WEATHER FORECAST

Nebraska—Generally fair; not much change in temperature.

CITY EDITION

THE OMAHA MORNING BEE

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Co-operation is not a sentiment—it is an economic necessity.—Steinmetz. Whoever serves his country well has no need of ancestors.—Voltaire.

VOL. 54—NO. 213. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1925. * TWO CENTS In Omaha and Council Bluffs. Five Cents Elsewhere.

Detectives Stage Fight for Letter

Sleuths Do Battle With Reporters for Note Tossed From Window by Mrs. Budlong.

She Is Holding Fort Yet

New York, Feb. 17.—Mrs. Jessie Margaret Budlong, self-imprisoned in the 11th floor apartment of her husband in East Seventy-second street, was the innocent precipitator of a battle between newspapermen and a force of private detectives in her husband's employe when she got into communication wtih the outside world today.

The fight, which ended only with the arrival of police reserves, had its inception of efforts of the private detectives to obtain a note sent to the newspapermen by Mrs. Budlong.

When the police succeeded in ending the melee they found the newspapermen victorious, in that they retained the note.

Mrs. Budlong appeared late today at the window of the apartment, where she imprisoned herself several days ago, presumably to forestall a possible attempt to lodge a divorce complaint against her for alleged desertion, and motioned to a throng of newspapermen: "Be sure and get this," she shouted.

Fight Is Furious.

Newspapermen and the detectives rushed forward as she threw the package. A newspaperman came out of the heap bearing the package aloft. Then the fight started and continued furiously until police arrived. No arrests were made.

Inside a dress shirt belonging to her husband, Milton J. Budlong, vice president of the North Central Texas Oil company, the following note was found:

"I do not want anyone to try and take me out of the apartment. I am locked into my room. If they try to break in I will open the door voluntarily, which I will have to do Thursday, Friday or Saturday. Any opiate would kill me. I am all right, but I could not stand a drug or opiate. Also, I have no weapons and shall not resist if they attempt to eject me, which they threatened to do last night. I was afraid last night of where they might take me. I am safe at present, however, and do not wish any one to try and get me out. Please notify the newspapers and Attorney Max D. Steuer."

Refuses All Food.

No one could be found who could explain Mrs. Budlong's reference to opiates.

Attendants in the Budlong apartment today said Mrs. Budlong continued to refuse food from them. Although Mrs. Budlong has maintained she was on a "hunger strike," subsisting on nothing but water, a servant said she knew the woman had $11 worth of cheese, caviar, anchovy paste and crackers at the time she imprisoned herself.

Repeated efforts to have Mrs. Budlong leave the apartment have failed, although her daughter and an attorney were said to have joined their pleas with those of representatives of Budlong.

Mrs. Budlong entered the apartment two days after a court at Newport, R. I., had denied her plea for separate maintenance and had denied her the continued custody of her children.

Fire Destroys Farm.

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Beatrice, Neb., Feb. 17.—A. Naylor, living northwest of Firth, Neb., lost his farm home and contents by fire early today. Nothing was saved. The loss was $4,000, with no insurance. Origin of the fire is unknown.

We Have With Us Today

Mrs. Madge King Johnston, National President of "Eight Hats and Forty Women," Aberdeen, S. D.

Mrs. Madge King Johnston, president of the "Eight Hats and Forty Women," a branch of the women's auxiliary of the American Legion, was a visitor here.

She addressed the Omaha auxiliary at its regular meeting Tuesday night in the courthouse.

She was met at the depot by a committee from the local auxiliary and was guest at a dinner given at the Brandeis restaurants Tuesday noon.

Mrs. Johnston was one of the first national vice presidents of the American Legion auxiliary. She was also first state president of the auxiliary in the state of South Dakota.

William Reese, W. O. W. Soverign Auditor, Cleveland, O.

Mr. Reese, who is in Omaha attending the biennial meeting of sovereign auditors, says he always looks forward with much interest to his annual visit to this city, which he has made every year since 1911.

His hobby is golf. He manifests a great deal of interest in the present day street railway transportation problems and has studied the Cleveland plan extensively.

Under the Cleveland system stockholders are guaranteed a 6 per cent dividend and each department is limited to its own budget. Street car fare in the Ohio city is reduced whenever the revenue budget exceeds $100,000 and is likewise increased whenever the budget drops under $300,000. At present the city has a 6-cent fare with a 1-cent charge for transfers.

"Pauline" Is Name of Longworth Baby

By Universal Service.

Chicago, Feb. 17.—No longer is the baby daughter of "Princess Alice" to be known merely as "the Longworth baby."

She is now Miss Pauline Longworth.

Mrs. Nicholas Longworth today decided on the name, ending the child's four-day period of incognito.

Announcement that a name had been decided upon was flashed to Congressman Longworth, the baby's father, at Washington today.

Incidentally, the ever increasing number of visitors, who would view the baby, necessitated its removal from the ward to a private room.

Nebraskans Urge Passage of Gas Tax Bill in House

Good Road Advocates Plead That Funds Be Added to Federal Aid for Road Upkeep.

By P. C. POWELL.
Staff Correspondent The Omaha Bee.

Lincoln, Feb. 17.—Good roads enthusiasts from all parts of the state met with the house revenue and taxation committee today, urging distribution of road funds as follows:

Use of all revenue derived from 2-cent gas tax in meeting federal aid.

A 50-50 split of auto license funds, 50 per cent to go to counties and 50 per cent to state for maintenance.

Continuation of present auto license tax.

Persons addressing the committee included representatives and officials of civic and commercial bodies at Chadron, Hastings, Fremont, Norfolk and Omaha. Excerpts from their remarks follow:

B. A. George, Lincoln, chairman legislative committee, Nebraska Good Roads association.

"Good roads should be built like railroads. Our railroads built their main lines first and their branch lines next."

W. H. Blakeman, Norfolk:

"We would rather not have a gasoline tax if the money raised from it is to be used in small sums on county roads, with no continuity of system to the roads."

W. B. Cheek, Omaha:

"No city is better than its state. If we have good roads in Nebraska, Omaha will prosper, too. The sentiment in Omaha is almost unanimous against cutting the automobile license tax."

C. M. Wilhelm, Omaha:

"Good roads are paramount to the prosperity of Omaha and Nebraska."

Randall K. Brown, Omaha:

"The city of Omaha will pay approximately one-fifth of the gasoline tax collected in the state."

W. A. Ellis, Omaha:

"While Omaha will pay approximately $800,000 in the next two years in gasoline tax, only $200,000 of that sum will return directly to the city, the remainder will be used on outstate roads. Iowa is now starting on a campaign to raise $85,000,000 for a good roads program. Under our constitution we must pay as we go, as we cannot bond our state."

James W. Good, Chadron:

"South Dakota, with a fine highway, is getting all the western and eastern traffic to and from the Yellowstone. This means loss of hundreds of thousands annually to Nebraska."

Frank Eager, Lincoln:

"Yes, and the Kansas cross-country roads are better than the Nebraska roads. Everyone who can avoids Nebraska because of its roads. Every generation owes something to the next generation. I think the duty of our generation is to install an unequaled system of highways."

George Wolz, Fremont:

"The saving of tires with better roads will pay every automobile owner's gasoline tax."

George E. Johnson, former state engineer, and Roy Cochran, present engineer, were present at the meeting. A number of speakers lauded Johnson as the first man to lay out a comprehensive highway system.

Sweden Looks Askance at Protocol of Geneva

Stockholm, Feb. 17.—Adhesion to the Geneva protocol would involve increased military risks for Sweden, in the opinion of General Hammarskjold, who is chief of the army staff and recognized as the country's leading military authority. His principal argument is that since the league of nations was founded Russia has grown as a military factor, and if Sweden signed the protocol it might have to forego its traditional policy of neutrality, through which it kept out of the world war.

"White Cargo" Plot Stolen Federal Judge Decides

New York, Feb. 17.—Federal Judge Knox today decided that the play, "White Cargo," now in its second year in a Broadway theater, had been "pirated."

He held that the play had been based on a novel, "Hell's Playground," written by Ida Vera Simonton, in whose suit the court made its ruling. Judge Knox held that Miss Simonton was entitled to an injunction and an accounting of the receipts of the play, of which Leon Gordon is the author.

Mrs. Tracy Dies in Michigan.

Pawnee City, Feb. 17.—Word was received here Monday of the death of Mrs. John Tracy, a former resident of this city, at the home of her daughter at Birmingham, Mich. The body is to be brought to Pawnee City for burial.

Congress in Debate Over Gas Prices

Florida Senator Demands Probe of Recent Increases, Declaring They Are Not Justified; No Action.

House Investigates, Too

Washington, Feb. 17.—Increased gasoline prices today developed into sharp issues in both houses of congress.

In the senate, a resolution by Senator Trammell, democrat, Florida, for a federal trade commission investigation, was debated without action, while in the house a committee examined bureau of mines officials in an effort to determine causes for recent higher prices in Washington.

Senator Trammell asserted there was no justification for increases of from 4 to 6 cents a gallon in recent weeks. Senator Harreld, republican, Oklahoma, however, contended crude oil production had fallen off and the price boosts were the natural outgrowth.

Production Large.

Before the house committee, F. B. Tough, bureau of mine expert, said he had no information to lead him to believe the price of gasoline in Washington was unfair, adding that he spoke as an individual.

Chairman Zihlman declared Interior department figures had shown the largest rate of production in December, at which time the price increases started, and Mr. Tough replied that formerly stocks started to increase in October and November, but that this year they did not begin until December.

Both Senator Curtis, Kansas, the republican leader, and Senator Harreld referred to previous investigations of the oil industry, the Oklahoman declaring "too many investigations will ruin any business."

Industry Monopolistic.

Senator Curtis thought the Trammell resolution should be referred to the senate interstate commerce committee, inasmuch as prosecutions had been started or were pending as a result of the federal trade commission's report of 1923. That investigation, he said, cost $23,000, and before another was ordered it should be considered by a senate committee.

Senator Trammell asserted the 1923 report of the commission showed the oil industry was monopolistic and paid unwarranted dividends.

KING GEORGE HAS PNEUMONIA CASE

London, Feb. 17.—Three royal physicians are fighting hard to prevent an attack of pneumonia which threatens King George, it was learned by Universal Service tonight.

His royal majesty caught cold last Friday while attending a vaudeville show. Influenza developed with bronchial complications. Heretofore the physicians have felt that the king's condition was sufficiently favorable not to warrant the issuance of bulletins. But after the monarch passed a bad night it was deemed necessary to acquaint the public with the facts and bulletins were issued today.

Little alarm prevails despite the king's age, principally because he is the victim of an epidemic of a mild type of influenza which has attacked numerous public men, including 20 members of parliament.

Apparently with the purpose of reassuring the public, Queen Mary tonight attended a concert by Paderewski.

The prince of Wales visited his father today and had luncheon at the palace.

U. S. Fleet Corporation Seeks Refund From Firm

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 17.—Argument opened in federal court here today on a demurrer in a suit of the United States Emergency Fleet corporation against the Skinner & Eddy corporation for $7,500,000. The defendant was organized in the world war period and built 65 steel merchant vessels for the fleet corporation in a large yard constructed here for that purpose.

The government's complaint alleged that of $11,500,000 paid Skinner & Eddy in advance on 25 more ships which the defendant was to have built, but did not because the war ended, $7,500,000 was disbursed "through error and inadvertence."

The Skinner & Eddy corporation has before the federal courts a suit of its own for $9,000,000 against the fleet corporation, claiming this sum for preparations made to build the 25 ships, for which the "fleet corporation canceled contracts."

Harding Highway Group in Session at Des Moines

Red Oak, Ia., Feb. 17.—Harry Draper, chairman of the county division of the Harding Highway association of this county, attended the annual meeting of the Iowa section of the group in Des Moines Monday. A delegate was called from each county through which the highway passes. A state officer and a national director are to be elected for the ensuing year. Glenn C. Haynes, secretary of the Iowa Good Roads association, addressed the meeting.

Nevada Moves to Repeal Prohibition Amendment

Carson City, Nev., Feb. 17.—The assembly today passed the senate resolution calling for a constitutional convention to consider a change in the federal constitutional amendment on prohibition. The resolution now goes to all other state legislatures and to congress.

Witnesses Tell of Stokes' Efforts to Blacken Character of His Wife

New York Millionaire's Witness in Attempts to Identify Her as Frequenter of Notorious Chicago Resort; One Woman Driven From Doorstep With Broom.

NEB STATE HISTORICAL SOC UNIV LIBRARY LINCOLN NEB

Chicago, Feb. 17.—The vain search of Caleb Stokes to link the name of the woman who became his wife with the bright lights of Chicago, of more than a decade ago, was told in court today.

Dr. Maurice Rosenberg, the first witness in the trial of the New York millionaire, told of the visits of Stokes to identify "red-haired girl habitue of the Everleigh club," known as Helen Norwood, as Helen Ellwood, who had become Mrs. Stokes.

"It was about three years ago that she came to see me," said Dr. Rosenberg. "He said he was informed that I had been the physician in attendance at the Everleigh club, and asked me whether I had known a girl named Helen Ellwood, Helen Underwood or Helen Norwood. He described her as red-haired and showed me some pictures. I was unable to identify any persons in the groups."

Six other witness, five of whom had been connected with the club in some capacity, testified that they had been approached by Stokes with a handful of pictures, and asked to identify them as that of Helen Underwood, or Norwood, or Underhill, who had belonged to the club.

One witness, Mrs. Julia Yancy, testified that she had threatened Stokes with a broom and driven him from her doorstep, until he was glad to get back in his taxicab and depart.

"He said I had a picture of his wife and that he was going to have it or he was going to have me arrested," she said.

"I did have a box of pictures of the girls that had been at the club when I was there, but I wasn't going to show them to him or anybody."

When one of the witnesses declared that Stokes had characterized his wife as "a pretty little thing with red hair and tiny feet," Stokes chuckled and poked one of his detectives in the ribs. Mrs. Stokes dimpled and smiled and one of the counsel for defense remarked: "There is one thing on which both sides can agree, and that is, there is no objection to so characterizing her."

State Bank Rates Ordered Reduced

Senate Passes Measure Setting Maximum mount at 4 Per Cent; Was 5.

By Associated Press.

Lincoln, Feb. 17.—Seven bills were passed by the senate today, all with comfortable majorities, and one, an emergency measure, with a vote far in excess of the necessary two-thirds majority.

Little or no debate on the measures discussed today made the sessions this mornin gand afternoon short and without any "excitement" whatsoever.

Most important of the measures passed was Senator C. W. Johnson's bill, senate file 60, limiting the rate to 4 per cent, which state banks are permitted to pay on time and savings deposits. The present law is 5 per cent. The senate, in passing the bill, also voted for the amendment which requires state banks to display, after April 1, a sign in a conspicuous place, notifying customers of that institution concerning the new limit on deposit interest.

Another of Senator Johnson's measures which passed today, polled a closer vote than was expected by him. Thirteen negative votes were cast against his senate file 95, which gives school teachers authority to give eighth grade examinations. The present law requires that the tests be conducted by the county or city superintendents of schools. Although no criticism of the measure was voiced before the vote was taken, 13 votes against it were cast, most of these being by Douglas county senators.

'stmmttoinbgkqjataoibgkqtaointaoinp

Divided factions in the upper branch are mustering their forces, prepared to fight tomorrow two of Senator Cooper's measures which will come up for discussion in the judiciary committee meeting late in the afternoon. The first bill eliminates all grounds for divorce except adultery, and the second measure makes all alienation of the affections of a husband or wife a crime, punishable by a fine and prison sentence. Senator Cooper declared tonight that these measures are on tomorrow's docket of the judiciary committee. The senate adjourned until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

Creighton Debaters Leave.

The Creighton university affirmative debating team this morning left for Des Moines where they will debate the Des Moines university team tonight.

Tomorrow night they oppose Grinnell university at Grinnell. Captain Frank Fogarty, Timothy Gannon, and Francis Charvat compose the team.

The question will be: Resolved, That congress should be empowered to override by a two-thirds majority vote decisions of the supreme court declaring acts of congress unconstitutional.

Hogs Climb to High Price Level in Los Angeles

Los Angeles, Feb. 17.—Hogs today climbed to the highest price level in the history of the Los Angeles Union stockyards, when eastern grain feds were sold at $12.65 per 100 pounds. The record price, according to the United States bureau of agriculture economics, is due to scarcity of hogs, combined with the high price of corn in the middle west.

"Prison Story" Moves Police; Man in Again

By Universal Service.

Dubuque, Ia., Feb. 17.—A new confidence game in which a prison "past" was capitalized was exposed here today.

Alphonse Martel found sympathetic listeners to his story that he had just been released from prison, where he had served a long term for slaying the man who had wronged his twin sister.

The authorities, however, investigated and found that Martel had served a sentence for burglary. So he's in again.

Sharp Reaction in Stock Again

Period Is Short Lived, However, and Most Issues Regain Their Previous Losses.

New York, Feb. 17.—Speculators for the decline succeeded in bringing about another sharp reaction in today's market, but they were unable to maintain their advantage, and finally rushed to cover when strong buying support appeared. Most of the standard industrials and rails succeeded in recovering part of the ground lost in yesterday's drastic decline.

The day's sales today again ran above 2,000,000 shares. Chief interest centered in the sharp breaking of American Smelting and Refining, which dropped from $100 a share to around $92 1-5, on the announcement from San Francisco that the United States court of appeals had decided that the company had infringed the patent of George Campbell Carson, an itinerant miner, on ore smelting devices, and that his claims against that and other copper companies would reach $20,000,000. The stock rallied above $96 a share before the close, after local officials of the company had announced that an appeal would be taken and that the amount of the claims was grossly exaggerated.

Heavy buying of Baldwin Locomotive, following an earlier reaction, based on the publication of the unfavorable 1924 earnings report, started a rally in the general list. Special strength also developed in Atchison railroad, which soared six points to 124, the highest price of 15 years. United States Cast Iron Pipe, whose violent and erratic fluctuations have been one of the features of recent markets, closed eight and three-quarters points higher at 218¾, after having sold as high as 221.

Among the many popular issues to close two or more points above yesterday's final prices were Allis Chalmers, American Can, American Locomotive, American Sugar Refining, American Woolen, Crucible Steel and General Petroleum.

NEBRASKA HIGH FIVES IN TOURNEYS

Lincoln, Feb. 17.—Two county tournaments and one invitation tourney will headline a program of basket ball scheduled for this week in Nebraska interscholastic cage circles.

Basket ball teams of Saline county will meet at Crete with Crete High school, undefeated this season, favored to cop first honors. Clay county quintets will gather at Clay Center with Sutton, Clay Center and Harvard scheduled to present a warm fight for honors.

Western Nebraska teams and a scattering representation from Wyoming and South Dakota will compete in the Chadron Normal tournament at Chadron. Mitchell, Chadron, Scottsbluff and Chappell promise to be among the leading contenders.

The undefeated Hebron team will meet Geneva while Omaha Central will challenge Omaha Tech in an important contest.

Junior Dramatic Club Formed at Creighton

A junior dramatic club, fashioned after the senior organization, has been formed by dramatic students of the Creighton university.

Professor Charles Costello, sponsor of the Senior Dramatic club, will supervise the junior society, and announces that the club will present the junior play soon.

Foster M. Rigler is president of the club.

Married in Council Bluffs.

The following persons obtained marriage licenses in Council Bluffs yesterday:

Helmuth Reiss, Crete, Neb.	21
Mary Parizek, Crete, Neb.	21
Walter Hirsch, Fort Riley, Kan.	21
Ruth Herbert, Junction, Kan.	20
E. F. Harvey, Council Bluffs	36
Flossie N. O'Brien, Council Bluffs	29
Miner S. Nelson, Missouri Valley, Ia.	22
Florence G. Olsen, Loveland, Ia.	22
Fred Quickenbush, Council Bluffs	20
Ione Jewell, Council Bluffs	19
William Graves, Gretna, Neb.	23
Gladys Donahoo, Gretna, Neb.	20
James Ratay, Omaha	21
Anna Kharka, Omaha	18
P. Dohlberg, Atlantic, Ia.	26
Ellen Leuth, Atlantic, Ia.	24
Clifford Monson, Meadow Grove, Neb.	20
Floss Blair, Meadow Grove, Neb.	21
Jack Manson, Careyhurst, Wyo.	50
Effie Riley, Sabetha, Kan.	26

M. E. Smith to Be Kept for Omaha

Business Men Unite on Bid of $1,715,000; Would Keep Concern in This City.

Creditors to Decide

The continuation of M. E. Smith & Co. as a going concern was practically assured Tuesday when a group of Omaha business men, headed by A. W. Gordon and L. F. Crofoot, submitted a bid for the assets and leaseholds of the big business in the amount of $1,715,000. A deposit of $200,000 was made as a part of the bid as an evidence of good faith.

The bid was presented by John U. Loomis, trustee in bankruptcy, to B. H. Dunham, referee, and was accepted by him as a fair offer, and plans were made at once to submit the proposition to the creditors for their approval.

The group of Omaha business men, which is said to include eight of the leaders in the city's business life, have been working on the task of continuing the business for several weeks, and in all their negotiations they have worked hand in hand with the creditors.

The bid, as submitted, had been gone over by representatives of the creditors before it was offered, and it is said that more than 97 per cent of the creditors approved it in advance. At the time the bid was submitted John Bird and Allan Memhard of New York, representing most of the creditors, were present and gave their approval.

The first big hurdle thus seems to have been overcome. It is regarded by those who are taking the lead in this matter that the formal approval of the creditors is a matter of only a few days.

Ten Days for Objections.

Under the law, 10 days must be given to creditors to object, but it is expected that the plans as worked out will be supported.

The next step will be the formation of a corporation to take over the business and run it. This corporation, it is hoped, will be made up of Omaha business men who will subscribe to the capital stock.

"We have been working hard to continue this business for Omaha," said Crofoot, speaking for Gordon and his other associates. We will turn over the property to a corporation of Omaha business men, without profit to ourselves, and we feel sure that such a corporation will be in position not only to continue the business but to increase the business to the resulting betterment of Omaha as a dry goods market."

Little Difficulty Expected.

The only difficulty which might arise to prevent the consummation of the plans is some legal point which might have been overlooked. The negotiations have been handled with care, however, and it is believed that all points have been covered. The final sale of the property under the terms of the Gordon-Crofoot bid will probably be made on March 5, the date set by Referee Dunham.

There were hints that other bids might be submitted by persons representing dry goods firms in other cities, competitors of the Omaha market, but those who have handled the negotiations are of the opinion that the sentiment of the business men in Omaha is so united in support of continuing the big business that nothing will be permitted to prevent the carrying out of the plans that were launched by today's bid.

In addition to the importance of the M. E. Smith company to Omaha as a dry goods center, the failure of the plans would throw out of employment 557 men and women who are now on the pay roll of the company.

This is one of the major factors that has actuated Gordon and Crofot.

Record Freight Movement for This Season of Year

Washington, Feb. 17.—Record freight movement for this season of the year of virtually all commodities was reported tonight by the American Railway association.

The total of 928,244 cars of revenue freight loaded in the week ending February 7, the association's figures showed, was an increase of 32,180 cars above the preceding week's figure and of 22,227 cars over the number for the corresponding week of 1924.

Chemical Warfare May Be Waged Upon Mosquitos

Washington, Feb. 17.—Experiments by the chemical warfare service in exterminating mosquitoes along the shore lines of the country are under consideration by Brigadier General Fries, chief of the service.

While no appropriations have been suggested, it is the belief of officials that by development of a gas, to be distributed over swamp lands by airplanes, much could be accomplished.

Tumor Causes Death.

Shenandoah, Ia., Feb. 17.—Wayne Henderson, son of Jess Henderson of Shenandoah, died Sunday in an Omaha hospital of tumor of the brain. His father was at his bedside. A wife and a child survive. A half brother, Connell Henderson, is a student at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Wahabis at It Again.

By Jewish Telegraph Agency.

Jerusalem, Feb. 17.—Hostilities of the Wahabis against Jeddah, the last stronghold of King Ali, have been resumed, according to dispatches received here.

Oldest Spanish War Veteran Resident of Bridgeport

Bridgeport, Neb., Feb. 17.—Bridgeport claims the distiction of having as a resident the oldest active member of Roosevelt camp, Spanish-American War veterans, of Scottsbluff, with which the local veterans are affiliated. This man is Edmond Poole, 71, who served with distinction during the entire period of that war. He is also the oldest Spanish-American war veteran in the United States.

When the call for volunteers was made, he was 10 years over age, but applying for enlistment, he suffered a lapse of memory as to the date of his birth, and was accepted for service. His real age was not questioned until long after the war closed, when the War department overlooked the fact, and granted him all the privileges of the volunteer.

He intends to accompany the veterans to the district encampment at Grand Island in June and help advertise the North Platte valley by automobile caravan that will attend from here.

Ten-Day Marriage Clause Repealed in Lower House

Amendment Forcing All Couples to Undergo Examination Killed at Same Time.

The lower house debated all day on the marriage bill.

Finally a bill was passed which repeals the 10-day advance notice clause in the present marriage law and merely calls for the affidavit by contracting parties that they are free from disease.

The chief debate was over an amendment proposed by Johnson of Herman, which would have forced all couples living in the state to undergo a physical examination or give up their residence or pay a fine and be subject to imprisonment.

A number of women's clubs were behind the amendment and their representatives have lobbied in legislative halls for two weeks in an effort to get the bill passed.

The Chambers bill, calling for consolidation of the Omaha city and Douglas county governments was killed in committee today.

The debate on the marriage bill prevented a vote on the blue sky repeal which is up for third reading. It also halted consideration of the tangible tax bills which are on the house calendar.

$500,000 SAVING IN EXPRESS RATES

Lincoln, Feb. 17.—A saving of approximately $500,000 a year is estimated for Nebraska shippers under the new express rate schedule which the American Express company asked permission to file, according to Railway Commissioner Taylor. Under a recent order of the interstate commerce commission, a new interstate express rate schedule is provided for all territory west of the Mississippi, carrying a reduction of about 11 per cent.

Under the order of the interstate commission, the new rates will go into effect March 1.

Citing examples of the reductions that will be made, Mr. Taylor said that on shipments from Lincoln to Grand Island, where the rate is now $1.73 per hundred pounds, the new rate would be approximately $1.55. On shipments from Lincoln to Alliance the rate would be reduced from $2.91 to approximately $2.60, he said.

WOMAN DRUGGED AND HELD CAPTIVE

San Diego, Cal., Feb. 17.—A young woman who says she is Jessie Apple of Los Angeles was taken today to a private hospital in this city from Tia Juana, Mexico, where she is said to have been held a captive for two weeks, during which time it is charged that she was forced to sign checks for large amounts.

The young woman, according to a physician who attended her, had been drugged and otherwise mistreated. A number of bruises were found on her body, the doctor said.

Dirigible Will Carry Mail on Bermuda Trip

Washington, Feb. 17.—Weather permitting the dirigible Los Angeles will leave Lakehurst, N. J., Friday morning for Bermuda with 200 pounds of mail and carrying Assistant Secretary Robinson of the Navy department, Rear Admiral Moffett, chief of navy aeronautics and probably, a representative of the postmaster general.

The flight will be the first of a series of operations planned during the spring and early summer, to test the feasibility of employing airships of that type for commercial passenger and mail routes.

It has been estimated by both British and American naval aircraft authorities that the establishment of air routes with ships as large as the Los Angeles would result in an earning capacity which would justify operation.

The Weather

For 24 hours ending 7 p. m., February 17, 1925.

Precipitation, inches and hundredths: total, 0; total since January 1, 0.83; excess, .29.

Hourly Temperatures.

5 a. m.	20	1 p. m.	31
6 a. m.	20	2 p. m.	32
7 a. m.	20	3 p. m.	32
8 a. m.	22	4 p. m.	32
9 a. m.	25	5 p. m.	33
10 a. m.	27	6 p. m.	32
11 a. m.	28	7 p. m.	32
12 noon	32	8 p. m.	32

Earth Sinks to Close Up Cave Tomb

Hundreds Gather to Hear Services on Man Buried 70 Feet Below Hilltop Altar.

Rescuers Withdrawn

By A. H. KIRKLAND,
Universal Service Staff Correspondent.

Cave City, Ky., Feb. 17.—Floyd Collins sleeps tonight in the tomb he perhaps would have chosen, 70 feet down in Sand cave.

And there he will sleep forevermore. Nature, which has sneered and mocked at man's puny efforts to bring him forth, is taking further steps to seal his mausoleum beyond any possibility of his ever coming forth.

A great crack appeared today at the base of the cliff which overhangs the entrance to the cave. It is now six inches wide, and the ground in front of the cliff seems to be sinking. Composed of treacherous, shifting muck, even before the rescue operations were started, the underground strata which has been disturbed by the sinking of shafts and tunnels, are again seeking to adjust themselves. It is likely that it will sink until all the natural passages have been closed.

Rescue Work Abandoned.

The rescue operations were formally abandoned at 12:25 today. No extensions of the shaft or laterals were attempted this morning, and after several hours of inspection work they decided to leave Floyd's body in the cave.

"But please, say it ended in a fight and not a quit," asked H. T. Carmichael, chief of the rescue operations. "Twenty-six men would have kept on, even have given their lives, if I had said the word. But sometimes there comes a time when the end doesn't justify the means, and if it ever did, this was the time. The chances were 70 to one that further work meant the loss of other lives. It wasn't worth it just to try to raise a dead man 70 feet after we had made it possible this morning for 12 men who knew him well to see him and positively identify him. And anyone else who had the nerve to go down there could have gone in and seen him."

Gather for Final Rites.

So the friends and neighbors of Floyd Collins, his father and mother, the workmen who have fought for two weeks for his life, the soldiers who have patrolled his tomb, gathered this afternoon among the trees on the cliff over Sand cave and formally recommitted his body to the embrace of the boulders and sand below.

As Rev. C. K. Dickey, pastor of the Horse Cave and Cave City Methodist churches, bared his head and lifted up his voice in prayer. A thousand other hats were doffed and heads bowed.

"Oh Thou Eternal and Almighty God," he began, in a pitch that carried to the farthest fringe of the crowd, "Into Thy presence do we come on this precipice in the midst of death. We gather here with sad hearts because of the death of our brother who is gone. Thou hast not seen fit to release him from the tomb below.

Two Brothers Absent.

"Bless all who have labored here in his behalf. Bless those of the Red Cross, the men of the army, the newspaper reporters, and all of us. May this tragedy teach us of the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death, and grant that we may see that it is born unto every man to die."

Lee Collins, father of the dead "caver" turned toward his wife, as she pressed a handkerchief to her eyes. They sat just in front of the preacher, who stood on the stump of a tree cut down to furnish logs for the shaft operations. Next to them sat Andrew Collins, Floyd's uncle, and next to him were two vacant chairs. Homer and Marshall Collins, Floyd's brothers, were not there. A choir of 30 women from the churches of Cave City swept softly into the familiar strains of "Nearer, My God, to Thee." When the hymn was over Rev. Roy H. Biser, pastor of the Christian church of Glasgow, mounted the stump.

Story One of Life.

"This is an unusual occasion, perhaps unparalleled in the history of our state and nation," he said. "In none other that I can recall have ever been commingled the prayers and the interest of the whole nation in the work of rescue. When we ask why all this interest, we find the answer in that the story of Floyd Collins is

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Summary of the Day in Washington

The senate commerce committee approved the rivers and harbors bill.

A house committee began an investigation of the national disabled soldiers' league.

Night sessions were held by both senate and house agricultural committees on farm legislation.

A general denial of a federal trade commission complaint was filed by the Michigan Sugar company.

Brigadier General Mitchell testified further before a house committee on the aircraft controversy.

The Navy department informed the State department that the American ship scrapping program had been carried out as prescribed by treaty.

A favorable report was ordered by the senate agricultural committee on the nomination of William M. Jardine to be secretary of agriculture.