

EARLY MORNING FLAMES DESTROY THE BUSINESS SECTION OF NARA VISA

Fifteen Buildings are Burned to the Ground With Damage Amounting to \$75,000. One-Third of Loss Covered by Insurance

NEWSPAPER MAN SAVES NOTHING BUT HIS SOCKS

Fire destroyed the greater portion of the business section of Nara Visa early last Monday morning, doing damage to the amount of seventy-five thousand dollars. Every building on Bell street between Fifth and Sixth streets was swept away leaving only a mass of twisted iron, tin and ashes where just the day before stood the busiest section of the prosperous town. The blaze was discovered a little after twelve o'clock and reports of where it started are conflicting. Some say it originated in the Howell store where others, who were early on the scene, say in the Glass Drug store. A strong wind was blowing and it was seen from the first that the town was doomed. Within twenty minutes after the fire was discovered the flames had spread across Bell street and in a short while the whole north side of the block was a sheet of fire.

Only the persistent work of the fire fighters and a change of the wind kept the fire confined to the doomed district. Most of the buildings which burned were frame structures and burned with the rapidity almost of powder. The heat was so intense and the flames traveled from one building to another with such rapidity that a very small portion of the stocks of any of the stores was saved.

Most of the firms lost the greatest part of their goods and some stores were not entered. Nothing was saved at the Midland Hotel except the personal effects of the guests. There was plenty of good cheer manifest, however, and this aided the fire department in subjecting the flames.

In the account of the fire which appears in the Nara Visa New Mexican, which is being published temporarily by the News, the editor claims he saved his file and socks. One butcher shop succeeded in getting out enough round steak for breakfast.

The following is a list of the losses which is partially covered by insurance. M. Herzstein & Co., dry goods and

- furnishings, loss on stock and building, \$11,000.00, insurance, \$7,000.00.
- E. Rose, groceries, dry goods and furnishings, loss on stock \$11,000.00, insurance \$7,000.00.
- Langston & Hatch, building \$5,000.00, insurance, \$1,750.00.
- W. B. Smith, building and saloon, \$1,200, insurance, \$1,200.
- T. C. Corbin, building and barber shop, \$800.00, insurance \$500.
- I. L. Hixenbaugh, building and saloon, \$2,000, insurance \$1,000.
- Tom restaurant, \$300.00.
- V. E. McNeill, building, \$250.00.
- H. M. Train, building, \$150.00.
- New Mexican and Register office, \$2,500.00, insurance, \$400.00.
- Stragg & Felix, building, \$300.00.
- John Bell, building and dry goods and furnishings store, \$4,000.00, insurance, \$2,300.00.
- Ingersoll & Townsend, building and blacksmith shop, \$400.00.
- Midland Hotel, \$5,000.00, insurance, \$1,000.00.
- Dwight Cross, \$400.00.
- Telephone exchange, \$700.00.
- Mrs. Della M. Courant, millinery, \$200.00.
- Nara Visa Drug Co., stock, \$2,500.00, insurance, \$1,000.00.
- Joe Murphy, building, \$1,500.00, insurance, \$1,000.00.
- Cisco's drug store, stock, \$5,000.00, insurance, \$1,300.00.
- Egbert & Waterfill, building, \$2,000, insurance \$150.
- Western Land Co., real estate, auto supplies and garage, \$1100, insurance, \$350.
- S. M. Howell, building and general merchandise store, \$10,000, no insurance.
- Harriet J. Brant building and bakery, \$250, insurance \$100.
- Gilispie & Welch, butcher shop, \$800, insurance, \$400.
- C. A. Hamrick, building and fixtures, \$1500, insurance, \$600.
- C. J. Logan, building, \$250.

FIRE DESTROYS STEAM LAUNDRY

W. F. Buchanan Announces He Will Rebuild the Laundry at Once

MANY IMPROVEMENTS

Business Will be Conducted as though Nothing had Happened.

Fire originating in the engine room totally destroyed the Tucumcari Steam Laundry yesterday morning at five thirty o'clock. The fire alarm was blown as soon as the blaze was discovered and the boys were soon at the scene of conflagration. Despite all efforts, however, the building burned to the ground inside of an hour. Only a few of the contents were saved and these were partially damaged.

The Tucumcari Steam Laundry had recently been purchased by W. F. Buchanan and the owner was spending considerable money to improve the building and plant. Five hundred dollars had already been spent in carpenter work. A great deal of new machinery was ordered but fortunately this had not arrived. The loss amounts to about five thousand dollars, mostly covered by insurance.

No sooner had the building been burned than Mr. Buchanan made the announcement that he will rebuild the laundry at once. The new building will be constructed on the same site where the old one stood. It will be built of adobe with a concrete floor and metal ceiling and roof.

A complete and up-to-date plant will be installed and it is estimated that the new laundry will be in operation inside of ninety days.

Mr. Buchanan has made a temporary arrangement with the Dalhart Laundry and not a day will be lost in the laundry work. All clothes saved from the fire were sent to Dalhart the same day and will be delivered with little delay. No sooner was it seen that the building was doomed than arrangements were made with the other laundry to handle the local business.

The Tucumcari wagon will continue on the streets and all business will be handled through the local laundry. Temporary offices have been opened in the First National Bank building.

WHITE ADVOCATES STOCK FARMING

Rock Island Commissioner Gives a Most Scientific and Educative Talk.

SEED BED EXPLAINED

Tells of the Splendid Adaptability of this Locality for Stock.

Before an audience, limited only by the capacity of the school room in which he spoke, F. M. White delivered an address to the farmers on the progress of the country.

Mr. White is a handsome example of a prosperous farmer and his talk was easy, scientific and educative. It was not a lecture, merely a heart to heart talk and during the course of it he removed his coat explaining that when he farmed he worked in his shirt sleeves. He was seated out here by the railroad company he said with a selfish motive, in order that the company would have something to haul when his advice bears fruit.

The commissioner advocated stock farming and explained the fine adaptability of this locality for the stock industry. He urged the ceasing of attempting to make this a grain country and showed conclusively that it is a produce region explaining that pork can be raised at a cost of two and half cents per pound.

The primary point of his talk was for the education of the farmer on farm topics. He showed the needs of graneries in the community and explained that hogs and cattle go together on the farm. His entire talk was for the poultry, pork and dairy industries. Only grain enough should be raised to supply the farm.

He explained the proper preparation of the seed bed and urged the rotation of crops and the planting of trees. Several varieties of grasses were recommended as a great drought resister and advised which crops would flourish best together.

The Rock Island agricultural department is doing a great work for this country and have botanist who are securing the world for plants which will flourish on the western plains.

After the address, Mr. White took the audience to his private car where he exhibited the products which are being raised on the company experimental farm.

INSURANCE MEN HAVE BUSY WEEK

Contract is Let to Repair Bank Building at Large Cost.

MANY SETTLEMENTS

Mrs. Rucker's Insurance on Stock May be Settled This Afternoon.

This week has been a busy one among the insurance men of the city. Several companies had representatives here to adjust the losses incurred in the fire of the First National Bank building and other recent fires. The bank building was adjusted and the loss was placed at five thousand dollars. These figures were those advanced by Wm. A. Schobel, who built the building and knew the amount of the damage by being familiar with the construction of the building.

No sooner was the settlement made to the satisfaction of all concerned, than the contract was let for the reparation of the building. Wm. A. Schobel left Tuesday evening for Ft. Worth, Texas, to purchase the material for repairing the building at once. Work will be commenced next week and will be finished in a short while.

T. A. Muirhead's loss was fully adjusted last Friday and all was settled very satisfactorily to both parties. The matter was settled by inventory and Muirhead has on a fire sale today, which will continue through the coming week.

The damage done to the lodge room was settled for the amount of four hundred and thirty two dollars.

The insurance on Mrs. L. C. Rucker's millinery stock had not been adjusted at a late hour this morning. The matter has been under discussion and a settlement may be reached this afternoon or the first of next week.

The loss of the Steam Laundry has already been settled. Full value was collected. The fire at Moore is still being considered and a settlement in the matter will not be reached before the middle of next week.

Several of the losses of the Nara Visa fire were adjusted this week by local insurance men and attorneys.

BUSINESS MEN OF CITY ARE UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SEWERAGE SYSTEM AT ONCE

News Obtains Consensus of Opinion by Brief Interviews with Business Men of City. Proposed Line will be Placed in Reach of Every Resident.

PROPOSITION HAS BEEN MISREPRESENTED

In another place in this issue of the News is printed the report of the city engineer on the subject of sewerage which was made to the aldermen at the executive session held last Wednesday night. The report is full and complete and shows the great necessity of a sewerage system in the city.

The News has made an endeavor to get the consensus of opinion on the subject this week and finds the business men almost unanimously in favor of it. The matter will be put to a vote in the near future and will have to be carried by a two thirds majority before the bonds can be issued for the construction of the system.

There has been some misunderstanding among a few of our citizens in regard to the taxes the system will impose, and the report has gone out that taxes will be raised two per cent. This is not so, and the truth of the matter is that taxes will not, necessarily be changed at all. The following is the sewerage proposition stated briefly.

The system will be placed within reach of every resident of the city. As soon as installed it will be self supporting and will also be a source of revenue to the city. Sewerage will not be compulsory and those who have their property connected with the system will be assessed a reasonable amount for the maintenance of the system. This assessment will not be as heavy as the cost now is of keeping cesspools and pits cleaned out and it is believed every resident will install sewerage from a purely economic point of view if for no other reason.

In special interviews with various business men this week, the News has obtained the following answers to the question on their belief in the matter: M. C. Mechem: "Sewerage is absolutely necessary to a town of this size. The city demands it and now is the time to put it in. It should also be installed under the new district improvement law."

C. C. Chapman: "Sewerage is the one thing we lack to make this a great town. We need it and need it badly." Joseph Israel: "No successful town can be without sewerage. I don't know what the taxes will be but I am ready for my part of them, any day."

Stanley Lawson: My vote will be for sewerage first, last and all the time."

Mr. McClashan: "Now is the time to install sewerage. I know of several towns that are being held back only because they are without it."

U. S. Dever: To install sewerage is the only proper thing to do. I would rather have my taxes raised ten per cent. than to see this city lose one good citizen, or even one small child through the lack of sewerage."

Jeff Harrison: I am a sewerage man. I would rather my taxes would be raised 20 per cent. than be without sewerage."

C. G. Davidson: I am for sewerage under the proper restrictions.

E. G. Welch: The question is absurd. Who would oppose it?

R. A. Prentice: To install sewerage is the best thing this city can do.

Rev. C. H. Brooks: Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

Sherwood: I am for anything that will make a greater Tucumcari, and sewerage is the thing above all that will do it.

Sheriff Ward: We need sewerage above everything else.

R. L. Patterson: I have always wanted sewerage.

J. A. Robinson: Nothing is needed more than sewerage.

J. R. Daughtry: There is but one side to the question and it is founded on several solid reasons. We must have sewerage.

Dr. Nichols: The health officers have done excellent work here in the past, but the town has reached the size that they can do nothing without the aid of sewerage.

C. H. Brickley: If the city continues as it is, I am for sewerage.

(Continued on page four.)

CITY BROUGHT FROM UNDER QUARANTINE

Aldermen Decide not to Collect City Road Tax This Year.

Tucumcari city aldermen met in regular weekly session in the office of the city clerk last Wednesday night, with only one member absent. The board was called to order by the Mayor and routine matters disposed of. The session was a short one and nothing of special interest was done.

The report of the finance committee was read and accepted. The Street and Alley committee reported progress on the sidewalk construction in the residential portion of the city. The health officer reported favorably and it was thought well to lift the quarantine proclamation with the exception of its effect on children. The play houses and churches were given leave to open but no children under the age of fifteen years are allowed to attend.

The west end is still under guard in the fever district. The light committee reported a weak light on one of the railroad crossings and it was ordered repaired. The fire committee reported that eight new hydrants had been installed in the city. The clerk was ordered to purchase four new smoke helmets for the use of the fire department.

On discussion it was decided to postpone the collection of the city road tax for a few months inasmuch as the tax is not needed at present and the citizens have so many other special taxes to pay.

All proposed ordinances brought up at the last meeting were passed and appear in another part of this issue of the News.

The meeting then went into executive session.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The past week has been a bumper in real estate lines. The Evans Realty Company alone sold sixteen lots, all bringing good prices. Real estate is

TUCUMCARI TO BE SPICK AND SPAN

Mayor to Issue Proclamation Providing for "Clean up" Day.

"Clean up" will soon be the pass word of this city. Tucumcari is going to have a cleaning up day in the near future, the aldermen will decide on the date at its next meeting. "Cleaning up day" is becoming quite a fad in many of the smaller cities of the east and the reports are that it is one of the most wholesome holidays that those places enjoy.

Mayor Street says he will issue a proclamation next week announcing when "Clean up" day will be and that on that day everybody will be expected to put on overalls and do the work around the house, they have been planning to do but just haven't had the time.

The city will provide scavenger wagons to go from house to house and gather up the rubbish that property owners get together. Every person will be expected to get the trash in a pile and the city will do the rest.

This is the day to get rid of all the tin cans in the yards, all those empty bottles in the closet, that are too large for camp and too small for preserves. All the old pasteboard boxes and rags and papers, and everything that the tenant before you left on your hands. Yes, and say, the mayor mentioned all those rats and punks and curlews that have been out of style so long.

In many places the men take "cleaning up day" as a signal to go fishing or some place and leave the work for the women, but none of that here. The men can white wash the back fence or paint the barn or weed the garden and a thousand other things they have been figuring on.

The next issue of the News will announce the day which will be set apart.

now on the move and all the pessimistic utterances of some are discounted by indications to the contrary.

PROBATE COURT.

The Probate Court has been in session here this week and a great many cases have already been settled. Judge Cutlip will adjourn court sometime during the first part of the coming week and those who fail to attend to any probate business will be compelled to wait until the next term.

ENGINEER MAKES INSPECTION TOUR

Work Along Tucumcari and Memphis Grade Makes Rapid Strides.

CAP ROCK DIFFICULT

The construction work along the grade of the Tucumcari and Memphis railroad is making rapid progress at present. A larger force is working this week than has been on the grade since the work has started, three months ago. Over three hundred teams and scrapers are at work daily and every camp is the scene of business.

The grade has been completed out of the city for a distance of ten miles and the rails are being laid from the other end of the line with increasing rapidity. It was hoped that steel laying would be commenced at this point by the middle of June but the prospects now are that no rails will be laid here until after the middle of July, on account of the recent rush in the rail plants at Pittsburg.

J. D. Berry, the chief engineer of the Rock Island and Frisco Systems, was in the city this week and made an inspection trip over the line of grading. He was accompanied by engineer Stark and Contractor Bouchard, the general manager of the Ware Construction company. Mr. Berry expressed his congratulations to the local management on the rapidity in which they are building the grade.

A great many of the sections of the work have been completed and the contractors are now in the Cap Rock section. This is one of the most difficult portions of the road to grade, since most of the way will have to be cut through solid rock. Several car loads of dynamite have already been sent to this section and the work has begun.

The bridge building will not be commenced until the rails are laid from this end. All the timbers are here and will be shipped over the line as soon as the road is ready to handle them.

J. H. Coons, superintendent of agents, Mutual Life, N. Y., and his assistant, H. O. Snyder, both of Pueblo, Colo., were in the city, soliciting business.

PREACHERS HAVE WILD ADVENTURE

Are Thrown from Runaway Buggy and Sustain Many Serious Injuries.

TOURING THE COUNTY

While on the evangelist tour of the Nara Visa community, Rev. J. W. Taylor, Baptist minister of Parkersburg, West Virginia, met with a serious accident last Tuesday morning. The evangelist was in company with Rev. R. T. Harris and the two were driving across the country when the horses became frightened and ran away.

Both ministers were thrown out of the vehicle and the buggy was almost demolished by being dashed against a fence post. Rev. Taylor sustained a broken arm and other injuries.

They were taken back to Nara Visa in a farmer's wagon and there given medical attention. Rev. Taylor is well known in Tucumcari having been here for the past two months as the guest of Judge Cutlip. Rev. Harris is a worker for home mission and resides near Nara Visa.

The team they were driving belonged to Judge Cutlip and had been driven very little before. Rev. Taylor will be brought to Tucumcari the first of next week.

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SERVICES TOMORROW.
All churches will have services in this city tomorrow morning and evening but under the quarantine regulations no children under the ages of fifteen will be allowed to attend the services for another week.
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TWO DERAILMENTS IN LOCAL YARDS

Traffic Considerably Delayed Tuesday Morning Between two Yards.

Traffic in the local railroad yards was considerably delayed last Tuesday morning by the derailment of a Rock Island engine. The derailment was caused by the springing of a frog at one of the switches in the upper end of the yard. The accident occurred at the junction of the main yards with the Dawson and cut off all traffic between the two. Several hours were spent in getting the locomotive on the

SOUTHWESTERN EXTENSION

Probate reports are abroad to the effect that the Southwestern in making plans to extend the road from Dawson to Trinidad, Colo. Officials went over the old survey this week with the view of calculating the cost of building the road which was abandoned two years ago.

OHOIAN WRITES TO SHERIFF OF BOWERS

Once Had Interest in the Man Who Was Shot Here.

SAW IT IN THE NEWS

The report that Joe Bowers, the man who was shot by Sheriff Ward a month ago, is a bad hombre, has been confirmed so far as the evidence of one man who has known him a long time is concerned.

Seeing an account of the shooting in the News the man who knew Bowers in Ohio, and who was a self appointed guardian to the boy for some time, wrote to the sheriff that it was a bad man he had shot. The stranger says that Bowers was an orphan and that he took considerable interest in him before he became of age and procured positions for him in several of the eastern cities.

All this was unappreciated by the "rouser" who could do nothing but spend money and finally the protector withdrew his influence and left Bowers to get out of some scrapes in New York as best he could. Since then Bowers has done nothing but evolve into a professional hobo and boasts of crossing the continent twice in a single year without a cent of railroad fare.

This information was furnished the sheriff gratis by an influential man in Ohio who reads the News regularly and who had almost lost track of his old charge.

Bowers is still confined in the county jail and will not be given a hearing until his case is acted on by the grand jury which will meet in October. His wound is practically healed and Bowers is able to take his turn at the work which is required of prisoners in the jail.

He treats the whole affair as a matter of course and boasts of his scrap with the sheriff.

The night before a switch engine was derailed in the east end of the Rock Island yards but was replaced on the track again by morning. No serious result came from the derailment, rails again.

POST OFFICE AND STORE ARE BURNED

Conflagration at Moore Totally Destroys the Property of Mr. Moore.

The post office and store building belonging to J. A. Moore, at Moore, N. M., twelve miles from this city was burned to the ground last Tuesday morning. The building and stock were a total loss and amounted to over two thousand dollars when the building burned.

Nothing was saved from the post office but fortunately there was no registered mail or valuable letters or packages in the office at the time of the fire. J. A. Moore has been the sole merchant and postmaster in the village for several years and owns considerable property in its vicinity.

The origin of the fire is still unknown and there seems to be no probable theory as to how the building caught. There was no fire protection at Moore and as soon as the blaze was discovered it was seen that the building was doomed. The fire was fanned by a stiff breeze and burned fiercely until leveled to the ground.

The building and stock were partially covered by insurance. It is not known whether Mr. Moore will rebuild or not but this will probably be decided in a few days.

BAR PETITIONS FOR DOWNS.

The local bar association yesterday signed a petition which was addressed to Judge Cooley, now in Washington, asking the newly appointed judge to re-appoint Chas. F. Downs as clerk of the court of this district provided he is assigned to the local district.

Downs will be re-appointed if Mechem is given this district but to date it is not known whether Mechem or Cooley will receive the local judgeship. Mechem is personally of the opinion

CHAUNCEY DE PEW IS IN TUCUMCARI

Considerable Comment is Caused in Political Circles as to His Motive

Chauncey DePew has signed a contract with the city authorities of this city to take a position with the street improvement gang for a period of five days. This was the first that was known of the New York senators resignation from his official office of representative of the Empire State in the United States Senate, but any way he is here, or at least he gives his name as Chauncey DePew and since there is but one Chauncey DePew it is safe to presume this must be the senator.

The "ex senator" arrived in the city by freight yesterday morning and was met at the station by "Smoky" Miller who paid the man all the attention worthy of one of his dignity and station.

A little later they called at Justice Patterson's office when arrangements were completed and the new arrival accepted the street position.

The matter has been a source of considerable comment among the local politicians and the motive that prompted the man to resign a senatorship for a position on the streets is being widely discussed in political circles. While the man has not been questioned in the matter, some have advanced the theory that he resigned because he felt that Roosevelt will replace him any way in 1912 when his term would have expired.

What Mr. DePew is planning to do after the expiration of his contract with the city, has not yet been announced.

that he will get this district but some others believe otherwise. The matter will probably be decided in the near future.

GEO. MOORE HAS THRILLING EXPERIENCE AND ONLY ESCAPES DEATH BY MIRACLE.

Geo. Moore, of the Tucumcari Furniture Company, met with a thrilling experience last Sunday night while driving to his claim, three miles west of the city. Moore was just beyond the Wool scouring mills when a gust of wind blew his rain coat from the buggy and frightened his horse.

The animal made one lunge forward and threw Moore from the buggy, dashed him against a wire fence. He was knocked unconscious and laid on the roadside for over an hour before regaining his senses. On staggering to

his feet, the half dazed man saw that his horse and buggy were gone. He went down the road in the hope of finding them, and at the corner of the lane, a half mile away, he found his buggy badly smashed.

The horse was not found until the next morning, and was three miles away from the scene of the runaway. The horse was so badly cut and bruised that he could not be moved. His wounds were bandaged and every effort made to save him, but despite them all, the animal died two days afterwards.