

New Organization to Be Formed at 1925 Legion Meet

Auxiliary President to Announce Plans for World-Wide Gathering on Omaha Visit Sunday.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 20.—Mrs. O. D. Oliphant, national president of the women's auxiliary of the American Legion, will officially announce when she visits Omaha Sunday that women from all parts of the world, with the exception of the former enemy countries, will meet at the 1925 legion convention to organize a world-wide women's organization as an auxiliary of the legion, a world-wide service men's organization.

This will bring to Omaha in 1925 leading women from all parts of the world, Mrs. Oliphant said.

Mrs. Oliphant, a newspaper woman of Trenton, N. J., said that her organization hopes to make the Omaha convention of the auxiliary the largest in its history.

"Omaha has the ideal location and is showing the proper spirit," said Mrs. Oliphant. "We must not forget that the women spend much more time than the men do at these conventions."

According to reports received at national headquarters, approximately 15,000 women will attend the Omaha convention.

Mrs. Oliphant will be accompanied to Omaha by Mrs. B. Wetherill, national executive secretary of the auxiliary.

"I am anxious to meet Everett Buckingham, who is the Omaha convention committee secretary," she said. "His fame has spread to New Jersey. With such men at the head of the various Omaha committees, I know we will have a great convention."

Mrs. Oliphant is termed "Practical Mrs. Oliphant" by national officers of the legion.

NEW INSURANCE COMPANY HERE

Raymond F. Low has resigned as vice president of the Foster-Barker company and has organized the American Reserve Life Insurance company, a legal reserve mutual with offices in the First National Bank building.

Associated with Low as directors are T. L. Davis, vice president of the First National bank; W. B. Roberts, former president of the Union Light and Power company; E. A. Creighton, treasurer of Foster-Barker, and Sam W. Reynolds, coal merchant.

The officers are Raymond F. Low, president; T. L. Davis, vice president, and W. B. Roberts, secretary and treasurer.

Low has had over 14 years of insurance experience and has been an officer of the Foster-Barker company since 1915.

Rates for Electricity Reduced at Bridgeport

Bridgeport, Nov. 20.—Officers of the Western Public Service company that recently took over the local plant and is furnishing power through a transmission line from its Scottsbluff power plant have offered residents of Bridgeport a reduction of approximately 20 per cent in rates for electricity, effective November 1, following action by the city council in making a contract with an engineering firm for a preliminary survey for a municipal light plant.

When You Feel a Cold Coming On Take Laxative BROMO QUININE Tablets to work off the cause and to fortify the system against an attack of Grip or Influenza. A Safe and Proven Remedy. The box bears signature of E. W. Grove, 30c.—Advertisement.



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Omahans Scoff at Theory Pastor's Wife Crawled Into Blazing Furnace

Coroner Here Can't Understand How Suicide Conclusion Reached by Columbus Official; "Ridiculous," Says Chief of Detectives.

Mrs. Addie Sheatsley, Columbus (Ohio) minister's wife, did not creep, alive, into the furnace in the basement of the Sheatsley home where her charred body was found, in the opinion of county and city police officials and expert furnace men here.

"She couldn't go in head first, because she would have been dead before she could draw her body in, and she couldn't go in feet first, because the part of the blazing coals would have caused her to faint," said County Attorney Henry Beal. "I quite agree with the prosecutor on this point."

"The woman's association with Indian mystics adds an odd angle to the case. Who these were, we don't know. What extraordinary angles there may have been, what exotic persons connected with the affair, what impulse or even what strange powers were concerned, we can only conjecture. It is a case from which a Sherlock Holmes might unravel a most unusual plot."

Steinwender Agrees.
County Coroner Paul Steinwender agrees with this view.

"How the coroner at Columbus figures suicide out of it I can't understand," he said. "There's a murderer in it somewhere. I am satisfied. It may have been some outlandish belief from the land of mysticism and voodoo. An unusual person, at any rate, who would go through with such a gruesome episode."

W. A. Haberstroh, furnace man, 1402 Military avenue, declares it is "utterly impossible for an adult to crawl into a lighted furnace."
"The very touch of the hot metal would cause an involuntary reaction on the part of any person who tried to do so," he said. "The size of the door, 11 by 14 inches, would make it a hard struggle to get into the firebox even if the furnace were cold. Look for the murderer."

Murder, Opinion of Police.

Police officers were virtually unanimous in the opinion that every circumstance in the case pointed to murder. The theory that the woman could have withstood the agony of the flames, even had she been able to crawl into the door without finding something to brace herself against was ridiculed.

"The feat could not be accomplished even if their were no fire," said Police Commissioner Henry Dunn. "If I didn't couldn't have turned around inside the door to close the door. She could not have climbed in feet first, for she had nothing to brace herself against."

"In my opinion, an examination of the skull will show that she was killed and her body stuffed into the firebox."

Inspector Pzanowski recalled a case in point when a burglar whom he had been pursuing attempted to hide in a cold furnace.

Feet Stuck Out.

"It was a large furnace and he was a very small man," Pzanowski said. "He climbed in head first, but he could not pull his body inside the furnace. His feet projected and I saw him. It would have been a physical impossibility for any one to turn around inside a furnace, even if they could withstand the agony."

"I would question the woman's son," he added. "His failure to tell his father of the discovery of the body is a very suspicious circumstance."

Chief of Detectives Ben Danbaum asserted flatly that the woman had been murdered.

"The theory that she crawled into that blazing mass of coals is simply ridiculous," he declared. "Moreover, it would be a physical impossibility."

Capt. George Allen and Capt. Bert Thorpe were also convinced that the suicide theory was untenable.

"Maybe," Says Van Deusen.

Chief of Police Van Deusen was the only man to grant that the suicide theory was barely possible.

"Many years ago, I remember, a fireman on a Union Pacific engine dived head first into a firebox of his cab," he said. "His body was not completely in the firebox, but he died almost instantly as the flames penetrated to his lungs. In that case the door was a large one and was set on the floor of the cab, which is a different thing from that in the present case. Still, the suicide theory must be given consideration."

Couldn't be done," said J. J. Martell, manager of the Cole Hot Blast Furnace company.

"That woman's body was certainly stuffed into the furnace after she was killed. And it must have been some strong man that did it. The furnace door, 11 by 14 inches, would not admit a large body."

Alliance and Bridgeport to Be Joined by Highway

Bridgeport, Nov. 20.—Construction of a \$250,000 state and federal aid highway between Alliance and Bridgeport will be started early next spring and rushed to completion in time for the late summer traffic, according to agreement reached at a conference of state and government engineers, county commissioners of Morrill and Box Butte counties and interested farmers. The road will run along the east side of the railroad, 30 feet wide, with a four-inch lime stone base and a four-inch gravel covering.

Reds Strongest Class in Beatrice Poultry Show

Beatrice, Nov. 20.—The Beatrice poultry show closed here today after a run of three days. Earl Snider of Lincoln scored the birds and the ribbons were equally divided among the home exhibitors and those from a distance. The Reds were the strongest class with Buff Orpingtons and White Leghorns a close second. Some of the older breeds such as the White Wyandottes, Light Brahams and Barred Rocks, were not represented.

Wymore Home Robbed.

Wymore, Nov. 20.—While the family was absent last night a burglar entered the home of Mr. and Mrs. Claton Lasher, near the Central High school building here and stole jewelry and other articles valued at \$150. Mr. Lasher is a hardware merchant of Wymore.

EX-MAYOR FRIDAY OF NORFOLK DEAD

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee, Norfolk, Nov. 20.—John Friday, who was mayor of Norfolk for many years and prominent hardware merchant, died here last night. Funeral will be held Friday.

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Fertilizer Sales Increase.
Columbus, Nov. 20.—Sales of commercial fertilizer to farmers have increased 200 per cent according to representatives of the various plants in the city this week.

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This story will appear exclusively in

THE OMAHA BEE

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