

SPECHT SPOKE HIS PIECE.

His Testimony in the Investigation Given Before the Council's Committee.

SOME ENERGETIC SPARRING FOR WIND.

Esasser and Madsen Added to the Accused—Morearty and Ballou—Attorney Shoemaker's Duties Clearly Defined.

If there was a man in Omaha who did not attend the council meeting held last night, it was simply because that man could not get within the chamber.

It was a great crowd, and long before President Lowry rapped for order every available inch of space was at a premium. The millions crowded the beggar and each man seemed happy.

The object of the meeting was this. Some days ago rumors flew about the street, charging that certain councilmen had received money that induced them to vote to award the furniture contract for furnishing the city hall to the Ketcham furniture company of Toledo.

Last Tuesday night war was declared and it was decided that last night the council would go into committee of the whole to investigate charges that had been preferred against Messrs. Blumer, Bruzer, Conway, Burdick, Morearty and Olson by Messrs. Davis and Specht.

Mr. Chaffee said that there might be other men aside from the ones accused who might be mixed up in the difficulty. He moved the matter be referred to the committee of the Real Estate Owners' association.

Mr. Osthoff moved that the motion lay on the table, as the council was able to take care of its own affairs.

Mr. Blumer said the council ought to handle its own business.

The motion to table prevailed.

Mr. Blumer moved that a committee of five be appointed and that that committee continue the investigation.

Mr. Specht stated that he was to bear the brunt of the burden, and he should have something to say about the committee.

"You will not do it," said the president.

Mr. Lowry appointed the following committee: Messrs. Tuttle, Cooper, Osthoff, Donnelly and Elsassner to hear the testimony.

Again Mr. Specht objected, but it was declared out of order.

Objected to the Committee.

Mr. Specht said that there were other men who were guilty, and two of them were on the committee.

"Name them," yelled half a dozen of the members.

"Is it what Mr. Wharton, my attorney, was going to do," replied Mr. Specht.

"We don't care what he has to say, we are not ready to receive arguments," said Mr. Cooper.

Mr. Cooper urged that it was not an argument, but a statement of the case.

Mr. Olson wanted to know if there was in order to have the matter before the committee in a proper light.

"I shall insist upon hearing Mr. Wharton," interrupted Mr. Cooper.

"I want to hear Mr. Wharton," responded Mr. Blumer, "but I want the man who makes the statements to be heard, and I want the man and he must not get behind his attorney."

"It is my duty," insisted President Lowry, "to compel the member who prefers the charges to name the other guilty councilmen. It is an insult to ask any other person to name them."

"Yes," responded Mr. Donnelly, "Mr. Specht must name the guilty men."

More Names Named.

Mr. Cooper said that Mr. Specht should be held responsible for the utterances of Mr. Wharton.

"I have heard a good deal out of this hoodlum and about the charges," said Mr. Specht, "I have also heard a good deal out of the man who makes the charges, and that I would stay away from this meeting. Now I am here and in objection to the committee. I want to see the names of the two men—Messrs. Donnelly and Elsassner, who are not competent to sit and pass judgment in this case."

Mr. Cooper—Will you name them as hoodlums.

Mr. Specht—I will say that Mr. Billingsley, the agent of the Ketcham furniture company, that he had both of you gentlemen and that you had his money.

Mr. Wharton said and said: "That is what Specht—" but he did not say any more, for just then Mr. Conway straightened up and addressing Mr. Wharton said, "you sit down."

President Lowry insisted that Mr. Wharton could not talk until the committee took possession of the charges.

Osthoff—I hope we can put two other gentlemen on this committee in the place of Messrs. Donnelly and Elsassner.

Mr. Cooper said that other men should sit upon the committee.

Mr. Elsassner refused to serve.

Mr. Lowry named Mr. Madsen, Specht, Tuttle, Madsen, and Madsen.

"Madsen is mixed up in this business," Mr. Madsen protested.

"Name Bechel," suggested Mr. Cooper.

"No, you don't," yelled Mr. Osthoff, "he is one of the men who is going to help prove these charges. He said that he would substitute what Davis stated last Tuesday night."

MUST NOT MAKE TOO MUCH.

Phelps County Independents Have a Lively Convention.

SALARIES MUST BE REDUCED.

Resolutions of the Body Bitterly Denounce Both of the Old Parties for Their Alleged Corruption.

HOLBROOK, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The independents of Phelps county held their convention here today for the purpose of nominating a full county ticket.

The following ticket was nominated: Clerk, Andrew Erickson; judge, G. W. Slover; treasurer, P. C. Pank; sheriff, Dag Conley; district clerk, L. C. Huck; surveyor, M. V. Kead; coroner, D. S. Palmer. The following resolutions were adopted.

Resolved, That in view of the people's independent party of Phelps county, in convention assembled, do hereby announce our dissatisfaction with the platform adopted at the people's independent national conference held at Cincinnati, May 19 and 20, 1891, at the state convention held at Hastings, August 18, as well as the candidates named at that convention.

Resolved, That while leading men in the republic have endeavored to make the platform and the golden rule have no place in our government, we will support the platform of the independent party of Phelps county, by applauding the name of Cleveland and at the same time endorsing the platform of the independent party of Phelps county, by endorsing the platform of the independent party of Phelps county.

Resolved, That in order that political corruption may be kept out of our government, we declare ourselves opposed to the assessment of the poll tax, and to the assessment of the poll tax, and to the assessment of the poll tax.

Resolved, That we will have order or clear the lobby, we will have order or clear the lobby, we will have order or clear the lobby.

Just a Little Side Row.

"If Mr. Specht will swear that the matter is proper for the consideration of this committee," said Mr. Chaffee.

Mr. Specht swore to that, urged Mr. Lowry.

"Mr. Chairman," said Mr. Wharton, "Mr. Specht is an outsider, and I insist that he shall be sworn to by the committee."

The chair decided that Mr. Lowry, not being a member of the committee, had no right to object.

Mr. Osthoff urged that Mr. Specht should swear to the charges.

Mr. Specht said that he was not only ready to swear, but would prove them true.

Agent Billingsley wanted to be heard, but the committee declined to hear from him.

Attorneys were talked of, and both the accuser and the accused said they were represented by attorneys.

Agent Billingsley said a chance to remark that if he was to have a lawyer it was about time that one appeared to represent his interests.

He was informed that the trial was for the purpose of hearing the evidence of the accuser, and that his branch of the case would come afterwards.

Names of the Witnesses.

Attorney Gannon insisted upon Mr. Specht giving the names of his witnesses. After some discussion the names were: Christian Specht, A. H. Ballou, George Walker, George Specht, W. H. Annis, Harry Taylor, George Fox, Mr. Gannon, and every other man in the room.

Mr. Osthoff urged that Mr. Specht should be allowed to select his own attorney.

Mr. Shoemaker again got the floor and urged that he would conduct the investigation.

Shoemaker's Only Show.

"We will call you when we need you," said Mr. Chaffee.

"I will pay my own attorney," said Mr. Specht.

Mr. Wharton is nothing if not a fighter, and when he got the floor again he was apparently there to stay.

"I don't want any pay from the council, but it was a matter of honor," said Mr. Specht.

"Madsen is mixed up in this business," Mr. Madsen protested.

"Name Bechel," suggested Mr. Cooper.

"No, you don't," yelled Mr. Osthoff, "he is one of the men who is going to help prove these charges. He said that he would substitute what Davis stated last Tuesday night."

Davis—I know that Bechel simply will corroborate what I stated.

"He is not eligible," came from the throats of a dozen councilmen.

"Then name Chaffee," added Mr. McLeerie.

Mr. Chaffee pleaded sickness.

There was an objection, but Mr. Chaffee was elected to the position.

Want Written Charges.

Mr. Gannon, attorney for the accuser, offered some suggestions. He said that the charges should be written, and that they were there was no case, as no man knew what was expected of any man.

"I want my money," said Assistant City Attorney Shoemaker. "If the charges are not in writing we will go on and consume two days in proving street rumors, and when we get through we will not have anything. We want specific charges."

"If we are going to investigate, for God's sake let us investigate," said Mr. Specht.

"Let us not have boys' play and try to shut out this matter. It interests the entire city and I want to see fair play."

Mr. Osthoff insisted that it was only right that Mr. Davis should put his charges in writing.

THEY WERE OUT IN FORCE.

ACHERY, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The independents held a very enthusiastic county convention at Auburn today.

BURWELL'S ALLIANCE MEETING.

BURWELL, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The alliance people of this and adjoining counties were entertained here today by B. E. Pratt of Central City, assistant state lecturer of the farmers' alliance.

He spoke in the court room to a large and attentive audience of farmers, and the minds of a majority of the farmers present seemed to be in hearty accord with his sentiments.

Ogallala Convention.

OGALLALA, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The thirteenth district republican judicial convention was held today. There was representation from each county.

M. A. Daugherty called the convention to order. Resolutions endorsing the republican platform were adopted.

Democrat at Abion.

ABION, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The democrat county convention met here this afternoon and placed the following ticket in the field:

Treasurer, Dr. F. E. Baxter; clerk, D. L. Shenefelt; sheriff, D. V. Blatter; judge, T. R. Young; county clerk, E. A. Farmer; clerk of the district court, M. Montgomery; coroner, Dr. F. E. Baxter; surveyor, G. K. Bullock.

Independents in Convention.

OGALLALA, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The independents held their convention at the court house today.

Quits a fight was made for the office of county clerk, and the following ticket was nominated: Treasurer, J. E. Welch; clerk, J. S. Abraham; sheriff, Jeff Camp; superintendent, Miss Annie Reed; county judge, George Quinn; coroner, Dr. Holbrook; commissioner, W. L. Martin.

Cheyenne County Democrats.

SINCEY, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The democrats of Cheyenne county held their county convention here today and placed in nomination: Sheriff, A. W. Akins; treasurer, F. W. Cromaker; judge, James B. Haskett; clerk, Horace Miller; coroner, W. D. Lydell; coroner, Dr. F. E. Gibson; commissioner, First district, Fred Dickinson.

Desired No Fusion.

BLAIR, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The independents held their mass convention here today and nominated a county ticket, with the exception of the sheriff. The convention was held at 10 a. m. and elected C. B. Sprague chairman and L. K. Davis secretary.

As a rebuke the following resolution was passed: Resolved, That the convention shall endorse no candidate of any other party.

The meeting adjourned until 1:30, when the following platform was adopted: Resolved, That we are in favor of the resolutions adopted at the Cincinnati convention by the industrial organization; also the platform adopted by the independent party of Phelps county.

We demand that a change be made in the State Board of Transportation by electing the people. We demand that we condemn the acts of the state officers by reducing and that more economy be used in the administration of state affairs.

Resolved, That we will not support any candidate who has been guilty of the crime of embezzlement.

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CAPTURED AN ENTIRE GANG.

Officers at Beatrice Seize a Number of Alleged Counterfeiters.

METAL MOLDS AND MELTING POT FOUND.

Evidence Believed to Be Sufficient to Convict All the Prisoners—Suspects Always Well Supplied with Funds.

BEATRICE, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Five men, two women and a boy are under arrest in this city on the charge of passing counterfeit money.

Their names are Fred Zeph, James Carpenter, William Fagan and wife, O. S. Petty and an unknown woman. Four of the parties were arrested on warrants sworn out by Robert Noakes, a butcher, on whom a spurious silver dollar of the issue of 1852 was passed. The others were in company with these parties.

The testimony of Noakes is substantiated by that of others, on whom an attempt was made to pass the stuff. It is believed that the parties are the guilty ones. All but two of them are residents of "the bottom" in this city, a locality which bears a tough reputation.

In addition to silver dollars and dimes, bogus currency in \$5 and \$10 denominations have been in circulation for some time past, which is believed to be the work of the stuff secured from the east, while making the silver stuff somewhere in this city. The prisoners have never been known to do any labor and yet were always supplied with money. The closest surveillance has heretofore failed to make a case against them on account of their great care in their work.

Occasionally a large quantity of bogus dimes were put in circulation. The following work of reporters: The same gang was almost proven the preparator of the work, even to the making of the stuff. The matter was kept from the press that might interfere with the arrests. The arrests were made however and the matter was soon dropped.

It is believed that another of the gang was arrested and the molds used in making the stuff were secured. They are crude affairs and it is surprising that they were used for so long a time. The evidence is now believed to be sufficient to convict the whole gang of counterfeiting and passing counterfeit money. The hearing will be held Monday.

Hastings News Note.

HASTINGS, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Apollo club of this city gave a reception on Tuesday evening. After a musical programme at the Central music hall the guests were banqueted at the Hotelwick hotel.

The Adams county alliance will picnic at Silver Lake on Wednesday next. John M. Ragan and F. G. Beales, the candidate for district judge, will be the speakers.

The Adams county democrats are debating the question of placing a straight ticket in nomination this fall. The majority of the more influential democrats are in favor of nominating a ticket, but many think that it would be desirable to show the independence of their strength by placing no ticket in the field.

Dr. Bricker and Raper, respectively, the new superintendent and steward of the asylum, have taken possession, supplanting Messrs. Test and Lovingshouse.

Traveling Men Committed.

NORFOLK, Neb., Sept. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—At a meeting of the business men of the city of Norfolk the following was unanimously adopted: That the traveling men and the citizens be and the same are hereby extended to the traveling men for the city of Norfolk, and that the same be planned and carried out by them at the North Norfolk, and that the same be carried out by them at the North Norfolk.

Charge of a Mock Auctioneer Against an Efficient Officer.

At the meeting of the fire and police commissioners last night Captain George Windham was charged with a mock auctioneer.

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