SAVANAH ROAD BOOSTERS MEET

Good Roads People Interested in New Highway to Have Session Here in April.

INVITATIONS ARE SENT OUT

April 24 and 25 have been decided upon as the dates for the meeting for the organization of the proposed Savannah to Seattle Highway association. The meeting is to be held in Omaha. The good roads committee of the Commercial club, and the Omaha Automobile club, are back of the movement.

This meeting is to start the movement definitely to lay out a route from Seattle to Savannah, diagonally across the United States. Some enthusiasts believe this route will rank in importance with the Lincoln highway movement.

Invitations to this organization convention have been sent to Commercial and Automobile clubs of the following cities along the proposed route: Seattle and Spokane, Wash.; Livingston and Butte, Mont.; Cody, Wyo.; Deadwood, Mitchell and Sioux Falls, S. D.; Sioux City, Ia.; Atchison, Kan.; Kansas City, St. Louis and Cape Girardeau, Mo.; Memphis, Tenn.; Decatur, Ala., and Atlanta and Savannah, Ga.

Invitations are being sent to the following Nebraska cities: Fremont, Columbus, Norfolk, Neligh, Long Pine, Chadron, Blair, Tekamah, Oakland, Lyons and Craig. Each city will be entitled to two delegates and the votes from any one of the cities must be cast by a representative of that city in order to be counted. All delegates will be entitled the privileges of the floor, and each city sending delegates will be entitled to two votes. Those who attend this convention will see that the Seattle to Savannah highway is properly organized and pushed forward on a pratical business basis. Omaha is the natural meeting place for the first convention, inasmuch as it is midway between the two extreme ends of the proposed highway. Practically the entire distance along the proposed route is made up of road already logged and well traved Much of the route is already marked and a considerable portion of it is hard surface road. Motor enthusiasts will look forward to an interesting convention next month.

Dodge Bros. Car Wins Hill Climb

At a recent hill-climbing contest at Montrose, Colo., a Dodge Brothers car performed a feat never before attemped on a hill near the town by climbing to the top with nine passengers weighing a total of 1,780 pounds.

The contest was started for cars carrying their seating load and the Dodge Brothers car won easily. A seven-passenger car that had stalled requested permission to cut its load to five and it then was successful. But to demonstrate its superior power, the Dodge Brothers car was loaded with four men in addition to its first passengers and easily made the top.

The hill was but 300 feet long, but it was crooked and the average grade was 36.6 per cent, the steepest portion having a grade of 45.22 per cent and the most level part a grade of only 7 per cent.

There were originally a number of cars scheduled to try the climb, but when starting time arrived only three would compete.

McShane Motor Co. to Handle the Hupp

F. J. McShane of the McShane Motor company has closed a deal with the Hupp Motor Car corporation of Detroit, Mich., which will involve the handling of Omaha sales and sales in the territory immediately surrounding Omaha of the Hupmobile.

This move was made in connection with the recent decision of the Hupp people to establish a direct factory wholesale branch in Omaha.

Matters Case Will Come Before Court of Appeals in May

The case of Thomas H. Matters of Omaha is scheduled to come up before the United States circuit court of appeals at St. Paul, Minn., May 16, according to a printed list of the cases just received here. Matters was convicted of aiding and abetting President Lueben of a defunct Sutton, Neb., bank in illegal financial operations and is under sentence of six years' imprisonment.

Largest Truck on Omaha Streets

The Lininger Implement company delivered to the Nebraska & Iowa Steel Tank company last week, one of the largest trucks ever seen on the streets of Omaha. This truck was built by the Service Motor Truck company of Wabash, Ind. It is a worm drive truck of three and one-half tons capacity. The wheel base is 190 inches. The body is seventeen feet long and seven feet six inches wide and the sides are five feet high. The length of the truck from end to end is twenty-five feet six inches. The truck equipped with ten-inch single Giant tires in the rear.

TEN IS COUNTED ON "LOAN SHARK"

Supreme Court Hands Down Decision that Nebraska Loan Shark Law is Constitutional.

DISTRICT COURT IS SUSTAINED

A big victory for victims and future patrons of so-called "loan sharks" is found in the action of the Nebraska supreme court in declaring the present "loan shark" law to be constitutional.

The high tribunal affirmed the judgment of the district court here last August, in the test case of the State against Jules Althaus, an Omaha money lender, who was convicted and fined for lending money without license and for charging an excessive rate of interest.

Edward Simon, J. P. Palmer, Nels Lungren and other Omaha legislators who were prominent in enacting the present law, expressed themselves as gratified over the supreme court's decision in upholding the law.

"It means a great deal to poor and unfortunate people, who are forced to borrow money," they declared. "The result will be that the interests of such people will be safeguarded under the licensing provision of the law, and not over 10 per cent per year interest can be charged, instead of 100 to 300 per cent, as heretofore.

Kubat Imposes Fine.

City Prosecutor T. J. McGuire, then acting prosecutor, secured the conviction and fining of Althaus in the test case last August. Acting Police Magistrate C. H. Kubat fined Althaus $75 and costs. On appeal to the district court, Judge Willis G. Sears overruled a motion in arrest of judgment, based upon allegations that the law was unconstitutional, in that it violated both state and federal constitutions.

The case against Althaus was based upon the charge that he made a loan to Alonzo H. Winslow without having a license under the anti-loan shark law, and he charged 300 per cent per annum interest and also exacted a chattel mortgage and an assignment of salary and pension.

It is expected that the upholding of the new law will drive many of the usurious loan sharks out of business, as they probably will not be content with the maximum of 10 per cent per annum interest on their loans.

Warring Mayors Hoist White Flag

J. P. Butler, chairman of the strategy board of the Dahlman Democracy, received from Mayor Dahlman a telegram stating that a truce has been arranged between the mayors of New York and Omaha at St. Louis.

GEORGE FLACK BACK FROM TRIP TO SOUTH AMERICA

George Flack, who left last November for a trip to South America, has returned, pleased with the country and is enthusiastic over its undeveloped resources. Mr. Flack crossed the isthmus and went down the west side, crossing to the east through Argentine and then up along the east coast by easy stages.

Bank Clearings in Omaha for the Week Break All Records

The largest week in the history of the Omaha clearing house was recorded for the current week.

The total bank clearings for Omaha for the week were $28,936,093.36, a gain of over $3,000,000 over the previous high mark established the week ending January 8 this year. The former record was $25,825,494.59.

Bank clearings this week registered a gain of $6,000,000 over the corresponding week in 1915. The 1915 clearings were $22,875,788.08.

Clearings for Saturday showed a gain of $2,000,000 over this day last year. They were $4,911,980.66, while the clearings for the corresponding day last year were $2,973,970.56.

Two More for Richmond.

President Ed Barrow of the International has transferred two more former Newark players to the Richmond club. They are Pitcher Wyatt Lee and Outfielder Eddie Mensor.

DOUGLAS COUNTY TO STAND AS IT IS

Supreme Court Orders Election Commissioner to Put Harte's Name on the Ballot.

MANY ATTORNEYS IN THE CASE

A message from the Nebraska supreme court stated that A. C. Harte won his case wherein he sought a writ of mandamus to require Election Commissioner Moorhead to place his name on the primary ballot as a candidate for county commissioner from the old Third district, instead of from an outlying district as prescribed by an enactment of the last legislature.

The law which has been upset provided for a "country" county commissioner district in a territory outside of a two-mile line from the limits of Omaha and South Side, the proposed outer district yielding about 1,750 votes, as against approximately 24,000 votes for the other and inside districts. It was shown that the new district arrangement, if carried into effect, would legislate Mr. Harte out of office.

Myron Learned represented Mr. Harte before the supreme court and was opposed by a phalanx of legal talent, including several judges.

Rock Island Lines Apply Three-Cent Fare in Nebraska

Having been granted permission by the federal court, the Rock Island is now applying the three, instead of the two-cent passenger rate between stations in Nebraska. There is no change made in the rates between competitive points.

The Rock Island's increase in rates affects twenty-four stations in Nebraska. From Omaha to stations along the line the increase ranges from 4 to 39 cents. The greatest increase is from Omaha to Beatrice. Between these points the old rate was $2.58. The new rate is $2.97.

Heard in the City Hall

Thirteen days to St. Patrick's day.

The Dodge street viaduct will be started some day.

Al Kugel is having his teeth repaired. He believes in preparedness.

"Pediculus," wrote a school nurse to a parent of a child sent home. "Ridiculous," replied the parent. In the old days pediculus was not written thus. The school nurses find more than learning in the heads of some children.

"I Hear You Calling Me," is Harry Fleharty's favorite selection.

Jeff W. Bedford was seen at the city hall this week. He called to see how things had been going since he left the city council four years ago.

The quietest man of the street department is named Noyes.

John Drexel is indulging in aquatic potations at Excelsior Springs.

'Twill soon be time to get another dog tag.

A pay telephone booth has been installed in the municipal building. 'Tis said that one of the young women has already had a call from Sioux City.

A few city hall names: Naomi, Susie, Beasie, Alice, Nellie, Florence, Eunice, Arabella.

Secretary Bourke of the Board of Education is a grandfather. He wishes the golf season would start.

"Don't cross your bridges until you come to them," said Mr. Brown of the building department. "I see it," rejoined the chief clerk. (Read it in the paper and then see it at the movies).

Did you ever stop to think that three of the city commissioners are "Joseph," "James" and "John."

"Jim" is in St. Louis.

John Rine went to St. Louis twice last week. He's a regular gad-about.

FEDERAL COURT IN M'COOK WILL BE OPENED MONDAY

Judge T. C. Munger and Clerk of the Federal Court R. C. Hoyt will open the federal court in McCook Monday for a week's session.