, the president will issue an executive order designating General MacArthur and all the other officials of the present military government as the persons to administer "all military, civil and judicial powers necessary to govern the Philippines." In other words, the existing government will continue under a new designation of authority from the president until agreements can be made for the military, civil and judicial government and for maintaining the rights of the inhabitants of said islands in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion.

CARTER KILLED THE BILL. Talked the River and Harbor Bill to Death. Washington, March 5.—One of the most notable occurrences in the history of congressional legislation marked the closing hours of the last session of the senate of the Fifty-third congress. Senator Carter, of Montana, signified his retirement from the senate by talking the river and harbor bill to death. He occupied the floor, constructively, for nearly thirteen consecutive hours, although in the aggregate about three hours of that time were devoted to other business.

BIG ELECTRIC RAILROAD. One Is Planned to Connect Charles City With Des Moines. Des Moines, March 1.—The new electric railroad for which a company with \$150,000 capital was organized a few days ago in Charles City, seems to be a very ambitious project. The organization is at this being perfected by S. L. Kern of Charles City and George W. Dawson of Waterloo. It is only a small part of the plans the company has under consideration.

MANY IOWANS RETURNED. Old Members of Fifty-first Back From Philippines. San Francisco, March 5.—The transport Meade, having on board the eleventh cavalry, ordered home from Manila to Des Moines, has arrived in the harbor of San Francisco after an eventful voyage. A number of former members of the Fifty-first regiment, who obtained discharges in Manila in 1899 and re-enlisted in the service, are on board the transport.

DAVIS IS FOUND GUILTY. Jury Convicts Him of Having Killed Hallway at Knoxville. Knoxville, March 5.—After deliberating six hours the jury in the John Davis murder trial brought in a verdict of guilty. The defendant was put upon the stand and was directed by counsel to tell in a connected way all that occurred at his home on the night of the dance, at which the murder was committed, leading up to the shooting of Highway in the shed so, detailing in the minutest degree a number of points not brought out by the testimony of other witnesses. Defendant's bearing on the stand was that of one eager to relate the circumstances. His account seemed consistent and true, and impressed the many hearers in the court room favorably. The opinion has prevailed that the state had not established a strong case, hence the finding of the jury came as a surprise.

YOUNG WARN NOT MURDERED. Denison, March 5.—William Warn, the son of Henry Warn, whom it was supposed was murdered by his father, has turned up. His father drove him away at the point of a revolver and he remained hidden in a neighbor's straw stack all day. Warn also left a letter saying that he had buried his money and telling where it could be found. Search was made, and the money, amounting to over a thousand dollars, was found.

ESCAPE OF DE WET AND STEYR. Coleburg, Cape Colony, March 5.—Fifteen hundred Boers, with whom it is alleged, were General De Wet and former President Steyn, found a spot at Lillfontein, near Coleburg bridge where the Orange river widens and the current is slow, and they all crossed, both men and horses, by swimming.

INAUGURAL CEREMONIES. McKinley and Roosevelt Inducted Into Office. Washington, March 5.—William McKinley of Ohio was yesterday inducted into the presidential office, being the eighth in the illustrious line of presidents of the United States thus honored by the American people with a second and consecutive term. Simultaneously, Theodore Roosevelt of New York became vice president of the United States.

ELASTIC LOGIC. The republicans have given so many evidences of elasticity of logic and consistency of character. They have a prize specimen, but perhaps no one has shown less regard for common sense and common honesty in dealing with the Cuban question than Mr. Whitelaw Reid. Here is a sample of his argument.

BEGGARS BIG AND LITTLE. The New York Tribune in a recent issue contains this editorial: "Although this is the season of prosperity, and the number of people out of employment is comparatively small, beggars seem to be even more numerous, persistent and insolent, both up town and down town, than in former winters. Cannot the police do more to keep them within bounds than they have been doing?"

FORGOTTEN ADMONITION. The Washington Times has many estimable qualities, but it occasionally allows its partisanship to carry it to extremes. For instance, it reminds congress that the president in his last annual message said: "The country is in a season of prosperity we must guard against the danger it invites of extravagance in government expenditures and appropriations; and the chosen representatives of the people will, I doubt not, furnish an example in their legislation of that wise economy which is a season of plenty husband for the future."

MISSUNDERSTANDING CORRECTED. No Disaffection With Minister Conger's Action at Peking. Washington, March 1.—A misunderstanding appears to exist in Europe in regard to the conditions under which Mr. Conger was replaced at Peking by Mr. Rockhill, in charge of the negotiations for the United States. The impression seems to have gained currency that the change was made by the department because of dissatisfaction with Mr. Conger's action.

HAITIAN CONDITIONS SERIOUS. New York, March 2.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from Cape Haytien says: "The situation on the frontier of Haytien and San Domingo is more serious. There is fighting every night between the troops of the two countries, and many soldiers have been killed."

PLAGUE FATAL AT CAPE TOWN. Cape Town, March 5.—The bubonic plague is spreading here. Five colored persons, have been found in twenty-four hours. Ten colored persons and one European woman, believed to be affected by the disease, have been removed to a hospital. Numerous persons who had come into contact with suspected cases have been isolated.

CEAR RAPIDS GETS A CARNEGIE LIBRARY. Cedar Rapids, March 5.—Andrew Carnegie has placed this city on his list for library donations and has today announced under the usual conditions these donations have been made.

THE MONOPOLY MUST BE PREVENTED. The billion dollar steel trust will serve a useful purpose if it awakens the people to a realization of the menace of private monopoly. The existence of such a combination of capital absolutely controlling several lines of business, doling out daily bread to tens of thousands of working men and dominating a large part of the business world, is in itself indefensible and unjust.

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Commoner Comment.

Extracts From W. J. Bryan's Paper.

AN UNAMERICAN PUNISHMENT. In response to a senate resolution, General MacArthur has reported to the war department, his reasons for departing Editor Rice of Manila. The general says that Rice's offense was an "unamerican publication" of false charges affecting the integrity of the administration of the office of captain of the port. The report declares that Rice was told that he must give bond to publish the offensive charges or must leave the island, according to General MacArthur the editor "maintained an attitude of defiance and was necessarily sent home." The complete report of this affair will be awaited with interest. Deportation is an American punishment and ought to have no place in the criminal code. If Rice was guilty of libel he should have been tried for libel. The fact that he suffered deportation rather than agree not to republish the charges would indicate that he believes the charges to be true. The administration did not think the jury system necessary for the protection of Filipino subjects, but American citizens to be denied the right of trial by jury when they criticize military or civil war officials. Those who are indifferent to the denial of justice to the Filipinos are likely to resent this arbitrary treatment of an American. Especially should newspapers protest, for if a free press is not to be tolerated in the Philippine islands the constitution in following the lead of what can be said in defense of the freedom of the press here?

General MacArthur in his report gives us another side light on imperialism. It would seem that freedom of the press has as much difficulty as the constitution in following the lead into "our new possession."

SCHLEY AND SAMPSON. It is not a surprise to learn that Admiral Sampson has been advanced five points while Admiral Schley has been advanced only three points. Congress has also advanced the name of Schley, thanks "to Admiral Sampson and the officers and men under him" for the battle of Santiago Bay. In the history of this country there have been many instances of favoritism, but in all of our history there have been none to compare with the favoritism shown to Sampson and the injustice sought to be put upon Schley. The battle of Santiago Bay was one of the greatest sea fights in the history of the world. Admiral Schley commanded in that battle and according to the reports of the truth and accorded to him the title of "Hero of Santiago Bay." It is therefore not material that Sampson, through administration influence, has been advanced above Schley. This advance may afford temporary gratification to the common people, but it does not disturb the proud position which Admiral Schley holds in the affections of the American people. The injustice done Schley will merely serve to advance him in the estimation of the people, which is the only advancement which no presidential order or act of congress can in the least disturb.

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