

THE BEATRICE DAILY EXPRESS

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ALL THE NEWS OF GAGE COUNTY

READ TODAY'S NEWS TODAY

THIRTIETH YEAR.

BEATRICE, NEBRASKA. FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 31, 1915.

NUMBER 309.

FIRTH IS VISITED BY \$14,000 BLAZE

**Lumber Yard of J. E. Harms Destroyed by Fire
Early This Morning---May Have Been
Work Of Fire Bug**

Firth, Neb., Dec. 31.—Special to the Daily Express.—For the third time since June, Firth was visited by a disastrous fire, the lumber yard of J. E. Harms furnishing fuel for the flames.

The fire was discovered this morning about 1:15 o'clock. When the alarm was given the lumber yard, office, etc., were a mass of flames and nothing could be done to save any of the lumber, the loss being complete.

The lumber yard was situated just south of the site of the buildings destroyed by fire in the conflagration of June 29, when the bank, drug store, hardware store, meat market and restaurant were burned to the ground. The new bank, just

completed, and a number of other buildings were damaged by the flames, the heat melting the window panes.

Mr. Harms carried a stock valued at about \$14,000, which was partly insured.

The origin of the fire is unknown although there are strong suspicions, due to the frequent fires of the past few months, that it was the work of an incendiary.

Deputy Fire Commissioner Ridgell has been notified and an investigation will undoubtedly be conducted, with the intention, if possible, of running the firebug to earth. The Fulton bloodhounds were called for this morning and arrived here in charge of R. N. Fulton.

PURE MILK ORDINANCE

**Goes Into Effect Saturday—Dairy-
men Support Measure—Many
Applications for Permits**

The new Beatrice milk ordinance goes into effect tomorrow that no and applications for dairy permits have been coming in at a lively manner at the city clerk's office.

The ordinance provides that no person shall bring into the city for sale any milk or cream without first securing a permit from the board of health. The ordinance provides further for the testing of all cows owned by those selling milk, and also provides that the dairies must be kept in a sanitary condition.

A license fee is provided for permits as well as for inspection, and the testing of milk cows.

Beatrice dairymen are giving the ordinance their support, and the veterinarians and farm demonstrator are working together in the matter of inspection of cows.

The board of health will inspect all dairies within the next few weeks for the purpose of ascertaining whether they are complying with the sanitary provisions of the ordinance.

Inspection of National Guard To Be Rigid

Government inspections of companies of the Nebraska National Guard, with Captain Charles M. Gordon of the United States army, as chief inspector, will begin on January 24. The inspection the coming year will be very rigid. Inspection will be in the day time and every man, officer or private, is expected for the good of the service, to be in line. Absentees, unless caused by sickness or given leave, will be discharged without honor.

Company C of Beatrice will be inspected on Thursday, January 27, and Company F of Wymore on Friday, January 28.

Annual Business Meeting of High School Alumni

Tomorrow afternoon at three o'clock the Alumni association of the Beatrice High School will hold their annual business meeting in the Commercial club rooms.

There will be election of officers and some business to transact. Come and renew old acquaintances and show your interest in the school.

Telephone Co. Wants Higher Rates at DeWitt

The Lincoln Telegraph and Telephone company has stirred up the ire of some of its patrons at DeWitt by circulating a petition addressed to the state railway commission, asking that the company be permitted to increase its rates.

The DeWitt telephone line was owned by a home capitalist until recently, and was said to have been a paying proposition. The company now claims to be losing money, asserting that its deficiency the past year has been \$1,000.

Quite a number of DeWitt business men signed the petition, which will be presented to the railway commission for action within the next few days.

Bill Provides For Conscription of Married Men

London, Dec. 31.—Rumors that three members of the cabinet will resign because they are opposed to conscription were again afloat today when the cabinet was to discuss while pertaining to compulsory service. McKenna, Runciman and Sir John Simon were the members mentioned.

Rumors of the resignation of these three members were started earlier in the week but were followed by a report that Premier Asquith had adopted conciliatory methods and none of them would quit.

One bill introduced provided that not only unmarried men should be enrolled, but that married men, too should be forced to serve if the government found it necessary.

Liechleiter Baby Passed Away Yesterday

The four-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Liechleiter, who reside four miles south of Beatrice, passed away yesterday afternoon after a brief illness.

Funeral services were held this afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Turner home at 617 Market street, Rev. C. F. Stevens officiating.

Several Men Are Injured In Fire In South Chicago

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Three men are missing and several were severely injured in a fire caused by an explosion at the American Linseed Oil Company's plant in South Chicago today.

Protests Against Seizure of German Diplomats in Greece

Rome Dec. 31.—Greece has issued a protest against the seizure of diplomatic representatives of the Central powers by Anglo-French military commanders in Salonika.

Rain and Sleet Freeze Causing Bad Wire Service

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Rain and sleet that froze on the telephone and telegraph wires today caused considerable difficulty in wire communication with Chicago today.

THREE HUNDRED LIVES LOST IN EXPLOSION

**British Cruiser Natal Blown to Pieces In Its Har-
bor by Explosion--Four Hundred Members
of Crew Surviving**

London, Dec. 31.—The British cruiser Natal was blown to pieces in its harbor yesterday with a loss of probably three hundred lives. An official statement of the admiralty says that an internal explosion wrecked the vessel.

The admiralty report says that four hundred members of the crew of seven hundred twenty-five were saved. It is believed that many, if not all of these, were ashore when

the explosion occurred.

The admiralty ordered a careful investigation and the news was withheld for nearly twenty-four hours until the admiralty could receive a report of the number of survivors. The same precaution was taken last May when the Princess Irene was blown to pieces in the same manner.

The Natal was a large cruiser with a displacement of 13,660 tons.

2100 SALOONS CLOSE TONIGHT

**Oregon, Washington and Idaho Add
Almost Forty Per Cent to Pro-
hibition Territory**

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 31.—At midnight tonight two thousand one hundred saloons in Oregon, Washington and Idaho will be closed, increasing the prohibition territory almost forty per cent. Seattle will be the largest dry city in the United States.

Denver, Dec. 31.—John Barleycorn was laid out today in white ribbons ready for interment at midnight.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 31.—Iowa's remaining 450 saloons in one hundred twenty-five cities and towns are closing out with a rush today and at 9 o'clock tonight will go dry following the repeal of the Malt law. So far there has been no disorder and none is expected.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 31.—At midnight tonight Arkansas will take her place with the prohibition states of the union.

Excellent Program For Institute At Union Hall

The farmers' institute to be held at Union Hall Tuesday evening and Wednesday of next week is to have a most interesting program.

On Tuesday evening, Farm Demonstrator Liebers will talk on the subject of "Tuberculosis." A number of farmers of the Union Hall vicinity will also participate in the program.

On Wednesday morning, afternoon and evening, addresses will be given by ex-Lieutenant Governor S. R. McKelvie, Prof. P. L. Gaddis and Mrs. Davisson, the latter two being from the state agricultural school.

On Wednesday noon a basket dinner will be served in the hall. Farmers are asked to bring pies, pickles, cookies and cakes.

Steamer Wrecked Off Scilly Islands And Lives Lost

London, Dec. 31.—The steamer Miguel Benillure has broken up and it a total wreck off the Scilly Islands. It is believed some lives were lost as the dispatch says the foundering of the steamer was accompanied by "distressing scenes."

Nebraska Grain In Big Demand On Omaha Market

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 30.—Illinois that was formerly known as the Egypt in corn growing, is now coming to Omaha to get its corn. A bunch of representatives of some of the biggest cattle feeding yards in Illinois were on the Omaha Grain exchange this week buying corn to take back home. Through the Updike Grain company they placed one order for 25,000 bushels, besides numerous smaller orders with other firms and dealers in grain.

The Illinois cattle feeders assert that the corn coming onto the Omaha market this winter is the best they can find and that before the feeding season closes there will be a demand for every surplus bushel.

While the Illinois cattlemen are in the market for Nebraska corn, they are not the only ones who want it. There were half a dozen Iowa farmers on the exchange floor, and through dealers here bought 15,000 bushels that will go into the country north and west of Fort Dodge.

Wheat For Export

In wheat the export business out of Omaha continues enormous, something like 100 cars per day going to the seaboard. For the last two weeks the shipments of the Updike Grain company have averaged fifty cars of wheat daily, most of it going abroad through gulf ports.

Mrs. J. W. Mumford Suffers Broken Arm In Fall

Mrs. J. W. Mumford suffered a compound fracture to her arm last evening when she fell down a stairway at her home ten miles northeast of the city.

In starting down the stairs Mrs. Mumford in some way missed her step and fell in such a way as to break her left arm.

Credit Assn. Directors Elect Officers

At a meeting of the directors of the Beatrice Credit association last evening the following officers were elected:

President—Mercer B. Walker.
Secretary—Frank Webster.
Advisory Board—J. E. Lang, B. H. Conlee, J. Samish.

DEFENSIVE ALLIANCE Of 21 REPUBLICS

**Said to be Real Purpose of Pan-American Con-
vention, Putting Power and Resources of
Republics Behind Monroe Doctrine**

Washington, Dec. 31.—A defensive alliance that would put the power and resources of the twenty-one republics of North, Central and South America behind the Monroe doctrine, is the real purpose of the Pan-American convention.

Such an alliance, if perfected, would prove the most powerful in the world and some of the provisions suggested for the agreement are as follows:

The creation of a standing army by each nation, the size to be agreed upon by the nations represented.

Such armies to be used for the defense of any nation in the alliance which needs them.

Creation of a navy along the same lines.

Agreement that no nation in the Pan-American alliance will make demands on boundary disputes, commercial, industrial and financial matters.

That none of these nations will make agreement, offensive or defensive, with other governments outside the twenty-one republics of the Western hemisphere.

Lewiston Has Disastrous Fire Yesterday

Three buildings, occupied by Carsten's hardware store, the Farmers' Mercantile company and the Lewiston Post, were destroyed by a fire yesterday which threatened for a time to wipe out the town of Lewiston, twenty miles east of this city.

The fire started in rooms over the hardware store which were occupied by the Carsten family and before the blaze could be stopped by citizens, the town being without fire protection, it had destroyed the three buildings, as well as a warehouse at the rear of the Carsten hardware store.

The entire stock of the Carsten store was destroyed but the majority of the Mercantile company stock and all of the Post printing plant was saved. The mercantile company building roof caught fire from the Carsten building and the flames quickly enveloped the entire structure, the walls of the building falling on the small structure occupied by the Post.

Joseph Schultz erected the block occupied by the Farmers' Mercantile company several years ago at a cost of \$17,000 and was insured for \$10,000. The hardware store building was owned by Rudolph Hunzelner, and the printing office building by Emmett Dinnis. The total loss is estimated at \$30,000 and is covered by insurance to the extent of about \$20,000.

Dempster Co. Banquet Set For January 7

Officers of the Dempster Mill Manufacturing company decided last evening to hold the annual banquet for the company's salesmen and branch managers on Friday evening, January 7, at 6:30 o'clock in the Firemen's hall.

The company's school for salesmen and branch managers will begin Monday, January 3, and the men will begin arriving in the city today and tomorrow for the annual event. The company has made much more elaborate plans for the school this year and according to C. B. Dempster the lay-out for the school is much more complete than ever before. One new feature is a gas engine room in which a sample of each engine manufactured by the company has been set up ready to run for demonstration purposes.

The company's annual meeting will be held Friday afternoon, January 7, in the Commercial club rooms. Heretofore the meeting had always been held in the offices at the plant, but the change in location was made to make it more convenient for stockholders to attend.

WEATHER FORECAST
* Mostly cloudy probably with *
* rain or snow tonight and *
* Saturday; not much change *
* in temperature. *
* Temperature at 8 o'clock 29. *
* Temperature at 3 o'clock 38 *

Y. W. C. A. ROOM ALMOST READY

**Repapering and Repainting Com-
pleted, Partitions Moved and
Fixtures Put in Place**

The work of remodeling the rooms to be occupied by the Young Woman's Christian Association is almost completed and as soon as the committees have purchased and arranged the furnishings, the headquarters will be ready for occupancy.

Miss Hazel Butterfield, of Cedar Falls, Ia., who is to be secretary of the association, will arrive in the city Monday and will meet with the woman's advisory board in the afternoon.

The rooms, which were formerly occupied by the Kilpatrick Hose Company, have been re-painted and re-papered. Partitions have been changed and the fixtures made ready. The rooms present a very attractive appearance and will doubtless prove a popular meeting place for the young women of Beatrice.

Former Fullerton Banker Commits Suicide Thursday

Fullerton, Neb., Dec. 30.—Theodore C. Koch, for thirty years a resident of Fullerton, was found dying in his office at 6:30 this evening after friends on the street had heard a gun report. They rushed into the office and found that the top of his head had been blown away by a shot gun. He was breathing his last.

For twenty-five years Theodore C. Koch was president of the First National bank of this place and for three years he was president of the Farmers' State bank. Last spring he resigned this position because of ill health, but engaged in the implement business with his son, Harold. Physicians and surgeons had worked on his case without giving him relief. He had suffered much physically and mentally, and had been despondent.

Christmas Tree At Salvation Army Hall Tonight

A program will be given this evening at the Salvation Army hall. The young people have been practicing for some time and singing and speaking will constitute the program.

A Christmas tree has been decorated and candy and nuts and popcorn in abundance furnished for the children.

Rev. Wilson will give an address appropriate for the occasion. Everyone is invited.