Smith Defense Typical Alibi, Declares Perry

Tax Commissioner's Statement Worded to Give Democrats Credit for Republican Reduction, Says Judge.

Lincoln, Feb. 28.—"A typical democratic alibi" were the words used by Judge E. B. Perry, chairman of the republican state committee, in expressing himself on State Tax Commissioner W. H. Smith's defense of his statement that a 40 per cent tax reduction had been effected in the state. Smith's statement made its appearance after Judge Perry had challenged the truth of an article written by Smith appearing in the Saturday Evening Post. In commenting on the tax commissioner's defense, Judge Perry says:

"The tax commissioner gives as his excuse for making a misleading statement about a 40 per cent reduction, his reticence in using the words 'democratic' and 'republican.' From the reputation that the tax commissioner bears, this reticence would seem to be a recent acquisition.

"If the tax commissioner in his article had stated that the prior administration had reduced the tax from 1921 to 1922, 33 1-3 per cent and that the present administration from 1922 to 1923 has reduced it 13 per cent, there would have been no occasion for the public to be misled.

"As the article was written, it was seized upon by the democratic press to give the present tax commissioner and his chief credit for a 40 per cent reduction in taxes. This was the effect of the article and no doubt the intention of the article when it was written.

"I have a communication," continued Judge Perry, "from a Furnas county land owner which shows the following as to the taxes on his farm:

"1921, under republican governor, $82.81.

"1922, under republican governor, $53.89.

"1923, under democratic governor, $73.58.

"This farm owner seems to think that his taxes between 1921 and 1922 were reduced under a republican governor $29.81, and that his taxes increased from 1922 to 1923, under a democratic governor, $19.18.

"Mr. Smith seems to think this farmer is mistaken, that he should compute the taxes so as to show that between 1921 and 1923 his taxes have been reduced by the present tax commissioner or his chief, $9.23.

"The petroleum smoke-screen which Mr. Smith endeavors to make use of in this controversy will not divert this taxpayer from the real issue. Republicans and democrats alike regret the situation of Doheny, a democrat, being compelled to pay $150,000 to McAdoo, another democrat, in order to secure justice under a democratic administration."

Charlie Chaplin declares that Eleanor Duse is "the soul of art, the world's greatest tragedienne who transcends mere acting and spurns shackles." He saw her in "The Closed Door" and has raved about her ever since, declaring that "one scene wrung my heart and drew tears."

'Take Tanlac'

That is advice Miss DuShane gives to those seeking health. Relates her own experience.

MISS MARGUERITE DU SHANE

"Take Tanlac—that's my friendly advice to all whom illness has deprived of the happiness which only radiant health can bring," are the encouraging words of Miss Marguerite Du Shane, department store employe, residing at 832 Fernwood Ave., Toledo, Ohio.

"Before I started taking Tanlac nervous indigestion, poor appetite, heartburn, liver irregularities, unstrung nerves and loss of sleep made me so weak and miserable it took every ounce of my will power to finish the day's work. But since taking this treatment everything is different; my nerves have become normal, indigestion has vanished, taking all my other troubles with it, and my thinking is brighter, my complexion clearer, and I always feel conscious of reserve strength and energy. I'll always praise Tanlac."

Tanlac is for sale by all good druggists. Accept no substitute. Over 40 million bottles sold.

Take Tanlac Vegetable Pills.—Advertisement.

Burning Eyes

and a sore nose and roaring head can be avoided by the timely use of

Weeks

Breaks-a-Cold Tablets

25¢ At Your Druggist's

Men Who Are Making Omaha

Not very many men who want to become captain of the ship set out to achieve that position by way of the stokehold. But that is just what James E. Davidson did. He began shoveling coal, watching the water, and pouring grease on the bearings in the electric light plant at Port Huron, Mich., in 1879. It wasn't much of a plant, even for those days of beginnings, but it did fairly well for a starting point. Mr. Davidson is now executive head of one of the great stem-electric plants of the world. His concern produces "juice" at a rate that makes lots of hydro-electric plants wonder how it is done. Also, one of the machines down on the bank of the river, familiarly called "Big Ben," will deliver 47,000 kilowatts of current energy to the switchboard any time the boss asks it to.

Mr. Davidson doesn't do much firing or oiling nowadays. He rose to be superintendent of the Port Huron plant, and then went to Montpelier, Vt., and from there to Portland, Ore., where he was vice president and general manager of the Pacific Power and Light company. He came from there to Omaha in 1917, to be vice president and general manager of the Nebraska Power company. Just now he is Ak-Sar-Ben XXIX, of the royal line of Quivera, having been enthroned last fall. That just goes to show that you can't keep a good man down. From stokehold to royal throne is some step, but he took it.

In addition to looking after the manifold interests of the light and power business, which is continually growing, Mr. Davidson has found time to assist in raising $1,000,000 for the Ak-Sar-Ben Exposition company. He was chairman, too, of the committee that collected $250,000 for the Father Flannigan Home for Boys, and one of the advisory board that raised a million dollars for the Elks club building. He was chairman of the committee that handled the fund raising for the Community Chest, and is on the board of trustees of the University of Omaha, and vice president of the National Electric Light association. Besides all of this he is now president of the Omaha Boy Scouts and vice president of the Board of Governors of Ak-Sar-Ben.

Mr. Davidson also belongs to several Omaha clubs and gets much pleasure out of them.

REAL AND UNREEL

DON H. EDDY, Hollywood Correspondent of The Omaha Bee.

There Must Be a Reason.

We have spoken before about the passion for going to Europe that seems to have busted out this year. Hollywood has sent half a dozen troupes over there for one picture or another. "Ben Hur" is probably the biggest of them.

Charlie Brabin sent back word the other day that he was having the sphaghetti carpenters build him a motion picture stage 175 feet long and 100 feet wide, including wardrobes, dressing rooms, carpenter shops and everything. Personally, without knowing anything at all about it, that seems foolish. We've got stages bigger than that already built right here in town.

What Charlie says he wants most is a Yankee property boy. He writes that he uses his best Italian to order an overstuffed chariot, and they hopefully bring him almost anything from the national flower to a bowl of noodles.

Also Expensive.

Talking about expenses reminds us of the story we heard the other day about the way Buster Keaton spends his jack. And about how expensive some of these silly gags are that you sit in the movie show and laugh at.

You might remember a picture Buster made named "The Boat." It was a picture about a guy that built a steel boat, and when he got it finished he stood up on the bow and cracked a bottle of fizz water, and majestically waved his hand to the multitude, and the boat slid down the ways and kept right on sliding plumb down to the bottom of the ocean.

RADIO

By Associated Press.

Lincoln, Feb. 28.—Programs to be broadcast Friday, February 29 (central standard time) by courtesy of Radio Digest:

Note: All times given are p. m. unless otherwise noted:

KDKA, Pittsburgh (326), 5:15 organ, 6:15 Boy Scouts, 6:45 children's period, 7 concert, 8 American Legion.

KPRC, Hastings (341), rebroadcasts program of KDKA.

KHJ, Los Angeles (395), 8:30 children's program, 9 entertainment and story, 12 orchestra.

KYW, Chicago (536), 6:50 bedtime story, 7 concert, 10 midnight revue.

WBAP, Fort Worth Star-Telegram (476), 7:30 orchestra, 9:30 concert.

WCAE, Pittburgh (462), 7:30 program.

WDAR, Philadelphia (395), 6:30 talk, 7 concert, 9:10 dance music, 10 concert.

WDAF, Kansas City Star (411), 6 school of the air, 8 novelty night, 11:45 nighthawks.

WDAP, Chicago (360), 7 music, 10 program.

WGR, Buffalo (319), 5:30 music, 6:30 news, 8 concert.

WFAA, Dallas News (476), 8:30 program.

WFI, Philadelphia, 5 talk, 7:30 music.

WGY, Schenectady (380), 6:45 address, radiario and music.

WHA, Madison (360), 7:30 talk.

WHAS, Louisville (400), 7:30 concert.

WHK, Cleveland (283), 5 music, 7 program.

WIP, Philadelphia (509), 5:05 music, 6 talk.

WJZ, New York (455), 6:30 philosopher, 6:50 program, talks and dance music.

WJAZ, Chicago (448), 10 orchestra.

WJY, New York (405), 6:30 talk, 6:45 music, 7 talks, 7:15 music, 9 entertainment.

WLAG, Minneapolis-St. Paul (417), 6 sport program, 7:30 farm lectures, 9:15 talk, 9:30 program.

WMAQ, Chicago News (447.5), 7 weekly Wide Awake club program, 7:20 contest, 9 talk, 9:15 choir.

WMC, Memphis (500), 8:30 concert, 11 orchestra.

WOAW, Omaha (526), 6 program.

WOC, Davenport (484), 6:30 sandman's visit, 8 program.

WOO, Philadelphia (509), 6:30 music, 7 concert, 8 recital, 9:10 music.

WOR, Newark (406), 5:15 pianist, 8:30 man in moon stories, 8 quartet.

WOS, Jefferson City (440.9), 8 program.

WSB, Atlanta (429), 8 Girls' Glee club, 10:45 glee clubs.

WWJ, Detroit News (517), 7:30 music and entertainment.

300-Year-Old Jewel Kept in One Family

Bloomfield Man Saving Heirloom for Daughter—Brought to America in 1630.

Bloomfield, Neb., Feb. 28.—H. R. Van Auken of this city possesses an heirloom in the shape of a diamond-studded shawl pin which was brought from England in the year 1630 and has since that time been handed down through successive generations on the female side. The pin was brought over by the Danforth family and has successively passed through the hands of the Williams, Curtis, the Royce and other families. It finally came into the possession of Mr. Van Auken's mother, Mrs. Nettie M. Danforth Van Auken. From her, it passed to his sister and, at her death, came into his possession. He is now keeping it for his daughter, Kathleen Danforth Van Auken.

The pin is of exquisite workmanship and contains three clusters of diamonds, set in a beautiful gold mounting. Just how old it is is not known, but it has been in the family for over three centuries. Mr. Van Auken is the manager for the Bloomfield Butter company.

New Pictures Here Next Week

Interesting feature films will be offered at the various local motion picture theaters next week.

"The Acquittal," Rita Weiman's mystery drama with Norma Kerry and Claire Windsor, starts at the Sun Saturday.

The Strand, beginning Sunday, will offer "Don't Call it Love," William de Mille's picturization of Julian Streets' novel, "Rita Coventry."

A galaxy of stars will appear in "The Stranger," which opens at the Rialto Sunday.

"When Odds Are Even," comes to the World Saturday; the Empress offers "The Accidental Husband," and the "Birth of a Nation" comes back again at the Moon Saturday.

Farmers Burn Other Fuel; Cut Amount of Coal Used

Columbus, Neb., Feb. 28.—Farmers in this section have cut down their use of coal for fuel this winter more than 90 per cent, according to local dealers, who declare that rural folk are burning wood, corn, cobs and any other fuel they can lay hands on.

Columbus coal users are increasing with the growth of population. According to local dealers, 12,000 tons of coal are used here every 12 months. It takes 600 cars of coal, holding 40,000 pounds each, to supply Columbus for a year.

Liberty Films Sell Laf Reel

Liberty Films, Inc., 1514 Davenport street, has been selected as distributor for Nebraska and Iowa for Local Lafs.

Local Lafs are edited by The Omaha Bee. Fifteen cash prizes are awarded weekly by The Omaha Bee for the best Local Lafs received from readers.

These prize winning Local Lafs are to be made into a film and will be shown on the motion picture screens of Nebraska and Iowa. The first run of the first reel will be at the Sun theater, beginning March 8.

Sprains

should be treated quickly and thoroughly

Sloan's relieves the pain, and keeps the tissues from stiffening up—hastens repair. Get a bottle today—35 cents. It will not stain.

Sloan's Liniment—*kills pain!*

BRANDEIS THEATRE

4 Days, Starting Next Sunday, March 2
The Messrs. Shubert Offer the New York Winter Garden Revue

The PASSING SHOW WITH WILLIE & EUGENE HOWARD

And Many Other Favorites, Including the Winter Garden Girls
Evenings, $1-$3; Wed. Mat., 50c-$2

Two Days Only
Friday & Saturday
Saturday Matinee
MCH. 7--8
Walker
WHITESIDE
In Two of His Great Successes
Friday Night Only— "MR. WU"
Saturday Mat., and Evening "THE HINDU"
TICKETS TODAY Ev'ngs., 50c-$2.50 Mat., 50c-$2.00

Today—Last Times
WATSON SISTERS
and a Great Bill
WORLD
Seven Big Days, Starting
TOMORROW
That Famous Funny Fat Fellow,
NAT "CHICK" HAINES
and company of 12 in the breezy musical comedy,
"Yes, My Dear"
All-Star Supporting Show, Including
MILO??
Season's Comedy Surprise
On the Screen
"When Odds Are Even"
with
WILLIAM RUSSELL

"Sobbin' Blues"

Played by Art Kahn and His Orchestra, reaches for you with its blueful melody on Columbia Record 16 D.

Columbia
New Process RECORDS
Columbia Phonograph Company

Orpheum
ORPHEUM CIRCUIT VAUDEVILLE
NOW PLAYING
Twice Today, Mat. 15-50c; Nite 15c-$1

2:20	Overture, Topics, Fables	8:20
2:30	3½ Arleys	8:30
2:40	George Lyons	8:40
2:52	SARAH PADDEN	8:52
3:12	MARY HAYNES	9:12
3:30	ALBA TIBERIO	9:30
3:58	JACK WILSON	9:58
4:25	"World of Make Believe"	10:25
4:35	Pathe News	10:35

Local Lafs THE OMAHA BEE

Here Is My Laf for the Screen:
(Do not use more than 30 words)

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Name .....

Address .....

Motion Picture Theater I attend.....

.....

Use this coupon or paper of similar size and write only on one side.

FOR THE SCREEN. Fifteen cash awards will be paid each week for the best local lafs. These prize winning local lafs will appear on the screen of a number of motion picture theaters. Send your local lafs to the Local Laf Editor, The Omaha Bee, Omaha, Neb.

AT THE THEATERS

Nat (Chick) Haines, the funny fat fellow and his company of 12 in the farce with music, "Yes, My Dear," headlines the new vaudeville bill at the World beginning tomorrow. The act is said to be one of the biggest laughing headliners of the Pantages circuit. Milo, the surprising comedian, is an important added attraction. Other features include Baraban Grohs and company, Clifford and Grey, Paul Sydell and Arthur Hays. The Watson Sisters, one of the most popular headline features of the year, will be seen for the last times today.

Jack Wilson, blackface comedian, is still up to his old tricks. Charles Forsythe and Ruth Wheeler, accomplished vocalists, and little Willie Ward, who blacks up as a midget bellhop, are in Mr. Wilson's company, which is at the Orpheum this week. Spontaneity is the feature of the Wilsonian brand of humor, and his impromptu "kidding" of his fellow artists is always sure-fire because his mind works like a lightning calculator.

"Sally, Irene and Molly," the new bill at the New Empress yesterday is one of the most delightful plays offered by the Halton Powell company. The celebrated musical farce, "Henpecked Henry," with Halton Powell in the title role starts a four-day engagement Sunday.

Irene Leary, ingenue with "Nifties of 1924" at the Gayety theater this week, began her stage career as a child in the "Little Red Schoolhouse," in the same company with Mary Pickford and the Gish girls. The engagement closes tonight. Matinee at 2:15.

A human stairway with tier after tier of beautiful young women swinging and swaying to the rhythmatic measure of a haunting song number is one of the multitude of attractive features promised in the forthcoming local presentations of "Talk of the Town" at the popular Gayety theater, week starting tomorrow matinee. An added feature will be an open seance by Mme. Frimini, who will answer all manner of questions propounded pertaining to love, marriage, business etc. Questions may be presented in writing or asked orally.

"The Passing Show," the 10th of the series, which comes to the Brandeis theater beginning Sunday and staying through Wednesday adheres to the policy of its predecessors in that many of the popular plays of the past and current seasons are travesties. The present revue is divided into two acts and 26 scenes. The Messrs. Shubert have provided an excellent company, of unusual size, happily combined to successfully entertain, which includes Willie and Eugene Howard, Colletta Ryan, the Lockfords, Peggy Brown, Emily Miles, John Quinlan, Fred Allen, George Anderson, Fred Walton, Flo Summerville, Arthur Charmion, Danny Dare, George Gilday, Alfred Gilday, Wilbur DeRouge, Frances Winters, Alexander Frank, Michael Cavanaugh, William Brandt and Emmett Douglas.

Don't tell your friends how it turns out; they'll never guess!

Carl Laemmle presents

The Acquittal

The same great mystery story which as a stage play baffled and entertained audiences of New York and London for months and months. Made into one of the most powerful, gripping pictures ever to reach the screen, it is one picture that will keep you guessing from beginning to end. You won't know until the end how it is going to turn out! It will give you the surprise and thrill of your life. See it and learn if you can tell in advance how it is going to end!

With An All-Star Cast Featuring

CLAIRE WINDSOR
NORMAN KERRY
Starts Saturday
at the
SUN

NO ONE ADMITTED DURING THE LAST TWO REELS OF "THE ACQUITTAL"

ASK Mme. FRIMINI
World's Greatest Mentalist
SHE KNOWS!
Love, Marriage, Personalities
OPEN SEANCE For the Curious
Replete With Fun & Mystery
In Conjunction With "TALK of the TOWN"
GAYETY
Wk. Start. SAT. MAT.

NOW **RIALTO** NOW
Earle Williams, Jane Novak, Ben Alexander
In a story of blind husbands and indiscreet wives—
"Jealous Husbands"
Today at 3:15, 7:30, 9:30
Rialto-Herzberg Spring Style Revue
With
Ivan D. Martin's
New York Models
Larry Semon in Horseshoes
Organ & Flute Geo. Haupt & Earl Ticknor
Rialto Orchestra of 21

NOW **Strand** NOW
His First Romantic Drama
RICHARD BARTHELMESS
and
Dorothy Mackaill
in
"The Fighting Blade"

Yellow Cab

Spends a Fortune For Chain

"Chains On!" This command flashes into sight at YELLOW CAB headquarters and at every one of our cab stands in the city at the first drop of rain or flake of snow.

"Chains On!" means the safety of our passengers; the safety of pedestrians and the safety of other motorists.

Anti-skid chains are only one of the many important details which contribute to the efficiency of modern YELLOW CAB service and which distinguish it from just ordinary service.

We spend thousands of dollars annually for chains alone, but we do so cheerfully, for Safety is cheap at any price.

The next time it starts to snow or rain watch our drivers almost unconsciously perform a task at the first minute that the private motorist postpones to the last—if he uses chains at all.

It is such things as chains and heaters and decent, courteous drivers, and a hundred other things too numerous to mention, that make our organization not merely a cab company, but an institution which commands your confidence and patronage.

Don't Take a Chance, Take a Yellow

Yellow Cab & Baggage Co.

Phone: ATlantic 9000

Grandfather Still Has Letter Given Him to Post Five Years Ago

Columbus, Neb., Feb. 28.—R. C. Boyd, local merchant, who is one of the oldest active members of the Masonic lodge in Columbus, has established a record.

Last Saturday his son, Tom Boyd, happened to run across an old overcoat of his father's that had been hung away for several years. Going through the pockets, Tom came across a letter, stamped, addressed and ready to be mailed.

Investigation showed that Miss Minnie Boyd, R. C. Boyd's granddaughter, had written the letter almost five years ago and given it to her grandfather to post.

And still some wives will harp on husbands who forget a letter for a day or two.

Woman's Purse Snatched.

Mrs. Sam Peltz, 3901 Haskell street, reported to police Thursday morning that her purse, containing small change, had been snatched by a young man at Thirtieth and Center streets. He escaped down an alley.

Today and Tomorrow
EMPRESS The Clever Musical Play
SALLY IRENE AND MOLLY
in addition to new photo-play attractions
The famous musical farce
STARTS SUNDAY Four Days
HENPECKED HENRY

MOON LAST DAY
"Lights Out"
Starting TOMORROW
The Picture That Will Live Forever.
D. W. GRIFFITH'S **BIRTH OF A NATION**

Gayety Omaha's Fun Center
Mat. and Nite Today
The Columbia Burlesk, "NIFTIES," With BILLY FOSTER, WILL H. COHAN & Ben Meroff's Symphonic Band
Ladies' 25c Bargain Mat., 2:15 Week Days
Sat. Mat. & wk. 'Talk of the Town,' Eddie Hall

NEIGHBORHOOD THEATERS
LOTHROP - - - - - - 24th and Lothrop
HAROLD LLOYD in "WHY WORRY?"
GRAND - - - - - - 16th and Binney
HOLBROOK BLINN in "THE BAD MAN"
BOULEVARD - - 33d and Leavenworth
"The Meanest Man in the World" and a Comedy
Vaudeville and "Ruth of the Range" No. 18