

FARM LAND Advertisers in The Bee is the very essence of productiveness.

VOL. XLIII—NO. 254.

OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 20, 1914.—TWELVE PAGES.

On Trains and at Hotel News Stands, 5c

SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

FIZZLED BOMB HAS CITY HALL ALL IN A BLAZE

Exposure by The Bee of Plot to Trap City and County Officials Creates Sensation.

DAHLMAN READS HIS REPORT

Shows Up Phoney Deal for Heating the City Hall.

HIS MESSAGE FAIRLY SIZZLES

Mayor Does Not Mince Words in Any Particular.

DIRECTS AIM AT MR. POLCAR

Calls on Editor of the News to Produce His Burns Detective.

WOLFE WAS GIVEN WARNING

Tells How He Helped Hansen to Spend Some of His Bank Roll When Latter Was Trying to Bribe Him.

The exposure by The Bee of the plot to trap members of the city council and county board in a bribery trap set by Editor Polcar of the Daily News, and operated by a plant of Burns detectives, has been followed thick and fast by sensational developments.

At the city council meeting Tuesday Mayor Dahlman read his report on the phoney proposal to install a new heating plant in the city hall, which was to have been the basis of the gigantic corruption scheme.

The mayor said he had already had a warrant sworn out for the arrest of Hansen, the principal agent of the alleged conspirators, who had, however, slipped the town, and he called upon Polcar to produce the missing Burns detective.

The document is the most sizzling official paper that was ever filed in the city hall archives.

Consider Report Monday. At the mayor's suggestion his report was referred to the committee of the whole meeting Monday, where it will be publicly discussed and "Polcar will have a chance to prove these charges false if he wants to take advantage of the fact that Mayor Dahlman invited any one else, who may have the impression that he is "four-flushing," to appear at the council meeting Monday and "fight him face to face."

The mayor had not put all of the city commissioners "wise" to Hansen, but when he read his statement to the council they recalled him as the "man with the big roll," who had flashed the roll on divers occasions and had bought drinks for the crowd.

It developed that Boiler Inspector Wolfe had several conferences with Hansen and had found him "overly solicitous." The mayor finally told Wolfe who the detective was and advised him to "watch out."

Questioned by a Bee reporter, Wolfe at first refused to say anything, but pressed for a statement, said: "I became suspicious of Hansen because he was overly solicitous. All I want to say, however, is that the mayor's statement is accurate in every respect and covers the situation."

Continuing, Wolfe said: "I had seen Hansen big bank roll and so one day when I met him on Farnam street we went into the Lentz & Williams' saloon and he bought the drinks. "He then told me that the city hall boiler contract was worth \$5,000 to him. He said he would pay that amount to get it. I told him— "Here Wolfe declared again he did not want to go into details, but finally he said: "I told him I'd like to see the color of

(Continued on Page Five.)

TRUMPH FOR CONDUCTORS

Mendelssohn Choir and Symphony Orchestra in Great Concert.

EVENT DRAWS OUT THOUSANDS

Great Throng Assembles at Auditorium and Gives its Unmitigated Approval to Splendid Program Presented.

Again comes the climax of a year in Omaha. Monday night opened the season of the Mendelssohn Choir and Symphony Orchestra, and the people flocked in association with the symphony orchestra, and the people flocked in association with the symphony orchestra, and the people flocked in association with the symphony orchestra.

It was in some ways the most important of all the series of concerts in which these two great musical organizations have co-operated. Mr. Kelly has felt it to be the crucial time for the chorus of which he is the inspiring leader, and with the purpose of putting it to the test, he devoted his share of the program almost wholly to unaccompanied choral music.

Not for the purpose of minimizing the importance of the orchestra, but that the wonderful possibilities of the separate organizations from a musical point of view might be thrown into even higher relief.

Choir Proves Its Worth. That he accomplished his object is easily stated; it is not needed here to say that Ferdinand Stock wields his baton over an orchestra that is the peer of any in America; that fact has been demonstrated many times, and the popularity of the Chicago Symphony orchestra, nor its musical efficiency, has suffered nothing by reason of the change in its official title.

But it may have seemed necessary to prove beyond any chance of cavil that the Mendelssohn Choir of Omaha is entitled to the eminence claimed for it by its supporters.

So, it was with keen expectations that those who heard the choir a year ago awaited the program of last evening. Memories of the magnificent effects achieved by the choir alone last year, the majesty of "Judge Me, O God," and the inspirational grandeur of the "Sanctus" in the Verdi mass, still lingered lively and stirred the imagination in anticipation of even more beautiful tones.

Program Unusually Good. And Mr. Kelly seemed to have had just this situation in mind, for he had prepared another of his exceptional programs, and into its presentation he put the utmost of his remarkable artistry, ending his singers with their leader's zealous determination to excel, producing such effect as justifies all the commendation that has yet been bestowed upon the Mendelssohn Choir of Omaha and its conductor, and more firmly than ever establishes it as a standard organization of which any city might well be proud.

The scene was an inspiring one; the Auditorium had been effectively dressed for the event, and the picture shown was one in itself to bring forth applause. Under the great sounding board on the stage sat the big choir, massed as heretofore in most effective groupings, while the orchestra deployed below the stage proper. This was the background for the harmonies of the evening, while boxes and arena and galleries were all filled with thousands, gathered for the purpose of enjoying the acknowledged premier event of the year locally. Omaha has been surely developing such musical appreciation as makes it possible for the assembling of an audience that in its master might be proud to please, and such an audience was present last night. Its applause was spontaneous, enthusiastic and deserved. No opening concert of all the years of this event has been more conspicuous, no program ever more enjoyable, nor any given with more of skill, musical taste or delightful effect.

This afternoon the orchestra will present one of its splendid programs, with a Wagner overture, a Brahms symphony, a Spanish symphony for violin and orchestra, by Lalo, with Mr. Henry Weisbach as soloist, and a rondo by Dukas. For the evening performance the choir

(Continued on Page Two.)

MELLEN MADE "GOAT" FOR MORGAN DEAL FOR WESTCHESTER

Former New Haven Chief Goes Into Detail as to Relations with Great Financier.

IN TREMENDOUS FEAR OF HIM

In Greater Awe of Money King Than of Anybody He Ever Knew.

HUMILIATED BY BRUSQUENESS

President Says Magnate Made Westchester Road Deal.

REFUSED TO TELL HIM FACTS

Road Which Cost New Haven Eleven Millions Worth About Five Millions—All Directors Afraid of Morgan.

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Charles S. Mellen today resumed the remarkable story he is unfolding before the Interstate Commerce commission concerning the vast and complicated financial operations of the New Haven railroad and its various subsidiaries.

Chief Counsel Folk for the commission, developed the dominant part taken in the transactions by prominent figures of the board of directors of the New Haven road, and more particularly the late J. Pierpont Morgan and William Rockefeller.

Mr. Mellen told in detail of his relations and his differences with Mr. Morgan. He also went fully into the acquisition of the New York, West Chester & Boston road by the New Haven. This brought out further references to the part taken by the late Police Inspector Thomas F. Byrne of New York, who Mellen testified, operated "through the people on Fourteenth street, where you know Tammany hall is located."

Mr. Mellen when questioned about differences with Mr. Morgan regarding the West Chester deal, retailed a conversation with the late financier which he had had greatly "humiliated" him.

"Were you afraid of Mr. Morgan?" Mr. Folk asked. "You might call it cowardice," Mr. Mellen answered. "I held Mr. Morgan in more awe than any other man I ever knew."

Mr. Mellen answered the rapid fire of questions with readiness and seeming composure and frequently evoked laughter by some sally. He was still under examination when the noon recess was taken.

Morgan Makes the Deal. Mr. Mellen said he laid the proposition for the purchase of the Westchester road before the board and Mr. Morgan moved that a committee look into the matter.

Mr. Mellen named Messrs. Morgan, Rockefeller and Miller as the committee. He, himself, was a member ex-officio. Mr. Mellen said that when the committee reported a year later that the sum of \$11,000,000 had been expended, he found fault with the report, as not being sufficiently in detail.

"I saw Mr. Morgan," he said, "and told him all details of the matter should have been set down and the report should have told how each separate sum was spent. Mr. Morgan was very abrupt in his answer to me. He was disturbed at that time, as it was during the panic, and I left his office feeling much humiliated."

"I thought," continued Mr. Mellen, "that I was entitled to know more about the transaction than I did know. I thought I was entitled to know why we were paying \$11,000,000 for a great big basketful of stuff that we did not know the value of. "I never did know what the real motive for the deal was. I tried to find out and failed. I do not mean to convey the idea that anybody got away with money he was not entitled to."

Humiliated by Morgan. Mr. Mellen explained that in an effort to obtain from Mr. Morgan information

(Continued on Page Two.)

"The Sleuths," as Painted by the Mayor



Drawn for The Bee by Powell.

BECKER DEFENSE OUTLINED

His Attorneys Say They Will Prove Jack Rose Lied.

CALLS IT GAMBLERS' WAR

They Say Rose Was Acting on His Own Initiative When He Told Gunmen that He Represented Becker.

NEW YORK, May 19.—The defense launched its case today at the trial of Charles Becker, former police lieutenant, for the murder of the gambler, Herman Rosenthal, and called as its first witness Jacob Deitch, alias Jack Sullivan, "King of the Newsboys." Whether Becker will take the stand was still undecided today.

Rosenthal died in a gamblers' war at the hands of the four gunmen put to death for the crime, according to the contention of Martin T. Manton, chief counsel for the defense, in his opening address.

Upon the opening of court the defense made a motion to dismiss the indictment against Becker on the ground of insufficient evidence. The motion was denied.

Mr. Manton then began his opening address. He said it was conceded Rosenthal had been murdered, and that four gunmen had murdered him. He intended to prove, however, that Jack Rose was Becker's "stool pigeon," and that Rosenthal was murdered in a gamblers' war, because Rose or some other person was afraid of Rosenthal.

Manton said it was probably true Rose visited "Lefty Louis" and the other gunmen and urged them to kill Rosenthal, telling them Becker wanted them to do so. "But," said Manton, "it doesn't follow that he told the truth to the gunmen. As a matter of fact, Rose was acting entirely on his own initiative. I will

(Continued on Page Two.)

The National Capital

Tuesday, May 19, 1914.

The Senate.

Debate resumed on Panama toll exemption bill.

The House.

Rules committee agreed on total of thirty-two hours general debate on the anti-trust program with night sessions and the meeting hour advanced to 11 a. m.

Debate began on anti-trust program. Judiciary committee continued hearing on project for national censorship of moving picture films.

Two Children Burned to Death at Garner. MASON CITY, Ia., May 19.—(Special Telegram.)—Two children lost their lives last night at Garner, Ia., in the second catastrophe of the kind to occur there recently, when the Scholls home burned to the ground. Mrs. Selkell, grandmother of the two little girls, Marie and Jennie, escaped, and another child, a boy, was not in the house, having gone to a motion picture show with other children.

The mother of the children had gone into the country to work, leaving the little ones with the grandmother. The aged woman became excited and was unable to get the children out.

MARINES LANDED TO PROTECT PRINCE WILLIAM. DCRAZZO, Albania, May 19.—A mixed force of Marines from the international fleet was landed here today for the protection of Prince William of Albania, who accepted the rulership of the country on February 21.

ROOSEVELT REACHES PORT

Jungle Explorer Arrives at New York Finched and Lean.

WILL NOT RUN FOR GOVERNOR

Has Not Been Asked and Won't Be Candidate Anyway—Says He Was Misquoted, Concerning Politics.

NEW YORK, May 19.—The steamship Alden, decorated from stem to stern, and bringing Theodore Roosevelt from Brazil, reached quarantine at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, after a voyage lasting twelve days.

About the time the vessel reached Sandy Hook, a tug left the city carrying Mrs. Roosevelt and other members of the family, to meet the colonel at quarantine. He has been away from home more than seven months.

Because of Mr. Roosevelt's illness resulting from the privations he underwent in the Brazilian wilds there was no ceremony at his home coming.

Takes on Pilot. The Alden reached Sandy Hook shortly after 2 o'clock and took on a pilot. Only one message was received from the Alden by wireless today. This said that Mr. Roosevelt's health was greatly improved and that he hoped to address the National Geographic society in Washington next week. This would seem to indicate that he had almost completely recovered.

Those who went down the bay to meet the colonel were Mrs. Roosevelt, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Richard Darby, his son-in-law and daughter, and W. Ellen Roosevelt, a cousin.

(Continued on Page Two.)

VILLA PUTS FEDERAL FORCE OF THOUSANDS TO ROUT AT PAREDON

Rebel Chieflain Reported to Have Defeated Army of 5,000 with Heavy Losses.

EIGHT HUNDRED MEN CAPTURED

Machine Guns, 600,000 Rounds of Ammunition Part of Booty.

MANY KILLED AND WOUNDED

Two Huerta Generals Said to Be Among Those Slain.

DATE OF BATTLE NOT GIVEN

Government Forces Have Evacuated Panuco, Acordign to Reports Reaching Washington—Horses Returned.

EL PASO, May 19.—General Francisco Villa has defeated a federal force of 5,000 men at Paredon, according to a messenger received here late today from General Fabala, acting minister of foreign relations in Carranza's cabinet. The date of the engagement was not given.

According to the message, the federalists suffered a severe loss in killed and wounded and it was said two federal generals were among those killed. The message stated General Villa had captured 800 prisoners, several machine guns, 600,000 rounds of ammunition and a large quantity of military supplies.

Gain Position. JUAAREZ, May 19.—The constitutionalist troops under General Alberto Carrera Torres have gained a position in the outskirts of San Luis Potosi and have dealt the federal garrison a severe blow, according to a message received at the constitutionalist information bureau here today from Espinosa Minerios, private secretary to General Carranza.

Horses of Parks Returned. VERA CRUZ, May 19.—The two horses belonging to Lieutenant Colonel Elmore P. Taggart, which were taken into the Mexican lines by Private Samuel Parks when the soldier, who was said to be demoted, disappeared, were returned today to the American military authorities by order of the Mexican commander.

Skirmishing at Saltillo. MEXICO CITY, May 19.—General Blanquet, minister of war, said today that no great battle had yet been begun in Saltillo, 80 far there have only been skirmishes between the vanguards.

The government is rushing war material and soldiers into Saltillo, having left San Luis Potosi two days before. The forces of General Zotaya, which has been operating on the San Luis Potosi and Tampico lines, have been concentrated in San Luis Potosi.

General Emilio Campa arrived last night from Saltillo and reported all well there.

The resignation of Jose Maria Lozano, minister of communications and public works, has caused much speculation in political circles. However, it is said to have no great political significance.

The minister of the interior visited Lomas yesterday and thanked him in the name of the president for his services.

ROCKEFELLER EMPLOYS FOUR MORE GUARDS

NEW YORK, May 19.—In addition to doubling his guards from four to eight, John D. Rockefeller has had installed about the grounds of his Pocantico Hills estate a system of electric lights, which he can flash by pressing a button at the head of his bed.

Before demonstrations by the Industrial Workers of the World at the downtown offices of the Standard Oil company and the threats they would visit his estate, Mr. Rockefeller was content with four guards.

A similar system is being installed at the home of John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Mayor Dahlman Lays Bare Big Bribery Plot and Calls Out Names

CITY OF OMAHA, Executive Office. To the Honorable, the City Council of the City of Omaha: I herewith return Document No. 1298, referred to my department on March 13, 1914, together with an interesting history of what transpired in connection with the proposed heating plant.

On February 27, 1914, I received a letter from Armbruster & Farrell, Engineers and Contractors, Chicago, Illinois, notifying me that one T. G. Hansen, their representative, would call on me in a few days relative to the heating plant we were figuring on installing, which is attached. However, I submit a letter from Armbruster & Farrell dated May 14th, denying of ever writing any such letter, showing conclusively that the letter of February 25th was a forgery. I had previously learned, though, that Armbruster & Farrell denied ever giving such a letter. This letter simply confirms their first statement.

Mr. Hansen arrived in the city a few days later, but did not call on me until April 3, 1914, and then only for a few moments, but at once began to cultivate the acquaintance of Mr. Wolfe, Boiler Inspector, Mr. Fitt and Mr. Grace, both in that department. Thinking it strange that Mr. Hansen would remain in the city as he did, and hearing that he was with Mr. Wolfe a great deal, who was preparing these specifications, I began an investigation which extended over some seven weeks, and this accounts for my not reporting sooner.

These tactics disclose some of the low-down, dishonest, contemptible, underhanded methods certain crooked individuals will stoop to in order to gain a political advantage, that they have been unable to gain for eight years, for the reason that the people of this city knew their only reason was to get control of the city government, and plunder the treasury.

On investigation I found that this man Hansen and three others working with him, were Burns' detectives employed by the Daily News of this city. They were then shadowed and it

was interesting to receive reports as to their movements. The cunning of the fox was shown in the way they held their meetings. Joe Polcar of the Daily News, who was directing the conspiracy, would sneak into the meeting place, where his lying tongue was giving directions. No burglar could hold a candle to Joe Polcar in these cunning maneuvers. These detectives did not have the nerve to approach any of the city commissioners, but they worked on these subordinates, hoping through bribing them these specifications would be adopted, and that the contract would be awarded to their bidder. It would have made no difference to them whether a councilman voted for their bidder innocently or not, if they secured the contract, hoping thereby to turn their batteries of publicity upon and destroy this administration, blacken the lives of these commissioners and that of their families for all time.

The Daily News spent about \$20,000 for this work. Hansen offered Mr. Wolfe \$5,000 to get the contract through the council, and I had a warrant issued for him for attempted bribery, but it was tipped off and he flew before we had a chance to arrest him. That warrant is now in the hands of the officers. Let Mr. Joe Polcar of the News produce his hireling, Mr. Hansen, and I will not only attempt to send Hansen to the penitentiary, but I will attempt to send Polcar and the editor in chief of the Daily News, who lives in Minneapolis, as well, and I might include Mr. Burns, as he was here several times. I have got the facts on these fellows. My fight is in the open and I dare them to produce Hansen. They owe it to the people of this community to show that my charges are false, or they stand convicted. They have conspired to bribe and corrupt city officials. This is a felony in our state. They must prove my charges false, or, if I am not mistaken in the temper of the people of this city, who believe in fair play, will drive them out of this community. After four months' effort on the part of the detectives here,

with all the money and cunning they were able to command, they did not even dare to approach me or any members of the commission and I accept the compliment.

The editor of the News knew full well, before he hired these detectives, that every member of the commission was beyond and above the reach of the bribe-giver, and the written reports of his character assassins will show this fact, but the conspiracy was to impute the corrupt act of a subordinate to an innocent public official.

I am submitting a photograph taken of Mr. Hansen while here and who skipped between two suns; also clippings from State of Georgia showing some of the desperate work of this gang. This, with my communication, will be a splendid document to be filed away in the vaults of our city, where future generations may be able to read about these hypocritical scoundrels whom the present city administration had to contend with.

I have a detective agency in Chicago working on this case, and I hope to be able to bring all of them before the bar of justice. These men and such editors as conduct sheets like the Daily News cannot understand that some men in public life are honest. They are so accustomed to plundering and deceiving the people day after day that their very soul is saturated with corruption.

I recommend that these specifications be placed on file, and that another set of plans and specifications to be introduced by Mr. Withnell be adopted and bids asked for, and when those bids are received the council can act intelligently as to which proposition is best, the offer of the Bee Building Company or the city install its own plant.

James Dahlman Mayor.

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Wednesday. For Omaha, Council Bluffs and vicinity. Mostly cloudy; possible showers; not much change in temperature.

Table with columns: Hours, Temperature, Wind, etc. for Omaha yesterday.

Table with columns: Date, High, Low, Precipitation, etc. for comparative local record.