

SHOES ALMOST \$25,000 VICTIM

United States Attorney Howell Saves Him from Falling for a Big Land Deal Fraud.

J. W. O'CONNELL IS ARRESTED

Was Already Under Indictment in New Mexico Land Deal and Was Trying to Trade Shoes Some Bogus Mortgages.

On charges of devising a scheme to defraud D. V. Shales, Omaha real estate man, and his patrons of \$25,000 worth of property and of using the mails for the purpose, J. W. O'Connell, who until recently was a real estate operator with offices in the Brandeis theater building, was arrested Christmas day at Verdun, Neb., by Deputy United States Marshal Logan Simmons.

O'Connell was already under indictment by the federal grand jury, and is alleged by United States District Attorney F. S. Howell to have been instrumental in defrauding a man named Kier of a 1,500-acre irrigated tract in New Mexico, by trading worthless deeds and abstracts to a fictitious 60-acre farm near Fort Crook, which O'Connell claimed to own.

Court decree in New Mexico set aside the fake trade, Prosecutor Howell says. Then O'Connell, who held a \$25,000 mortgage on the New Mexican tract, is alleged to have been all ready to trade his notes and mortgages, made worthless by the court decree, for a fine Douglas county farm, Shales being almost hoodwinked into making the deal.

At the last minute Shales learned that O'Connell was already under indictment. He promptly consulted Prosecutor Howell, the alleged fake deal was exposed just in time, and O'Connell's arrest quickly followed. He was taken to Millen, Neb., for preliminary examination before the United States commissioner.

Pastor's Wife Gets Hat Covered With Martha Washingtons

The Castellar Street Presbyterian Sunday school held its annual Christmas entertainment in the church auditorium Friday evening, before an audience of some 400 people, mostly composed of scholars and their parents.

A tableau, "Christmas for All the World," was presented by fifty children, costumed as the different peoples of Asia, South America and the United States.

At the conclusion of the play, Mr. William Knudsen explained that owing to the war in Europe it would be impossible for the people of Castellar to make their usual Christmas gift to the pastor. He added, however, that they would present Mrs. Meek, the pastor's wife, with a new hat for wearing next spring. A hat, two feet in diameter, covered with seventy five bills was then presented her, with the good will of the congregation.

St. James Orphans Enjoy Celebration

A delightful Christmas celebration that warmed the hearts of 127 youngsters of St. James' orphanage was staged at that institution Christmas afternoon by the Knights of Columbus.

A beautiful tree, substantial and useful gifts and plenty of wholesome candy were provided by Santa Claus, otherwise known as Gus Skommer. Then a fine orchestra concert was given and a display of holiday motion pictures was presented by E. M. Borg.

Other musical entertainments by the Misses Cottrell rounded out the happy Christmas program. As special recognition to the devoted sisters in charge at the orphanage, Santa Claus sounded his bugle in their honor, and all the kiddies cheered and whistled.

R. H. WOODRUFF DIES AT HOME OF HIS PARENTS

Ralph H. Woodruff, formerly advertising manager of the Twentieth Century Farmer, died at 7:30 o'clock Wednesday evening at Polk, Ill., the home of his parents. Mr. Woodruff was compelled to leave Omaha nearly a year ago because of ill health. The news of his death was a great surprise to his many Omaha friends, because the last report received here was that he was improving although it was known by his more intimate friends that he was a very sick man.

PLAN ORGANIZATION TO ENCOURAGE MANUFACTURERS

F. A. Hogan, C. A. Goss and J. A. C. Kennedy have been appointed a committee to determine upon the legal status of an industrial association the Commercial club is planning to form for the purpose of encouraging the location of new industries in Omaha. This committee will be asked to go over the proposed articles of incorporation and see that the plan meets the legal requirements.

NATION FARMERS' CONGRESS MAY BE HERE IN SEPTEMBER

The last week of next September is tentatively agreed upon as the date for the big meeting of the National Farmers' Congress in Omaha. W. L. Ames of Oregon, Wis., has notified the bureau of publicity of this tentative date. He states that the delegations from the east will be large and that many expect to go from Omaha to San Francisco for the exposition before they go back home.

MANAGER KELLEY GIVES DINNER TO PILSEN TROUPE

Ferry J. Kelley, owner and manager of "The Prince of Pilsen" company, that is playing at the Brandeis theater, entertained members of the cast at the Rona hotel, following the evening performance on Christmas day. After the guests had partaken of a sumptuous banquet, the "wee sma'" hours were spent in dancing. Beside the company, numerous guests from the outside accepted invitations and joined in the fun.

At the Cheaters



Regina Richards in 'The Prince of Pilsen' at the Brandeis. Harriet Mendel in 'The Blue Bird' at the Brandeis.



Helen Kroner in 'The Ham Tree' at the Brandeis. Edith Lyle in 'The Opheum' at the Orpheum. Jack Davis in 'The Blue Bird' at the Brandeis.



Belle Mallette in 'The Gayety' at the Orpheum. Ray Samuels in 'The Opheum' at the Orpheum.



Mr. Vera with the 'Capitol City Trio' at the Empress.

ing school," with the result that "The Ham Tree," which comes to the Brandeis theater for two days, beginning January 1, with matinees on New Year's day and Saturday, proves a rattling good show. Messrs. McIntyre and Heath are real actors. Each presents a distinct type of the southern dandy. Mr. McIntyre as Alexander, the lively stable hand, and Mr. Heath as the somewhat pompous minstrel performer, offer a bit of human nature which stand as nothing less than dramatic achievement. In short, they are not overdrawn pictures of the impossible Ethiopian, but individuals who truthfully exist. The character drawing as executed by both actors is too well done to be dismissed as mere "coon stuff." In his revival this year John Cort has given "The Ham Tree" a magnificent production and surrounded his stars with a notable cast, including Edward Wade, Arthur Barry, Otto Johnson, Edward S. Holden, Norman Woodward, Mildred Beverly, Mabel Elaine, John Lorenz, Jack Bell, Winnie and Jack Crisp.

"September Morn" will be the attraction at the Brandeis theater for one day only, matinee and night next Sunday. The society drama, "Today," will be presented at the Brandeis theater for three days beginning January 5. George Broadhurst and Abraham Sobomere are the authors of "Today." Philip Bartholomae's musical play, "When Dreams Come True," will be the attraction at the Brandeis theater for two days beginning January 10. Thurston, the magician, will be the attraction at the Brandeis theater for three days beginning January 14. The Brandeis theater has for its attraction on January 17, 18 and 20, "Fog O' My Heart," one of the greatest successes produced on the American stage in a decade.

To start the new year in the proper spirit the Orpheum is bringing to Omaha this week a duo of stellar offerings, in addition to five other excellent vaudeville acts, with also one of the most interesting series of travel views in motion picture that the "Travel Weekly" has presented. One of the starline attractions is to be Miss Ray Samuels, a singer of engaging personality, who was one of the stellar lights who illuminated the Zeigfeld follies. Another of the dominant features of the bill is to be contributed by Claude Gillingwater and Edith Lyle, who, with a company of five people, present a one-act episode, "Wives of the Rich." Another feature of the bill will be the act offered by George White, assisted by Isabelle Jasan, in a pleasing arrangement of songs and dances. "An Every Day Occurrence" is the title of the act to be offered by Wilbur Mack, the popular song writer, with his engaging partner, Nella Walker. One of the most interesting acts of the bill is the animal circus to be contributed by the clever dogs of Charles Prells. It is the most unique of dog features. A diverting melange of song, dance and story is to be contributed by Rita Boland and Lou Holtz, both of whom were formerly members of the Elsie Javis company. To round out this exceptional bill comes Harry De Coe, who does all manner of curious things with tables and chairs. This week at the Boyd theater Manager Burgess has prepared a gala revival of "Cinderella," to be presented with all the spectacular features and effects needed to make this favorite fairy story live in all its colors and lights. In addition to the regular company, more than 100 people will be employed, among them a special ballet and solo dances, arranged by Prof. Chambers. Helen Kroner, well known in Omaha as an advanced professional dancer, will lead the ballet, and with her will work Mildred House, another of Prof. Chambers' advanced pupils, these dainty dancers appearing in solo movements as well as in the ballet. All the special scenery and stage equipment for picture effects has been provided and the production will be complete in every detail. In the cast Miss McIntyre will appear as Cinderella, Mr. Lynch as Prince Charming, Miss Dewar as the Fairy Queen, Mrs. Biles as Poot, Miss Thomas and Miss Warfield as the wicked sisters and the others in suitable roles. A special feature will be added for Tuesday evening only, when Mrs. Beulah

Big Film Company is Sued as Trust by New York Concern

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The Greater New York Film Rental company, an exchange for the circulation of moving picture films in New York City, filed a Sherman law suit today against the General Film company, its officers and component companies, for \$2,000,000, three times the amount of damages alleged to have been caused by the defendants' acts. It is charged that the defendants have combined to operate and conduct an unlawful business "under the cloak of the so-called Edison license agreement." The plaintiff asserts that it had built up by January, 1909, a business which had a valuable good will and was a profitable one; but that its business has become practically worthless since that date because of the acts of the defendants. The extent of injury is fixed at \$600,000, and the amount sued for is asked under that section of the law which prescribes threefold damages.

Revised Proverbs.
Any umbrella in a storm.
Consistency doesn't buy jewels.
A patient waiter is no refuser of tips.
A little learning is a dangerous thing but the same amount of ignorance beats it.—Boston Transcript.

BRANDEIS THEATER

TONIGHT THE PRINCE OF PILSEN
With JOHN W. RANSOME, the Original KAW WAGNER.
PRICES—Gallery, 25c; Balcony, 50c, 75c and \$1.00. Orchestra \$1.50.

TOMORROW, TUES. and WED.—DEC. 28, 29 and 30.
GALA HOLIDAY MATINEE WEDNESDAY.
The FAREWELL and GOODBYE of Maeterlinck's World-Famed Fairy Fantasy

BLUE BIRD

PRESENTED BY THE MESSRS. SHUBERT.
The Wonderful Drama Spectacle and Wonderful Company Which Has Delighted Everybody From Coast to Coast.
Drama—Comedy—Music—Dances
ORIGINAL \$150,000 PRODUCTION AND CAST OF 100 PLAYERS
NOTE: THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A NO. 2 COMPANY
PRICES—EVENINGS AND MATINEE, 25c TO \$1.50.

NEW YEAR'S ATTRACTION

Friday, Sat., Jan. 1, 2, Matinee Each Day
JOHN COET PRESENTS
MCMINTYRE and HEATH
IN THE NEW EDITION OF THEIR BIGGEST MUSICAL COMEDY SUCCESS.
The HAM TREE
COMPANY OF 100
EVERY MINUTE A LAUGH OR A WHISTLE
BOOK BY GEORGE V. HOBART. LYRICS BY WALLACE JEROME. MUSIC BY JEAN SCHWERTZ.
Prices: NIGHTS: Lower Floor—25, \$1.50; Balcony, \$1, 75c, 50c; Gallery, 25c. MATINEES: New Year's and Saturday, Lower Floor, \$1.50, \$1; Balcony, 75c, 50c; Gallery, 25c. SEATS SELLING.

Orpheum

Daily Matinee 2:15
Night 8:15
ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE
New Year's Week Starting Sunday, Matinee, Dec. 27.

Ray Samuels
The Blue Streak of Vaudeville

George White
Assisted by Isabelle Jasan
In An Arrangement of Songs and Dances

Charles Prells' Animal Circus
Introducing the Robbery of the Overland Express

Harry De Coe
The Man With the Tables and Chairs

Claude Gillingwater
Edith Lyle & Co.
In Mr. Gillingwater's Own Thrilling Dramatic Play
"WIVES OF THE RICH"

Wilbur Mack & Walker
"An Every Day Occurrence"

Rita Boland & Lou Holtz
In a Melange of Song, Dance and Story

ORPHEUM TRAVEL WEEKLY
The World at Work and Play
Around the World With the Orpheum Circuit's Motion Picture Photographers

Prices—Matinee, gallery, 10c. Best Seats (except Saturday and Sunday), 25c. Nights, 10c, 25c, 50c and 75c.

EMPRESS

WEEK OF SUNDAY DEC. 27
The Capitol City Three
Formerly The Capitol City Four
The Geraldts
A Musical Novelty on The Radio-Phone
Marco Trio
Comedy Acrobats
Henry and Adelaide
Song and Dance Novelty
An Assorted Program of PHOTO PLAYS
Comedies, Dramas, Educational and News Weekly
10c ADMISSION 10c
Reserved Seats 10c Extra

CORNELL MUSICAL CLUBS
AMERICAN TOMORROW
THEATER Night, Dec. 28
BOX OFFICE OPEN 10 A. M.
\$1.50, \$1.00, 25c.

4th BOYD

DOUGLAS 1919
Commencing Sunday Mat. and all week. Mats., Wed. and Sat. New Year's Matinee, Friday.
All Matinees 25c.
The Boyd Theater Stock Company
In conjunction with Prof. Willard Chambers and Pupils, in a His Production of

HIPP THEATER - D. 8069

15th and Kearney.
Sunday Only, Dec. 27, 1914
The Vitagraph Co. Presents
Edith Storey in
A Florida Enchantment
Monday & Tuesday Dec. 28-29
The Paramount Feature Film Co. Presents
Max Farnum in
The Hoosier Schoolmaster
Wed. and Thurs. Dec. 30-31
Daniel Frohman Presents
William Farnum in
The Sign of the Cross
Friday and Saturday Jan. 1-2
Jesse L. Lasky presents
Dustin Farnum in
Cameo Kirby
Gayety Daily Mat., 10-25-50c
Evenings, 15-25-50-75c.
Here's a Brand New Show
BLUPCE GYP-Y MAIDS Musical Comedy
Tom "Smoke" McRea and 39 other funsters. Beauty Chorus of Fortune Tellers. Big Novelty Surprises at Xtra Midnite Show starting at 11:30 New Year's Eve.
LADIES' DINE MAX WEEK DAYS.

WEEK CINDERELLA

100 — People — 100 Children — Fairies — Children
Special feature Tues., Dec. 29.
Society Night — Between Acts
Mrs. Beulah Dale Turner IN SONGS.
Next Week: PRINCE KARL