

INSURANCE TRUST SEEN IN ILLINOIS

State Superintendent Potts Demands Immediate Reduction in Rates.

WANTS RISKS RECLASSIFIED

Chicago Board of Underwriters Accused of Controlling Cook County Business.

Springfield, Ill., May 23.—The report of Rufus M. Potts, state insurance superintendent, covering his recent investigation of fire insurance conditions in Illinois, made public today, Mr. Potts recommends an immediate reduction in fire insurance rates and a reclassification of risks. He says the organizations now holding control over the operations of this business must reform their organization and methods of doing business or the department will proceed against them.

Mr. Potts further says the Chicago board of underwriters has assumed jurisdiction over the stock fire insurance business in Cook county, establishing tariffs, publishing rates and restricting agents' commissions.

Control Outside Cook County.

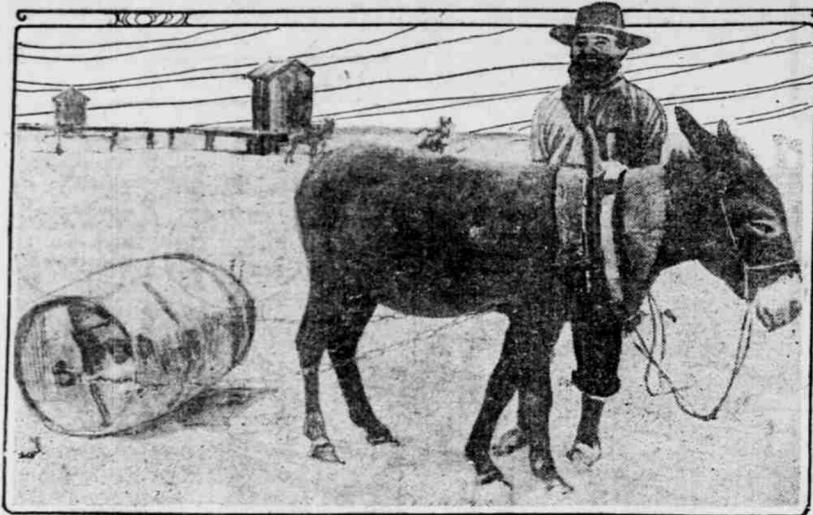
The Western Union Board of Underwriters exercises control over the state of Illinois outside of Cook county, according to the commissioner.

He states that in his opinion these organizations are a clear combination preventing competition and in restraint of trade. The report says: "Illinois rates are much higher than those of adjacent states, and according to tables covering experience for the last thirty-three years, the loss ratio has been lower than that of any state except Wisconsin, which is practically the same. The annual amount of premium in Illinois is reported as almost equal to the combined premium of the state of Missouri, Kansas, Kentucky and Texas, where rate reductions have been made."

Immediate Cut Demanded.

"The immediate reduction of premi-

REBELS CUT WATER SUPPLY; PESTILENCE FEARED IN MAZATLAN



Drawing water across desert to Mazatlan.

Sickness and death are increasing with alarming rapidity at Mazatlan, Mexico, due to the fact that the besieging rebels have completely shut off the water supply of the city. An outbreak of pestilence is feared. The only water which the inhabitants are able to obtain, and that only in small quantities, is drawn in the primitive manner shown in the picture, across the dreary stretches of desert sand.

um rates now charged is demanded, aggregating the following totals.

COOK COUNTY.	
Dwellings	\$250,000
Dean schedule risks	750,000
Sprinklered risk	50,000
Total	\$1,050,000
ILLINOIS OUTSIDE COOK COUNTY	
Dwellings	\$350,000
Dean schedule risks	600,000
Total	\$950,000

Thus the total amount of immediate reduction in premiums recommended for the entire state is \$2,000,000. According to Mr. Potts, the persistent refusal of the stock fire companies and organization voluntarily to grant concession to the insuring public is indefensible.

The substance of the report demands that the entire state shall be re-rated, and that all discriminations against the small insurer shall be eliminated.

NOTICE.

Bids will be received at Mayor's office until 10 a. m., May 25, 1914, for one-story four room house, sheds and out buildings located on the north portion of the athletic park. Bids to be accompanied by certified check in amount of 10 per cent of bids. Bids must be submitted on bidding sheet furnished at Mayor's office.

H. M. SCHRIVER, Mayor.

DAY IN DAVENPORT

Liquor Case Again in Limelight—An outgrowth of the famous Richardson-Wundrum case was brought to light yesterday, when suit for the recovery of \$1,250 from the Independent Real Estate company was filed by R. T. Miller and Ella Meyer, owners of the property where Arthur Wundrum met his death a few years ago. Everyone is familiar with the details of the horrible death of young Wundrum, for which Isaac Richardson, a saloon proprietor, was tried on a charge of manslaughter and was acquitted. Wundrum, according to the testimony of witnesses, on a dare from his friends, consumed a beer glass full of whiskey, without taking the glass from his lips. A short time afterward he became unconscious. His friends carried the unconscious youth, who was not yet 20 years of age, to the barn in the rear of 712 West Second street, where he was left during the night, with practically no covering. It was the coldest night of the winter. Wundrum died. Suit was brought by the family of young Wundrum against Richardson and the Independent Real Estate company. R. T. Miller and Ella Meyer, owners of the property, were made parties in the suit to establish a lien on the property. The suit was settled for \$1,250. The release was made out to R. T. Miller and Ella Meyer, who made settlement.

Now the owners of the property seek to recover the sum expended in settlement of the suit and have filed a petition against the Independent Real Estate company. By reason of the sub-tenant, Isaac Richardson, conducting a business contrary to law in violation of the contract in the lease executed to the real estate company, Miller and Ella Meyer were made liable to suit. For this reason, they bring suit against the Independent Real Estate company, a subsidiary concern of the Independent Mailing company.

Machinists on Strike—About 40 machinists employed at the Linograph company plant at the corner of Fifth and Rock Island streets, are out on a strike because one of their number, C. H. Billman, was discharged. The men claimed that there was discrimination against the man, that he was let go without proper cause. The officers of the company deny this fact, claiming that the man was discharged for good and sufficient reasons.

Davenport Man Found Innocent—Jack Curry, the Davenport chauffeur, arrested several days ago on suspicion of having assisted in the theft of a Ford automobile from a Sigourney, Iowa, garage, has been exonerated of all guilt and was given his freedom. Curry was arrested by Detective Phelan upon request of the Sigourney authorities and was taken to the latter place by Sheriff Grimes. The car in question was stolen by S. Y. Parr, another Davenport man, who was nabbed by Detective Phelan one day after the theft, the car having been abandoned this side of Washington. Curry's many friends in this city will be pleased to learn of his exoneration.

Dempsey Leases Valuable Site—Lease of the lot between the Commercial club and Hotel Dempsey to George Dempsey, proprietor of the hotel, for a term of 10 years, was decided on at a special meeting of the board of directors of the Commercial club at noon yesterday. All that now remains for a final consummation of the transaction is the formal approval of the Davenport Commercial Club Building company, which holds title to the tract. The lot is 26x150 feet in dimensions and was purchased of Dempsey three years ago for \$12,000. The tract will be planted with flowers and shrubbery and turned into an artistic ornamental garden which will add to the attractiveness of both the Hotel Dempsey and the Commercial club. Mr. Dempsey's only reason for leasing the tract is that it will provide for a continuance of air and sunlight for his dining room and guest rooms.

Carrier Is Hurt in Runaway Spill—Chris Robm, carrier on rural route

No. 5, miraculously escaped death yesterday morning in a runaway accident, which resulted in his severe injury, the wrecking of the mail wagon and the death of the horse, valued at \$250. The smashup was staged at the extreme north end of Main street at the city limits. Mr. Robm resides at the end of the pavement and was just starting out from the barn. He drove out into the road and turned out to avoid two loaded wagons which were approaching from the opposite direction. At this juncture an automobile swung around the wagons, coming from the north, and bore down almost upon the mail car. The horse became frightened, and taking the bit in its teeth, started on a breakneck run. The flight continued for about 250 yards, when the fear-crazed animal suddenly swerved, lost its footing, and went down in a heap. The abrupt stop hurled Robm from the seat headlong through the glass windshield to the road. By a miracle his face was not even scratched, although his right shoulder and side were badly bruised and injured. The wagon was a total wreck, the loss to the government amounting to approximately \$75. The horse, in falling, broke its hind leg, and it was necessary to end its sufferings with a bullet.

Horse Collides With Buzz Car—A runaway horse made a frenzied dash through the downtown streets, winding up its stunt by plunging into an automobile at the corner of Second and Main streets. A Collier had loaded his wagon with ashes and temporarily deserted the outfit, which was standing in an alley at the rear of Walter Hass' cafe. The animal became frightened and started on a wild gallop. When it reached the Davenport Savings bank corner, it ran headlong into Dr. George Middleton's automobile, the car being considerably battered and damaged. The ash wagon, however, escaped mutilation.

Works New Bad Check Swindle—W. D. Jones walked into the First National bank last Wednesday and drew a sight draft for \$649 on the Farmers' State bank of Larned, Kan. He stated that he wished to place the draft on deposit and asked for a receipt. He was given a qualified receipt, as his actions seemed peculiar and suspicious to Cashier L. J. Yaggy. The bank immediately forwarded the draft to the Farmers' State bank of Larned, Kan., and received a reply to the effect that Jones had no account there. In the meantime the swindler had shown the receipt given him by the bank here to several local merchants, after buying a bill of goods, as evidence that he had a large credit here. He then said that he had no cash on his person and offered to write a check for the bill. He is known to have succeeded in his game at one store and it is thought that other bad checks will show up today. Jones also drew a sight draft on the Larned bank through the Davenport Savings bank and also asked for a receipt there. He is described as a man of good appearance, about 20 years of age, well dressed in blue serge suit, wearing a straw hat and tan shoes.

Police Break Up Gang of Robbers—With the arrest of Frank Spith and William T. Henry by Detectives Schluetter and Boettcher, the police believe they have succeeded in landing two members of an organized gang that has been conducting wholesale robbery operations on freight cars in

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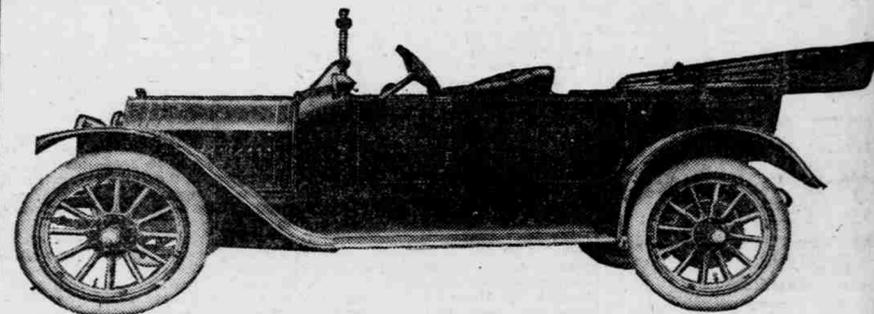
Never in the history of the automobile industry has a responsible maker offered such a car at such a price.

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The Moline M-40 is a luxurious, comfortable car, finished in a classy blue-black, hand-buffed leather upholstery and easy riding springs, 36x4 inch Goodrich or Firestone tires.

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Sauerman Motor Co., Rock Island, Ill.

various Davenport railroad yards. The men entered a west end establishment and offered to sell a large quantity of chewing tobacco at half price. The proprietor's suspicions were aroused and he refused. As soon as the pair had left, the police were notified, and the men were captured at the corner of Third street and Western avenue. The prisoners were put through the third degree, but refused absolutely to talk. It is the belief of the police that they have a large quantity of the swag planted somewhere in this vicinity. Freight car robberies have been causing the police considerable grief and trouble during the past few weeks and despite strenuous efforts to get a line on the criminals nothing had developed.

Licensed to Wed—John Sifter and Ella Emedl, both residents of Davenport.

Woman Refuses to Prosecute—The depth of a woman's love was demonstrated yesterday when Mrs. Frank A. Reece rallied to the support of the husband who almost succeeded in murdering her. She skillfully sought to refute all damaging evidence against the man she loved, cleverly matching her wits with Assistant County Attorney Becker in a fight to save her husband from the penitentiary. "I absolutely will not prosecute this case," said Mrs. Reece. "Frank never intended to kill me. It was an accident, pure and simple. He has always been a loving and devoted husband, and has supported me faithfully." As a result Reece, against whom a charge of assault with intent to commit murder had been lodged, was given his freedom and the couple placed their arms around each other and wept. They have promised to leave the city and have expressed their intention of making their future home in Des Moines. The near murder was staged at 517 West Third street on Wednesday night. Reece had been drinking heavily and when his wife refused to go buggy riding with him, whipped out a .38 calibre revolver, pointed it at her head and pulled the trigger. The woman dropped to the floor apparently lifeless. When the police arrived the gunman was attempting to make a getaway through the back door and was captured. The woman was taken to Mercy hospital but the bullet merely inflicted a slight scalp wound and she was discharged from the institution yesterday.

Obituary Record—Dr. Charles H. Preston, probably the oldest practicing physician in Davenport, died at the family home, 1322 Fulton avenue. He was 69 years old. Feb. 3 of this year Dr. Preston suffered a paralytic stroke. His condition at once became alarming and for a time his death was hourly expected. The deceased leaves to mourn his loss the wife and three children, the Misses Abigail and Ella Preston, teachers in the Davenport public school; and Charles Irish Preston, mechanical engineer with the Rock Island road. The funeral was held this afternoon with services at 2 o'clock at the Unitarian church, conducted by Rev. A. M. Judy and Rev. J. W. Cooper. Incineration, which will follow, will take place at the Davenport crematorium and will be private. Of Quaker descent Dr. Preston was born, the youngest of the four children of Dr. Charles H. and Susannah Hicklen Preston, in the village of Paris, Stark Co., O., Sept. 4, 1844. When but a few months old, he was deprived by death of his father, a young and promising physician then but recently graduated from the medical college of Ohio. The mother, devoted to her two living sons and only daughter, made the most of very slender means to educate them intellectually and morally as her husband would have wished. To her they owed all that a mother's self-denial and devotion can earn, and repaid her, insofar as was possible, with the tenderest love and care. She died in this city in 1890, still a widow, at the age of almost four score, warmly loved by all who knew her or had ever known her. With something of the Quaker lingering in his disposition, Dr. Preston never joined any of the secret fraternal organizations except his college fraternity of Beta Theta Pi and the A. O. U. W., M. W. A., and I. L. H. mutual benefit insurance organizations. He had, too, the Quaker abhorrence of aggressive war. It hurt him to give pain to any living thing. To this kindness of spirit was joined a strong inherent sense of honor and regard for the rights of others. Married in 1887 to Miss Ruth Irish, daughter of Charles W. Irish of Iowa City, a worthy descendant of Mayflower stock, her ancestry like his own having been largely "friends," their home life with their three children was happy and beautiful throughout. He was ever a loving husband, a kind and indulgent father, and a firm friend to those who enjoyed his friendship.

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