

Autos Carrying Packing House Men Fired Upon

Five Bullets Penetrate Top of Armour Truck—No One Wounded—Meat Taken From Car.

Two automobiles, both said to be carrying packing house workers to the plants, were fired upon before dawn yesterday. One was an Armour truck, which met a volley of shots at Twenty-fifth and Harrison streets at 6. Nobody was injured, but when the truck reached the plant five bullet holes were found in the top.

Meat Worth \$300 Gone.

A truck loaded with meat and driven by William McCoy was stopped at Twenty-fourth and N streets Thursday afternoon. It was found yesterday at Forty-first and I streets. The meat, said to be worth \$300, was missing.

Henry Dixon was injured, perhaps fatally, when he fell through a skylight at the Armour plant Thursday, slaying in a piece of machinery.

Negro Fined.

William Lester, negro, caught at the Cudahy plant by Chief of Police Peter Jolly of the plant Thursday, was fined \$100 in South Side police court for illegal possession of intoxicating liquor and \$500 for carrying concealed weapons. Lester had 16 pint bottles of 4436 booze on his person.

John Racikowski, 4436 South Thirty-third street, was picketing two enthusiastically yesterday before daylight under the P street viaduct and was fined \$10 in South Side court yesterday. John would leap from behind a boxcar when anyone approached and flash a light in his face to see who he was. A woman going to the grocery store and interviewing strikers here, urging them to return to their jobs, according to union officials, but are meeting with little success.

Packers Use Pressure.

Packers in Omaha are using various means of solicitations and pressure to get former employes now out on strike to return to their work in the plants, according to statements of better workmen union officials yesterday.

Similar tactics are being used at East St. Louis and St. Louis, where the strikers walked out 100 per cent, according to messages received from those cities.

Foremen, straw boss' and welfare workers at the plants are interviewing strikers here, urging them to return to their jobs, according to union officials, but are meeting with little success.

The packers are not keeping as many strike breakers over night at their plants now, either, according to the union officials, who characterize this action as an attempt to stir up trouble, incite riots and cause armed intervention, eventually getting an injunction against picketing.

Packers admit more men are going to their homes for the night, but say they are doing this of their own accord. Packers yesterday issued figures tending to show the last three days' business was the largest since the strike began. They also assert their workmen now are the highest class ever employed in the plants.

British and French Bankers Meet on Europe's Finances

Paris, Dec. 30.—(By A. P.)—The meeting of British and French financiers and business men at the French foreign office this afternoon to grapple with the European economic situation is regarded in French circles as one of the most important experiments since the first efforts to bring Europe back to a peace basis.

It is generally believed that if the conference organizes an international consortium of bankers, merchants and manufacturers, it will have a marked influence on the future of Europe.

Germans to Cultivate American Silver Foxes

Berlin, Dec. 31.—American silver foxes and skunks will be cultivated on a large scale by a German stock company on a farm in the Austrian Tyrol under the direction of Professor Demoll of the natural history department of the Munich university.

In Germany, where the prices of the higher grade of furs have risen enormously in the past few months, a perfect specimen of silver fox costs 100,000 marks.

This is the first attempt that has been made in Europe to cultivate silver foxes.

Palmyra Woman, 106 Dies

Palmyra, Neb., Dec. 30.—Funeral services were held here for Mrs. Henrietta Masters, who died at the home of her daughter this week at the age of 106. She was born in Germany December 18, 1815, and had lived in the United States 73 years.

Road Conditions

(Furnished by Omaha Auto Club.)
Iowa Highway, East—Roads good to Marshalltown; roads in Cedar Rapids vicinity are getting in very good shape; snow packed and frozen hard.
Lincoln Highway, West—Roads are in good condition to Grand Island and beyond.
O. L. D. Highway—Roads good; detour between Imperial and Chase.
Highland Cut-off—Roads good.
S. Y. A. Road—Good.
Cornhusker Highway—Good.
Omaha-Topeka Highway—Good.
O Street Road—Excellent.
George Washington Highway—Roads good; this is the preferable route to Sioux City at the present time.
Black Hills Trail—Roads good to North.
King of Trails, North—Roads good to Missouri Valley; little rough in the Omaha vicinity.
King of Trails, South—Roads excellent to Hiawatha; Hiawatha to Leavenworth roads are rough; detour between Leavenworth and Kansas City due to road work.
River to River Road—Good.
White Pole Road—Good; detour near Clay fair.
O. A. Shortline—Good.
Blue Grass Road—In poor condition to Grandwood; roads east of Glenwood are good.
Weather reported clear everywhere except Blair and Ashland.

The Fortune Hunter

By RUBY AYRES.
(Continued From Yesterday.)

She looked up then, and at last the teary, running down her face, and her lips were quivering like a child's as she said again with broken-hearted bitterness: "And me? What about me? What have I left in all the world?"

Although she did not know it, it was a cry from her heart, a confession of the deep love that she bore for this man, and a sudden wild flash of hope lit the Fortune Hunter's eyes.

He put his arms round her, drawing her irresistibly to her feet, till her head rested against his, and he said: "For a moment it seemed as if she yielded willingly enough; for a moment he thought that she clung convulsively to him; then she pushed him away passionately.

"Don't—don't! Oh, I can't bear you to touch me." She saw the blood rush to his face and the veins swell on his forehead, his chest heaved with his labored breathing as he broke out madly: "You can't bear me to touch you—yet you married that other man. You believe in him when he was a bigger rogue than I could ever be." He was almost beside himself, and it gave him a cruel joy to see how she winced and shrank beneath his words.

"He swore to you that he was innocent. It was not the truth; he deceived all they gave him. Even his letters to you were a sham and a fraud. He never cared for you—he never wanted to come home—he lived with another woman for months before—"

"He stopped short, catching his breath in a sob of bitterest shame and misery, as half mad, Anne raised her hand and struck him across the face.

She was white to the lips and shaking from head to foot, but her voice was cruel as death, as she sobbed out in the extremity of her pain: "Coward and liar! I will have nothing more to do with you."

And then it seemed as if all the silence of all the ages fell on the world, for a moment they stood looking at one another; and to the end of her life she remembered the tragedy of his eyes when at last he turned blindly to the door.

"Well, I think I'll go," he said uncertainly.

Anne tried to speak but her white lips could frame no words; she felt as she were dying as she saw him cross the room. Then suddenly he stopped and drew back as the door opened from without and Mr. Harding and Geoffrey Foster entered.

There was a tragic silence. Mr. Harding looked from the Fortune Hunter to Anne, and his lips moved as if he would have spoken, but the Fortune Hunter cut him short.

"Please come in both of you," his wild eyes were fixed on the elder man to where Geoffrey Foster stood, pale and rather apprehensive. "I'm sorry, but I'm afraid I've staged the play a little before scheduled time. It's unfortunate from your point of view, I know, but I'm not going to run away; I'm quite content to wait till the police come or anyone else you are expecting."

He thrust his hands into his pockets and squared his shoulders, his head well thrown back. There was a defiant smile on his handsome face, and for a moment Mr. Harding looked at him, not knowing how to answer. Then he turned to Anne: "My dear, my poor little girl—"

He went to her and tried to take her in his arms, but she shivered. "Don't, please," she said, "send him away; send him away."

Foster had come further into the room now, closing the door behind him. He moved over to where Anne stood, and had put out his hand to her when the Fortune Hunter took a savage step forward.

"You touch her, and, by heaven, I'll kill you," he said, savagely. "You've won, and I'm beaten, but she's not yours yet, and unless you want me to break every bone in your body—"

His voice had risen to a shout, and Mr. Harding caught his arm in a grip of steel.

"For heaven's sake; do you want the whole house to hear?" he entreated.

The Fortune Hunter's arm fell to his side; he turned away, and for some moments nobody spoke; then it was he who again broke the silence in defiant, jaunty tones.

"We want two more to make the party complete, don't we?" he asked. "You've all been so clever, spying on me, and putting two and two together; it's hard on the others not to be in at the death. Oh, here comes one of them!" he added with a reckless laugh, as the door opened cautiously an inch at a time, and Tommy's thin face peered in.

He shrank back when he saw the Fortune Hunter, then came again confidently, as his eyes fell upon his uncle and Geoffrey Foster. He spoke, nervously twisting his hands together:

"It's Mr. Fernie, uncle; he wants to speak to you."

The Fortune Hunter flung back his head and laughed.

"We've been waiting for him," he said loudly. "Bring him in, and let's have the party complete before the play begins."

"John!" It was Anne who spoke his name, in a little sobbing whisper, and before anyone could reach her she had fallen fainting at Mr. Harding's feet.

Fernie had lived through some very uncomfortable hours since the Fortune Hunter's visit to his cottage.

If he had been questioned, he would have declared unhesitatingly that he did not believe in conscience, and that his own—if he had ever possessed one—had long since died; but, all the same, during the night that followed and the next day, long-forgotten memories raised their heads and looked at him provokingly out of the past, and he began to remember that he had not always been old and soured; that he had once been a young man, and that the face of the woman whom he had married and brutally neglected had been very fair.

Grain Exchanges And Farmers Form Complaint Body

Omaha Man Named on Joint Committee Appointed To Hear Kicks on Handling.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Representatives of farm organizations and grain exchanges, meeting here yesterday, organized a joint committee representing the producers and the exchanges interested in the marketing of grain to consider, in an informal manner, complaints that may arise concerning the handling of grain.

The organization resulted from a suggestion offered at the conference of grain producers and the grain handlers, held here recently under the auspices of the department of agriculture.

The committee will receive suggestions concerning such subjects from producers, shippers, elevator operators, millers, distributors and grain exchanges, a statement said, but will have no authority to bind either the firm organizations or the exchanges it represents, reporting back to those so represented any recommendations upon which the members of the committee agree.

The grain exchanges of Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaha, Minneapolis, Duluth, Milwaukee and Toledo have selected as their representatives L. F. Gates of Chicago, F. B. Wells of Minneapolis and C. W. Lonsdale of Kansas City, and the agricultural organizations present at the recent conference with the representative of the Department of Agriculture have selected J. N. Mehle acting for C. H. Gustafson, president of the United States Grain Growers, Inc.; J. W. Shorthill of Omaha, secretary of the Farmers National Grain Dealers association, and Clifford Thorne, general counsel for the American Farm Bureau federation.

Future meetings of this committee, to be known as "The joint conference committee on grain trade practices," representing producers and handlers of grain will be held in Chicago the second Thursday of February, May, August and November.

Nebraska City Strikers Cited for Contempt of Court

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 30.—District Judge Munger in federal court yesterday issued an order finding 11 Nebraska City packing plant employees, now on strike, in contempt of court. A citation was placed in the hands of Deputy United States Marshal McClung. They are ordered to appear in court here next Tuesday and show cause why they should not be punished for violating the injunction issued two weeks ago, commanding them to use no more than one picket at each place of entry and egress from the plant.

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Merchants Will Use Corn as Fuel

Hastings Man Opposes Plan And Offers to Buy Entire Crop at Bloomfield.

Bloomfield, Neb., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the Bloomfield Commercial club full endorsement was pledged to help in spreading the movement.

Each business man or citizen who goes into the organization pledges himself to buy two tons of corn for fuel at 5 cents per bushel over the market. The corn will be handled through the Farmers Elevator company. Ray Satterlee is president of the farmers' organization and W. A. Trenhaile is the secretary.

Hastings, Neb., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—R. A. Collier, wholesale hay and grain dealer, made the following statement regarding the plan to burn corn launched at Bloomfield.

"We take exception to a move of this kind. To burn wholesome food or food products is not in accord with God's wishes. Our firm will pay 30 cents per bushel for all the corn Bloomfield can load on railroad cars during the next 60 days, providing the corn is merchantable."

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All Women's Suits at 1/2
All Furs at 1/2 Off

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Simmons Full Size Crib of white enameled steel, with drop side and comfortable springs, is specially priced now remarkably low at... **\$9.75**

45-Pound Mattress—Filled with clean, new cotton covered with fancy art ticking with roll edge and deep, tufted top, for Saturday only... **\$7.45**

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A massive suite that will give you years of satisfactory service, consisting of a full size Davenport, Chair and Rocker of extra depth, upholstered in a high-grade blue velour, with loose cushions of Marshall spring construction— **\$147.50** and only

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BOYS'	BOYS'
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