

PENS WARM LETTER

SENOR OSPINA, COLOMBIAN MINISTER, FROWNS ON SECRETARY KNOX'S VISIT.

SUGGESTS IT IS INOPPORTUNE

While Views Expressed by South American Envoy Are Unofficial, Diplomatic Relations May Be Severed as a Result.

Washington, D. C.—A grave diplomatic situation between the United States and Colombia has been precipitated by the publication of a letter, which Senator Pedro del Ospina, the Colombian minister, has written to Acting Secretary Huntington Wilson, of the state department, suggesting that it might be "inopportune" for Secretary Knox to visit Colombia during his projected tour of South America. The Colombian minister, first drawing attention to the fact that the views are his own and not officially those of his government, seriously criticizes the United States for not submitting Colombia growing out of this government's acquisition of the Panama canal zone.

Inasmuch as the letter admittedly is the personal expression of the minister, written without having communicated with his government, it was received at the state department in the nature of a personal insult to this government.

No action has been taken and no official would comment on it, but the incident is known to have stirred officials of the United States to such an extent that the recall of the Colombian minister is expected as a matter of course. At present the United States is disposed to wait until Senator Ospina receives instructions he has asked for.

OBJECTS TO WORD "OBEY."

Minister Refused to Leave it Out and Wedding Is Postponed.

Richmond, Va.—Miss Bessie S. Meas, suffrage leader, declined to subscribe to the word "obey" in the Episcopal marriage service and in consequence, her wedding to Albert E. Chamberlain of New York, was postponed. The minister who was to have officiated refused to leave out the objectionable word. He was sustained by his bishop.

Young Crooks Hold up Store.

Chicago.—Two young men, each armed with a revolver, walked into a north side department store, herded several scores of customers into the basement, locked the proprietor and several clerks in a large vault and robbed the store safe of \$500. The holdups then left the store, stepped aboard a street car and escaped.

Prefers Death by Shooting.

Salt Lake City.—Death by shooting was selected by Harley McWhitney when the court, before passing sentence, asked him how he preferred to die for the murder of C. L. Erickson October 6, 1911. March 25 was fixed as the day of execution. McWhitney has appealed to the supreme court for a new trial.

Freight Rates Suspended.

Washington, D. C.—Increased freight rates proposed by the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad on coal from mines in Wyoming to junction points in Montana and beyond were suspended by the interstate commerce commission pending an investigation.

New York Bank Statement.

New York.—The statement of clearing house banks for the week (five days) shows that the banks had \$35,424,950 reserve in excess of legal requirements. This is a decrease of reserve as compared with last week. Reserve as compared with last week.

Prefers Death to Disgrace.

Pendleton, Ore.—Believing himself disgraced because he would be forced to enter the Chinese new year with a debt of \$200, Wong Tong, an aged Chinaman, ended his life by hanging himself.

Live Stock Market.

Sioux City.—Cattle—Good to choice corn fed steers, \$7.00@8.00; medium to good, \$5.50@7.00; good to choice fat cows and heifers, \$5.00@6.00; grass cows, \$3.50@5.00; canners and cutters, \$2.75@3.50; bulls, \$4.00@5.50; veals, \$3.75@8.00. Hogs, Prices range from \$5.75@6.05, with a bulk of the sales at \$5.85@6.00. Sheep—Lambs \$4.25@6.00; yearlings, \$4.50@4.25; ewes, \$2.75@3.75.

Work on New Treaty.

Washington, D. C.—Negotiations will soon begin for a new treaty with Russia to replace the convention of 1832, recently abrogated.

Hogs Break Record.

Omaha, Neb.—Hog receipts at South Omaha for the week just ending were 102,603 head, which exceeds the previous high record for the market, made last week, by 14,748 head. This puts Omaha in second place among hog markets of the United States.

ARREST "BIG" MEN

GOVERNMENT TAKES SIMULTANEOUS ACTION IN APPREHENSION OF LABOR LEADERS.

TRIAL IS SET FOR MARCH 12

Those in Custody Are Charged With Being Participants in Dynamite Conspiracy—Are Either Behind Prison Bars or Have Given Bonds.

Chicago.—At a given signal the long arm of the United States government reached out and closed the net which for months a federal grand jury in Indianapolis, Ind., has been laying for the alleged participants in the dynamite conspiracy.

From New York to San Francisco and from Duluth to New Orleans the meshes of the net extended, and within a few hours most of the 54 labor officials under indictment were behind prison bars or had given bonds for their appearance in Indianapolis March 12, when the dynamite conspiracy trial is scheduled to begin.

The general text of the indictment reads:

"That on December 1, 1906, said persons unlawfully, knowingly, willfully and feloniously did then and there conspire, combine, confederate and agree together with certain divers other persons, whose names are unknown to the grand jurors aforesaid to commit an offense against the United States, to-wit: To transport, carry and convey explosives, to-wit—dynamite and nitroglycerin—between a place in one state and places in other states against the peace and dignity of the United States."

List of Those Arrested.

In Chicago—Richard H. Houlihan, business agent Chicago local No. 1; William Schoupe, former business agent of local No. 1; James Coughlin, member of Iron Workers' union; James Cooney, business agent.

In Indianapolis, Ind.—President Frank M. Ryan of the International Association of Bridge and Iron Workers, lives in Chicago; Spurgeon P. Mathews, business agent of the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners; Herbert S. Hockin of Detroit, secretary-treasurer of the International association and successor to J. J. McNamara in that position; John T. Butler of Buffalo, first vice-president of the International association; Fred Sherman, local business agent.

In St. Louis—John Barry, former business agent of the Iron workers; Paul Morrin, active in raising the defense fund for the McNamaras and business agent of local No. 18.

In Detroit—Charles W. Wachmeister, former business agent, now in contracting business.

In Kansas City—W. Bert Brown, labor leader; W. J. McCain, business agent, McCain was successor to Brown, the business agent, at the time the \$1,000,000 Armour, Swift and Burlington bridge over the Missouri river was dynamited in August, 1910.

In Milwaukee—W. E. Redding, business agent; Herman G. Sieffert.

In Syracuse, N. Y.—E. E. Phillips, former secretary of the Iron Workers' union; John Carroll, to whom Phillips' books were surrendered when his term of office expired.

In New York—Frank C. Webb, former member of the executive board of International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers; Patrick F. Farrell, said to be a former member of the executive committee of the International association; Daniel Brophy, members of local No. 35 in Brooklyn, former member international executive committee.

In Philadelphia—Michael J. Cunnane, business agent.

In Cleveland, O.—Peter J. Smith, former business agent; George ("Nipper") Anderson, walking delegate.

In Springfield, Ill.—A. J. Kavanaugh, iron worker employed by the Springfield Bridge and Iron company; M. L. Pennell.

In Duluth, Minn.—Fred Mooney, iron worker.

In Peoria, Ill.—"Ed" Smythe, business agent of the iron workers and president of the Peoria Building Trades council; James E. Ray, president of Iron Workers' union.

In Davenport, Ia.—Daniel Buckley, business agent, iron workers.

In Scranton, Pa.—M. J. Hannon, former business agent of the iron workers, now agent of the Central Labor union.

In Minneapolis, Minn.—Charles M. Beum, business agent and secretary of the Minneapolis Building Trades council.

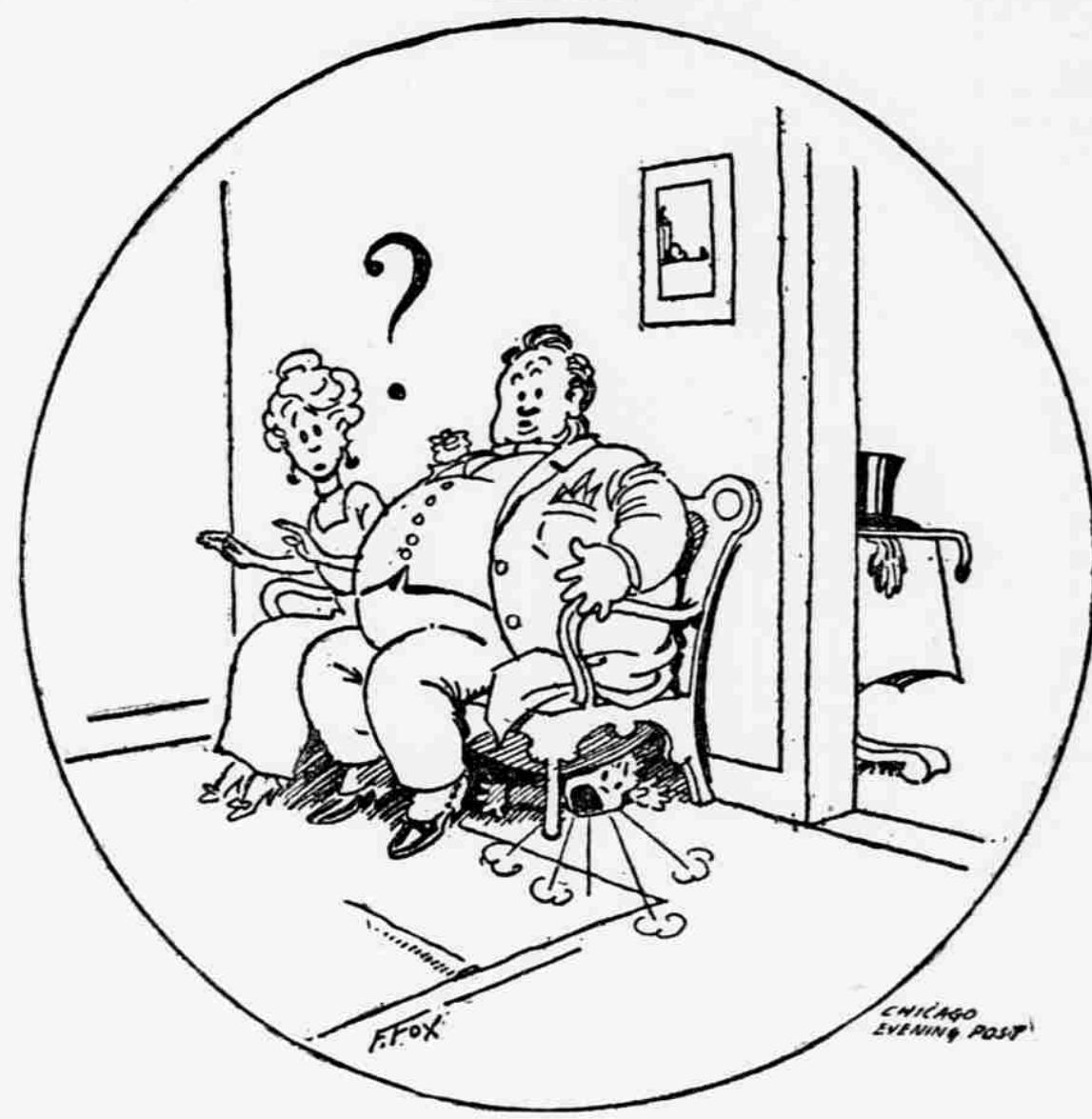
The charges in the indictments are divided into two groups. The first group charges violation of the federal statutes regulating the interstate shipment of explosives, aiding and abetting to violate the law, and aiding and abetting to conceal the violation. The defendants in this class are termed accessories before and after the fact.

The second group charges conspiracy to violate the law by furthering the plans for carrying explosives.

Visit Family Under Bond. Washington.—As the result of a decision rendered by Secretary Nagel of the department of commerce and labor, Mrs. Schule Lipschitz and her deaf and dumb daughter, both of Russia, will be permitted to visit their family in Chicago for six months, under bond of \$1,000.

Humble, Tex., Has \$150,000 Fire. Humble, Tex.—Four business blocks and several residences were destroyed in a fire here. The loss is \$150,000.

UNFORTUNATE START



On His Very First Call Sister's New Beau Ruins Johnny's Favorite Pastime.

HALT SHUSTER AIDS

MAY HAVE TO ANSWER ALLEGED TREASURY IRREGULARITIES.

AMERICAN MAKES A DENIAL

Former Treasurer General of Persia Says His Books Were Passed by Imperial Bank and Proved to Be Correct.

St. Petersburg.—According to a dispatch received by the Evening Vremya from Teheran the Persian government has telegraphed orders to authorities of the towns of Resht and Enzeli instructing them to hold F. E. Cairns and eleven other Americans who made up the staff of W. Morgan Shuster, former treasurer general of Persia.

Mr. Cairns and his former associates in the Persian treasury department left Teheran on their way home on February 10.

They will be required, the newspaper dispatch adds, to answer for irregularities which, the Persian officials allege, have been discovered in the accounts of Mr. Shuster while he acted as treasurer general.

Southampton, Eng.—W. Morgan Shuster, who was shown the dispatch from St. Petersburg, about the order for the detention of his associates in Persia, said:

"I know nothing of this matter, but presume that it is a continuation of the campaign of the Belgian officials to foster M. Mornard's candidacy for the treasurer generalship of Persia by currying favor with the Russian government and by attacking the Americans."

"My accounts were balanced to a cent with the imperial bank of Persia, when I left on January 11. I regard the charges as absurd on their face and purely political."

AVIATOR HAS EXCITING TRIP

Struggles With Hysterical Woman and Disordered Engine 1,000 Feet Above Earth.

New York.—Struggling with a hysterical woman 1,000 feet above the earth and with his engine out of order because the gasoline had frozen in the carburetor, George W. Beatty, the aviator, brought his aeroplane and passenger, Mrs. William A. Dunlap, safely to the ground after perhaps the most exciting trip of his career.

Mrs. Dunlap stated after recovering from her hysteria that neither gold nor precious stones would ever tempt her to again leave the earth in a flying machine.

MAINE IS AGAIN FLOATED

Historic Battleship in Havana Harbor Still Lists to Port, But No Big Leaks Discovered.

Havana.—The wreck of the Maine floated free of the mud when water was turned into the dam surrounding the wreck.

As the water slowly rose until it covered the whole floor of the cofferdam, nearly twenty feet of mooring lines were run out fore and aft on both sides to hold the ship fast and prevent the possibility of its being blown against the sides of the dam.

Major Ferguson, who has had charge of the work, has received many congratulations on his success.

Call Themselves "Lincoln Rebels." Albany, N. Y.—Dubbing themselves "Lincoln rebels," boys of the high school mutilated when denied a half holiday and marched out of the school. They paraded the streets in single file, giving their yell and were cheered by citizens.

Gus Ruhlin Passes Away. Brooklyn, N. Y.—Gus Ruhlin, for several years prominent as a heavy-weight pugilist, died here suddenly. Ruhlin was widely known in the world of sport.

CHINA IS A REPUBLIC

EMPEROR ABDICATES AT PEKING BY ISSUING EDICTS.

Only Opposition Displayed Against Dr. Sun for President Comes From Few Mongolian Princes.

Peking, China.—After three centuries of absolute rule the Manchu dynasty has yielded up its power and abdicated the throne of China in favor of a representative form of government. This was proclaimed to the people in three simultaneous edicts.

The only opposition against the democracy, with Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the American educated Chinese, as president, comes from a few Mongolian princes, allies of the old dynasty, who declare that, unless Premier Yuan is chosen president, they will rebel.

The abdication, without conditions, comes as a surprise. The third edict in which the abdication was announced advised the viceroys and provincial governors of the retirement of the throne from political power and instructed them to continue doing their duty and to preserve order throughout the land. It declares that the step taken by the throne was to meet the wishes of the people.

Washington.—Even the name of China is to pass into history with the world's oldest empire, according to state department dispatches.

The new republic will be known as the "Ching-Hwa" republic. It was stated. All Chinese cabinet members and diplomatic consular officials will retain their places for the present.

San Francisco.—Chinese consular officials in the United States were ordered to adopt American style of dress by an edict received here from President Sun Yat Sen of the "Chang-Hwa republic," containing the formal announcement of the abdication.

NO INVASION IS PLANNED

State Department Assures Mexico U. S. Does Not Contemplate Intervention to Suppress Revolts.

Washington.—The state department, in a circular letter to all diplomatic and consular agents, emphatically denied that the United States was contemplating intervention in Mexico to suppress the many revolutions which are raging there.

The circular expresses the good will of the United States toward the Madero government and declares that Mexico's internal affairs are of no concern to this government.

The American government demands nothing save the protection of all Americans who are in the southern republic.

American representatives in Mexico have been instructed to circulate the note freely among the newspapers to correct the impression that the United States was only awaiting a good chance to invade.

MME. NORDICA IS STRICKEN

Famous Prima Donna Attacked by Paralysis Just as She Is About to Appear on Stage.

Boston.—Mme. Lillian Nordica, famous American soprano, who rose from the obscure town of Farmington, Me., to be one of the greatest prima donnas on the grand opera stage, was stricken with paralysis as she was about to go on the stage here.

Mme. Nordica did not appear and Mme. Gadski was rushed from New York on a special train to take her place.

Make Anglo-German Pact.

London.—The first official glimpse at the progress of the Anglo-German negotiations was given by Premier Asquith in the course of a debate in the house of commons here. The prime minister made the announcement that the British government had received last month an intimation from the highest official sources in Germany that the visit of a British minister to Berlin at this time would not be unwelcome. Viscount Haldane, the secretary of war, consequently was sent to Berlin.

J. J. HILL BEAT TRUST

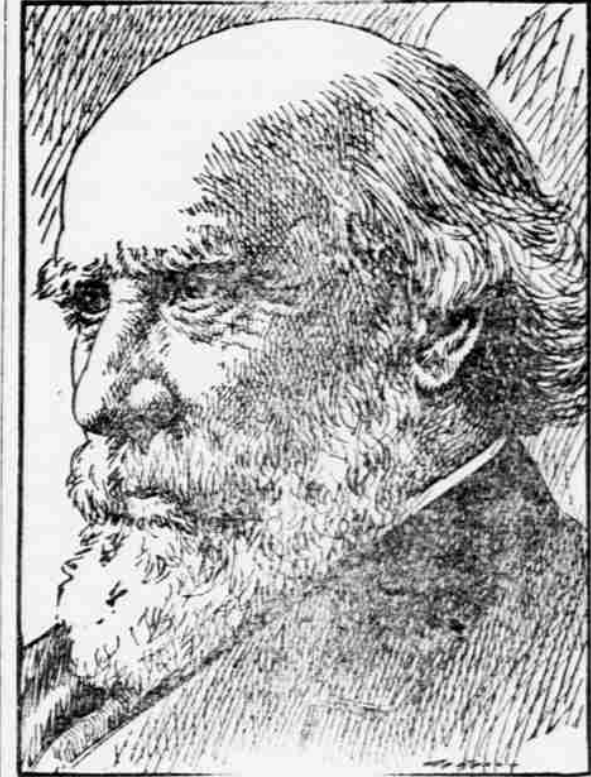
INFORMS STANLEY COMMITTEE OF GREAT ORE LAND DEAL.

Declares He Gave Property Worth More Than \$4,000,000 to His Associates.

Washington.—J. J. Hill, chairman of the board of directors of the Great Northern railroad, testified before the house steel trust investigating committee.

Mr. Hill's testimony was designed to throw light on the so-called Hill lease of the Lake Superior ore fields to the United States Steel corporation, a lease which was recently ordered to be canceled, in 1915.

Mr. Hill told the committee how, out of his own pocket, he had bought \$4,000,000 worth of ore and railroad



James J. Hill.

property on the Mesaba Range, how he had engineered the lease with the United States Steel corporation, by the terms of which the trust was unmercifully "chiseled," paying \$1.02 per ton for ore while independents paid other companies between 15 and 47 cents; how he had turned over the Mesaba properties and half a dozen other concerns to the Lake Superior company, limited, thus keeping inside the Sherman act, and how the profits of the Lake Superior company had afterwards been turned into the Great Northern Ore company, whose stock was distributed share for share among the shareholders of the Great Northern Railway company.

REJECT "DOLLAR-A-DAY" BILL

Senate Committee Votes Down Sherwood Pension Measure and Adopts Senator Smoot's Substitute.

Washington.—The senate committee on pensions rejected the Sherwood pension bill, providing for one dollar a day pensions to G. A. R. men, and adopted a substitute measure offered by Senator Smoot of Utah, providing for an expenditure of \$24,000,000.

Senators Brown of Nebraska and Curtis of Kansas gave notice that they would move in the senate to substitute the original Sherwood bill for the Smoot measure and demand its passage.

Senator Smoot's estimate of \$24,000,000 as the cost of his plan is based upon the pension bureau's computation of age and length of service of the veterans. The Sherwood bill, according to the pension bureau, would have cost \$75,000,000 a year.

The Smoot bill was adopted by a vote of 12 to 2, after the Sherwood bill had been voted down 10 to 4.

The Smoot bill provides a scale of pensions varying with age and service, which in the case of a soldier who served 90 days amounts to \$13 a month between ages of sixty-two and sixty-six; \$15 between sixty-six and seventy; \$18 between seventy and seventy-five, and \$21 from seventy-five on.

The scale rises gradually with every six months' service until it allows \$30 per month to a veteran of seventy-five years who was in the service three years or more. For a soldier who served three years or more the scale is: From sixty-two to sixty-six years, \$16; from sixty-six to seventy, \$18; from seventy to seventy-five, \$24, and from seventy-five on, \$30.

The action of the committee brought a protest on the floor of the senate from Senator Kenyon of Iowa.

URGES DRUG FOR THE ROPE

Prison Warden in Maryland Suggests to Legislators That Murderers Be Chloroformed.

Baltimore, Md.—That death by the administration of chloroform would be an excellent substitute for hanging in the punishment of persons convicted of murder was the suggestion made by Warden Weyer of Baltimore to the committee of the Maryland legislature who inspected the penitentiary. The idea seemed to impress members of the committee forcibly. There is now before the legislature a bill to do away with hanging and to substitute electrocution.

Plan World-Wide Boycott

London.—A worldwide boycott of British dealers seeking coal will be an important part of the strike program of the British miners, it is announced. American miners will be asked to join it.

22 Camorristi to Be Set Free.

Viterbo, Italy.—Twenty-two of the Camorristi were ordered released by Judge Bianchi. The men had been in prison five years, the maximum sentence, charged with associating with criminals.

STATE CAPITAL LINCOLN CHAT.

Primary Election Proclamation.

Governor Aldrich has prepared a proclamation calling a primary election to be held April 19. In accordance with the law, his proclamation calls for the selection of candidates for the following offices:

Preferential candidate for president. Preferential candidate for vice-president.

One United States Senator. Four delegates at large and two from each congressional district to attend national conventions of the various political parties.

One national committeeman for each political party.

One congressman from each of the six congressional districts. Governor.

Lieutenant governor. Secretary of state. Auditor of public accounts. State treasurer.

Superintendent of public instruction. Attorney general. Commissioner of public lands and buildings.

One railway commissioner. Eight presidential electors. State senators and representatives.

And five constitutional amendments for adoption as party measures by the various political parties, as follows:

No. 1. Reserving to the people the right of direct legislation through the initiative and referendum.

No. 2. Fixing the term of office and increasing the salaries of members of the legislature.

No. 3. Creating a board of commissioners for state institutions.

No. 4. Providing for general election once in two years.

No. 5. Allowing cities of more than 5,000 inhabitants in this state to frame their own city charters.

Delayed Senate Journal Finished.

The long-delayed Senate Journal which has just been delivered to the members of that body contains 1,096 pages, which cost, at the contract price, \$1.14, making the total price paid by the state for the work \$1,243.44. The house journal, with its 1,008 pages, cost the state \$1,562.40. The senate journal of two years ago consisted of 1,174 pages, printed at the rate of 96 cents per page, the total cost of the work being \$1,174, or \$455 more than the 1911 journal. During the last session Secretary Smith installed a mimeograph in his office for the purpose of printing amendments and doing other odd jobs in connection with the legislative work. Approximately \$750 worth of work was done in this way at a saving to the state of more than \$500 above the cost of the machine and the price of material and cost of operation. In speaking of the work recently, Mr. Smith said that as long as it costs in the neighborhood of \$110,000 to conduct each session of the legislature, he believed that every effort should be made by all its officials to not only expedite the work, but to preserve it in a thorough and efficient manner for use after the session has closed.

The Nebraska hotel commission has been busy inspecting hotels and serving notices on proprietors to comply with the law. R. D. McFadden, of Hastings, chief deputy, says "that his department makes an order for such changes as are necessary in each case to bring about a full compliance," allowing reasonable time for hotel men to meet the requirements. So far he has not found it necessary to make any prosecutions owing to the cooperation shown by hotel men generally. There are heavy penalties for violations of those sections relating to individual towels, ninety-nine-inch sheets, fire protection and fire escapes.

Five hundred and forty crop reporters over the state, who keep in constant touch with the state labor commissioner, and who act as aides to Commissioner Guye in the collection of figures and crop returns, have been notified by the official to lend their assistance in arousing interest among their neighbors for the testing of seed corn. He also asked them to do all they could in boosting the seed corn specials in their various communities.

The largest bail bond ever exacted by the supreme court of Nebraska will be given by Frank V. Larson, a Burr county farmer, who is under a life sentence for the murder of his brother. Larson has appealed to the court asking for a suspension of sentence and leave to give bail. The court has agreed to admit him to bail in the sum of \$30,000.

The insane asylum at Lincoln, with accommodations for 400 patients, has at present 617 inmates.

Land Commissioner Cowles is in receipt of executive order No. 1461, from the interior department at Washington, segregating for the use of the agricultural department, as a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, about twenty-two square miles of land contiguous to Valentine in Cherry county, which preserve is to be known as the Niobrara reservation, within the confines of which reservation it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt or take the eggs of birds except under authority granted by the secretary of agriculture.