

BIG DEALS IN REAL ESTATE

New Buildings Planned and Much Property Changes Hands During the Last Week or So.

WATTLES INVESTS IN FARM

The last week was by no means the slowest week on record in Omaha real estate circles, who none surveys the transactions that came to light in that period, and the building proposals made public during the week.

Last Sunday the public learned that the officers of the Masonic fraternity had decided to build an eight-story Masonic Temple at Sixteenth street and Capitol avenue, where the present quarters are located.

Then came the sale of the First Presbyterian church property at Seventeenth and Dodge streets to Arthur D. Brandels, who will pull down the church and build a garage for the housing of the delivery cars of the Brandels stores. The church trustees had decided long since on a location further west in the city and had decided to build a big church there. This sale was a \$20,000 deal.

New Home for University Club.

The directors of the University club bought the Independent Telephone company building at Twentieth and Harshey streets. The building was abandoned a little over two years ago, when the Independent company sold at a receiver's sale to the Nebraska Telephone company. The building is a substantial brick structure, with a handsome outside appearance as well as with good inside finish. The Nebraska Telephone company offered it to the University club for \$75,000. The directors of the club called a meeting of members at once, and the offer was accepted, and members subscribed \$22,000 at once for the purchase of the building.

Following this came the announcement that the southwest corner of Thirty-sixth and Farnam streets had been sold through the agency of C. A. Grimmel. The consideration was \$25,000. The property belonged to the Kountzees of New York City. While it is not yet announced just what is to be built there, nor what the property, it is assumed that something substantial in the way of an improvement will shortly be announced.

Now comes the announcement of the sale through the Byron Reed company of the Barclay White farm of 400 acres, adjoining Ralston on the east. This was purchased by G. W. Wattles, president of the Omaha and Council Bluffs Street Railway company, as an investment. This was a deal that involved \$125,000. Mr. Wattles has rented the place to a farmer on an adjoining farm.

Plans for an Armory.

Announcement is made by Captain H. K. Weidenfeld of the Nebraska National Guard that plans are under way for the erection of a new armory for the housing of the National Guard troops in Omaha. Several sites have been offered, it is said, and plans are under way so that it only remains to get a suitable location.

It is proposed to make the payment for the building on an installment plan out of the annual appropriation provided by the state for the militia.

The Hotel Castle is to open March 20 for business. This is the handsome structure that has been going up for nearly a year at Sixteenth and Jones streets.

The Grain Exchange during the week made the announcement that James Black & Co. of St. Louis are closing the contract to build the new exchange building and that this is to be completed by New Year's, 1919.

Talks on Farming And Raising Chickens On Backyard Lots

If the Omaha public has left anything unlearned about raising chickens in the back yard, or raising garden truck on the vacant lot next door, it is its own fault. The educational department of the Young Men's Christian association has just closed a series of lectures on these subjects.

The lectures began February 25 and continued until Friday night, March 5. Professors of the University of Nebraska, and other authorities on small and intensive farming were the speakers. Among the speakers were C. W. Pugsley, G. E. Condra, and others from the University of Nebraska; H. E. Brandel, V. E. Shirley, Prof. J. R. Cooper, Prof. G. W. Hood, and others.

By the most careful estimates of real estate men in Omaha it has long been computed that there are something over 3,000 acres of vacant ground in Omaha. This means vacant lots and vacant strips of yet unplatted ground, to say nothing of the many unused back yards of residence property.

Real Estate Men to Meet in Los Angeles

The members of the Omaha Real Estate Exchange who attended the seventh annual convention of the National Association of Real Estate Exchanges at Pittsburgh last July, and those who were not present but read the proceedings, were impressed with the earnest manner in which real estate matters were discussed. Some people have an idea that a great national convention is one continual round of pleasures and entertainments; but, while there are diversions provided for those who attend the real estate conventions, they do not in any way conflict with the business for which the delegates assemble.

The eighth annual convention will be held in Los Angeles June 21 to 24, and those in charge of the program are assured by the members of the Los Angeles Realty Board, who are to be hosts, that they are prepared to make the visit to Los Angeles a notable one, and that their entertainment will be in the nature of sight-seeing trips to the ocean, Mount Lowe and the Riverside orange district, but, that they do not want to detract in the least from the discussions and business program.

LIGHT RECEIPTS SEND WHEAT PRICES HIGHER

Without any apparent cause except a good demand, wheat on the Omaha market today made a gain of 4 to 5 cents per bushel, selling at \$1.20 to \$1.40. The receipts were but five cars. Corn was up 1 to 2 cents, and sold at 55 to 60 cents. Receipts were nine cars. Oats were strong and 1 cent up, prices being \$1 to 25 cents per bushel, with nine cars on sale.

A going business can be sold quickly through The Bee's "Business Chances."

Peters Trust Firm Has Management of Flo-Les Apartment

The Peters Trust company has just secured the management of the new fire-proof Flo-Les apartment house, located on the northeast corner of Twentieth street and Capitol avenue, facing the High school grounds. There are twenty-one four-room apartments, with all the latest improvements, including a convertible day-and-night bed, a complete kitchen cabinet, ice chest, gas stove, etc. The building will be ready for occupancy between the tenth and fifteenth of the month. Several leases have been signed and a number of reservations made.

Dutch Steamer is Torpedoed in Channel

LONDON, March 5.—According to the Daily Express it is reported that the Dutch steamer, Nooderdijk, which was returning to Rotterdam with broken machinery after having sailed for the United States, has been torpedoed in the English channel. Still another German submarine is declared to have met with disaster at the hands of an allied ship. The French Admiralty asserts that a submarine of the U-3 class was struck in the English channel by three shells from a French cruiser and disappeared. The British Admiralty reported the sinking of the U-3, making the fourth one destroyed since the beginning of the war.

Storm Has Almost Ended, Says Welsh

It looks as if the snow storm has almost reached its end, according to Colonel L. A. Welsh of the federal weather bureau. This morning he issued a forecast of "fair" for tonight and Sunday, without much change in temperature. His prediction of snow for Friday, Friday night and Saturday morning hit the nail on the head, as the fall was quite continuous and had not stopped altogether at noon, although it had become almost unnoticeable.

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE OF ELKS' CHORUS MEMBERS

The men's chorus which is being organized by local Elks, is composed of the following members, according to an announcement just made: A. R. Nelson, William F. Lomatch, P. T. Larson, W. C. Nelson, Ray Stuebker, M. H. Vance, Jerome E. Latsch, G. A. Schoedack, K. E. Hatch, Arthur Van Kuren, H. Hahn, Ernest Harwood, R. V. Gough, Oscar F. Ellison, E. F. Doran, John Alvord and Kline.

UNION PACIFIC HAS SECOND BOOKLET READY FOR PUBLIC

Copies of the second booklet of the Pacific coast expositions have been received at the Union Pacific headquarters, there being several thousand for distribution. The new booklets contain sixty pages of descriptive matter, together with numerous illustrations of buildings on the exposition grounds and scenes along the line between Omaha and the coast.

Coughs and Colds Dangerous. Don't wait. Take Dr. King's New Discovery now. It will help your cough and soothe the lungs. 50c. All druggists.—Advertisement.

Dummy Tests Used In a Murder Trial

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., March 5.—Tests with a dummy proved that if Waldo R. Ballou had fallen down the stairs leading from the apartment of Mrs. Helen Angle, the sound of the fall would have been heard by other occupants of the building, according to testimony today by Coroner Phelan in the trial of Mrs. Angle.

The defendant is charged with manslaughter in connection with the death of Ballou, whose body was found near the stairs of the Angle apartments several months ago. The defense contends that Ballou met his death through an accidental fall down the stairs.

Coroner Phelan testified that a dummy, representing the figure of a man about Ballou's weight, had been thrown down the stairway while he stood on the floor below, separated from the landing by an eight-inch wall. He heard the sound of the fall distinctly, he said.

Delta Tau Delta Has Big Banquet

Alumni members representing schools in every part of the country, and active members from the chapter at the University of Nebraska, gathered at the Postoffice hotel last night to enjoy the Delta Tau Delta fraternity banquet. Almost 100 plates were laid at the banquet, which is said to have been the largest fraternity chapter banquet ever held in Omaha.

It was an enthusiastic assembly of college men. The old grade swapped yarns with the undergraduates, who told tales of the present-day fraternity at Lincoln.

Frank H. Woodland was toastmaster and asked for toasts from Charles W. Mesker of Imperial, Neb.; Roy N. Towle and Rev. Charles E. Cobbley of Omaha; S. A. Huse of Norfolk, and Raleigh L. Bag and John S. McGurk of the active chapter at Lincoln.

Car Falls Into River From Trestle, 1 Dead

ELSONORE, Cal., March 6.—Derailed today at a junction crossing two miles from here, the rear coach of a mixed train on a Santa Fe branch line broke its coupling and tumbled off a trestle twenty feet into the San Jacinto river. One passenger was killed and the conductor was fatally injured.

Twelve other passengers, men and women, were hurt including Major E. J. Bell of Goldfield, Nev., and J. S. Hendry of New York. The San Jacinto river is little more than a dry bed and the victims of the accident were in no danger of drowning.

E. J. Davis
SAFE MOVER
Heavy Hauling
 1212 Farnam
 PHONE DOUGLAS 353

The Sort of Employees You Like to Take an Interest in
 Reads Bee "Help Wanted" Ads.
 Advertisers tell us that the class of inquiries is much above the average. They come from intelligent, ambitious workers—the kind you feel are going to be successful.
 Make a bid for such employees through the "Help Wanted" columns of The Bee. Judging by the experience of others, you will get them.
 Telephone Tyler 1000
THE OMAHA BEE
 "Everybody Reads Bee Want Ads"

Moving Packing Storage
OMAHA VAN AND STORAGE CO.
OUR FURNITURE PACKERS ARE EXPERTS
 If you are going to locate elsewhere, let us crate and wrap your goods for shipment. Our sible damage to your goods.
Our Guaranteed Fire-Proof Warehouse
 Offers at very reasonable rates, safe storage for your furniture, piano, range and other household furnishings. Phone us for prices on separate locked rooms—Douglas 4161.
OMAHA VAN & STORAGE CO.
 806-818 South Sixteenth St.

The best real estate bargains this year will go to the early buyers

All indications favor an exceptionally good year for Omaha real estate. Sales will be brisk as soon as the snow is off the ground.

If one has any idea of investing in a home, lot, acreage or business property, consider the question seriously NOW.

Don't wait until June or July to hear that others have profited and you have lost out. Of course, real estate will be just as good then as now, but your money never had a better chance to work at a profit than between now and June or July, if properly invested in Omaha real estate.

To realize profits from such investments requires no extraordinary talent and no "inside information." The values are here and those who take advantage of them, make the consequent profits.

Omaha real estate in general will never be cheaper than it is today. It will pay you to consider this seriously, not as newspaper talk, but as something directly concerning your personal success in life.

Telephone Tyler 1000
THE OMAHA BEE
 Everybody Reads Bee Want Ads