

## COAL IN THE SADDLE

A Shortage in the Supply of Black Diamonds in Tri-Cities.

PRACTICALLY NONE ON HAND

Demurrage Rule Held the Cause of What May Prove Serious Famine.

The telephones at the coal offices in this city were kept busy a good portion of today while their owners were explaining the situation to their patrons. For the combined supply of soft coal held by all the dealers would probably not have made a fair sized carload and there was a demand that 20 cars would not have supplied.

In spite of warnings and in spite of the exercise of such means as the dealers could take to prevent it the cold snap ushered in a coal famine in the tri-cities the severity of which will be determined alone by its length. The only possible relief, must come through the Coal Valley Mining company, for it is impossible to get foreign coal in anything like adequate quantities. This afternoon several cars from Sherrard and Cable were placed on the market, but they will only serve to whet the public desire for more. The truth is that the mines to the south will scarcely be able to supply the three cities in very cold weather after the Rock Island road has taken what is needed on its adjacent divisions.

Demurrage Rule at Fault.

The coal dealers are a unit in condemning the demurrage for the use of cars that went into effect last spring as the main cause of the trouble. They argue that had not the tax of \$1 per day prevented the local dealers from keeping any coal on hand there would have been enough standing on the tracks about the city now to tide over any ordinary period of inclemency. The margin of profit, they say, is too small to prevent them to hold carload lots even for a few days and the competition of coal sold direct from the car under ordinary circumstances renders it likewise impossible to unload and store it against emergencies.

This is the first test of the effect of the demurrage rule in the local coal situation and conditions are naturally worse here than they are in places where there is no local supply to draw upon, for where the dependence is regularly placed upon the foreign article means have been found in previous seasons to avoid a crisis.

During the present fall, when the surplus from the mines adjacent to the tri-cities should have been stored against a time like this, as has been done in other years, it has been taken away and disposed of in foreign markets.

Must Hope for Warm Weather. There seems to be no solution for present troubles except warmer weather. In general, however, it is evident that if the demurrage rule is to stand private parties must form the habit of looking after their fuel supply well in advance and dealers must find a way to store up enough to supply the inevitable demand that a drop in temperature always will bring.

## TALES OF THEATRE

"The Evil Eye," revised and brought up to date, afforded first rate entertainment for a large audience at the Illinois last evening. It is given elaborate setting, and is interpreted by a company of some thirty people, headed by the pantomimic acrobatic comedians, the Kennard brothers, Richard Brown and Josie Sisson. The most elaborate effect was Armstrong's electric ballet, in which several hundred incandescent lights were distributed over the forms of prettily costumed dancing girls. The play is to be presented this evening at the Burtis in Davenport.

One of the most successful American plays on the boards today is "Old Kentucky," which will be seen at the Illinois tonight. It has been presented season after season for nine long years without a break and is now in its 10th season of unprecedented prosperity. From Portland, Maine, to Portland, Ore., and from St. Paul to New Orleans it is a warm favorite with the young and with the old, and its announcement brings joy and gladness to the hearts of the average theatregoer.

Told in a swinging, witty way, replete with poetry, picturesqueness and love interest, "A Royal Family," which Miss Percy Haswell and her company present at the Illinois tomorrow, has a fascination for all classes of theatregoers. In the play romance is woven about the life of royal personages of a modern court. The attention given to the recent coronation festivities in London shows the interest America pays to the aristocracy of the old world, and in "A Royal Family" the auditor is brought nearer to understanding the intimate life of royalty than could possibly have been before. It was this that prompted King Edward when he saw the play in England to ask the English censor of plays to issue his ban upon it.

Primrose's spectacular production of "Ten Nights in a Bar Room," with complete casts, new realistic scenery, all necessary accessories, and with America's greatest juvenile vaudeville stars, the famous Semon children, will appear at the Illinois Wednesday.

There is nothing cheap or lightweight about the production or cast for Ezra Kendall's new play, "The Vinegar Buyer." The scenes were painted by Homer Emens and Gates & Morange, who are the best scene painters in New York or in the United States in their respective lines of work. The cast, in support of Mr. Kendall, includes such capable artists as Charles Bowser, Marion Abbott, Ed Chapman, Walter Thomas, Lottie Alter and Ida Darling. These features give evidence of the high character of the new play supplied Mr. Kendall for his starring tour by his managers, Messrs. Liebler & Co., which comes to the Illinois Thursday.

## TEMPER TESTER.

No Wonder Some Rock Island People Are Annoyed.

Very little rest night after night. Very little comfort day after day. The constant itching of piles or eczema. Any itches of the skin is a temper tester. Doan's Ointment is a never-failing cure. Is endorsed by Rock Island citizens for all itching skin diseases.

Patrick Rooney, bricklayer, says: "I suffered from protruding and itching hemorrhoids for 15 years. They were of an aggravating form, and there was almost constant irritation. I tried a lot of remedies, and if I had used one-half of the cures, cure cures prescribed by my neighbors, I would have done nothing else but put on applications. I even consulted a physician, who treated me, but up until I used Doan's Ointment I never got hold of anything that did me the least bit of good. Obtaining a box of this wonderful preparation at the Harper house drug store, I applied it carefully as directed. It did me so much good that I procured two more! After I stopped the treatment the intolerable itching ceased."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50c. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name, Doan's, and take no other.

Subscribe for The Argus.

## LUTHER LEAGUE MEET

Annual Gathering of Tri-City Organization Held at Davenport.

REV. O. E. HOFFSTEN IS PRESIDENT

An Address by Dr. Gustav Andreen—Next Session in Rock Island.

Officers were chosen as follows by the Tri-City Luther League at its annual meeting held in Davenport:

President—Rev. C. E. Hoffsten, of Rock Island.

Secretary—Oscar Bohman, of Moline.

Treasurer—Otto Hammann, of Davenport.

Executive Committee—The officers of the league and Roscoe Allen, of Davenport; August Swanson, of Moline; Miss Eva Hasselquist, of Rock Island, and Rev. W. H. Blanche and Martin Johnson, members at large.

Friday evening C. J. Nelson, of Rock Island, addressed the convention of the Tri-City Luther League on the subject of "Perseverance." The address was a masterly production well worth hearing and still better to practice in all the walks of life, both secular and religious.

Saturday afternoon about thirty delegates met in business session at St. Paul's church, with President C. E. Hoffsten in the chair. The reports of the president and chairman of the executive committee showed a good condition of affairs. The treasurer reported the financial condition good; shadows are there, but as a whole the outlook is bright.

At 3 yesterday was held the closing session. Dr. Gustav Andreen, president of Augustana college and seminary, delivered the address of the afternoon.

The next annual meeting will be held in Grace Lutheran church of Rock Island one year hence.

At the banquet Saturday evening Rev. W. H. Blanche acted as toastmaster. The following toasts were very felicitously responded to: The Ladies of the Lutheran Church—Martin Johnson.

The Men of the Church—Miss Ida M. Dittman.

The Quarterly Meetings: What Will You have?—Miss Hilma Anderson.

The River to Cross—Miss Clara Eckman.

What Next?—Oscar Bohman.

An Invitation—Rev. C. E. Hoffsten.

Old Sweden and New—Miss Mabel Lund.

Oysters and Pearls—Alfred Anderson.

Our Hosts and the Cooks—Arthur Johnson.

Our Guests—Miss Edith Heden.

RAILWAY NEWS.

The Rock Island is out with a neat booklet entitled "The Golden State." It is devoted to a writeup of California and is intended of course as a means of arousing interest in that far away land among a people who are locked in the arms of winter. It is finely illustrated. The only advertisement that appears on the cover is an unostentatious "Rock Island System" on the back, while within the cover there is nothing but a map of the road to suggest an object in placing it in the hands of the public.

A special bearing a party of Rock Island officials headed by General Manager C. A. Goodnow arrived in the city last night from the west and left at 8 o'clock this morning for Chicago.

A change went into effect at 8 o'clock this morning on the Burlington by which the northern end of the St. Louis division is dispatched from Galesburg, to which city two of the Beardstown dispatchers have been transferred. The southern end of the division is still handled from Beardstown.

To improve the appetite and strengthen the digestion, try a few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. J. H. Seitz, of Detroit, Mich., says: "They restored by appetite when impaired, relieved me of a bloated feeling and caused a pleasant and satisfactory movement of the bowels." There are people in this community who need just such a medicine. For sale by all druggists. Every box warranted.

A glass or two of water taken half an hour before breakfast will usually keep the bowels regular. Harsh cathartics should be avoided. When a purgative is needed, take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They are mild and gentle in their action. For sale by all druggists.

If you feel ill and need a pill Why not purchase the best? DeWitt's Early Risers Are little surprises; Take one—they do the rest.

W. H. Howell, Houston, Texas, writes: "I have used Little Early Risers Pills in my family for constipation, sick headache, etc. To their use I am indebted for the health of my family."

Harper House pharmacy; A. J. Riess drug store, corner Seventh avenue and Twenty-seventh street.

## HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TO GIVE AN ENTERTAINMENT

The nine members of the L. F. C. club, a voluntary organization composed of high school girls, have decided to give an entertainment with the object of providing funds with which to purchase decorations for the assembly room of the school and they are now deeply engrossed in arranging for the same. The entertainment will take place in the assembly room during the evening of Friday, Dec. 19.

The feature of the program will be a play, a comedy in one act, in which all the members of the club are to take part. Rehearsals are progressing under the direction of Miss Gertrude Don, who has also consented to give a reading. Pupils who are not members of the club will take part in the musical numbers.

The title of the play is "Who Is to Inherit," and the cast of characters is as follows: Mrs. Annersley, Edna Carl; Julia Annersley, Gertrude Annerse; Mrs. Manfort, Faith Channon; Margaret Hookins, Ruth Buffum; Susan Fitzjedge, Helen Wright; Margery Munkletop, Zella Barrett; Miss Chatter, Cora VanGilder; Miss Nicely, Cora McKown; Miss Prye, Martha Montgomery.

The musical numbers include piano solos by Ernest Henning, Elsa Simon and Cora Gaetjer; a vocal solo by Gertrude Carse, and violin duet by Guy Munger and Phoebe Brooks. The program will end with a club song written for the occasion.

ANNOUNCEMENT. We will be pleased to guarantee Kid-Ne-Oids to cure backache, nervousness, kidney and blood diseases. From experience we know, that when properly used Kid-Ne-Oids never fail to effect a complete cure. 50 cents.

T. H. THOMAS, Leading Druggist.

Free X-Ray. DR. WOOD. EXAMINATION AT THE OFFICE MADE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE. THIS MODERN INSTRUMENT POINTS OUT FOR A CERTAINITY THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE DISEASE. IF YOUR CASE IS HOPELESS WE WILL FRANKLY TELL YOU SO. NO INCURABLE CASES TAKEN.

VARICOCELE. Under our treatment this insidious disease rapidly disappears. Pain ceases almost instantly. The pools of stagnant blood are driven from the dilated veins, and all soreness and swelling quickly subsides. Every indication of varicocele soon vanishes, and in its stead comes perfect health.

STRICTURE. Our cure dissolves the stricture completely and removes every obstruction from the urinary passage, allays all inflammation, reduces the prostate gland when enlarged, cleanses and heals the bladder and kidneys when irritated or congested, and restores health and soundness to every part of the body affected by the disease.

CONTAGIOUS BLOOD POISON. Our special form of treatment for Contagious Blood Poison is practically the result of my life work, and is endorsed by the best physicians of this and foreign countries. It contains no dangerous drugs or injurious medicines of any kind. It goes to the very bottom of the disease and forces out every particle of impurity. Soon every sign and symptom disappears completely and forever. The blood, the tissue, the flesh, the bones, and the whole system are restored to perfect health, and the patient prepared anew for the duties and pleasures of life.

NERVOUS DEBILITY. Our cure for men stops every drain and vigor and builds up the muscles and nervous system, purifies and enriches the blood, cleanses and heals the bladder and kidneys, invigorates the liver, revives the spirits and brightens the intellect. We treat and cure all chronic, nervous and private diseases. If you cannot call at our office, write us your symptoms fully. Our home treatment by correspondence is always successful.

Wood Medical Institute, E. B. OLIVER, M. C., M. D. GEORGE B. WOOD, B. S., M. D. CONSULTING PHYSICIANS. Hours: 9 to 12; 1:30 to 4; 7 to 8. Second Floor, Hibernian Building, 423 Brady Street. Davenport, Ia.

BEST FOR THE BOWELS. If you haven't a regular, healthy movement of the bowels every day, you're ill or will be. Keep your bowels open, and be well. For, in the absence of violent physic or pill poison, is dangerous. The smoothest, easiest, most perfect way of keeping the bowels clear and clean is to take

CANDY CATHARTIC Cascarets. THEY WORK WHILE YOU SLEEP.

EAT 'EM LIKE CANDY. Pleasant, Palatable, Potent, Taste Good, Do Good, Never Sicken, Weaken or Grip; 10, 25 and 50 cents per box. Write for free sample, and booklet on health. Address: 423 Sterling Remedy Company, Chicago or New York.

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For One Week Commencing Monday, Dec. 1.

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when you may need cash. When that time comes you should come here. We pay your grocer, butcher, or anyone else you owe, and charge you only the most reasonable rate for the accommodation. Your furniture, piano, horses, wagons, etc., will be security for what you need, and they are left in your possession. Long or short time, as may be necessary, with the option of paying on or before date due, you paying only for the time you have had the money. See us when you need any money, and let us tell you how easy we make it for you to carry a loan here. Everything confidential.

Fidelity Loan Company.

Mitchell & Lynde block, Room 38. Office hours 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. and Saturday evenings. Telephone west 1514.

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If you are a smoker and want a cigar that suits your taste, drop in at HARTZ & ULLEMEYER'S Drug Store, where you will find all the leading 5c and 10c Cigars, in small and large boxes, put up for the holiday trade. We keep the quality up to the right standard and the price down to the lowest possible point.

Tom Keene in 50c boxes.

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do here abound — fresh fruits and fruits fresh when encased in glass or tin; therefore sweet, fine flavored, luscious now. Then there are the relishes appetizing and belonging to that famous feast, the Christmas dinner. We have these, too, in plenty — sauces, catsups, chow chow, etc. Everything to help make the meats and vegetables a royal repast here.

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Telephone or Mail Orders receive prompt attention.

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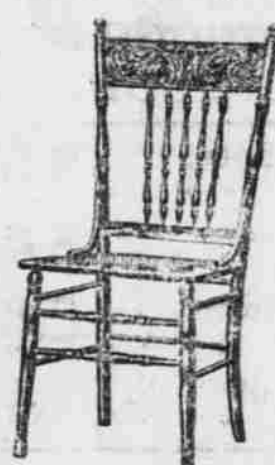
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## A Dining Room Chair Sale...

Is the special event at our store this week.

We contracted for a very large number before the raise in prices by the manufacturers, and we will now give the public the benefit of our saving.

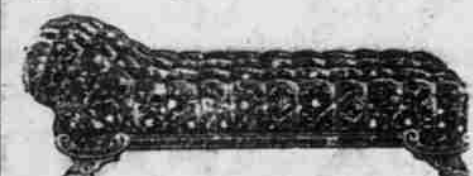
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We have an elegant line of solid oak sideboards, French mirrors, as low as \$12.50. Handsome Parlor and Chamber Furniture correspondingly low in price.



A large handsomely tufted, velour covered couch—oak frame—guaranteed construction.

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