

GETTING AT IT BACKWARDS.

Witnesses For the Defense Called to Frighten Complainants Away.

IT IS A MONUMENTAL FIASCO.

Commissioner Hartman Declares That Policemen Are Being Heard in Their Own Behalf Before Complaint is Made.

Police Investigation. "It seems to me that we are going at this investigation wrong end to. We are having our policemen testify in their own behalf before we have heard the complaints against them."

This was the remark of Mr. Hartman at the fire and police commissioners investigation yesterday morning.

It looked very much that way. When the commission met there were at least fifty witnesses present. After two or three of them had been examined the police were called in and occupied the time until noon telling what they knew in their own behalf.

This was kept up until the witnesses who were summoned got tired and went away, leaving the examination a decidedly jagged affair.

The first witness was R. M. Mohr, a janitor in the Heilmuth block on North Sixteenth street, who was arrested on August 6, for calling a policeman to catch a burglar who was in the block and a man named Mohr.

He blew a whistle for a policeman. A man was in the closet. "I went to him," said the witness, "and he told me to keep still. A policeman, Murphy, came in and asked what I was doing and threatened to arrest me. He took hold of my arm and pinched me. They did not release me until after the ladies had made an explanation in my behalf. Murphy told me it was a fine of \$50 and thirty days in jail for blowing a whistle. I've been six years in jail and was never asked before by a policeman. The officer let the man go who was trying to get into the window. The policeman accused me of being full of beer. Murphy then went into a woman's room and told her it was all in her imagination.

The Mayor—As a matter of fact you were not arrested. The officer was only fooling. Mr. Mohr—I didn't think he was fooling. I was in dead earnest about it.

Mr. Hartman said there was no man on the regular force named Murphy. It must have been Murphy, the watchman at the Webster street station.

Councilman E. E. Bailey was called in reference to his knowledge about the facts in the case of Mr. James Hodges, who was arrested for dumping garbage while in the employ of the park commissioners. He was abused when arrested and thrown on the floor of the jail. Mr. Bailey said that Mr. Hodges had lived at his neighbor for fifteen years and had known him as a reputable citizen.

Mr. Hodges was called. He told the facts in the case. After he was arrested he was taken to the jail. The jailer gave me a push and said "G—d—n you, get in there."

I did not want to give up my pocketbook. He shoved me into the jail and called me a "d—d rascal" and a "damned scoundrel." The case was dismissed at the explanation of the park commissioners.

Pat Harty, the jailer who took charge of Hodges, was called. He claimed that Hodges offered to allow Hodges to go on his own recognizance, but Hodges refused to do so. Hodges resisted him when he tried to search him and he had to throw him on the floor and take his pocketbook from him.

The investigation practically ended here and the commissioners proceeded to take up regular police court form the charge of vagrancy against Billy Nestlehouse. All of the policemen who knew Nestlehouse were put on the stand and returned to the pieces they have learned by heart in a score of attempts to convict Nestlehouse of vagrancy in the past.

This occupied the time until noon, when the board adjourned until 2 o'clock.

The mayor wants Councilman Kaspar to appear before the commissioners and substantiate the charges he made in the council meeting to the effect that he had been made a special object of police suspicion.

The police commissioner succeeded yesterday afternoon in adding several chapters to the volume they are preparing for publication entitled, "Investigations Made by Every Policeman His Own Best Witness." An army of witnesses had been summoned to give evidence in substantiation of the charges made in the newspapers against certain members of the police force.

Very few of those summoned appeared to give evidence, and so the police were given another opportunity to speak in their own behalf, and to prepare defenses to be used in future proceedings.

Dunn Officer Brady got tangled up in his little story about arresting two printers on the charge of pounding a man. His only evidence against them was that one man wore a light colored suit and the other dark clothes, and two men dressed in this style were seen on the dump early in the spring.

Charles Wetz, a saloonkeeper on Thirtieth street, came in and told how he had been swindled on a bogus check. He got a chance to get his money back but Chief Seavey refused to give up the check, and also refused to explain why he held it. Mr. Wetz got his money, however, and so he was satisfied.

Alex Green was given a chance to deny, in advance of any charges, that he had ever made a mistake in his lifetime as far as he knew.

In the evening Duff Green came before the board and entered a wholesale and general store in the city. He had a number of affidavits against the ex-capitain and he was not yet appeared before the board, but Green is busy these days, and so was not able to appear in his own defense, that it may be ready when the statements against him are made, if they ever are.

P. J. Sheridan and W. R. Hunt appeared before the commissioners and gave evidence concerning their arrest by Officer Walker. Mr. Sheridan said that he was arrested on the charge of vagrancy while sitting in front of his boarding house reading a paper. Mr. Hunt said that he had been in Omaha all his life and was looking at a building which he had rented for a store when he was arrested. Both men were discharged without a hearing.

A large number of witnesses have been subpoenaed to appear before the commissioners this morning at 9 o'clock.

INTIMIDATING WITNESSES. A Burly Policeman Assaults a Witness in Presence of the Commission. The police commissioners had an occasion yesterday at their meeting yesterday at the hotel headquarters, to see the least of a member of the force.

During the examination of witnesses in the police examination Jesse Newman, a colored policeman, made an assault upon Crowell, who was present as a witness before the board. Crowell and Newman had been conversing in the hall before entering the room. Crowell then went into the commissioners' room and was standing with his arms folded talking to Richard Wilde when Newman came in and made an assault upon him and various foul names and struck at him.

"Sergeant," cried Crowell to Sergeant Mostyn, "this officer is assaulting me." With this Newman seized Crowell by the throat and pushed him through the door and started toward the hall with Crowell broke away and returned to the commissioners' room. Newman followed and again seized him by the throat, and the pair struggled into the hall again.

Sergeant Mostyn reached them and hustled Newman into the chief's office, but not until he had made several passes at Crowell's face.

The deliberations of the commissioners were cut short by the disturbance. When quiet was restored the commissioners invited Officer Newman to appear before them and tell why he had assaulted a witness. The officer stated that Crowell had called him a name that he would not stand from any man and he resented it. "If I had not had my star on," said the officer, "tapping himself on the breast, 'I would have pounded his head off.'"

VICTORY FOR THE MOTOR.

Judge Doane Grants the South Omaha Injunction.

While waiting for the judge to put in an appearance yesterday morning and decide the motor street railway injunction suit for South Omaha, Congressman Connel and General Covin consumed half an hour discussing the wonderful changes of sentiment which have taken place in a remarkably short period of time.

"Less than six months ago," said Mr. Connel, "we were engaged here in a bitter fight to prove that electricity as a motive power was dangerous and that the railway company, which opposed us, is to-day stringing miles of what it then designated as unsightly poles and dangerous wires, with a view to ultimately supplanting all its horse cars with motor trains."

"Yes," replied Connel, "we were running all over the country searching for affidavits to convince our court that the application of electricity as a means of operating street cars was not only successful but safe, and, but would take the place of everything else."

After the gas controversy had been settled, Judge Doane succeeded in disposing of the street car case. His ruling was quite lengthy and touched upon questions raised in nearly all the contests that have occurred within the past seven or eight months between these two corporations. The facts have heretofore been published in these columns, and are already familiar to everyone interested.

The motor company was granted an injunction mainly on the ground that its prior right to possession of the streets in South Omaha had not been successfully disputed. While the street railway company had a counter application for an injunction, and based its claims upon the result of a election granting it franchises, the court held that to be of no consequence. That election, he said, extended only to the board of public utility trustees, and was not held until after this company had been consolidated with the horse car company, consequently it was not binding upon the street railway company.

The court held that the street railway company had a right to possession of the streets in South Omaha, and that the motor company was not entitled to the franchise. On the other hand, the motor people had secured a permit from the board of public utility trustees to occupy and lay their tracks on Twenty-fourth street to the south line of this city, and by so doing not only manifested a good, but a most sincere intention of going through South Omaha on the same street, the company was ordered to put up a bond of \$10,000 as an evidence of good faith and its purpose to carry on the extensions and improvements proposed.

New business was light in the district court yesterday afternoon. Judge Doane called upon James Callahan, who had accepted the position of stakeholder in a horse race, and had been dropped out of sight with the \$200 stake money, of which \$100 was deposited by Callahan, who wants a judgment in that amount against Cassidy.

New petitions were as follows: 14-22—James Callahan vs Edward Cassidy; appeal.

New papers were filed as follows: 14-23—John F. Plack vs Robert Kerr et al.; separate accounts; W. H. Bishop, 14-24—Prunty vs Brown et al.; summons; 15-8—Tate vs Case; justification of surety; 14-268—Peashear vs Omaha Brick and Terra Cotta company; dismissal.

13-230—C. R. Palmer et al vs G. F. Hurlbert et al.; voluntary appearance. 14-197—John McHenry vs John McDonald, Elizabeth A. Toboult et al.; stipulation.

7-70—Disbro vs Rapp et al; motion. 7-70—Disbro vs Rapp et al; notice. 11-04—International Building, Loan and Investment union vs William and Estella Gibson; depositions on behalf of the plaintiff.

Trial notices were filed in these cases: 9-293—Albert E. Touzin vs City of Omaha et al.; 4-5—William F. Swezey vs City of Omaha et al.; 3-242—W. F. Swezey, appellant, vs City of Omaha et al.; 10-141—N. J. Burnham, plaintiff in error, vs City of Omaha et al.; 10-144—Frank E. Gillet vs S. N. Waite, et al.; 10-378—G. Doane, appellant, vs Patrick J. Creedon et al.; 11-293—Adolph Anderson vs F. A. Spethman et al.; 12-72—Adolph Anderson, appellant, vs George W. Adams et al.; 12-75—G. D. Wyatt vs Michael Whalon et al.; 13-106—L. McGree vs George Waddell, et al.; 13-107—West Point National bank vs Ezra P. Savage et al.; 13-257—Mary P. Griffin vs Joel A. Griffin et al.; 14-74—Rasmus P. Jensen et al vs Lewis Investment company.

14-137—Alex E. Wallace vs Palmer E. Isolden et al.; 14-192—Patrick J. Creedon vs City of Omaha et al.; 15-112—James M. Swetnam vs De Forrest W. Saxe.

County Court. Suits to evict tenants from the river bottom lands were begun in the county court yesterday by the Omaha & Northwestern railway company, a corporation which is part and parcel of the Union Pacific company. The defendants were August Powie, real name unknown, and Frederick Albert.

A trio of actions were begun by Millard F. Sears and J. W. West against A. B. Toft et al. in their divorce proceedings on Monday evening, September 2. After the parade there will be music and a hop at Miss Hall's.

The Omaha Guards will entertain the Dodge Light Guards about October 1, at the officers' residence.

The competitive prize drill for the officers' prize will take place at the Omaha Guards' headquarters on September 28.

Corporal George C. Fabyan, of the Omaha Guards, will for the first time appear as a defendant in a civil suit.

The Omaha Guards will not go into training for the Kansas City fair, as they have just received a notice from the commissioners stating that the military portion of the programme had been postponed this year.

Abstracts of title to Wyoming oil lands furnished. Assessment work done and verified by the assessor. Tuesday afternoon, August 20, 1890, a quarrel arose and Green struck Nelson several fist blows. Nelson responded by breaking a beer glass to bladders over the barkeeper's head, inflicting a ugly wound.

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Fought With Beer Glasses. Gust Nelson gave bond yesterday for his appearance in police court to be tried for assault on a bartender named Green at Twentieth and Cuming. Nelson drank in the bar and Green struck Nelson several fist blows. Nelson responded by breaking a beer glass to bladders over the barkeeper's head, inflicting a ugly wound.

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While Sidewalk Inspection Goes Glimmering.

The charge made in the city council Tuesday night that Sidewalk Inspector Allen has been spending too much time of late playing high five, may have some foundation. It is a fact that Allen has not been in his office but once in the past week or ten days, and that his work is being neglected.

Sidewalk contractors, members of the city council and the chairman of the board of public works have been chasing around the city for the past few days, endeavoring to get Allen's orders and instructions for work that has been ordered by the city council. Visits have been made to his house to get the attention of such matters as are pressing. Tuesday Allen was found and expressed his disgust at being thus hounded, and, finally, he resigned his position.

He is reported to have prepared his resignation for presentation to the city council at Tuesday night's meeting, but for some reason failed to do so.

"The trouble with Allen," said a city official, "is that he is too busy inspecting his chances for the nomination as county clerk to pay any attention to the inspection of sidewalks."

The soft glow of the ten rose is acquired by ladies who use Pozzoni's Complexion Tonic. Try it.

Ryan Duke, No. 654, son of Hero of Chester, No. 10, to be sold at auction in Lincoln, September 5. Also a college lot of harness and collars, drivers and draft horses.

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DRUG STORES. F. E. Chandler, 10th and Leavenworth and South Twenty-ninth. S. S. Lanyon, 230 Parkman. C. S. Tobitt, 213 Parkman. S. M. Crissey, 212 3/4 St. Caledonian Drug Store, 27th and Lake.

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SOUTH OMAHA. S. S. Stott, Postoffice. G. Leathers, 10th and 11th and on street. Patrons of THE BEE will notice the above new agencies at drug stores and elevators, which have been placed for the further accommodation and convenience of Bee readers.

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Public Works. The work of paving the streets ordered by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, is progressing but slowly, owing to the numerous rains during the past two months. June and July are generally dry months in this section, but this year they were the opposite. Notwithstanding the fact that the work is backward, Major Hancock is of the opinion that all the work will be done before the season closes, provided the rains do not during the next two months be favorable.

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REDUCED BARGAINS.

This week will positively close out the balance of our summer suits. Fall goods are coming in and room must be made for them. We have a few extra fine light weight suits for dress and business wear which we are ready to sacrifice. They are made of the choicest fancy worsteds and gotten up in A No. 1 style. No custom garment can beat them. They are suits for which merchant tailors would charge from \$40 to \$50. We have reduced them to less than the material in them is worth. It will be money in your pocket if you will avail yourself of this opportunity. These reductions hold good also in our boys' department. We are offering a lot of extremely fine boys' and childrens' suits at prices—you could not buy them a month ago for double the money.

In our furnishing department we have every day one thing or the other to close out. Today it's a little line of underwear, tomorrow a small lot of flannel shirts, of which the sizes are broken, etc. On all such goods we make prices which will tempt you into buying whether you need the goods or not.

We call particular attention in this department to several lots of Night Shirts which we are offering extremely low. One lot very good Shirts, plain and also fancy fronts and collars, at 50c. Another very fine Shirt, with elegant embroidered front and collar, at 80c.

In our Hat Department we are now opening our new Fall shapes. We have during the past few days made alterations which give us more room, and our Hat Department holds now the stock of two good sized local hat stores. We have a bewildering variety of Derbys and Soft Hats, and in prices the hat stores fall far behind us. No fictitious values on our Hats. You don't pay anything for a "swell" name in the lining. We sell you good dependable qualities, fashionable shapes and colors, at about one-half the prices hat stores charge you for like qualities.

Please Note: Until September the first our store closes at 6:30 p. m. Saturday at 10 p. m.

Nebraska Clothing Company. Corner Douglas and Fourteenth streets, Omaha.