

BLAZE AT HOME OF REV. HELM

Overheated Stove in Bedroom Was Cause of Fire While the Family Was at Church Services.

LOSS SEVERAL HUNDRED

Alarm Turned in by Fred Eppers, Who Was Taking Street Car to Barns—Christmas Day Blaze.

The home of Rev. J. H. Helm, pastor of Pilgrim's Rest Baptist church, at 1819 Bank street, was damaged to the extent of several hundred dollars by a fire which broke out Sunday evening while Rev. Helm was conducting services at his church.

A roof fire caused by sparks from a chimney, called the fire department to the home of Sheriff John C. Scott, 512 Concert street, at 11:20 o'clock yesterday morning. The fire was extinguished with slight loss.

Keokuk was fortunate in having none of the so-called Christmas fires during the last two or three days. No Christmas trees or Santa Claus whistles were lost and the city escaped without any of these tragedies which lurk in the wake of the Christmas season.

MEMPHIS, MO.

George W. Moore has taken a position with the Campbell Bros. Amusement Co., as manager of the Palace skating rink and he will be in personal charge of the rink in the future.

The rural carriers now go out at 8:30 in the morning. Parties wishing to mail anything for the routes after 5:45 in the afternoon or on Sundays, should mail it at the post-office to insure delivery the following day, as mail from the letter boxes on the square is not taken up until 5:45 a. m.—after the carriers have gone out.

Mrs. E. B. Thompson and son Ernest left last Tuesday for a several months visit with relatives in Riverside, California. Enroute they stopped off and spent a day with Joe and Grace at Cameron. At Kansas City on Wednesday they were joined by friends from Braymer, who accompanied them to the coast.

A subscription is being raised to assure the people of Memphis and vicinity a Christmas dinner. Quite a number have subscribed money and every merchant in Memphis will be waited on by a committee for subscription of their goods.

Wm. Harge departed on Tuesday for Belvidere, Nebraska, where he will take up the duties of cashier of the Farmers' State bank—an institution which he lately organized in that place with a capital stock of \$15,000. Belvidere is a thriving town of about 1,000 population in south-eastern Nebraska.

Real Mince Pie

TWICE AS GOOD AND HALF THE COST OF BULK MINCE MEAT



At Grocers 10¢ Package For Wholesale. "Like Mother Used to Make"

NONE SUCH MINCE MEAT MERRELL-SOULE CO., Syracuse, N. Y.

Severe Rheumatic Pains Disappear

Rheumatism depends on an acid which flows in the blood, affecting the muscles and joints, producing inflammation, stiffness and pain. This acid gets into the blood through some defect in the digestive processes, and remains there because the liver, kidneys and skin are too torpid to carry it off.

Hood's Sarsaparilla, the old-time blood tonic, is very successful in the treatment of rheumatism. It acts directly, with purifying effect, on the blood, and through the blood on the liver, kidneys and skin, which it stimulates, and at the same time it improves the digestion.

Get Hood's Sarsaparilla today. Sold by all druggists.

the weather, a good size audience gathered at the New theatre on last Monday night to witness the local talent production of the Pine Hill Ladies Aid. The presentation was given under the auspices of the Cemetery Gateway Fund and the proceeds will be used in putting in the driveway at the cemetery entrance.

Humphrey & Leeper recently sold the Maddox farm of 125 acres near Fairmont to C. O. Notestein of this city—taking in the latter's ivory barn in Memphis as part payment.

Mrs. E. P. Grinstead left last Saturday morning for Waco, Arizona, to spend Christmas with her husband, Major Grinstead, whose army duties prevent him from getting home on a furlough.

J. E. Leeper last week sold his farm of seventy-five acres near Lewis-ton to George W. Moore of this city, taking in the North Side cafe as part payment.

Josiah C. Matlock was born May 23, 1836, in Preston county, West Virginia, and died in Memphis, Mo., December 15, 1916. He was affectionately called by all who knew him, came to Missouri with his parents when a child of six. They settled on government land a mile west and a quarter south of where the Bethel Methodist church stands.

Edward Butler, one of our leading citizens, died at his home east of Memphis on Friday, December 15, after a brief illness.

The date of the big poultry show is fast approaching—December 27-30. The committees are hard at work making the necessary arrangements and to make it an unqualified success every breeder in the county should enlist as a member and bring a bird to the show. The time is short, but with all working together the show can be made a winner.

On Monday night at the court house a number of enterprising citizens met and formed a temporary organization, tending to move toward the improvement of the roads of Scotland county, and the purchase of heavy graders for the various parts of the county, which are to be pulled by steam power, the graders now in use being too light for heavy power.

James F. Barnett was made temporary president; C. E. Ladd, temporary vice president; I. M. Horn, treasurer, and John H. Watkins, secretary.

The new vocational building at Teachers' college, Cedar Falls, cost \$100,000. A five-span, 250-foot concrete bridge costing \$43,500 was built at Cedar Rapids by the city.

Fort Dodge has a number of new business blocks, two costing \$100,000 each.

A new \$400,000 concrete grain elevator is going up in Council Bluffs for the Hines-Kinsler company. Another almost as large is assured for the Uplake company; and the Armour Packing company is reported to be planning still another.

Calculations made by experts of the department of agriculture place the cost of feeding a full-fledged farm hand at \$128 a year. The figures put the hired man \$18 ahead of Chicago's dieting squad.

Scotland County Pomona Grange will meet in regular quarterly session with Liberty Grange on Saturday, January 6, 1917, at 10 a. m. All subordinate granges are urged to send delegates. J. L. Tennant, W. M.; J. E. Rusa, secretary.

Waterloo witnessed the erection of the Citizens' Gas & Electric company's new plant at a cost of \$700,000. Its smoke stack will be 250 feet high. The station will supply power to Waterloo and numerous cities and towns in the neighborhood.

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GOOD RECORD FOR STATE IN 1916

Iowa Enjoyed Prosperity in Building and Street Work, According to the Reports Gathered.

KEOKUK IS IN THE LIST

Several Bridges Were Built or Reconstructed, Among Them the Keokuk Bridge.

DES MOINES, Dec. 26.—Prosperous Iowa enjoyed in 1916 its most marvelous growth in new buildings and improvements. Prospects for 1917 are said to be even more promising.

Reports from principal cities, gathered by the United Press, show record breaking activity in building paving and sewer building in 1916.

The state highway commission estimated the road and bridge contracts for the year just closing amounted to \$2,000,000.

While the total value of new buildings and homes constructed in the past year cannot be given, it is conservatively estimated in the scores of millions.

Mason City chowed the most remarkable growth. The new beet sugar plant now in course of construction there is expected to cost \$1,500,000. Miles of paving, sewer extension and the new sewage disposal plant, incinerator, and the water main viaduct over the Northwestern and Rock Island tracks, a new high school, the Mercy hospital, an eight story office building and two hundred new residence structures are among the improvements in Mason City.

Sioux City has a new county court house under way, to cost \$500,000. Paving and culverts during the year cost another half million. The Frances office building cost \$500,000. T. S. Martin Co.'s new ten-story department store will cost \$750,000. The Farmers' Loan and Trust company will erect an office building to cost \$500,000 on the site of the old court house. The Milwaukee railroad plans shops at Sioux City to cost \$300,000.

Henry Ford is putting up a \$500,000 garage for his Des Moines ranch. Des Moines skyline also was changed by the erection of the Ginsberg furniture building, Valley bank office building and the Register-Tribune office structure. Several costly apartment houses went up in Des Moines. The street car company spent more than \$1,000,000 in new construction and improvements.

New buildings in Dubuque devoted to religion or social service cost \$820,000. The list is headed by the half million dollar buildings for the Wartberg seminary and the \$125,000 Sacred Heart school. The new Dubuque Y. M. C. A. cost \$75,000.

The building of a wagon bridge across the Mississippi river at Burlington, the extension of the railroad shops at West Burlington is a close second. The new bridge will be finished next January or February, it is believed. Work was begun on it last April.

The largest building improvement for the year at Cedar Rapids was the Quaker Oats company's new warehouse, costing \$125,000. Four public garages were built and over \$700,000 worth of dwelling houses.

More than \$300,000 is being expended on new buildings under construction at the state university in Iowa City. The dental building alone will cost \$245,000, completed and furnished.

The reconstruction of the Keokuk and Hamilton bridge across the Mississippi river at Keokuk cost \$500,000. The Keokuk plant of the United Lead company erected a \$100,000 building on the industrial tract this summer.

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Illinois—Iowa—Missouri

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa, Dec. 26.—Thirty minutes after he had secured work here as switchman on the Rock Island road, Harry Beemer, 36 years old, of Clinton, fell from a box car and was instantly killed.

IOWA CITY, Iowa, Dec. 26.—Mrs. Will Brown, 51, is dead after taking a quantity of carbolic acid Thursday evening. She became conscious before her death and said she did not know why she had taken the poison and wished she could live. Despondency over ill health led her to take her life.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 26.—W. B. Barney, state dairy and food commissioner, has reappointed all of the inspectors and office employees of that department for the year 1917. There are twenty-six members of the department.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 26.—Game Warden E. C. Hinshaw, has issued his report for the month of November. Out of a total of 119 persons prosecuted for game law violations, 113 were convicted and the total fines for the month amounted to \$3,285.50. Furs to the number of 1,221 were seized and sold and 202 illegal devices, consisting of guns, nets and traps were either destroyed or sold.

MASON CITY, Iowa, Dec. 26.—Mason City lead all the cities in the state the past year in the matter of public improvements. The total value of the buildings erected reached the huge sum of \$5,426,000. Des Moines was second with building improvements estimated at \$4,600,000.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., Dec. 26.—After blowing the outer door from the safe of the Gooch Bros. company bank at Belleflower, about 2 a. m. yesterday, robbers were frightened away before getting into the inner vault. The interior of the building was wrecked by the explosion.

GRAYVILLE, Ill., Dec. 26.—Hade Storms, 50 years old, while resisting arrest Sunday night, was shot and killed. A coroner's jury exonerated Marshals Hugh S. Cutler and M. L. Russell.

BENTON, Ill., Dec. 26.—Mrs. Harry

Sutherland of West Frankfort, a bride of a few weeks, was struck by a stray bullet which was fired through the door of her father's home and narrowly escaped death. Mrs. Sutherland pitched forward against a heating stove and it was found that a .32-caliber bullet had struck the back of her head and flattened against a comb of metal construction. The comb probably saved her life.

JOHNSTON CITY, Ill., Dec. 26.—The eight year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Chitwood, living near here, went to a pond near their home for a bucket of water, and in going down a steep bank slipped, fell into the pond, broke through the ice and was drowned. A pulmonator was used, but failed to revive him.

McLEAN, ILL., Dec. 26.—William Umble of McLean, when reprimanded yesterday for violating diphtheria quarantine regulations, twice stabbed Mayor John C. Stubblefield. The blade entered the mayor's side, inflicting wounds which may prove fatal. Umble was arrested.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Dec. 26.—Judge George B. Miller, who for twenty years has been judge of the police court of this city, died Sunday afternoon following a brief illness. Prior to the civil war he was chief clerk in the adjutant general's office. During the first administration of Cleveland he was assistant superintendent of the Yellowstone national park.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Dec. 26.—Miss Cora Sease, 34 years old, member of a wealthy family, ended her life at her home here by drowning herself in a bathtub while temporarily deranged.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Dec. 26.—E. W. Stephens, chairman of the state capitol commission, announces that the new \$3,500,000 state capitol will be dedicated on July 4, 1917.

SEDALIA, Mo., Dec. 26.—Miss Margaret Milton, fourteen years old, a freshman in the high school, who came to this country in 1912 from Russia, has won the prize for the best essay on the harm of liquor in a state-wide contest conducted recently by the Missouri Women's Christian Temperance union.

PHOTOPLAY HOUSES

Orpheum Crowded Xmas. There was a crowded house to see the Ambler Players at the Orpheum yesterday. The play was excellent and the comedy was very good, keeping the house in an uproar all through the performance.

Ever Read Booth Tarkington's "Seventeen"? Jack Pickford and Louise Huff are ideally cast in "Seventeen," a pictureization of Booth Tarkington's beloved novel of youth, which comes to the Grand tonight.

"Puppy Love," that frightful epidemic to which the youth of all lands fall victim at the tender age of seventeen is one of the richest and most fertile fields for the imagination of the humorist. For that reason Booth Tarkington's great novel, "Seventeen," has climbed into the ranks of the best sellers with phenomenal speed.

"Accidents will happen." We have heard this so long and so often that, sometimes, we are tempted to take the point of view of the fatalists and say, "What is the use of trying to avoid the inevitable?" Fortunately we do not harbor this pessimistic thought for any length of time, for a little study of the accident problem will convince any reasonable person that accidents can be checked and controlled and, in a great measure, prevented by the exertion of the same degree of effort that brings success in other undertakings of a lifetime.

This fact has been proven beyond doubt in the operation of safety departments on the railroads of this country. It was only about five years ago that the safety idea was started by the railroads, and it was not an easy thing to popularize the movement with the rank and file of employees. Quite a number there were who thought the companies would get more benefit from it than the men, but accidents were eliminated in large numbers and mutually beneficial results soon becoming apparent. Loyal support was given by all concerned.

Today we find that only one-half as many injuries and deaths are occurring in proportion to the number employed. This shows that while accidents still will happen, the number can be whittled down to a most satisfactory degree.

Unfortunately, it cannot be said that all classes of accidents upon the railroads are being cut down. It is a sad reflection upon human nature that one

renders an enchanting portrayal. Tomorrow the Grand will present an excellent Triangle program, Frank Keenan in "The Thoroughbred," an absorbing tale of the race-track, and Fay Tincher, the dainty comedienne, in "The French Milliner," a laugh provoking farce. Daily matinees at 2:30, nights at 7, 8 and 9:15.—Advertisement.

"Katinka" Next Friday. Hauerbach and Friml have written three big musical successes, "The Firefly," "High Jinks," and "Katinka." Keokuk people have seen the first two, pronounced them "fine," and next Friday night may see "Katinka," which is the best of them all.

"Katinka" carries its own complete orchestra, every stick of its own scenery for three beautiful acts, a company of seventy people and a notable production throughout.

Manager Dodge went to Quincy last week to see for himself and after seeing "Katinka" there, the same company which will appear at the Grand, and Hammerstein's own production, Manager Dodge assures Keokuk people of a real treat in musical comedy.

"Katinka" is a lively, tinkling opera, with good looking girls, plenty of dancing and music that will swing through your head for days afterward. Seats are now on sale at from 50c to \$2.00, and careful attention will be given phone and mail orders from patrons of the Grand in Keokuk or surrounding territory.—Advertisement.

SAFETY FIRST FINDS FAVOR

Railroad Crossings, Careless Drivers and Pedestrians are Prolific Source of Guilt.

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AMUSEMENTS

GRAND SPECIAL HOLIDAY ENGAGEMENT Friday Night

ARTHUR HAMMERSTEIN OFFERS THE BRILLIANT AND SPARKLING SUCCESS

KATINKA A MUSICAL PLAY OF INFINITE CHARM

Special Notice—Company carries their own complete Orchestra. 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00. Mail and phone orders.

HIPPODROME "Home of the Pipe-Organ"

TONIGHT—7:00, 8:15, 9:30 J. STUART BLACKTON and ALBERT E. SMITH present the Vitaphone/Blue-Ribbon Feature

EDITH STORY In "The Tarantula"

COMING TOMORROW Francis X. Bushman and Beverly Bayne "IN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE."

ORPHEUM Pictures start 7 p. m. Show starts 8:15 p. m.

Ambler Players Present a complete new Show A Four Act Comedy

"The Fighting Parson"

NOTICE—Owing to the fact that so many people come to the Orpheum early, we will put on four Blue Reels of Pictures each night before the show, which starts at 8:15. Pictures start 7 p. m.

GRAND 10-NIGHT

PARAMOUNT PICTURES 5 and 10: Booth Tarkington's

"17"

A pictureization of the widely read comedy-drama of youth, star-cast with LOUISE HUFF and

JACK PICKFORD

Tomorrow—2:30, 7, 8, 9:15 Frank Keenan in "The Thoroughbred"

STATUES ARE GIVEN CHURCH

Donations Add to the Beauty of St. Peter's Church in This City.

Two statues with candelabra were donated to St. Peter's Catholic church by Miss Mary O'Reilly, one in memory of Eugene Sullivan and the other in memory of Father Thomas O'Reilly. The statues stand five feet high and represent an angel. They are enlivened with brass candelabra holding twenty-five incandescent lights. These were lighted for the first time at high mass on Christmas morning. During the past year there have been many donations made to the church and the Rev. J. W. Gillespie, priest at St. Peter's, is grateful to the generous friends.

The New Brotherhood. Waterloo Courier: A Christmas leaflet issued by the International Typographical union tells in a very graphic manner how that progressive organization has answered the great humanitarian question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" On one page is printed William's famous painting bearing that title, which presents a scene from life in London. A group of aged and homeless "down and out" men of one of them a woman, are reclining asleep on a park bench, enshrouded

In a cold fog. On the opposite page is a photograph of the grounds of the Union Printers' home at Colorado Springs. Here, too, are old people of park benches, but the sun is shining warm, they are happy and well-dressed, and back of them is the stately building that they call home.

There is no longer necessity for a man who has served society in the capacity of a printer throughout his best years to become an outcast, should he find himself homeless in his declining years. The union to which he belongs has made provisions for that, thereby exemplifying in its trust since the spirit of brotherhood.