

# THE O'NEILL PROBLEM

D. H. CRONIN, Publisher.

NEBRASKA

The damage done annually to underground pipes, cables and other metal structures in this country by electrolysis amounts to many millions of dollars. There are very few water gas or lead cable systems that are not more or less subject to some points to electrolytic damage from stray currents. Moreover, the loss does not consist merely in the shortening of the life of such structures; electrolytic damage is one of the causes of the leakage of water and gas from distribution systems. The failure of such systems on account of electrolytic action may also involve various dangers to the life and health of human beings. According to the bureau of standards, more than 25 deaths and distinct methods of dealing with the electrolytic problem have been proposed and experimented with from time to time. Some of these methods are useless, or even harmful. The bureau of standards has been studying the subject of electrolysis mitigation for the last six years, and has aided in installing complete mitigation systems in several cities. The bureau makes somewhat detailed tests in each of these places about once a year to make sure that the protective systems are being properly maintained. An extended series of experiments has recently been undertaken in the city of Springfield, Mass., with the so-called three-wire system of electric railway operation; a system which offers considerable promise for the mitigation of electrolytic troubles under certain conditions frequently met with in cities.

The electric railroad running from Barcelona to Sarria, Spain, a distance of three miles, has recently been extended as far as Las Planas, about three and one-half miles farther. The new section starts from the station of Sarria, passes through a tunnel 553 feet in length, follows the mountain stream Pomaret, the course of which has been partially diverted, passes through a second tunnel 1,194 feet long and farther on through a third tunnel 594 feet. At the exit of this tunnel an underground station has been built, beyond which the line passes through a fourth tunnel, the longest, one mile 175 feet long, is the most important work on the extension. An account of the station was encountered in its construction. The rolling stock of this Spanish line has been especially built to conform to the requirements of the local service and comprises electric motor cars and trailers. The electric power is furnished by a Philadelphia company and the motor trucks provided with four motors of 125 horse power. The passenger cars are closed and are 56 feet long, designed for single and double-end operation. The cars have a maximum speed of about 37 miles an hour. The motor trucks consist of a platform mounted on two trucks with two compartments for the motor man and also in use both for transporting general merchandise as well as the company's construction material in connection with the line, which in due course will be extended to the interior towns of Tarrasa and Sabadell, and eventually farther.

By a curious irony, the dahlia flower, popular at the flower shows, is of very humble origin. It has been developed from the Mexican tubers. Some century ago a half-breed, who was a native of the island of Java, introduced the dahlia to Europe by the Swedish botanist, Dr. Dahl, for the purely commercial purposes of supplanting or supplementing the potato. But they did not prove popular and the dahlia dish soon disappeared from the dinner tables of Europe, but the garden variety, which has since been evolved from the double dahlia and other popular floral fancies. It would thus appear that the dahlia had reversed the fate of the red clover, which was originally introduced as a garden flower, but was found to be much more desirable as a fine forage. The tubers of the dahlia, though bitter, are still eaten in some parts of France.

Bernard's "Runaway" star, as the star of remarkably great proper motion recently discovered in Cepheus, is called by some astronomers, probably nearer to the solar system than any other fixed star whose parallax has been measured with the exception of Alpha Centauri. The parallax observations at the Allegheny observatory give a value of 0.2 second, while the trigonometric measurements made by Bernard, Russell obtain a value of .70 seconds. The parallax of Alpha Centauri is .76 seconds, corresponding to a distance of 4.3 light years. According to determinations made by E. Goussier, of France, from a comparison of photographs extending back to 1897, the new star is even newer than Alpha Centauri. He finds its parallax to be approximately 1 second, representing a distance of only 3.26 light years.

The Germania, a famous racing yacht formerly owned by Lieut. Krupp Von Bohlen and Halbach, of Germany, which was seized by the British government at Cowes at the beginning of the war, has been sold for \$50,000 to Captain Hannevig of Norway. The Germania twice won Emperor William's cup at Cowes. She cost \$225,000. Captain Hannevig also purchased the racing cutter, Paula III, for \$3,000. The Lasca II sold for \$19,500. Both these yachts formerly were owned by Germans, but were seized at Cowes when the war began.

Insecurity is increasing in a disquieting manner in Germany, and particularly in the country regions. Thefts of all kinds of field produce and foodstuffs occur frequently. The farm livestock in the meadows is no longer safe. Cattle, sheep and pigs are stolen, or slaughtered in the fields and the meat and hides carried off. Bands of watchmen are everywhere being formed out of the spare time members of the population left at home. Members of such bands in turn go on guard, particularly at night and are equipped with arms.

Honors were awarded to several American students of the third year class at Oxford university with the announcement of the results of the final examinations. The list includes: W. C. Bosworth, Vermont; B. H. Branscomb, Alabama; C. R. Clason, Maine; A. G. Fite, Tennessee; P. F. Good, Nebraska; E. C. Holtz, Georgia; E. H. Mow, Idaho; P. P. Werlein, Louisiana; E. P. Woodruff, Texas; H. E. Antama, Michigan.

# CHARGE THAT ALLEN FAILS TO PROSECUTE

U. S. District Attorney Not Going After Pro-Germans, Detractors Say.

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 20.—Federal District Attorney Allen is under fire from the radicals who don't think he is showing proper diligence in prosecuting pro-Germans who have been talking and acting in a manner most distasteful to the red bloods. They claim that he has not diligently followed up all of these cases and has given clemency in others that was not justified. Mr. Allen says that not one in 50 of the complaints that come to his office provide any evidence that are violations of any federal law or to have any basic evidence that will secure a conviction. In many cases where, if the offense could have been established, punishment would have followed the evidence has broken down. The fact that business and personal reasons it is difficult to get one neighbor to testify against another in a matter that means the latter's incarceration. Recent criticism has been of his release upon bail of a man named Bowman from Eubank, who was called a murderer. Attorneys showed that Bowman, who was interned as an alien enemy, was a citizen of the United States under the ruling of the federal supreme court that gave Governor Boyd citizenship and his job. The attack on Allen is understood to be largely political. He is a brother-in-law of W. J. Bryan.

# SCORES OF YOUNG GIRLS ARE MARRYING SOLDIERS

Omaha, Neb., Aug. 20.—Soldiers and girls under 18 years of age are the factor in the greatest epidemic of girl brides in the history of Douglas county. Records of the department supervised by Cupid Stubbendorf, marriage license clerk in the county court, show the record rush of girls in their teens to the marriage altar. Nearly every other license issued in the last few days has been to couples where the prospective bride was from 16 to 18 years old. Fifty couples about to leave for training camps or the front, have taken brides in the last 24 hours. Acting County Judge Sundblad has performed several soldier-girl bride ceremonies in the last few days. "I never saw such a flock of young girls rushing to the marriage altar," declared Judge Sundblad. "The marriage germ seems to have hit the younger generation of Omaha. June records, usually the biggest because of the same brides, have gone glimmering in the face of the patriotic rush to wed preparatory to soldiers leaving for France."

# NEBRASKA SOLDIERS ARE ENTRAINING FOR DEMING

Hastings, Neb., Aug. 20.—Nebraska soldiers are leaving for Deming, N. M., as fast as transportation is furnished. Companies have been enrolling for several days from the two forts near Omaha, from the same towns of companies of the Sixth and from Lincoln. There are still 500 or 600 men in the camp at Lincoln. They sleep in barracks made out of the permanent buildings on the fair grounds and eat in screened buildings. This has resulted in few cases of sickness. The boys put in the time not spent in drilling in sports of various kinds. Baseball is the more popular. Lieutenant Colonel Mack of the Sixth, has gone to Fort Sill, Okla., to study machine gun tactics, and will report in several months to his regiment at Deming, where the hardening and training of the men will take place.

# SCORES LAWYERS FOR AID EXTENDED TO SLACKERS

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 20.—Chairman Ashton, of the district appellate board which hears appeals for exemptions from the South Platte district, is out with a statement in which he excoerates the lawyers of the state, who, he says, are too ready in preparing causes for the board, to look after the interests of their clients rather than of the country. In a few instances that have come to the notice of the board some lawyers have refused to prepare affidavits when the facts related to them did not justify such action, but in the majority of instances these have been drawn in such a way as to withhold from the board all the facts, as has been discovered in subsequent investigations by government agents. Mr. Ashton declares that such lawyers are not serving their country.

# NEW CHIEF TO CONQUER 'EM WITH BARE HANDS

O'Neill, Neb., Aug. 20.—Mike Kerwin, O'Neill's new chief of police, astonished Mayor Edward Whelan yesterday when the mayor called Kerwin in to give him the customary billie, six gun and come along. Kerwin, in his shirt sleeves, calmly informed his honor that if he couldn't out-go any rambunctious cuss with his bare knuckles he would jump out of harness and run away from O'Neill forever. Mr. Kerwin believes that to carry a gun or other graveyard tool, is to invite trouble. And he declares he can't attend to the wants of his beloved customers with his fists.

# RAISE REWARD FOR THE SLAYERS OF NEBRASKAN

Columbus, Neb., Aug. 20.—Citizens of Columbus are raising a fund to be offered as a reward for the apprehension of the slayer of Phillip Greisen, who was shot to death by highwaymen near Columbus Monday night. Greisen had been selected for service in the new army. He was en route to the home of an uncle who had died three hours before the shooting occurred. Young Greisen was to have been married, but no date had been set. No cause for the shooting is known. Three men were seen loitering about the spot where the tragedy occurred. Dogs followed the trail of the slayers to a point where it appears they entered an automobile.

# CRUDE OIL IS \$2.

Independence, Kan., Aug. 18.—Crude oil advanced another 10 cents here today to \$2 a barrel. That price was posted by the Prairie Oil & Gas company.

# APPEAL TO BOTH SIDES TO END OMAHA STRIKE

Omaha, Neb., Aug. 20.—The state council of defense, which at first refused to pass upon the matter, has issued a statement calling upon the employers and their striking employes in Omaha to settle the strike there. The council insists that the strike is over and that they have won, but there are several thousand men who have not gone back to work or got jobs elsewhere. This condition is viewed with alarm by the council of defense. It considers it a disgrace for any settlement.

# JOBBER OF PRODUCE REAP GREAT PROFITS

Net Earnings 50 to 100 Per Cent—Lincoln Proposes Open Competition.

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 18.—Following the suggestions of Food Controller Hoover, the Lincoln city council has issued orders to the city attorney to draft ordinances for immediate passage which will provide a public market, which will reduce the price of buckwheat to 10 cents from 25 to 35 a month, and will permit producers anywhere to ship to the city in carload lots or less and sell to anybody out of their cars. So far the council has not acted on a demand that standard weights for groceries be made and established. At present they are sold for 5 and 10 cents, with weights varying.

The matter was presented to the council by Federal District Attorney Allen, following an inspection by a federal agent of the books of the principal jobbers and a commission man of the city, which disclosed that they were making from 50 to over 100 per cent on their invested capital.

# CHECK UP ELEVATORS TO PREVENT GRAIN HOARDING

Pender, Neb., Aug. 18.—The state railway commission has sent its sleuths out over the state to check up on elevator men. In order to force prompt settlement for grain delivered, the last legislature provided that any elevator that did not settle for grain within 10 days should automatically become a public warehouse, and must give bond for its men for all losses thereon. The matter was presented to the commission by Federal District Attorney Allen, following an inspection by a federal agent of the books of the principal jobbers and a commission man of the city, which disclosed that they were making from 50 to over 100 per cent on their invested capital. Word has been sent out to check over the books. The first reports coming in from these men are from Cumings, Dodge and Saunders counties. A commission representative reported that the elevator men are in sympathy with the law, and while there have been some technical breaches, he believes an honest effort to comply with the law can be expected. The representative was instructed not to dig up past violations, but to make sure that none are committed in the future without the penalties of the law being inflicted. The farmers' cooperative elevator companies are having the most trouble. They insist that stockholders on storing their grain in their elevators despite the fact they have no license. Only about one in 30 of the 1,300 elevators in the state has such a license.

# SCHOOL BOARDS ADVISED TO ERECT FIRE ESCAPES

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 18.—The last legislature having placed in the fire commissioner's control of fire escapes, Commissioner Ridgell is sending out notices to them and insisting upon compliance therewith. His notice reads: "In case you have no fire escapes on your school building or buildings, you will be required to erect them. We shall insist that you comply with this law, as we shall insist that you comply with the law on school buildings in the state of Nebraska. Please let us know when you have complied with the law. The legislature of 1911 passed a law requiring all schools to have fire prevention 30 minutes a month. Your superintendent has been supplied with fire prevention text books and you will please see that all teachers comply with it and also hold a fire drill at least once a month."

# WILL NOT REMOVE AGENT WHO OPERATES SIDE LINE

Omaha, Neb., Aug. 18.—The state railway commission has declined to demand the removal of a Burlington station agent at a small town out in the state because he has engaged in private business. An investigation revealed that the complainant is engaged in the same line of business, that of selling autos, and that he was unable to make any showing that the private affairs of the agent resulted in any neglect of his duties as representative of the railroad.

# WIFE AND FARM HAND SUDDENLY DISAPPEAR

Verdel, Neb., Aug. 18.—Mrs. Joe Bailey, wife of a prominent farmer living near Meadow Grove, Neb., and her farm hand in the employ of Peter Boltz, are alleged to have eloped late Monday night with a team of horses belonging to Mr. Boltz. The deputy sheriff and several citizens were joined in the search for the missing couple. Mr. Bailey and four small children are grief stricken.

# HOLD PICNIC ON FARM OCCUPIED 50 YEARS AGO

Emerson, Neb., Aug. 18.—Mrs. G. McLaughlin, of Sioux City, Mrs. H. E. Maslow, of Meadow Grove, Neb., Mrs. G. Demme, of Emerson, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. William Paul, sr., enjoyed a reunion and picnic last Sunday on the Elk creek farm that their parents occupied nearly 50 years ago. Miss Lillian, of Sioux City, H. E. Maslow, of Meadow Grove, Neb., C. E. Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Demme, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Demme, Mr. and Mrs. Axel Erickson and son Morris, of Emerson, were some of the reunionists.

NORTH BEND—H. R. Partridge, science teacher at the high school in Fremont, has been elected superintendent of the schools of North Bend at a salary of \$1,400 a year. Mr. Partridge, who has a wide reputation for his school garden club work, has announced that he will resign at Fremont to accept the North Bend position.

FREMONT—Local railroad men say that on account of the war preparations railroad service to the state fair at Lincoln next month is going to be somewhat curtailed. Most of the roads will run specials only on two or three days of fair week.

FREMONT—Graduation exercises were held at Fremont college yesterday morning. Prof. W. H. Clemmons, president of the school, who is now state superintendent, came up from Lincoln to present diplomas and degrees to the 239 graduates.

EMERSON—A record for Dixon county was made Monday on the E. Harrigfield farm, near here, when the Fred Stewart crew threshed a little more than 1,500 bushels of oats from a 15-acre field. The grain was measured by weight.

OSMOND—The Catholic Foresters held their annual picnic here yesterday. A big crowd attended to hear the address by Father Pietz, of Randolph, in the afternoon, followed by races and a dance in the evening.

CEDAR BLUFFS—Cedar Bluffs has just signed up for another chaquetaqua engagement in U.S. The chaquetaqua this year proved a big success.

EMERSON—Scoutmaster Rev. Lewis took a dozen of his Boy Scouts to Blyburg lake for five days' "roughing-it" in camp life.

# NEBRASKANS TO FORM CORNHUSKER BRIGADE

Boys From 16 to 21 Will Enlist to "Get All Nebraska's Corn in Crib by Christmas."

Wayne, Neb., Aug. 18.—The Nebraska state council of defense has undertaken the organization of a cornhusker brigade. Its activities will not interfere with the cornhuskers of the state university who have brought fame to the state over its football field. This brigade will be ready to start in the fall and their performances will be upon the cornfields of the state.

"Get all Nebraska's corn in the cribs by Christmas," is the slogan. Phil McKee, one of the state secretaries of the U. S. council of defense, is in charge of the work of organization. He will issue a call to all boys between 16 and 21 to enlist for the work. Every boy will be given a service badge, and also proper pay. It will be the boys' working reserve with the object of aiding the farmers in getting their corn harvested early. Each boy will have to pass an examination for physical and moral fitness before being accepted. It is to be a strictly nonmilitary organization.

# MERCER WILL RUN FOR U. S. SENATE, IS RUMOR

Omaha, Neb., Aug. 18.—David H. Mercer, who represented the Second district in congress, for several terms, is sounding the sentiment of republicans here and elsewhere in the state on the absorbing question of whether they think he would not be a humdinger as a candidate for United States senator. Mr. Mercer calmly ignores the fact that Douglas county now has a United States senator and that this is the turn of the South Platte to enjoy the honor. Articial lines of that sort are abhorrent to the voters' tender nature.

Mercer is enjoying a comeback in politics. He was put down and out by Gilbert M. Hitchcock years ago, when Hitchcock was first elected to the lower house. Last year he tried out locally as a candidate for the republican nomination for congress in this district, but Ben Baker beat him nearly two to one. Mr. Mercer would be highly pleased if Congressmen Sloan and Reavis and former Senator Burkett would also get into the race against Norris. As he has decided up, the South Platte candidate is to include one another off and leave the victory easy for a North Platte man.

In political circles here it is said Mr. Burkett has been tapping the hammer of hope upon the walls of sentiment in order to find out if he could also execute a comeback.

# HALLER MAKES NO REPLY TO DEMANDS HE RESIGN

Omaha, Neb., Aug. 18.—None of the members of the board of regents have received any word from Regent Haller, president of the board, whose resignation has been demanded by R. L. Metcalfe, of the state council of defense. Mr. Haller is absent from the state on his vacation, and it is likely that no action will be taken until his return. He has not, so far as known here, communicated with anybody with respect to the charge of Mr. Metcalfe that he is a spy in the state. The board is named to the World-Herald lauding the kaiser and belittling America.

# GERMAN SPY SUSPECT IN JAIL AT GREGORY

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 18.—W. S. Ridgell, fire commissioner, has received word of the arrest in South Dakota, close to the Nebraska line, of a man who is strongly suspected of being a German spy. He is now in jail at Gregory, S. D. His description answers that of a man claiming to be a representative of the fire warden and insurance association and sent out to inspect elevator risks. He told several different stories in South Dakota, where he attempted to secure entrance into a mill, then an oil tank and then an elevator.

# ASKS 30 CENTS DAMAGES AS RESULT OF LAWSUIT

Aurora, Neb., Aug. 18.—Thirty cents is the damages Charles P. Craft claims to have suffered to his business and reputation by the complaint recently filed against him by Lawyer R. Smith. This complaint was dismissed yesterday by County Judge Fred Jeffers and Craft immediately filed a damage suit against Lawyer Smith, Theodore E. Nordgren, Smith's brother-in-law, and Richard W. Stanley, Smith's detective. The suit created a sensation here following the dismissal of the charges filed against Craft by Lawyer Smith. In his complaint Smith charged Craft had attempted to obstruct justice in the famous case of State vs. Fred Luff. Smith assisted the county attorney in that trial and the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty shortly after the evidence was in.

# PLAN ANOTHER TRACTOR SHOW AT FREMONT IN 1918

Fremont, Neb., Aug. 16.—Preparations will be made by the Fremont Commercial club for another tractor meet in 1918. George F. Wolf, of the Commercial club, says that only two or three of the big companies are in favor of abandoning the annual exhibition of farm power machinery and that Fremont will go ahead with plans for a tractor meet that will be bigger and better than ever.

# HAILSTORM DOES HEAVY DAMAGE AT JAMESTOWN

Jamestown, Neb., Aug. 16.—A hailstorm practically ruined the corn on six farms. The loss will be in the neighborhood of \$10,000. The storm swept over a tract less than a mile wide and less than five miles in length. Hailstones as big as hen's eggs fell in such quantities that farmers made ice cream from them 24 hours after the storm.

# ACCUSED BOARD PLEADS

New York, Aug. 16.—Tentative pleas of not guilty were entered today by Dr. Samuel J. R. Bernfield and Louis I. Chery, former members of exemption board No. 99, and Kalman Gruher, a dentist indicted yesterday charged with conspiracy to frustrate the operation of the draft law and demanding or accepting bribes.

# ORDERS MINERS TO WORK

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 16.—Following a meeting of the Illinois district executive board of the United Mine Workers, Frank Farrington, district president, sent telegrams to the presidents of 58 local miners' unions ordering the striking miners to resume work immediately under penalty of expulsion from the union. Farrington's action was taken as a result of the ultimatum issued by the state mine operators, which charged the unions with breaking a wage agreement.

# EXPLOSION IN POWDER PLANT LEVELS TOWN

Railroad Tracks Torn Up, Farm Houses Mile Away Demolished and Hundreds Reported Dead at Rigaud.

Ottawa, Que., Aug. 20.—The great plant here of Curtis & Harvey, Ltd., explosive manufacturers, was wrecked today by a series of terrific explosions and buried beneath the ruins of a dozen or so structures that comprised the factory are an unknown number of men.

# HUGE PLANT DESTROYED

Munitions Works Employing 5,000 People Wiped Out by Three Explosions—Details Unknown.

Rigaud, Que., Aug. 20.—The great plant here of Curtis & Harvey, Ltd., explosive manufacturers, was wrecked today by a series of terrific explosions and buried beneath the ruins of a dozen or so structures that comprised the factory are an unknown number of men. Several thousand male and female workers employed at the plant were in the danger zone for hours. An early estimate based on fire reports placed the number of killed at about 250, but indications were this afternoon that here were comparatively few casualties.

A relief train arrived from Montreal at noon bringing doctors and nurses, but owing to the fierce heat from the burning ruins of the plant they were unable to approach. No death list can be obtained until the ruins cool. The loss in the value of buildings and stock will reach well up into millions. The first explosion was caused by the overheating of the machinery in the nitric acid building. The flames leaped along through the building and another explosion occurred. Most of the workers, however, are believed to have had ample time to escape.

Other explosions occurred every five minutes or so, shaking the surrounding country like a series of earthquakes. Altogether 15 detonations were counted.

# Homes Blown to Bits.

One of the explosions blew down a number of houses in Dragon where most of the workers lived, and farm houses in the vicinity also caught fire. Provision was made by the people of Rigaud for accommodating the homeless workers.

Ottawa, Aug. 18.—First report received here from the scene of the powder explosion today at Rigaud, Quebec, state that in the neighborhood of 250 persons have been killed.

Montreal, Aug. 20.—A terrific explosion at the powder plant of Curtis & Harvey, limited, at Rigaud, Quebec, today is believed to have caused heavy loss of life. Five thousand men and women are employed at the plant which covers an area of five square miles.

Reports received here soon after the explosion said the plant was nearly all in flames. From points near Rigaud, it was learned that three explosions took place. The first at 9 o'clock was heard 20 miles away. It was followed by two others in quick succession.

The explosion disrupted telegraph and telephone communication with Rigaud, making it difficult to obtain information. Traffic on the Canadian Pacific railway near Ottawa, however, which passes close to the plant has been suspended.

Trainmen who got away from the scene of the explosion reported that 40 houses at Dragon, a little village near the powder plant, occupied by workmen razed by the force of the explosion.

The whole countryside was covered at 10 o'clock with a dense copper colored smoke. A special train of doctors and nurses left here at 10:30 o'clock for the scene of the disaster.

# 300 Killed by Blast.

The officials here of Curtis & Harvey, Ltd., lacked information as to the cause of the explosion. It was said that probably 300 persons were working in the section of the plant where the first explosion took place. It was believed by the officials the other two explosions were caused by fire which spread from the first.

Passengers on a Canadian Pacific railroad train which passed the scene of the disaster, placed the number dead from the first explosion at 20.

The passengers said it was impossible to obtain definite figures as hundreds rushed into the open country when the first explosion occurred, and a few had returned when their train left for Montreal.

The extent of the explosion may be judged by the fact that two farm houses over a mile from the plant were blown down. At noon the village of Dragon was blazing and it looked as if it would be destroyed.

# PRESIDENT STUDIES I. W. W. SITUATION

Threatened Miners' Strike in Alabama May Be Averted, Officials Say.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 20.—President Wilson is making a personal study of the labor situation in the northwest, especially in Washington, Oregon, Montana and Idaho, where a general strike of the I. W. W. is threatened next Monday.

Officials in close touch with the threatened miners' strike situation in Alabama were optimistic early today that the strike would be averted by developments within a few hours.

# WATER SUPPLY WRECKED.

San Diego, Cal., Aug. 18.—More than 20 feet of the 40 inch water main connecting the San Diego city water impounding system with the distributing system was blown out by an explosion of a clock last night, and a heavy announcement shortly before noon today by City Manager W. M. Lockwood. That a deliberate effort was made to cripple the San Diego water supply system was the announced belief of officials here. The explosion was heard shortly after the expected two men were seen running from the scene.

# PEACE NOTE MAY CAUSE BREAK IN CENTRAL ALLIES

Austria Expected to Come Out in Complete Favor of Peattiff's Proposals for Ending War.

Copenhagen, Aug. 20.—The German foreign officers are not yet ready to announce the government's standpoint on the pope's peace proposals and an answer probably be delayed considerably while the four central powers are endeavoring to reconcile somewhat divergent views and interests regarding peace. A cordial article in the Cologne Gazette perhaps presages the German point of view by declaring it is the duty of all governments to support any effort at honorable mediation.

# GERMANS OPPOSE PLAN?

Bulgaria Will Frown on Attempt at Restoration of Pre-War Status Because She'd Lose Gains.

It is evident that Austria-Hungary will throw its full weight in favor of an affirmative answer to the pope's welcome proposal, just as Bulgaria will flatly and vehemently oppose any acceptance of the return of occupied areas. While the newspaper Germania, as befits its representative Catholic character, is decidedly optimistic regarding the prospects for tangible results, most papers are rather skeptical as to the chances that it will lead to any thing in the immediate future. At least pan-German papers insist that peace on the proposed basis is utterly impossible. The Berlin Tages Zeitung, in its comment says the evacuation of Belgium and all occupied regions of France is impossible, just because independent Belgium henceforth would be an irreconcilable enemy of Germany and it must be subordinated to the security of Germany's frontiers. Even the plan of the former German chancellor, Dr. Von Bethmann-Holweg, for a Polish protectorate, is rejected because the Poles have shown themselves ungrateful for favors granted them.

# FOOD HOARD DISCOVERED

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 20.—Great quantities of foodstuffs being held for higher prices have been discovered hidden away in old barns and sheds by officials of the state fire marshal's office, according to a statement issued today by Alfred T. Fleming, state fire marshal.

# WASTE NO SYMPATHY ON TRAITORS—BRYAN

Should Not Cloak Attacks Under Claim of Freedom of Speech, He Says.

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 20.—"No sympathy should be wasted on those arrested for unpatriotic utterances," W. J. Bryan said today in a signed editorial in his paper, The Commoner. And this, he says, applies to utterances against our allies as well as against the United States.

"Before the war," the editorial says, "it was perfectly proper to discuss the wisdom of going to war, but the decision is closed when congress acts. After that no one should be permitted to cloak an attack under the claim of 'freedom of speech.'"

"No sympathy, therefore, should be wasted on those arrested for unpatriotic utterances. They abuse free speech. And this applies to our allies as well as to ourselves, for to withdraw support from our allies would throw the whole burden of the war upon us. We must stand together and fight this through. There are only two sides to a war. Every American must be on the side of the United States."

# NEBRASKA EDITOR'S LIFE THREATENED IN LETTER

Hebron, Neb., Aug. 20.—Hurling defiance at "cowards, traitors and assassins who may be skulking in the shadows with knife, gun or bullet," Editor E. J. Mitchell of the Deshler Rustler, announces he has turned over to the authorities an unsigned letter in which his life was threatened. The authorities are investigating.

# COLONEL LINCOLN CHIEF OF STAFF AT DES MOINES

Washington, Aug. 18.—Col. Charles Lincoln, of the Second infantry, son of James Lincoln, of Iowa, has been named as chief of staff of the new cantonment at Des Moines. He is given the place instead of Col. P. Brown, of the quartermaster department, who was first named. Colonel Lincoln is favor of Honoluuli, and will return immediately. He greatly desired to serve in Iowa, and hence the new order, through him the post as a mark of honor to General Lincoln.

# GUNNERS TO FRANCE.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 18.—Young artillery officers just graduated from the artillery training school at Fort Sill, France, in the lists are First Lieut. Albert F. Hull, of Marshalltown and First Lieut. Ernest V. Evans, of Williamsburg, and Second Lieut. Harold Jobs, of Atlantic. First Lieut. Walter