

Business Stages Big Comeback

Omaha Industries Show Large Monetary Increases During 1922 Despite Decrease in Prices.

Labor Situation Clears

Old Man Business staged a big comeback in Omaha during 1922. Momentum gained by industry of the city during the past year should carry Omaha on to even greater gains during 1923, in the opinion of financial experts.

There was a feeling of uncertainty in business circles at the beginning of 1922. Labor controversies loomed. The packing industry, one of the greatest in the city, was just emerging from a butchers' strike.

Bank clearings, a feeler of the city's business pulse, gained \$78,370,659. Receipts at the Union Stock yards in cattle, hogs and horses showed big increases.

These figures, furnished by the bureau of publicity of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, really are more significant than can be shown in terms of dollars, because Omaha's manufacturing and wholesaling has gained despite lowered prices.

Value of packing house output shows a slight shrinkage from the total of 1921, but the smaller output had a healthy gain during the past year.

During the past year \$51,418,375 worth of groceries and provisions were distributed by Omaha concerns, as compared to \$49,436,820 worth in 1921.

Railroads report a heavy freight business. The Union Pacific and Great Northern lines have announced the placing of large equipment orders.

Little Unemployment. From the Chamber of Commerce bureau of publicity comes word that a record number of conventions (169) was held in Omaha during 1922.

There is comparatively little unemployment in the city, nor can ominous rumblings of serious labor difficulties be heard.

F. W. Mondell Looms as Successor to Fall



Representative F. W. Mondell

Washington, Dec. 30.—(Special.)—The forthcoming resignation of Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall, announced exclusively by The Omaha Bee, has started a furor over the succession.

Probably the most outstanding candidate for the place is Representative Frank W. Mondell of Wyoming. Following the publication of the story of resignation, Mr. Mondell's friends immediately started a movement for their candidacy.

It is urged for him that he is thoroughly familiar with the work of the department, is a western man with a western man's view of things, is a disciple of the reclamation policy and that while he brought about the placing of the forestry service in the Department of Agriculture, is open to reason on the subject of conservation.

Mr. Mondell has never joined the ultra of either school. He believes in conservation, but does not think it should go to the extent of stopping development.

6 Dollar-a-Year Men Indicted by U. S. Grand Jury

Assistant War Secretary Under Wilson Among Seven Accused of Army Camp Thefts.

Washington, Dec. 30.—(By A. P.)—Benedict Crowell, assistant secretary of war under the Wilson administration, and six "dollar a year" men associated with the council of national defense, were indicted here today by the special grand jury involving war frauds on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government in construction of war time army camps and cantonments.

The others indicted are: William A. Starrett, Morton C. Tuttle, Clemens W. Lundoff, Clair Foster, John H. McGibbons, James A. Meares.

Navy Announced by Harding

President Asks Congress for \$6,500,000 as Beginning on Program to Modernize American Battleships.

Washington, Dec. 30.—In order to keep the first line of the American navy on a par with the sea forces of the great powers, President Harding asked congress for a special appropriation of \$6,500,000 as a beginning on a battleship modernization program.

The plan behind the request marks a change of policy resulting directly from the Washington arms conference and was described by Secretary Denby in a letter accompanying the president's recommendation as of "major and vital importance" in national defense.

Secretary Denby reported that a detailed study of the problem had been made by naval officers, and that the \$6,500,000 asked for would make it possible to begin work on 13 vessels. Ultimately, he estimated, the program would cost a total of \$30,000,000.

Details Lacking. No detailed information as to what ships will be affected by the first appropriation or what work will be done on them was given to congress by Mr. Denby or made available at the Navy department. It is known, however, that in general the tentative plans call for equipment of all of the 14-inch gun ships of the fleet.

One of his particular activities in the last dozen years was his work upon the right of the Union Pacific railroad to hold title to a 400 strip right-of-way through Nebraska, claimed under a grant of the United States government dating back to the '50s.

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Wounded in Leg. Mr. Wooster was wounded at Thompson, Tenn., on the Nashville railroad and was in the hospital for three months. He was shot through the leg. Tiring of life in the hospital and eager to rejoin his comrades, Mr. Wooster requested the surgeon to allow him to return to his regiment but not being allowed to do so, he returned to his regiment on his own authority, finally rejoining his company. The cavalry, under Stanley, had gone on south from Murphree, so Mr. Wooster got onto the back of an old horse and overtook the cavalry about 15 miles south of Murphree.

Catholic Priests Transferred. Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—Father Cronin, who has been pastor of St. Mary Catholic church at Wynore for a number of years, has been transferred to Lincoln as pastor of the church of the Blessed Sacrament. He will be succeeded at Wynore by Father J. J. Hennessey of Bloomington.

Sending More Troops Toward Mosul

Athens, Dec. 30.—The Turks are sending reinforcements in the direction of Mosul, the rich oil district, the ownership of which is in dispute at the Lausanne conference, according to advices to the Central News from a reliable source.

Lausanne, Dec. 30.—(By A. P.)—Plans for Armenian national home, financed by a possible \$20,000,000 appropriation by the United States congress or a popular loan in America in addition to funds from other countries, were presented to the Near East conference today by the American delegation.

Charles Wooster Dies at His Home; Ill Only One Day

"Sage of Silver Creek" Overcome After Taxpayers' Meet, Dies—Prominent in State.

Silver Creek, Neb., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—Charles Wooster, known to Nebraskans as the "Sage of Silver Creek," died at his home two miles east of Silver Creek following an illness of little more than a day. After attending a meeting of the taxpayers league at Hastings, he returned to Silver Creek and, as was his usual custom, he started for his home about. After having gone but a short distance, he fell to the ground, exhausted.

Body Goes on Record Against Taking Powers From Federal and State Courts, in Closing Session.

Judge Edward P. Holmes of Lincoln was elected president of the Nebraska State Bar association at the closing session of the 23rd annual meeting in Hotel Fontenelle yesterday afternoon.

Resolution offered by Judge Howard Kennedy and adopted, recommends enactment of suitable and practicable legislation to assure the application of the merit system to the making of appointments to, and to administration of, the civil service in any state, and the association invites co-operation of other organizations to that end.

WHERE TO FIND THE SUNDAY BEE

PART ONE. Sporting News and Features—Pages 6 and 7. Editorial Comment—Page 8. Amusements—Pages 9, 10 and 11. Music News—Page 12.

PART TWO. Society and News for Women—Page 4 to 5. Shopping With Polly—Page 5. Of Special Interest to Motorists—Page 6.

"Gotham Is Place to Check Your Bluff," by O. O. McIntyre—Page 5.

The Bridge of Sighs



Judge E. P. Holmes Named New Head of Bar Association

Washington, Dec. 30.—Eight former members of the Industrial Workers of the World, sentenced four years ago to varying terms at Leavenworth penitentiary for conspiracy and violation of wartime legislation, were offered freedom today by President Harding on condition that they leave the United States. Sixty days were allowed for the prisoners to arrange their affairs preparatory to deportation, a bond being required during the interval which will insure their embarkation for some foreign land.

Eight Wartime Prisoners Are Offered Release

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35 Indictments Probably to Be Dismissed Here

Thirty-five indictments resting in district court against persons charged by the state legal department with violations of the "blue sky" laws probably will be dismissed in January.

Day's Activities in Washington

The house and senate adjourned over New Year's until Wednesday.

The Treasury department, through Secretary Mellon, endorsed the Capric agricultural credits bill.

The senate passed the \$25,000,000 naval appropriation bill without the Borch economic conference amendment, but with the house provision urging a further naval limitation agreement.

The special federal grand jury returned an indictment against Benedict Crowell, former assistant secretary of war, and six other wartime officials of the War department in connection with the award by the government of wartime contracts.

Sheriff Is Accused of Rum Theft

Pastor-Hangman Robb of Des Moines Charged With Taking Liquor Worth \$30,000 From Jail.

Jailer Files the Charges

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 30.—Sheriff W. E. Robb, Polk county's preacher-sheriff, who gained nation-wide prominence last fall through officiating at the hanging of two murderers at Fort Madison penitentiary, was placed under arrest here today. Sheriff Robb was charged with unlawfully disposing of intoxicating liquors as the sensational back-fire action by his jailer, William McMurray, whose own sons had been arrested by the sheriff for complicity in the theft of \$30,000 worth of bonded whiskey from the county jail Wednesday night.

George Robb, brother of the sheriff, and himself a minister, who has been acting as a deputy for his brother, was also placed under arrest, charged with harboring, on information sworn out by Jailer McMurray and released on \$500 bonds. Neither charge was made in connection with the theft of 47 cases from the jail Wednesday night.

Later additional charges were filed against Sheriff Robb by McMurray, which alleged that the sheriff had illegally sold older presses, and other paraphernalia used in making liquor, which had been seized in county liquor raids.

McMurray charged that on August 8 Sheriff Robb sold more than 70 quarts of whiskey to L. S. Hill, proprietor of the American Printing and Lithographing company, and prominent democratic politician.

Battle of Words. McMurray was denied admittance to the jail about 1:30 this morning. His son, Everett McMurray, recently appointed custodian of Waveland park, was in the jail office in the custody of Deputy Sheriff Robb. Assistant County Attorney Seburger announced that Clyde McMurray, another son of the jailer, also was sought.

McMurray was permitted to talk to his son through the barred entrance. As he left the jail Sheriff Robb drove up in a motor car. There was a battle of words, in which McMurray charged Robb with having permitted laxity in the management of the liquor room and in which Robb called his jailer a "liar" and "double breasted knave."

"An Atrocious Lie" L. S. Hill, proprietor of the American Printing and Lithographing company, said when told that Jailer McMurray had charged that he bought more than 70 quarts of whiskey from the preacher-sheriff on August 8.

He admitted, however, that he had tried to obtain liquor from the sheriff's office, but declared he had been unsuccessful.

Mr. Hill declared he knew of no reason why Jailer McMurray should name him in connection with such a liquor transaction.

Frisco Man Drops Dead During Football Game

Stadium, Stanford University, Cal., Dec. 30. Charles H. Bentley, vice president of the California Packing corporation and prominent resident of San Francisco, died of apoplexy while attending the football game here today between Stanford and Pittsburgh.

Solemn Ceremonies Mark Funeral of Onofrio Stagno

Impressive ceremonies were held for Onofrio Stagno at St. Anne church Saturday morning at 9 a. m. Mr. Stagno, pioneer resident of Omaha, was stricken by heart disease Wednesday night.

Cargo of Ill-Fated Mail Plane Arrives 12 Days Late

Letters from the mail cargo of the ill-fated air mail plane, which was lost in the Rockies for days while fliers searched for its skipper, Pilot Boonstra, have just reached their destinations in Omaha.

Salem Store Robbed

Falls City, Neb., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—Merchandise valued at several hundred dollars was taken when the Parish drug store at Salem was entered. The robbers climbed over a transom.

The Weather

Forecast. Sunday—Fair and colder. Hourly Temperatures. 5 a. m.—39 1 p. m.—34 3 p. m.—34 5 p. m.—34 7 p. m.—37 9 p. m.—34 11 p. m.—34 12 noon—39

Tomorrow Is New Year's Day

—a very good day to start out with a real and regular good habit.

Begin reading Omaha Bee "Want" Ads!

Reading and using these ads and taking advantage of the big money and time-saving opportunities that follow will become a fixed habit with you, because you will realize that the "Want" Ad section of The Omaha Bee is the quick and sure path to the results you want.

Get the habit—read and use Omaha Bee "Want" Ads—the beeline to results!

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