

BRIEF CITY NEWS

Barophagus. Lightning Pictures, Burgess-Grandes Co. Have Book Print 25—Now Bacon Press. Fidelity Storage & Van Co.—Doug. 1212 Yarn Rooms, 5% and 5 1/2%; city loans, 5 1/2% and 6%. Municipal and corporation bonds. UNITED STATES TRUST CO., 212 So. 17th St.

Guest Taylor Back—Cadet Taylor, collector of customs for the district of Omaha, has returned from California, where he spent the month of August with his son on the latter's ranch just outside of Los Angeles.

Charities in New Offices—The offices of the Associated Charities at the city hall will be moved this week to Jacobs hall and the Visiting Nurse association will make its offices at the city hall in the rooms vacated by the charities.

Kleffner a Delegate—George J. Kleffner, assistant superintendent of mails at the Omaha postoffice, has been elected a delegate to the National Association of Supervisory Postoffice Employees. The convention will be held in Toledo September 15 to 17, inclusive.

Arrested for Not Paying Tax—Mrs. Peter Columbus, arrested last winter by government officers for the alleged sale of liquor without a government license and who was released on her promise to pay the tax, was rearrested yesterday for failure to do so. She was released on \$1,000 bonds.

Back from Vacation—Rev. John William Jones, city missionary superintendent of the Episcopal church, has returned from St. Louis, where he has been spending his vacation by taking charge of the Holy Communion parish. He will preach at St. Paul's church Sunday morning.

New Retail Shoe Shop—The latest acquisition to Omaha's rapidly expanding retail business is a shoe shop, under the management of Otto Glick of Chicago. The new store is located at room 202, Woodmen of the World building and will sell only popular priced lines of footwear. Mr. Glick formerly conducted a similar shop in the Masonic Temple in Chicago.

Sum in Marriage Licenses—September brides in Omaha, in point of number, bid fair to rival June brides, according to the marriage licenses issued at the city hall. On both the second and third days of the month twenty licenses were issued. Last June was a record month for brides, but on no day of that month was this number surpassed by more than three or four.

Telephone Girls Return—The eleven telephone girls of the Nebraska Telephone company that went to St. Louis some weeks ago to work in place of some of the strikers on the switchboards there, have all returned to Omaha. The strike there is all settled and adjusted, now with girls formerly employed there having the privilege to go back to work as fast as the company needs them. The Omaha girls say they had a "dandy" time in St. Louis and regard it more as an outing than as a period of hard work.

Passenger Men Gather—En route to the national convention of railroad passenger men to be held in Minneapolis next week, general and assistant agents of the Union Pacific from the west are expected to gather in Omaha Saturday for a family meeting. Either Saturday night or Sunday morning, in a special car over the Northwestern, they will go on to Minneapolis. The meeting here will be informal and will be presided over by Passenger Traffic Manager Fort, who is now in Chicago but who will be home the last of the week.

Real Fish Story—Commercial Agent Hennessey of the Rock Island is back from an outing at Walker, Minn., where he spent two weeks fishing in Leech lake. While he did not shatter the Minnesota game laws, according to the tales told by Mr. Hennessey he landed the largest muskie ever taken from the lake with tackle. With him Mr. Hennessey brings an affidavit instead of the fish. The Hennessey muskie, according to the affidavit, weighed forty-nine pounds and measured five feet eight inches. Mr. Hennessey played the fish four hours before he could bring it within safe distance of the boat.

Burlington Men to Look Over New Work to West of Omaha

Burlington officials are laying their plans for an extended trip over the lines west of the Missouri river. When the trip is completed, it is expected that something definite will be known as to when the line from Casper, east to Orin Junction will be completed and when work will begin on the construction of the proposed line from Orin Junction to Orin Junction. These extensions are a part of the Burlington plans to put Omaha on the short line between Chicago and Seattle.

C. G. Burnham, Burlington vice president in charge of traffic, is now in the city and H. E. Byram, vice president in charge of operation, will arrive Saturday, and together with General Manager Holdrege, they will go out on the trip that will cover all of the Wyoming lines and most of those in Nebraska.

Relative to what would be done and what would be recommended, Vice President Burnham said that he could not express an opinion until after he had looked over the ground with his assistants. However, he expressed the opinion that there would be no delay in the completion of the gap between Casper and Orin Junction, as the money for construction had been appropriated and set aside for this particular work.

WORKMEN BUILDING AT STATE FAIR ATTRACTS ATTENTION

One of the places that is the center of attraction at the state fair at Lincoln is the Ancient Order of United Workmen building. A constant stream of people passes through the building. It is prominently located, suitable chairs and restees are provided for, plenty of ice water for the thirsty, and has every modern convenience. Among the officers present are Grand Master Workman A. M. Walling, Grand Recorder F. C. Whittless and the three members of the finance committee, composed of Judge Joseph Oberfelder, Sidney J. Ben nett, Omaha and Nicholas Resa, Lincoln.

Each visitor is presented with a suitable souvenir. The Ancient Order of United Workmen is nearly 60,000 strong in Nebraska, with a reserve fund of \$400,000 invested in Nebraska securities.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS Assistant Freight Traffic Manager Spens of the Burlington, is in the city from Chicago, having come over to look after some cases on before the state railway commission.

Persistent Advertising is the Road to Big Returns.

Two Water Works Reports Dissected by an Expert

There have been two reports issued during the last month relating to our water supply; one by the general manager of the Metropolitan Water District and the other by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. The criticisms made by the latter report are serious, for, while most diplomatically worded, they authoritatively detail conditions which must be remedied in order to expect or to be able to demand lower insurance rates, or to be immune to an extraordinary fire risk for the community.

Report No. 63, National Board of Fire Underwriters, says essentially: "Capacity of pumps on high service is inadequate." "Main arteries are of sufficient capacity; secondary feeders inadequate in outlying sections."

"Thought that 65 per cent of total is used in city of Omaha." "Over 80 per cent of service connections metered and about 10,000 set past year; 210 connections are 3 inches and larger. Pressure at fire hydrants in downtown or low service districts same as in 1907, but in high service districts the pressure averaged only 64 pounds, a decrease of 10 pounds since 1907."

"Pressures are well maintained at pumping stations and satisfactory in high value districts, but are greatly reduced during periods of heavy draft in the higher part of city." Thus indicating that the new 48-inch main provided successfully for increased total of consumption where connections to it were large and direct enough, but that in the high and outlying districts the small cross mains were not properly proportioned or connected.

"Hydrant fire flow discharge tests gave materially less flow in 1913 than in 1907. There are many minor mercantile, manufacturing and residential districts where adequate quantities cannot be obtained."

"The high consumption could be reduced." The amount used during the past year is probably greater than that which will be used the coming year, as many of the meters were not connected during the larger portion of last year and consequently more pay will be received for less water. According to the published reports, less than 1,000 meters were installed during April and May, 1913, although at that time there remained over 4,000 unmetered services, and it is imperative that all should be completed as quickly as possible in order to have minimum and equitable rates. The following table, taken from National Board of Fire Underwriters, shows relative conditions to June 1, 1913:

Table with 6 columns: Year, Average Consumption, Population, Per Capita, No. Meters, No. Hydrants. Rows for 1912 and 1913, and Omaha only.

The average reduced consumption of the stock yards and packers probably amounted to 40,000 gallons during the eleven months, thus showing a net reduction in consumption between 1912 and 1913 of 1,780,000 gallons, while the number of services was increased about 115. This reduction of consumption will be still more marked in next year's report, when all services will probably have been metered for nearly the whole year.

Now, considering the Water board's report, it is quite difficult to arrive at the same conclusions that they do, or, in fact, to understand the reason for the missing links. However, taking their gross earnings figure of \$858,921 and dividing it by 20,000,000, we get 12 cents as the average charge per 1,000 gallons, and as we understand that one-third of this total is used by the packers at 8 cents (although they are paying 10 cents for part of it), the other two-thirds must figure at 14 cents in order that the whole should average the original 12 cents, but we have paid 35 cents and 31 1/2 cents all the while and are now paying 28 cents! This indicates several pinhole leaks somewhere.

Next, deducting the interest charge of \$315,681.93 from total operating expenses leaves a balance for actual operation of \$277,529.57. The operating cost for the year 1911 of \$266,000 was the most the water company was able to spend by most herculean efforts, and it is stated that \$211,000 was the estimated operating cost for this year—all of which would seem to indicate that the figure thus charged of \$277,529.57 may include something which should have been charged elsewhere. It is proper to take care of additions and renewals by other funds, and they have been specifically provided for in this report.

Next, why not retire water bonds instead of cash to the sinking fund? They can now be purchased below par and draw 4 1/2 per cent interest instead of 4 per cent, as used for this estimate.

Next, the surplus of \$49,282.97 is not needed for a working capital for a municipal water plant, nor should any fund be created for emergencies which may never happen.

The fallacies of the "Additional Profits" paragraph have already been covered, and they can be confirmed by any and every man adding up his meter bills for the last twelve months and comparing them with his "flat rate" of the previous year—if his meter is working.

Next, we should appreciate having water "comparable with European standards," but there seems to be no good reason to suspect "the sewage of Omaha and suburbs" as worse than that of our up-stream neighbors. The 1.2-3 per cent charged to depreciation is an estimating figure and not correct to use for an existing plant. "The profits of the water plant truly belong to the people," but how can the people who own them get them save through proper water rates now?

We all want municipal ownership, but we also want cheap water. In order to most nearly attain that result we must have the most efficient and experienced management.

In the first place, we know that other cities, with no material advantage over Omaha, have both municipal ownership and much cheaper water.

Municipal water plants are operated for two purposes, namely, supplying water for domestic and industrial requirements regularly, and for fire protection upon emergency. But in order to fulfill these purposes it must be so cheap that the poorest people will use it freely enough to insure the maintenance of sanitary conditions upon their premises, and so cheap that the industrial plants can afford to use it and satisfactorily compete with like concerns elsewhere; and it must flow in sufficient volume and pressure to the fire hydrants at all times to meet efficient fire-fighting requirements. The foregoing are properly termed necessary requirements, but there is another which is most essential if we would have a "city beautiful," or even just an ordinarily attractive city, and that is that it must be so cheap that people can afford to use it freely upon their lawns.

At the present price it costs from 8 cents to 10 cents per hour to use a three-quarter-inch hose for sprinkling purposes, and that would figure \$8 per month for just one hour's use per day—if you have a meter working. These kind of costs seem more pertinent than those for various sized leaks which are not necessary, and usually only experienced by the careless few.

It is a pretty well understood fact that the Omaha Water company made a good profit while it controlled the plant, and anybody can show a profit with Omaha's municipal plant so long as they charge high rates, but our Water board has a glowing opportunity, if not a duty, to cut existing rates materially, to remedy defects in secondary main capacities and pressure and reservoir facilities to meet the recommendations of the National Board of Fire Underwriters; and to have operating efficiencies improved to such an extent that the plant will still show a small cash balance, remembering all the while that it would be far preferable to show a deficit than to fall short of the requirements just enumerated.

Consulting Engineer, Brandeis Bldg. A. C. AREND.

Mohler Finds Many Farmers Along New Line in Fine Shape

President Mohler of the Union Pacific is back from a trip over the lines in the North Platte valley, and up in that part of the state finds crops in excellent condition. All through the counties tributary to the lines farmers have harvested an immense crop of small grain and the corn promises to be fully an average crop.

In the counties in the western portion of the state north of the Platte there have been reasonable and abundant rains that have kept the ground moist, thus preventing the corn from "firing," as it did farther south.

President Mohler is of the opinion that the farmers and ranchers along the Union Pacific lines north of the Platte are in better condition than ever before and that this will be one of the best years they have ever experienced.

City Makes Formal Request for Center Street Car Route

City commissioners at a meeting yesterday formally passed a resolution asking the street railway company to build an extension on Center street instead of on Forty-eighth street. The Forty-eighth street route was chosen by the street railway company, but owing to protests the council chose the Center street route. The city legal department holds the council cannot force the company to build on Center street, but unless the company does build there City Commissioner McGovern of the department of finances and accounts will refuse to issue the company a permit to tear up the street to build on the Forty-eighth street route.

Death on the Gallows. The lame back of kidney trouble is daily misery. Take Electric Bitters for quick relief. 66c. For sale by Beaton Drug Co.—Advertisement.

AFFAIRS AT SOUTH OMAHA Schools Well Under Way, with Big Registration.

FOOT BALL PRACTICE STARTS First Scheduled Game Will Take Place Between High School and Alumni Week from Saturday.

School work started with a rush yesterday and athletic activities among the students kept pace. About 4,100 children registered for the opening day—a number largely in excess of any previous year, according to Superintendent N. M. Graham. Yesterday, the second day of school, the students turned out on the field for foot ball practice. About fifteen boys lined up on the campus under coach Patten to get used to practice drill. The team will play the Alumni two weeks from Saturday and Omaha about three weeks. This necessitates some heavy work between now and then, according to the lads.

Collins Keeps Busy. Justice of the Peace George S. Collins claims to be the marrying justice of Douglas county. The justice says he "ties 'em" in four minutes. Yesterday he took eight minutes, because he had two couples. They were Harry Long of Modale, Ia., and Lena Lindsey of South Omaha, and John Calloway of St. Joseph, Mo., and Pearl Mills of South Omaha.

Justice Collins, who has what optimists call a great power of accommodation, says he believes in doing everything in shipshape and for that reason he lends as much as possible of the ministerial air to his services as a marrying justice. He keeps a long black coat in his private office, together with a white checkered and a sanctimonious aspect especially reserved for weddings. The only drawback is that Collins has red hair. He thinks that red hair is not clerical looking and sighs for the romantic roven locks of the more favored ones.

Show Pays License. It took Assistant City Attorney S. L. Winters, City Clerk Perry Wheeler and Chief of Police John Briggs to bring a show company now exhibiting opposite the city hall to a sense of respect for the city ordinance sufficient to force the company to pay a license fee yesterday. The show company has been on the streets for several days and without a license. It has used the driveway on Twenty-fourth street and without a license, it is said. The council, a week ago, refused the show people the right to use the streets for show purposes, but the show people came and showed on the streets just the same. Now some of the city council say they will begin an investigation.

Yesterday City Clerk Wheeler and Assistant City Attorney Winters got together and called upon Chief of Police Briggs to see that the license was paid or the show closed up. The show was running as usual last night.

No Appointments Yet. Everything was ready for the long expected fire and police board meeting yesterday when Mayor Hoctor was called away and the expected appointments went over once more. Both the applicants for places and some members of the board are getting restive under the continued delay of the appointments.

Call for the Fair. Mayor Thomas Hoctor this morning issued the following call to the citizens to attend the Omaha-South Omaha day at the state fair:

Inasmuch as Friday, September 5, has been designated by the management of the Nebraska state fair as South Omaha and Omaha day, it is naturally the desire of the good people of this city to make as good a showing as possible. Therefore, I earnestly request every citizen who can possibly get away to attend the state fair, September 5.

A special train has been arranged for and will leave the Burlington freight depot at the west end of the L street viaduct, Thirtieth and L streets, promptly at 10 a. m.

A large brass band has been secured to furnish music for the trip. The city will sell at the depot for the day. All merchants are earnestly requested to allow as many of their employees a day off as possible. The Union Stock Yards company, are urged to release as many of their employees as they can.

Those holding round-trip tickets can return on any Burlington train up to and including September 5.

In a spirit of patriotism and a desire on the part of our local people to always make a splendid showing, I hope and trust our people will turn out in large numbers tomorrow morning.

Magie City Gossip.

Attorney J. Dean Ringer has returned from his trip to his ranch in Michigan. Miss Lillian Sugrue has returned home after a delightful visit with friends and relatives in Chicago.

Attorney J. C. Patrick returned yesterday from a two weeks' vacation at Denver and western points.

The Presbyterian King's Daughters will meet at the church, Twenty-third and J streets, Friday afternoon.

C. J. Collins, who has been spending the summer on his ranch near Hyannis, Neb., is in the city for a few days.

For a case of Jetter's Old Age or Gold Top beer call 80. 80c. Prompt delivery to all parts of the city. Wm. Jetter.

Detectives James S. Jan and J. C. Walker returned yesterday from a ten-day vacation to New York and eastern points.

The Ladies' Aid society of the Hilldale Baptist church will meet at the church, Forty-third and I streets, for an all-day meeting Thursday.

The body of the unidentified man, who was found near the intersection of the Union Pacific and the Missouri Pacific near Ralston yesterday, was buried in the county graveyard yesterday afternoon. The condition of the body rendered the interment an immediate necessity.

Deprived of Water, Ejected from Home; Matron Gives Aid

Three days ago the charitable and kind hearted directors of the municipal water plant ordered the water at the home of Mrs. August Hansen, 1413 South Sixteenth street, shut off because she could not afford to pay the exorbitant rates, because her husband was out of town and without work and her two children were too small to do anything toward the support of the home.

Yesterday an equally kind landlord sent a constable to the place and had Mrs. Hansen's furniture moved into the street. Mrs. Hansen is in a delicate condition and was surrounded by a group of equally impoverished neighbors when Police Matron Gibbons heard of her predicament.

She made the trip down there and sent the mother and children to the City mission for the time being, and meanwhile she will try to find a better temporary home for the unfortunate woman. Mr. Hansen is now in Tecumseh looking for work.

No Further Clues in Alvord Case

River men and friends of Alva J. Alvord, the missing cashier of the M. C. Peters Milling company, have abandoned their search of the waters of the Missouri river, believing that if Alvord was really drowned, the body has floated far away.

The police department, except for keeping one detective at work and warning all officers to report any clues as to Alvord's whereabouts have practically abandoned the case also.

The reward offered by Mr. M. C. Peters has been augmented by another \$100 by an offer made yesterday by one of Alvord's relatives.

Mrs. Alvord is verging upon nervous prostration and the suspense is working havoc with her.

Omaha-Owned Auto Found in Cornfield

In a cornfield west of Thirty-fifth street, half a block from Fourth avenue, Council Bluffs, the police yesterday recovered an automobile believed to belong to H. L. Malbo, 4214 Webster street, Omaha, stolen Monday evening from in front of the Brandeis store. The license number of the car had been changed, and with the exception that all of the tires had been removed, the car was apparently unharmed.

The presence of the car in the cornfield was reported yesterday by a Mr. Hathaway, a retired farmer. As near as can be determined, the car was brought there about 11:30 Tuesday night. The car had been taken into the field by a circuitous route and the corn rows knocked down by its passage had been straightened up as far as possible. Mr.

Howell's Junkets; City Foots the Bills

That the junketing business plays no favorite is shown by the personal expense accounts cashed in on the water fund by Water Board Boss Howell. Here are a few of the items which have been unearthed in the comptroller's office: August, 1911, to St. Louis and New York..... \$150.00 September, 1911, St. Paul, Minn..... 45.00 May, 1912, to Chicago..... \$ 64.75 September, 1912, to Battle Creek, Mich..... 372.25 May, 1912, to Kansas City and St. Louis, for R. B. Howell, Prince and Ward..... \$107.05 July, 1912, to Minneapolis, Minn..... 63.14 July, 1912, to Chicago, for R. B. Howell and George T. Prince..... 77.31

Persistent Advertising is the Road to Big Returns.

ATTENTION! To Real Estate Owners and Agents! The large and well known house of Loftis Bros. & Company, diamond merchants and jewelers, have decided to open a handsome store in Omaha, with an extensive stock of fine diamonds, watches, jewelry, silverware, etc., and wish to make a long lease in the most desirable location in the business section of Omaha. Our President and General Manager will be in Omaha in a few days to close this lease. Real Estate men are kindly requested to submit anything they desire to offer, giving the lowest rent, and full particulars, in writing, to our Omaha Manager, Mr. Roy M. Scott, 409 South Sixteenth Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Keep it in the Cellar— 'Twill Be Ready When You Want It GUND'S Peerless BEER J. GUND BREWING CO. LA CROSSE WIS. W. C. HEYDEN, Mgr. Phone: 5th Douglas 621; Automatic A-2344 CARL FURTH, Distributor. 715 S. 16th Street, Omaha, Neb. Phone: 5th Douglas 654; Automatic A-2328 Good Since 1854

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