## SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR PLAY

**Plan to Convert Them to Use as Neighborhood Playgrounds.**

**BOARD COMMITTEE IN FAVOR**

**Monmouth Park Club is to Be the First to Try Out the Scheme—Experts to Be Put in Charge.**

The conversion of public school grounds to the purposes of neighborhood playgrounds for public use during evenings is a question now before the building and grounds committee of the Board of Education and will probably be decided at today's meeting of that committee. Application has been made by the Monmouth Park Improvement club for permission to use the Monmouth Park grounds during the evenings as a public playground, the club offering to [illegible] apparatus and improvements, light the grounds and provide a supervisor.

"Our committee will undoubtedly favor such a plan, under proper supervision," said Chairman E. J. Streits of the building and grounds committee of the School board. "The scheme will furnish a fine playground for all children of the neighborhood and will keep boys and girls off the streets and away from bad influences.

**At Small Expense.**

"I believe that the general adoption of such a playground policy throughout the city would be a good thing for Omaha, providing ample playground facilities without great expense and assuring children a safe place to play near their homes, instead of having to pay car fare to a central playground, or else be unable to enjoy its privileges."

S. C. Jennings, 330 Taylor street, is chairman of the club's committee which has taken up the matter with the board. J. B. McLean, 3185 Meredith avenue, another member of the club, expects to interest the National Playgrounds association in the local project and secure part of the necessary funds from it for the installation of apparatus and equipment. He is now in charge of a gymnasium class of over 100 boys, which is maintained by the extension department of the Young Men's Christian association and holds semi-weekly session in the basement of Monmouth park school building. If the school grounds are granted for playgrounds purposes, the boys in the class will be among those who will use them this summer.

## State Engineer Price Seeking Delegation to National Meeting

Donald D. Price of Lincoln, state engineer and member of the national executive committee for Nebraska, has been appointed a special committee of one to secure a strong delegation from this state to the fourth annual meeting of the National Drainage congress, which will be held at Savannah, Ga., April 22-25, inclusive.

Mr. Price has been interested in the drainage congress since a short time after its organization in Chicago in December, 1911, at the time of the meeting of the Nineteenth National Irrigation congress, when it was decided that the two problems of irrigation and drainage were too widespread to be adequately taken care of by a single organization.

The state of Nebraska is vitally concerned with the success of the National Drainage congress. Large areas of the state are subject to periodic and disastrous floods in the valleys of the Missouri, Platte, Republican, Niobrara and others rivers, and the proper control of these rivers would not only prevent this loss, but would develop water power and provide larger irrigation districts. There are in the state 512,000 acres of swamp and overflowed lands which can be reclaimed and turned into valuable farms that would produce at least $10,000,000 worth of crops a year. In addition, the general health of the state would be improved by these works, and Nebraska would also profit by the improvement in the general health and business of the entire country.

## Visiting Stockmen Are Wined and Dined by South Omaha Firm

Charles Esher of the firm of Esher & Ryan, South Omaha stockmen, gave a banquet at the Her Grand hotel Wednesday night for some 200 stockmen who are in Omaha this week. The stockmen who were at the banquet represent the entire territory adjacent to this city, some of them coming from as far off as Illinois and South Dakota.

Several speakers made up the program. Charles Gray acted as toastmaster. T. A. Donohoe made the address of welcome to the stockmen, as Mayor Dahlman, who was scheduled to speak, was unavoidably absent. Prof. Pew of the Ames Agricultural college spoke on the "Social Advantages of Public Auctions," and J. M. Cash made a talk advising that the boys be kept on the farm. Other speakers were Sears McHenry, J. H. Davis, Herman Oswald, M. R. Stuart, M. T. White, C. J. Martin and Rev. J. C. White. A song by Fred Roberts culminated the program.

## SMALLPOX PATIENT FOUND ON STREET CAR

Assistant Health Commissioner T. D. Boler detected a case of smallpox on a crowded street car on North Twenty-fourth street Wednesday night. Dr. Boler saw the man in the car, asked him to submit to an examination, and finding he had a well developed case of smallpox ordered him home. The man roomed at 2308 Ames avenue.

## T. W. LOCKE BROUHT BACK ON CHARGE OF FORGERY

T. W. Locke, wanted here for the forgery of a $10 check on the A. E. Underland Barber Supply house, has been brought back from Benton, Ill., where he was arrested about a week ago. Sergeant Vaneus of the local force guarded Locke to Omaha. He will be arraigned this morning.



## Will Ask that the Indictments Against Matters Be Quashed

Counsel for T. H. Matters, prominent Omaha attorney and real estate broker, who was indicted in connection with the failure of the First National bank of Sutton, will file a motion to quash the indictments against Mr. Matters.

Judge Thomas C. Munger will hear the arguments on the motion to quash at Hastings April 6, the date set for the hearing, and take such further action in the case as may be occasioned at the time. The date of the trial in the United States district court has not been fixed and unless attorneys for the defense succeed in their attempt to have the trial removed from the Hastings division of the United States district court, it is likely that the trial of the case will be at Hastings.

## Dietz May Sue to Test Validity of the Water District Law

If the Water board carries out its plan to have six acres of the Gould Dietz farm, Forty-second and Grover streets, condemned for a reservoir site a suit to test the metropolitan water district law will be instituted by Dietz.

Dietz refused to sell the land for a reservoir site for less than $1,500 an acre. Fire insurance inspectors urged the construction of a reservoir in the southwestern part of the city and the Dietz land was chosen as a proper place.

Although Dietz is now in Australia he has given the Water board to understand that as soon as condemnation proceedings are started he will bring suit to test the law under which the Water board operates.

## SHIPPERS UP AGAINST IT

**Omaha Apple Dealers Must Pay License to Sell in North Dakota.**

**TARIFF WALL HINDERS THEM**

**Nebraskans and Others Obliged to Pay Twenty-Five Dollars Per Car Importation When They Cross Into Sister State.**

Is a protective tariff possible between states of the United States? The constitution of the United States says no. That same constitution said nothing against interstate protective tariffs that might go by the name of "licenses."

The result is that when Omaha dealers and many farmers from the apple growing section of the state tried to ship apples to North Dakota, where the price was better than at home, they were confronted by a wall—no, not a tariff wall—a "license" wall. When they crossed the North Dakota line with a carload of apples they were compelled by the government of North Dakota to pay a license of $25 per car to sell apples in that state.

They protested that interstate tariff charges are prohibited by the federal constitution. They were told that this was not a tariff, but a license charge. They scratched their heads long and hard to determine whether there is really any difference so far as the net result is concerned, whether the tariff is called a tariff or a license. Inquiry brought out the facts that the retail grocers and other dealers in North Dakota had railroaded this license bill through the North Dakota legislature, so that they might have no outside competition in the sale of apples to the people of that state.

The situation then is that an inhabitant of North Dakota, a state that can scarcely raise a single apple even under the most careful cultivation, cannot get apples from states where they are raised unless he gets them through his local apple dealer.

Nebraskans immediately talked of going into the courts to determine the constitutionality of the act. They learned that some one had preceded them and that the case is pending in the courts. In the meantime some of them paid the license charges and got over the line.

Others, more shrewd, stopped their car of apples just this side of the North Dakota line and had the customers come over to buy.

## DR. WISE MARVELS AT OMAHA'S MARKED PROGRESS

"To say that I am delighted with the marked progress of Omaha since my last visit here some years ago is a mild way of expressing it," remarked Dr. Wise of New York City while renewing acquaintances at the Nebraska Clothing store yesterday. "I am particularly pleased with the many improvements. Your new buildings are a credit to the city."

Speaking of the notable improvements that have been made in the Nebraska Clothing company store, Dr. Wise said: "This store compares very favorably with many of our largest eastern stores. Years ago I remember the Nebraska was a household word, and now the younger generation is at the helm carrying forward the commendable policies that made the old store justly famous."

## BOOTBLACK PARLORS TO CLOSE SUNDAY AFTERNOON

In the interest of the bootblacks of the city Mayor Dahlman introduced an ordinance at a meeting of the city commission which prohibits shoe shining on Sunday afternoons and evenings. The ordinance orders the shine shops to close at 1 o'clock in the afternoon and not to open again that day. Several bootblacks and managers of shoe shining parlors conferred with the mayor and said the ordinance would meet with approval.

## OMAHA MARKET IS GROWING

**Big Increase Shown Both in Receipts and Shipments of Grain.**

**BIG GAIN OVER LAST YEAR**

**Corn Shows the Best Figures, with 3,753 Carload Receipts, as Against 1,051 for March of Last Year.**

Omaha grain receipts and shipments show a wonderful increase during March as compared with the corresponding month of one year ago. The greatest increase in receipts was in corn. In this cereal the receipts during March of this year were 3,733 carloads, against 1,051 during the same month of one year ago.

The following table shows the receipts and shipments of all grain during March, this year. Everything is on a carlot basis:

| | In. | Out. |
|---|---|---|
| Wheat | 631 | 603 |
| Corn | 3,733 | 4,029 |
| Oats | 1,047 | 1,259 |
| Rye | 4 | 6 |
| Barley | 16 | 0 |
| Totals | 5,431 | 5,897 |

Receipts and shipments during March, 1913:

| | In. | Out. |
|---|---|---|
| Wheat | 571 | 694 |
| Corn | 1,051 | 1,379 |
| Oats | 632 | 742 |
| Rye | 8 | 6 |
| Barley | 37 | 8 |
| Totals | 2,293 | 2,799 |

This is a gain of 3,138 carloads in receipts and 3,099 in shipments, the largest gain during any one corresponding month in the history of the market.



## Eastern Railroads Will Close Branch Offices as Economy

Railroad men hear that the next move of the eastern lines in the matter of retrenchment will be to do away with branch offices and branch agencies that are scattered throughout the country, principally in the large cities.

Nearly all the eastern lines, both weak and strong, maintain offices here, some of them having general agents, traveling agents, clerks and stenographers, their expenses running from $500 to $1,000 per month. For years it has been the custom to maintain such offices, and in this connection, railroad men assert that as a rule the offices do not bring as much new business as their maintenance costs. They contend that as a rule, that if the business was unsolicited, it would take practically the same routing as it does now. Some of the railroad men go even farther than this and assert that some of the roads maintaining offices in Omaha and other cities of a similar class, pay more than $1 for every dollar's worth of business secured by the agencies.