

# HOWELL FOUL ATTACK ON PLANT

## Action on Hughes Plan Up to Paris

Powers Must Agree on Reparations Before Move Is Made to Cancel Debts. Warning.

## U. S. Taxes Are Affected

By MARK SULLIVAN.  
Washington, Oct. 25.—In Europe and in the United States we have now reached another of those occasions, the first one in 19 months so far as America's European relations are concerned, when these humble hand-maidens of diplomacy, the after-dinner speakers and the newspaper reporter, are called into the ante-room of statesmanship and permitted to perform a desired service.  
Ten months ago, when France was about to enter the Ruhr, there was widespread demand throughout America that the United States should do something to prevent the step. Public opinion, the month that preceded France's entry into the Ruhr was perhaps one of the most uncomfortable that Secretary Hughes and President Harding ever endured, for they knew there was nothing they could do to prevent the action France had determined to take.  
Then, as soon as France was actually in the Ruhr, at least half of American public opinion changed and took the position that France was justified. Not only because of this, but because of the essence of the nature of the case, our government ceased to occupy itself with the Ruhr problem, and during the entire 19 months up to this week has followed a policy of strictly "hands off."

## Gives Expert View on Water Plant



GEORGE T. PRINCE

## Nebraskan on Train Stabbed

Insane Man Wounds 4 on Santa Fe No. 7—Killed by Passengers.

By Associated Press.  
Trinidad, Colo., Oct. 25.—Seized with a sudden fit of insanity on board Santa Fe No. 7, westbound, at Thatcher, 36 miles east of this city, early this morning, Telesforo Candelaria of Monrovia, Cal., ran amuck with a knife, stabbed and seriously wounded Conductor M. C. Duebler of Albuquerque and three passengers and himself was killed.  
Candelaria was shot twice by William Garner, negro porter of Albuquerque. A blow over the head with a stove poker by another passenger on the train was fatal to the Mexican. Conductor Duebler and the three wounded men were taken off the train at Thatcher and removed to the railroad hospital at Lajunta and the body of Candelaria taken off the train here by Acting Coroner F. E. Cole.  
The wounded are:  
Conductor M. C. Duebler, Albuquerque, cut on collarbone.  
Jim Barnes, Rushville, Neb., cut in chest and on arm, most seriously injured.  
Harvey W. Perry, Santa Ana, Cal., cut on shoulder.  
Otis Murray, Albuquerque, cut on left arm, left hand and left leg.

## Vajrts May Be Freed on Bond

Bail Agreed Upon for Parents and Daughter Held on Murder Charge.

Seward, Neb., Oct. 25.—Adolph Vajrt, his wife and his daughter, Alby, 15, who are being held in the Seward county jail here, on charges of murder in connection with the slaying on October 8 of Anton-Lana, may be out on bond within a few days, according to County Attorney Matson.  
Following a conference today between District Judges Hastings and Cochran, the Vajrts were admitted to bail and attorneys for the defendants said that arrangements were being made to obtain the necessary bonds. The bond for Adolph Vajrt was fixed at \$10,000, that of Mrs. Vajrt at \$5,000, and Alby's bond was fixed at \$3,000.  
Lana was employed on the Vajrt farm. Following the killing, Alby, Vajrt made a confession in which she said she killed Lana because he had wronged her. Later confessions made by both Mr. and Mrs. Vajrt and discrepancies appeared in all three confessions, according to the county attorney.  
Lana was shot twice through the abdomen with a pistol and a portion of his right shoulder was torn away by his right shoulder was torn away by a shotgun. The body also bore marks and bruises about the head and shoulders.

## Crawford Man Head of Bankers

C. A. Minick Named President of State Body—Omahan Is Chosen Vice President.

## Attacks on U. S. Rapped

C. A. Minick, vice president of the First National bank at Crawford, was elected president of the Nebraska Bankers' association just before adjournment of the convention at Hotel Fontenelle yesterday afternoon. H. C. Nicholson, vice president of the Packers National bank Omaha, was chosen treasurer, and William B. Hughes was re-elected secretary.  
New officers of the executive council are P. L. Hall, cashier First National bank, Greenwood, group 1; C. A. Smith, vice president Tilden National bank, chairman, group 3; I. R. Alter, cashier First National bank, Grand Island, group 5; W. R. Rooney, cashier State bank of Chadron, group 6 and F. W. Thomas, vice president First National bank, representing Omaha.  
Officers of the American Bankers' association for Nebraska were elected. The new officers are as follows:  
H. H. McLaughlin, Fairbury, vice president for Nebraska, succeeding J. R. Cain, Jr.  
C. E. Burnham, Norfolk, and J. C. McNeil, Sidney, members of the executive council, succeeding W. A. Taylor and Dan Morris.  
J. R. Cain, jr., Omaha, member of nominating committee, F. E. Hovey, Omaha, alternate member nominating committee.  
George W. Holmes, Lincoln, vice president trust company division.  
R. O. Brownell, Schuyler, vice president savings bank division.  
H. S. Freeman, Lincoln, vice president national bank division.  
C. S. Aldrich, Elmwood, vice president state bank division.  
Head Warns Against Attacks.  
Conservation in government and confidence in leaders was urged by speakers at the second day's meeting of the bankers.  
Crawford, a national figure as president of the American Bankers' association, spoke on the menace of governmental charges. American newspapers are prone to give much space to criticism of public officials, said Mr. Head, referring to the charges of governmental charges. American newspapers are prone to give much space to criticism of public officials, said Mr. Head, referring to the charges of governmental charges. American newspapers are prone to give much space to criticism of public officials, said Mr. Head, referring to the charges of governmental charges.

## Believe It or Not, It's Something to Think Over



## Hearing on Muddy Water Ends

In Fighting Mood, Manager of Municipal Utilities Meets Questions of Commissioner Koutsky.

## Decision to Come Later

Appearance of General Manager R. B. Howell on the witness stand for three hours yesterday afternoon ended the hearing which has been under way in the city hall chamber since Monday. The evidence as presented by all who were involved in the water catastrophe indicates that if he was in any way at fault, it was in placing too much confidence in subordinates.  
W. J. Coad, chairman, stated that the board would hold a meeting at a date to be determined later and prepare a report on the causes of the muddy water supply.  
City Commissioner Joseph Koutsky, who with Commissioner Henry Dunn, represented the city council, asserted that action by the council probably would follow action by the water board if in the opinion of the committee the board of directors did not make a satisfactory report to him. The date of a meeting of a committee of the Chamber of Commerce, which has watched proceedings, also is indefinite.

## Howell in Fighting Mood

General Manager Howell on the witness stand under the strongest, most concentrated fire since he took over the water plant in the name of the city in 1912 was the same fighting figure who by force of logic and strength of convictions won for himself the largest majority in Nebraska history in a race for United States senate last fall.  
On the plains of Nebraska last fall Howell was fighting with all the ardor of his nature to put across his belief that when all other means fail and greed and profiteering continue, public competition is the only alternative. On the witness stand yesterday, Howell, beset by public competition enemies, was fighting with equal ardor to prove that the actual carrying out of his plan of public competition was successful.  
Under the most grueling cross examination of Commissioner Koutsky and John L. Moriarty, city attorney, Howell retained his composure and answered clearly and to their apparent satisfaction every question. At the end of Howell's testimony he brought the following admissions from Koutsky and Moriarty:  
Koutsky—"Howell did like every one else, but he had a heart, he retained it, Hunt because he knew of his work and long service and permitted Hunt's judgment on washing basins to be final without keeping a clear, analytical report of the washing basins. That, this has happened, it will never happen again and we'll always have reports of when basins are re-washed. An investigation is good for any of us."  
Moriarty—"No, that isn't it. There is no doubt that those fellows out of the plant were scared that the machinery would break down. But when a test came it didn't breakdown and everything worked admirably."  
Keep Pace With City.  
Howell with figures that no one disputed, proved that every department of the water plant had been given improvement to such an extent that the increase in consumption due to growth of Omaha. Here's the comparative percentages of increased consumption and improvements under public ownership as produced by Howell:  
Increase in water demand 22 1/2 pct.  
Increase in water basin capacity 40 pct.  
Increase in pumping capacity 68 pct.  
Increase in fire hydrant service 100 pct.  
Increase in pipe line service 100 pct.  
Text are figures produced by Howell to show actual sums spent in improvements since the city took over the water plant:  
Main line.....\$1,981,000  
Pumps.....482,000  
Water Hill reservoir.....323,000  
The operating plant.....275,000  
All improvements.....3,061,000  
Totals.....\$3,118,000  
"In short," Howell stated, "when the city took over the water plant on July 1, 1912, that plant had spent \$39 for every man, woman and child in Omaha. Today, we have added an expenditure of \$13 for every man, woman and child in Omaha since that time."  
To disprove charges that the board of directors of the Metropolitan Utilities district had retarded improvements to build up a huge depreciation, Howell produced this figure:  
Investment in 12 years.....\$21,000,000  
Expense of plant in same period.....1,788,000  
Net earnings.....\$19,212,000  
"In addition," Howell said, "the people of Omaha have saved \$3,078,998 in that time in the difference between our rate and the old water company rate, making a total savings of \$8,974,000. All of the money made excepting \$74,000, which is in cash has been turned back into the plant."  
"But you have paid no taxes," Moriarty argued.  
"We'd be mighty glad to figure out for you the difference between the taxes we would have paid and the \$3,078,998 savings in water rates to the people of Omaha," F. D. Wood, a member of the board of managers, retorted.

## Railroads Protest Tax Assessments

Lincoln, Oct. 25.—State Tax Commissioner W. N. Smith was served with notice here today that suits against him and several county treasurers in the state had been filed in federal court at Omaha to enjoin the commissioner and the county officials from collecting from the Chicago & Northwestern and the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroads the full amount of their 1923 tax assessments.  
The tax assessments were made by the state board of equalization last June. The 1923 assessments are the same for both roads as those of last year, it was said, and the roads now have a case in court for reduction of the amount of the 1923 tax.  
The two railroads are asking reduction of the figure set by the board of equalization because, according to their contention, farms are assessed at only half of their value while railroads' assessments are much higher.  
It was said at the tax commissioner's office that several other railroads operating in Nebraska were expected to file similar complaints against the tax assessment.

## Huskies Ask 10 Per Cent of Corn Prices; Farmers Balk

Lincoln, Oct. 25.—Cornhuskers in Nebraska are asking 10 per cent of the market price of the second crop, which is selling around 50 cents a bushel, according to the federal employment office here. It was added that as a general rule farmers are paying on a straight bushel basis, without regard to a percentage rule, and reports to county agents indicate farmers will not pay more than 5 cents a bushel.

## 50,000 Fish Are Placed Lake Near Clarinda

Clarinda, Ia., Oct. 25.—Through negotiations with W. E. Albert, state fish and game commissioner, the aquatic population of Lake Crabill near Clarinda, has been increased by about 50,000, coming from the Mississippi river, coming from the Clarinda, Ia., Oct. 25.—Through negotiations with W. E. Albert, state fish and game commissioner, the aquatic population of Lake Crabill near Clarinda, has been increased by about 50,000, coming from the Mississippi river, coming from the Clarinda, Ia., Oct. 25.—Through negotiations with W. E. Albert, state fish and game commissioner, the aquatic population of Lake Crabill near Clarinda, has been increased by about 50,000, coming from the Mississippi river, coming from the

## "NAME IT" COLUMN

"To get tools break glass." Never see that sign in a passenger coach but that I have an almost irresistible impulse to reach the tools.  
For a real fine collection of grouchos commend me to the passengers on a belated train that keeps getting later and later. Almost afraid to ask man next to me for a match.  
Topic of discussion in smoking rooms on trains these days is mostly prohibition. Second best topic, Henry Ford. Great interest in first topic because I was given to understand a few years ago that prohibition would settle the liquor problem.  
Everybody in Nebraska knows Judge Willis D. Oldham and no hope held out for his recovery. Old time politicians of Nebraska, regard, less of party, will always hold him in high esteem. Fearless in his advocacy of what he thought was right, and never hesitating to denounce what he thought wrong, he has been a great factor in the political life of the state during last 35 years.  
Funny work this Ford, who has made many millions selling vehicles, hailed by many as political savior, Rockefeller, who has made many millions selling the stuff that makes the vehicles go, about as unpopular as a man could be.  
Introducing Earl Neeley of Geering, Kansas, into Nebraska, regard, less of party, will always hold him in high esteem. Fearless in his advocacy of what he thought was right, and never hesitating to denounce what he thought wrong, he has been a great factor in the political life of the state during last 35 years.  
Prominent in councils of state firemen's association. Great joker, is Earl; and the good thing about it is that he can appreciate one on himself as much as one on the other fellow.  
Y. M. M.

## School Clubs Blamed for Auto Thefts

Parents of Boys Arrested in Joy Ride Ring Decried Influence of High School Fraternities.

High school clubs exert a bad influence on the young boy, in the opinion of Mrs. D. S. Prall, 3828 Parker street, mother of Jack Prall, 15, who admitted to detectives Wednesday that he had taken 18 cars since September 17, in which to joy ride.  
"Trouble with Jack started when he joined that high school club," said Mrs. Prall. "He is younger than any of the other members and was led by them. They were all permitted to use automobiles owned by their parents and chased around every day in them. Jack was never permitted to use out auto unless we were with him."  
Jack, who is a sophomore in Central High school, passed with high grades his first year when he belonged to no club, said his mother. Since he joined the club of boys he has neglected his studies and wanted to be with those boys continually, Mrs. Prall said.  
Robert Detweiler, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Detweiler, 3524 Dodge street, belonged to the same high school club as Jack Prall for two months. He resigned from the club last January, said Mrs. Detweiler, but would give no reason. According to Delmar Hill, 17, son of Dr. and Mrs. Stanley Hill, 2803 North Twenty-fourth street, a third youth who is held for auto theft, who belongs to the same high school club, Prall and Detweiler were "kicked" out of the club a short time after they had joined.  
College President Speaks.  
W. A. Ganfield, president of Carroll college, Waukesha, Wis., spoke in the morning on "Saving the Day for the U. S. A." Mr. Ganfield was an opponent of Robert La Follette of Wisconsin in the last senatorial campaign.  
After tracing civilization from earliest authentic times, Mr. Ganfield spoke on the question of whether or not America's sun of prosperity has begun to set.  
"Not a single white civilization has failed in history except when human nature failed. The United States is the 10th great nation to carry the torch of civilization."  
"The long as the American youth maintains the high standard of worth they have attained, America will not lose its civilization. A king may rule an ignorant people, a president never can. As long as education continues, just so long will America continue."  
"The day man loses regard for the private rights of his fellow citizen, we may bid civilization adieu."  
Obey All Laws.  
George W. Woods, cashier of the Lincoln State National bank, in his speech, "Some Phases of Present Day Citizenship," agreed those who preach conformism to the constitution in portions of which they approve, while they violate or encourage violation of sections and provisions which they oppose.  
He mentioned the 18th amendment in particular. In connection

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## Unequal Rates on Grain, Is Claim

Rail Commission Will Make Adjustments of Intrastate Shipments.

Special Dispatch to the Omaha Bee.  
Lincoln, Oct. 25.—Representatives of four Nebraska towns appeared today before the state railway commission to show cause why they considered provisions in the commission's order of July 23, reducing intrastate grain rates, had proved discriminatory.  
The July order affected a belt about the Omaha terminal market of 100 miles and reduced specific grain rates to the level of distance rates. It has since been claimed in certain districts on the fringe of the belt that rates paid by them and those paid by their neighbors are out of line. The commission will make an adjustment wherever it appears justifiable.  
Included in those present at the hearing were J. A. Kuhn, secretary of the Omaha Grain exchange, J. W. Shortt, of the Nebraska Livestock, Grain Dealers association, and representatives of the carriers affected by the hearing. For the commission C. A. Ross, staff rate expert, presented rate conditions which, in his opinion, were discriminatory.  
Although only four towns were actually represented, Millerton, Bellewood, Foley, Surprise and a number of others in Butler county are involved.

## Reds March on Berlin; Police Block Way

Communists Also Assembling in Strong Force in Lichtenberger District—Night of Violence Feared.

Paris, Oct. 25.—A crowd of communists and nationalists filled at 11:30 this morning on the prefecture of police in Weisbaden, which is occupied by French soldiers, says a dispatch to the Temps from Weisbaden this afternoon. The assailants were vigorously driven off.  
All Germany was torn today by secession, communism, strikes and battles in which many were killed and wounded.  
London received a report that the communists were marching upon Berlin and that troops were being rushed out to meet them.  
Seven persons were killed in a battle at Aachen (Aix-La-Chapelle) when police attacked the separatists.  
News from Germany indicated that the secessionist movement in the Rhineland had not made any progress but the French foreign office received word that "the Rhineland republic was being extended and solidified."  
Disorders broke out in Berlin. Crowds were stirred by a report that 28 men had been shot in riots last week, but the news of their deaths had been suppressed. It could not be confirmed.  
The street masses were stirred by a wild rumor that what was believed to be the funeral of a single workman was that of 28 victims of last week's riots, whose deaths were said to have been kept secret by the government. There was a long line of coffins in the cortege. Up to 5 o'clock this afternoon it could not be confirmed whether the men had been shot down but the crowd believed it nevertheless.  
Hamburg harbor is completely tied up.  
The communists in Berlin proclaimed a general strike, but later modified it to involve only the printers.  
Military authorities warned against any strike of workmen engaged in "vital activities."  
The situation in Saxony and Bavaria continues tense, each side waiting for the other to make a move.  
The strike movement through central Germany is growing. Nearly all the miners are out.

## Former German Baron to Wed Georgia Girl

Los Angeles, Oct. 25.—William F. Von Brincken, formerly known as Baron G. Wilhelm Von Brincken, one time attaché of the German consulate at San Francisco and later a prisoner at McNeil island for three years during the world war, has obtained a license here to marry Miss Bertie May Rogers of Ge. Ia.  
Von Brincken now is a motion picture actor and technician, said to be much in demand among the studios of Hollywood as an authority on court etiquette of Europe. He has been married twice and divorced twice.

## IT'S A LONG LANE THAT HATH NO TURNING

So one by one folks are finding that Omaha Bee Classified Ads are the least expensive and nearly always get results. For instance, Mrs. H. G. Capper placed two advertisements yesterday, one for help, the other for housekeeping rooms. She secured both a tenant for her rooms and help for her labor in one day. Let YOUR lesson be next. Phone AT 1000 and place your Classified Ad in The Omaha Bee.

IT'S RESULTS PER DOLLAR THAT COUNT

## The Weather

For 24 hours ending 7 p. m., October 25.  
Temperature.  
Highest, 41; lowest, 37; mean, 40.  
Total snow since January 1, 2.33.  
Relative Humidity, Percentage.  
8 a. m., 88; 10 a. m., 87; 1 p. m., 82.  
Precipitation, Inches and Hundredths.  
Total since January 1, 29.15; excess, 0.92.  
Hourly Temperatures.  
8 a. m., 38; 9 a. m., 37; 10 a. m., 37; 11 a. m., 37; 12 m., 37; 1 p. m., 37; 2 p. m., 37; 3 p. m., 37; 4 p. m., 37; 5 p. m., 37; 6 p. m., 37; 7 p. m., 37; 8 p. m., 37; 9 p. m., 37; 10 p. m., 37; 11 p. m., 37; 12 noon, 37.