

Protests Filed Against Phone Rate Increase

Alliance and Tekamah Clubs Tell Rail Commission Move Not in Accord With Present Conditions.

Lincoln, Dec. 22.—(Special.)—Protests against the application of the Northwestern Bell Telephone company to get rate increases from the State Railway commission, which will cover the 10 per cent wartime surcharge which expires January 1, were received by the commission today from the Alliance Chamber of Commerce and the United Community club of Tekamah.

The substance of the Alliance protest was to the effect that telephone rates were higher now than ever before, and if any action were contemplated by the company, it should desire to reduce rather than boost rates.

The Tekamah organization declares that an overwhelming public opinion there is against anything on the part of private or public corporations except reductions to meet falling prices of farm products as well as falling in prices of wages.

Mrs. E. Brewer, 1354 Ellison street, Omaha, writes to protest against the application, declaring her husband with a wage reduction was having difficulty enough meeting present prices.

John Curtiss, secretary of the commission, declared today that as nearly as could be ascertained the application of the telephone company would not increase its revenue but would take the place of the surcharge imposed on telephone users during the war.

"I think that in Alliance rates under the application will be a little higher," Curtiss said, "while at Tekamah they will be a little lower."

The company in its application asks to divide its patrons outside of Omaha into three zones, different rates being charged in each zone, while Omaha would be divided into four zones with a different rate in each zone.

The hearing on the application will be held December 28 at Lincoln.

Iowa Fed Steer Gains 305 Pounds in 90 Days Feeding

A steer making a gain of 305 pounds in 90 days was brought to the stock yards as part of a shipment of cattle sent in by Ulrich Albers of Earlton, Ia. Mr. Albers had a carload of fat yearlings which averaged 812 pounds and brought a good price.

The steer that made the big gain was bought as a feeder. It weighed 815 pounds three months ago. Thursday it tipped the scales at 1,120 pounds, or a gain of about three and one-third pounds a day. Mr. Albers said there would be an immense surplus of corn in his part of the country, as there had been but little feeding done.

Grand Island Hog Feeder Tops Market With 86 Head

Two loads of hogs were brought to the Omaha market by John Stueven of Grand Island. One of the loads, consisting of 86 head, brought the top price of \$6.65 a hundred pounds. The other load, consisting of heavier hogs was sold for \$5.50 a hundred.

Mr. Stueven said live stock feeding was being carried on extensively around Grand Island, with a large crop of corn raised, most of which will be fed.

Doctor Seeks Home He Thought Was His Own; But When He Got There, the Old Lot Was Bare

Edgar Allen Poe's "Fall of the House of Usher" may be a bit uncanny, but it doesn't compare to the feeling experienced by Dr. Orville C. Ivins, Crawford, Neb., when he discovered Wednesday that the "House of Ivins" has disappeared from its customary place at 2515 North Eighteenth street.

Dr. Ivins went out to view the family domicile Wednesday. He reached the place where it should be, only to find that it was gone. He had seen the house last summer. It looked solid and substantial then. Eleven years ago, following the death of his mother, Mrs. Martha E.

Ivins, Dr. Ivins went to Crawford. For a time the house was unoccupied. Then it was rented. There was some difficulty in clearing up the title. This was accomplished this week in county court here, however.

Dr. Ivins had come to Omaha to repair the house. He investigated and learned that neighbors had complained that the house was unsafe, and that it was condemned and ordered torn down by the city council shortly after he had visited it last summer.

Dr. Ivins plans to consult an attorney to determine whether he can get redress from the city.

Ex-Service Hospital Probed by Oberlies

Kearney, Neb., Dec. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—A dish of macaroni and cheese, served to state tubercular hospital patients November 21 was responsible for an investigation conducted at the institution by C. L. Oberlies of the state board of control, following protests and complaints filed by disabled veterans of the world war against treatment of ex-service men who are wards of the state. Criticism of more than 20 witnesses examined centered against the kind of food furnished; either that it was unwholesome or the supply was insufficient. It appears that the protests all concern a period of time when a change of cooks was made at the institution.

Mr. Oberlies, at the conclusion of the investigation, announced that he would recommend the hire of an expert dietitian to supervise the culinary department at the hospital.

Size of Proposed State Gasoline Tax Problematic

Lincoln, Dec. 22.—(Special.)—Just how much tax Governor McKelvie will ask the legislature at its special February session to impose on gasoline, to relieve small home owners from the 1922 road construction tax, is problematical and will remain so until figures are worked out and details are worked out. It was reported here today that George Johnson, secretary of the department of public works, after a cursory view of the situation believes a 2-cent tax is necessary. This, however, is in advance of a careful analysis of the situation. It may be more, it may be less.

Dates for Court Terms in Eighteenth District Set

Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 22.—(Special.)—Judge Colby has set the terms of court for the Eighteenth judicial district, comprising Gage and Jefferson counties, as follows: Gage county: First term, February 1, jury to report February 2; second term, June 5, no jury; third term, October 3, jury to report October 3. Jefferson county: First term, March 6, jury to report March 7; second term, June 19, no jury; third term, November 13, jury to report November 13. Naturalization hearings have been set for the second day of each term in each of the two counties.

State Institution Loses 63 Head of Hogs by Cholera

Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 22.—(Special.)—Dr. Stewart, superintendent of the tubercular institute east of the city, reported the loss of 63 pure-bred Poland China hogs during the last week from cholera. The swine averaged about 250 pounds. The herd of 300 was immunized from cholera and when the disease appeared the hogs were reimmunized, but this did not stop the disease. Dr. Stewart figures his loss will be between 70 and 80 per cent.

Ed Barron Assistant U. S. Attorney of South Dakota

Sioux Falls, S. D., Dec. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Ed Barron, an attorney of Sioux Falls, formerly of Ipswich, S. D., has been appointed assistant United States attorney for South Dakota, according to Wesley S. Clark, the new federal attorney for the state, and will assume his duties January 2.

Blue River Frozen

Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—The coldest weather of the season prevails here. The temperature this morning was 10 above and yesterday the mercury dropped to 4 above. The Blue river is covered with a thin coating of ice for the first time this winter.

Smaller Banks Ignore Needs of Cattle Industry

Burwell Rancher Charges Bankers Indifferent in Taking Advantage of War Finance Corporation.

Bankers of Nebraska have been lax and indifferent in getting loans for their customers out of government funds, according to W. H. Maddox, of Burwell, a veteran rancher and live stock man, who was a visitor at the Omaha stock yards looking over the stocker market.

He said if the live stock men were not given assistance now that the banks would lose business in the end, because many ranches will be without live stock. Mr. Maddox gave an example of what the tight money market had done to the cattle business by citing an instance where two

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young cattle with calves were compelled to be put up for sale at auction and sold for only \$126 for the two. He said that two years ago the heifers had cost \$130 each.

"Activities in the cattle business in western Nebraska are rather quiet," said Mr. Maddox, "and there has been but a small amount of feeding done, and many of the ranch pastures are empty. With the bankers showing an inclination to help out, these pastures could be filled up. Right in our territory there are a number of ranchers who have very few cattle and they are in good shape financially, but they cannot get money to replenish their herds. It would be a great help if they could get some money that the government is ready to loan, and it is up to the bankers to do something."

Try The Bee Want Ad Columns. Business Boosters.

New Highway Across State to Be Finished

Oskosh, Neb., Dec. 22.—(Special.)—The newly platted Gull-Plains-Canadian highway, which met a serious stumbling block at the Morrill county line on account of poor roads at the eastern side of the county, has been given new life by support of the Alliance Chamber of Commerce and the Commercial club at Broadwater.

Plans are now under way for work on the 40 miles of the highway now in poor condition. When this stretch is completed the road will be in fine condition through the entire state, beginning at a point north of Julesburg, Colo., and ending at a point due north of Chadron. Completion of the \$30,000 road from the North Platte river valley to the table land south

of Oskosh eliminates the heavy grades heretofore encountered at this place.

Omahans Wed at Beatrice

Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Raymond Russell Lane and Eva Gertrude Kanger, both of Omaha, were married here by Rev. M. Lee Sorey of the First Christian church.

Xmas Special

Imperial Player Song Rolls. Former price, \$1 and \$1.25; reduced to 50c for Friday and Sat.

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1514-16-18 Piano Co. Phone Dodge St. Do. 1623

Empress

SHOWING TODAY

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in

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Heavyweight Champion of the World and

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Heavyweight Champion of Europe

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