THE FIELD OF ELECTRICITY

Progress of Trial Tests of the Wireless Telegraph System.

RIVALS IN THE TELEPHONE BUSINESS

Objection to State Control of Telephones—Cost of Electric Heating—Experimenting with Electricity in Agriculture.

There are unmistakable indications abroad that telegraphy is at the threshold of a revolution. The various tests of the Marconi system, nearly all of which have been successful, give promise of contributing mightily to the welfare and progress of the world. The most important of recent tests was that of Marconi, the inventor, who is reported to have sent and received messages from a point on the English coast to a vessel in the British channel. Developments in this line are eagerly watched by the maritime world. Any means enabling ships, especially when in distress, to communicate with the shore would be a triumph entitled to rank with the invention of telegraphy.

Tests of the system have been made recently at Notre Dame university and at Chicago, and of the sine wave, Washington. At the national capitol communication was established between the War department building and Fort Myer, seven miles away, and messages exchanged. The test was conducted by Colonel Squier and Albert C. Crehore of Dartmouth college. A machine which operates like a typewriter was used to perforate a long, narrow tape, similar to that used in stock tickers. A metallic circuit exactly similar to those used by the telegraph companies was used. The officers are enthusiastic over the test. The Morse alphabet was used and the officers who had charge of the test say everyone can learn the Morse alphabet and be able to read the tape, which will assist in the system of operation.

While there is no doubt the system worked successfully and the speed was remarkable, this will be minimized by the fact that nearly all the time gained in transmission will be lost in translating the messages into English, which will be necessary to the successful operations of the system. The instruments used are somewhat similar to those employed by the cable companies, and a successful test has been made between New York City and Canso, Nova Scotia. The Washington test did not develop the speed attained at a test on the lines of the British Telegraph company, when 3,000 words per minute were transmitted.

Cost of Electric Heating.

M. Lalance read a paper before the Society of Civil Engineers of France on heating by electricity. He first described in detail the method of constructing an electric heating and cooking apparatus, in which wires are embedded in enamel in order to prevent oxidation, etc. He explained the difficulty that had been found in getting resistance material and enamel with practically the same co-efficiency of expansion in order that they might not part company when heated. The author says that when electric energy is produced by water power it is possible for electric heating to compete financially with ordinary methods of heating; and beyond this, as is well known, the electric heating has peculiar advantages from the fact that it does not in any way vitiate the air or cause noxious fumes when used for cooking purposes. The author then proceeded to calculate the cost of performing certain cooking operations and boiling of water by electricity, assuming that the price paid per unit for energy is about 9 cents, as is the case in Paris. He points out that, although these prices are high, yet other advantages derived from electric heating make them acceptable to the public. With respect to the question of heating of buildings, the author states that it requires about 65 watts for every cubic metre of space which has to be maintained at 22 degrees C. above the temperature of the outside air. He gives an instance of one dining-room in Paris that is electrically heated, in which the total cost per annum for electric energy comes out at $31.25. The total equivalent load, we presume, says the Electrical Engineer, London, in 10 candle power lamps which is obtained from the heating apparatus in the Sectur de la Place Clichy is equal to 5,000 lamps. In the concluding part of his paper the author refers to other systems of heating, such as the use of red-hot rods of silicon in a vacuum.

State Telephones.

Sir John Lubbock, in a letter to the London Times on the government telephone bill, draws attention to a point that is often lost sight of. He points out that if the telephone becomes national property not only will the state loose money, but "the results as regards the progress of applied science will, in my judgment, be even more disastrous. Those who have hitherto devoted thought and time, energy and capital, to apply the results of scientific discovery to practical purposes are now told that while, of course, if their enterprise does not pay, they must bear the loss, on the other hand, if it succeeds, government will pass an act of Parliament to deprive them of any advantage." In support of this opinion he quotes the late Mr. Varley as follows: "The introduction of protectionism in so important an industry as telegraphy has given the postal executive a grip hold of applied electricity, and has enabled them to crush practically out of existence pioneers in telegraphy and applied electricity. English telegraph enterprise no longer exists and America, which twenty years ago was electrically in the rear of this country, is now England's teacher. At the present time not only does she take premier rank in dynamo-electric development, but practically all the telegraphic advances which have been made since the passage of the telegraph act have originated from American genius. * * * The sole object I have in view in writing is to bring home to the British public, if I can, the evil consequences of the un-English retrograde policy of converted applied science into a government trading monopoly." This point should engage the attention of the Society of Telegraph Engineers.

Telephone Rivals.

The telephone situation in this country presents one of the most interesting problems in the industrial world, relates the Chicago Tribune. On one hand is the American Bell Telephone company, with its local exchange system connected by long distance lines, and its twenty years' experience to guide it in overcoming the opposition that is growing up and confronting it in all parts of the country.

On the other hand, the prejudice against the old monopoly—as it is still called—was never more bitter nor assertive than at present. The independent movement has made remarkable strides in the last two years, and is making strong competition for the business of the larger cities, as well as the less profitable work in which it has formerly been engaged. In order to appreciate fully the present conditions of the industry in this country it may be well to recall the more important incidents in the history of the development of the art.

The American Bell Telephone company took over the business of the National Bell Telephone company in 1880, and thereby secured virtual control of the field. The industry at that time had scarcely passed the experimental stage, the exchanges in the largest cities were small compared with those of the present day, the apparatus employed was crude and the service so poor that it became an object of ridicule everywhere. These conditions hampered the extension of the system, yet at that time there were 28,316 miles of wire in use, and 132,692 instruments were employed.

With the establishment and recognition of its monopoly the Bell company was in position to devote its attention to the development and improvement of the service and the extension of the business. It commanded the telephone, engineering and inventive ability of the country, as it afforded the only outlet for the efforts and products of the men who had been trained in this department. It is true that the telephone has had a remarkable growth, but it is also true that this advancement has been made in spite of the Bell company's policy rather than as a result of its encouragement and assistance. Never for a moment was the public permitted to forget that there was a monopoly and that the owners of it were determined to exact the last farthing. No advancement was contemplated, no extension was considered and no improvement adopted that entailed an expenditure that could not be immediately regained with profit. It was only when the old methods of exchange operation became so cumberson and expensive as to make further increase impossible that the installation of a new system was admitted to be desirable and even then the charges were increased so as to more than cover the expense of the new equipment.

The American Bell Telephone company is not engaged in construction work, nor does it operate telephone exchanges. It holds the controlling interest, however, in the Bell companies that are engaged in these branches and owns the patents under which they operate.

Great Growth of System.

Statistics for fifteen years are presented in the last annual report of the parent company just completed, showing an unprecedented growth of late years, which would seem to indicate that the independent movement had really aided the Bell interests. For instance, the increase in the number of instruments in use was greater last year than ever before. On December 20, 1898, there were 1,124,846 telephones in the hands of licensees, under rental, an increase of 205,725 over the previous year, which was by far the largest gain ever recorded. This increase was larger than the total number of instruments in use in 1880, when the American Bell company was formed. At that time there were only 132,692 telephones in the entire country.

There are now in operation 1,126 exchanges equipped with Bell apparatus and controlled by the American Bell Telephone company through upward of fifty exchange companies and 1,008 branch offices. The equipment includes 772,989 miles of wire in 338,293 circuits and 465,180 stations. It is estimated that there are 3,823,070 calls a day on the Bell exchanges of the country, making 1,231,000,000 in a year.

The toll line system now includes 75,718 miles of pole lines—an increase of 7,927 miles in the last year—and 385,911 miles of wire. This service comprised 95,147 connections daily, or 30,600,000 during the last year, and the revenue therefrom amounted to $5,571,710. This, of course, did not include the earnings of the long-distance company. That concern was operating 10,079.05 miles of pole lines and cable and 123,275.05 miles of wire, connecting 285 offices, on January 1, 1899, a considerable gain on the previous year. There are thirty-eight exchange companies whose systems furnish long line terminals and these companies include 409,250 stations, of which 200,528 are equipped with metallic circuits and 25,158 with long distance cabinet sets.

Without taking into consideration the independent interests of this country, it is interesting to note the comparison that has been made bteween the American Bell system and the service in foreign countries:

The statistics of European countries at the close of 1897, taken from such reports and publications as can be obtained, showed the number of exchange stations in the German empire to be 173,981; in Sweden, 56,500; in Austria and Hungary, 33,862; in Switzerland, 32,252; in Norway, 20,678; in Russia, 20,108; in France, estimated, 45,060; in all of continental Europe together, 453,844; in Great Britain and Ireland, at the end of 1898, 103,084. At that time the American Bell telephone system in the United States numbered 465,180 exchange stations. Toll line conversations in this country are held over distances of about 2,000 miles, the longest telephone line in Europe is 850 miles.

Independent Interests.

If the independent interests are taken into consideration the comparison will be much more favorable to the United States. There are now 100 factories in the United States furnishing telephone equipments to "independent" exchanges. Add to this twenty-five telephone supply houses, as many more construction companies and 3,000 exchanges with an extensive intercommunicating toll line system, and some idea of the magnitude of the anti-Bell movement can be gained.

As has already been pointed out, the Bell interests for many years not only controlled the telephone business of the country, but enjoyed a monopoly of far greater value—the brains, inventive genius and mechanical skill employed in this industry. Just as soon as the fundamental patents expired, however, and the field was opened to competition, there were many deserters from the ranks of the Bell experts and the independent forces were swelled by the accession of many of the most experienced men in the business. This will explain in large measure the immediate success of the anti-Bell movement and the high standard of equipment that has already been attained by this new industry. It will also furnish a clew to the readiness shown by capitalists to advance funds for the development of the business. It is generally known that the telephone industry heretofore has been exceedingly profitable and this has increased the desire of business men as well as speculators to invest in enterprises of this character.

At present it is estimated that the independent companies in several states reach many more points than the Bell lines, but there has been no systematic effort made as yet to collect and tabulate statistical information upon the growth of the industry, and anything aside from the most general statement of the present condition of the business is purely guesswork. The Bell company did not begin a statistical record for several years after the consolidation, and it is not surprising that the independent interests in their eager pursuit of every advantageous opportunity have failed thus far to appreciate the importance of this feature.

No Relief from Rheumatism Until Chamberlain's Pain Balm Was Used.

In 1888 my wife went east and was attacked with rheumatism. She received no relief until she tried Chamberlain's Pain Balm. Since that time We have never been without it. We find it gives instant relief in cases of burns and scalds and is never failing for all rheumatic and neuralgic pains. D. C. Brant, Santa Ynez, Cal.

Write for the free booklet: "Merry Rhymes for Thirsty Times."

Hires Rootbeer time is here

THE CHARLES E. HIRES CO., Philadelphia, Pa.
Makers of Hires Condensed Milk.

OWNERS OF NATIONAL BANKS

They Are the Parties to Demand Adjustment of Clearings Difficulty.

OMAHA INSISTS PROPER SHOWING BE MADE

List of Stockholders Shows that Omaha People Are Largely the Owners of South Omaha's Financial Institutions.

The Bee presents a complete list of the stockholders in the various national banks of Omaha and South Omaha. It will be seen that the capitalists who hold the bulk of the stock in the Omaha banks are also chiefly interested in the South Omaha institutions. This being the case it would appear to be a matter of no great difficulty for the stockholders to get together and put an end to the injury that Omaha is sustaining in the widespread reports of diminished bank clearings, which are entirely due to the failure of the South Omaha banks to clear through the local clearing house.

The list is taken from the reports made to the county clerk each April in compliance with the law. Each share represents $100.

United States National.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Estate C. W. Hamilton	1004	Mrs. Maud Hamilton	69
Estate S. S. Caldwell	$14	A. Burley	50
M. T. Barlow	555	J. C. Cowin	50
B. F. Smith	315	George Giacomini	50
S. H. H. Clark	140	E. L. Stone	50
W. G. Saunders	139	W. E. Rhoades	20
Euclid Martin	100	P. J. Keegan	23
Estate Mrs. E. Briggs	100	C. W. Smith	25
C. Will Hamilton	82	A. Rosenbery	20
William Krug	70	Helen Lockwood	20
Mrs. W. Baumah	70	A. L. Reed	19
Charles Gruenig	70	D. R. Dennis	14
		F. M. Beach	10

Omaha National.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Mrs. Thos. Beer	20	A. J. Simpson	100
Guy C. Barton	1000	C. E. Summer	20
Mrs. C. E. Brown	320	William Wallace	100
C. H. Brown	174	Mrs. Mary G. Wallace	20
J. J. Brown	146	Jennie M. Wallace	10
Lewis Brown	120	Mary R. Wallace	10
Truman Buck	100	N. W. Wells	200
Richard Carrier	80	G. G. Williams	80
S. H. H. Clark	160	James M. Ham	786
Gen. G. M. Dodge	600	John F. Dillon	786
J. N. Field	1100	Peter B. Wykoff	786
J. B. Grant	50	Oliver Ames	900
J. H. Millard	1889	Samuel Carr	920
Mrs. Caroline G. Millard	20	Oliver W. Mink	920
Jessie H. Millard	20	S. S. Caldwell	134
W. B. Millard	90	Mrs. Henrietta M. Caldwell	266
E. W. Nash	400	William Proctor	200
L. B. Merrifield	200	John B. Dodd	200
Mrs. R. S. Manderson	20	Knickerbocker Trust Co.	214
H. W. Nieman	60		

Nebraska National.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
H. M. Yates	1170	Mary R. Harris	48
J. S. Collins	200	N. B. Squires	80
W. V. Morse	200	C. S. Maurice	50
Nettie W. Collins	10	Harry E. Hallcock	20
Mrs. L. T. Sayers	75	Cora Burr Hardin	30
W. R. Morris	25	Lilla M. Touzalin	210
H. J. Davis	25	Mrs. Kate E. Ransom	50
L. S. Reed	380	Mrs. Charlotte M. Maurice	80
Mrs. G. E. Touzalin	20	Mrs. Annette F. Keeler	10
A. D. Touzalin	50	Mrs. Grace E. Jeneks	10
J. L. Carson	72	Mrs. E. L. Wood	10
Thomas Horbine	20	Mrs. S. B. Floyd	10
Joseph H. Gray	80	E. C. Perkins	10
I. T. Burr	100	T. E. Calvert	10
W. F. Ellefson	500	Henry M. Knox	20
Annie H. Farlow	30	Warren Switzler	10
Mrs. Ellen F. Nickerson	100	J. H. Cody	210
E. C. Perkins	20		
Safe Deposit and Trust Co.	80		

First National.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Chas. B. Kountze	767	C. B. Rustin	83
Estate Augustus Kountze	1157	W. A. Paxton	50
Herman Kountze	1338	J. M. Woolworth	20
Chas. T. Kountze	20	J. H. Bosler	25
John A. Creighton	998	G. M. Bosler	25
F. H. Davis	250	Estate W. H. Megquier	42
W. S. Poppleton	100	Estate Henry Pundt	25
W. F. Allen	100		

Merchants National.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Frank Murphy	960	Truman Buck	62
Samuel E. Rogers	10	Frank T. Hamilton	41
Rogers Real Estate Co.	915	G. S. Rogers	7
Ben B. Wood	925	W. G. Saunders	488
John P. Coad	10	Chas. C. Housel	231
Luther Drake	30	Mark M. Coad	212
Alvin Saunders	158	Coad Real Estate Co	615
Geo. E. Pritchett	651		

National Bank of Commerce.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Mrs. Mary B. Kelley	30	J. B. Wheeler	6
Geo. L. Burdette	6	F. Kohl	6
E. Hill & Sons	6	Hattie E. Chandler	3
W. R. Kingman	30	Lyman F. Abbott	6
M. Hettinger	9	Louis A. Graves	6
W. C. Isham	3	Internat'l Loan & Trust Co.	26
George Medlock	12	Westbrook Trust Co.	6
C. F. Peterson & Co	30	J. J. Dewey	6
J. G. Ury	12	John Moyer	15
J. A. Fuller	6	Albert E. Hawks	2
C. D. Matthews	15	W. S. Dewey	6
H. B. Noyes	6	James H. Waugh	6
F. G. Sanborn	6	Spencer Co	6
Ralph Voorhees	15	Mrs. Lottie Benson	20
John Ware	12	C. J. Canan	3-5
Emma I. Jones	12	George R. Peckham	6
E. A. Benson	30	O. H. Kimball	6
Edward Joslin	60	S. S. Dash	3
Charles Metz	60	Harvey W. Smith	2
Isaac M. Potter	6	C. S. Culbertson	2-5
E. C. Erfling	30	J. S. Culbertson	3-5
Ed B. Williams	48	A. R. Mason	3
Joseph Barker	60	F. E. Warner	6
J. H. Evans	12	Catherine H. Fagan	3
Mary E. Spratlen	132	Union Trust Co.	7
Sanford Rector	75	F. L. Ray	6
Keene Guaranty & Savings Bank	30	L. A. Dorington	30
Bath Savings Institution	60	W. F. Patrick	6
Patrick Bros	120	H. P. Stoddart	12
J. I. Nichol	6	Wm. Friesman	3-5
John O'Donahoe	1	W. H. T. Hughes	30
M. F. Rittenhouse	30	Eli Cole, sr	3
W. H. Holle	24	Anna L. Peake	6
Lee W. Spratlen	25	Willis R. Peake	6
Niantic Savings Bank	30	Justus H. Beal	1
Charles Barnes	15	Lemuel T. Terry	6
H. B. Hard	6	Frank Barker	14
Westerly Savings Bank	30	Louis Helmer	20
E. A. Burgess	3	Elmer Good	10
J. N. Hazlett	20	John E. Tetard	94
E. A. Smith	3	S. S. Remur	1
Thomas Breslin	30	John F. Campbell	7
A. M. Gleason	1	Globe Loan and Trust Co.	13
Nancy E. Wilbur	13	Mary L. O'Donahue	1
Cornelia W Chappell	15	H. G. Hawkins	18
J. T. Hopkins	6	Frank Thompson	3
S. M. McKenzie	30	Clara L. Gehring	9
E. C. Wilbur	1	H. J. Smith	5
Fred O. Graves	6	W. H. Rector	20
F. W. Watkins	1	E. J. Cornish	39
National Bank of Commerce	111	Hope Graves	6
John W. Paul	3	Gustav Anderson	6
A. V. Larimer	15	Ellen A. Parker	30
Thomas Gross, jr	3	George Peabody	5
George E. Barker	550		
W. S. Rector	180	Union Mutual Life Insurance Co.	30
A. T. Rector	153	W. H. Wilbur	1
L. B. Williams	120		

Commercial National.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Estate Ezra Millard	400	R. L. Brownlee	25
E. M. Morsman	130	Lewis M. Keene	10
Joseph M. Fields	800	W. A. Saunders	10
Alfred Millard	200	J. T. Campbell	10
L. B. Williams	100	H. E. Palmer	20
William G. Maul	500	H. E. Maxwell	10
E. C. Mason	65	Estate H. D. Brown	50
J. H. Haines	50	W. G. Saunders	44
Estate A. Henry	100	Union Mutual Life Insurance Co.	50
E. M. Andreesen	55	C. W. Lyman	200
James Forsyth	40	C. E. Yost	154
Estate C. S. Bennett	10	Forestus Reed	10
Mary McCreary	50	Mary W. Bowman	10
Horace S. Withers	21	D. W. Shull	10
Charles H. Wilson	25	Mary C. Lyman	30
State Ins. Co.	25	W. W. Morsman	60
W. L. May	200	G. B. Darr	90

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought
CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought
CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Jacob K. May	55	D. H. Smith	50
Joseph May	50	Albert Mersman	50
Soren T. Petersen	8	Omaha Savings Bank	67
Luther H. Tate	1	A. Henry	50
Charles Turner	20		
Harriet Kilpatrick	20		

Union Stock Yards, South Omaha.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
F. H. Davis	120	T. B. McPherson	90
E. A. Cudahy	125	Amy M. Carpenter	18
H. Kountze	101	Augustus F. Kountze	33
Jno. A. Creighton	145	Mary T. Cudahy	125
F. D. Armour	175	C. T. Kountze	40
B. F. Smith	25	H. D. Kountze	10
Nels Morris	50	Gertrude Kountze	14
Geo. F. Swift	50	Luther Kountze	10
J. H. Bosler	50	W. A. Paxton	10
R. Becker	30	Laura A. Chittenden	13
Chas. Coffman	20	Lolito S. Armour	82
Chas. Knox	5	F. A. Valentine	15
Geo. Marples	3	J. H. Martin	10
A. K. Smith	5	J. S. Martin	5
John L. Carson	20	J. G. Martin	5
Laura M. Knox	1	Julia Megquier	36
S. W. Allerton	30	John J. Roche	10
J. J. Martin	18	May E. Armour	73
J. B. Shriver	18	Armour & Co.	100
Jno. D. Dadisman	25		
W. K. Wood	25		
Richard Nash	50		
Mary J. Richardson	91		

Packers National, South Omaha.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Mary McDonough	5	Mrs. E. E. Bryson	5
Frances McDonough	5	J. N. Bryson	5
W. O. Gamble	5	R. E. Herdman	10
Jno. T. Bressler	5	H. A. Kosters	10
J. M. Yates	25	F. J. Moriarity	16
J. A. Coates	10	D. C. Bradford	3
Wm. Pitcher	10	Christ Lyman	5
P. Zwiebel	10	E. F. Welch	5
Fred Evers	10	J. Welch	5
C. B. Brown	50	Christian Koelber	20
M. Zwiebel	30	Farmers' & Merchants' Insurance Co.	15
F. O. Salisbury	35	J. S. Bartley	11
W. H. Thompson	35	A. G. Pettibone	10
A. W. Trumble	60	James Stuart	5
Amos Gates	90	A. K. Smith	5
C. E. Gates	15	D. D. Slaughter	25
R. Daniel	10	Michael Brierton	20
T. E. Gledhill	10	E. J. McLaughlin	20
Chas. Clifton	5	Paul Carroll	10
Burness & Nash	5	Mrs. Jas. Craig Jr	25
C. M. Hunt	40	Cyrus E. Peckett	1
K. W. Hunt	10	W. Petthone	7
E. C. Lane	4	H. H. Buck	15
Barney Hughes	5	E. Schurman	5
John F. Coad	17	F. McGiverin	5
Coad Real Estate Co	10	V. B. Caldwell	2
Luther Drake	10	F. J. Curtis	10
Ellen M. Coad	95	J. D. Robinson	5
E. E. Bryson	20	W. C. Trumble	40

South Omaha National.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Truman Buck	20	Sarah E. Blackburn	1
J. A. Fuller	20	E. A. Cudahy	25
J. E. Byers	40	C. W. Thomas	36
Edgar Zabriskie	20	Mrs. Alice H. Thomas	50
H. C. Bostwick	63	J. D. Standish	27
J. H. Dumont	31	James Viles, Jr.	20
Guy C. Barton	25	Michael Cudahy	20
E. W. Nash	33	G. F. Swift	40
J. J. Brown	110	Estate of Fred L. Ames	88
Wm. Walker	10	J. P. Lyman	20
J. H. Millard	10	A. Comstock	15
Mrs. C. G. Millard	10	Geo. Hotchkiss	15
Miss Jessie H. Millard	20	F. McGiverin	10
Mrs. S. H. Barton	20	H. W. Nieman	34
Mrs. V. E. McClure	20	N. W. Wells	53
A. C. Foster	32	Jas. Elliott	20
C. E. Yost	11	Jas. D. Standish, Jr.	3
Mrs. M. K. Brown	5		
T. M. Tallaferro	10		

PAYING OFF THE MORTGAGES

Records in Office of Register of Deeds Indicate a Reduction of Debts.

The books of Register of Deeds Crocker show that there have been more mortgage cancellations during April than have been filed in any previous month during the history of the office. The aggregate will reach tremendous proportions by the end of the month if the present rate of accumulation is maintained.

The banner day, so far as cancellations are concerned, was April 3, when mortgages amounting to $277,910 were wiped off the books. The complete tabulations will not be available until after the end of the month, but there are at least two subsequent days on which the figures nearly approximate those of the big day.

The totals are not swelled by a few big transactions. For the most part they consist of cancellations of small mortgages of the character that multiply during hard times and are satisfied when money is plenty. The man who was compelled to mortgage during times when he could not find work, has paid his creditor, and once more enjoys a clear title to his property; the man who lost his job during the same period and was compelled to encumber his property in order to raise money to keep his wife and babies from want, has again reached a prosperous condition and earned money to dispose of the obligation. Such instances are the basis of the vast majority of the transactions of this character that are now being recorded. They are taken as a positive indication that the middle classes and workingmen are in a prosperous condition, and in nearly every case the cancellation indicates a debt that had been finally paid and not shifted from one obligation to another.

NEWS FOR THE ARMY MEN

General Merriam Arrives to Convene a Meeting of the Retiring Board.

Brigadier General Merriam arrived here yesterday from Denver, but the Retiring board, of which he is president, did not hold a formal session, owing to the absence of Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Wint of the Sixth cavalry. Colonel Wint is stationed at St. Paul and is at present serving on a court of inquiry there. He is expected here tomorrow. The board held an informal meeting this morning and Colonel Bailey of the Sixteenth infantry, who will appear before the board for retirement, submitted to a physical examination, the result of which will be given to the board at its regular session.

Captain W. H. Beck, acting inspector general for the Department of the Missouri, has been directed to go to Fort Crook to act upon the unserviceable property of the Sixteenth infantry, under orders to change station.

Major William Monaghan, additional paymaster in the army, who was among the list of volunteer officers recently recommended by the president for muster out of the service, expects to have his work closed up that he may leave Omaha for his home at Cleveland, O., next Sunday. The major has been in the service about a year, the larger portion of that time being stationed at Omaha.

Two Distinguished Visitors.

Evangelist Henry Ostrom, one of the best known men in religious work in America, and John P. Hillis, the well known singer, who will be remembered by many Omaha people as having had charge of the music at the Mills meetings five years ago, will be in the city today for a few hours. As they are both old friends of Secretary Willis, he has persuaded them to conduct special service of song and praise in the Young men's Christian association parlors Friday noon, from 12:15 to 1 o'clock. All men are invited to meet these gentlemen, even though it be only for a few minutes.

SHIELDS TIPS OFF THE RAIDS

County Attorney Gives Personal Warning to Jacksonian Poker Club.

DIRECT LEAK TO OTHER GAMBLING ROOMS

Still More Spicy Testimony Taken in Depositions in the Libel Suit Brought Against The Bee.

More interesting facts illustrating the manner in which the Herdman gang takes care of the gamblers who stand in with it have been developed in the testimony given by Captain Donahue in the case brought by County Attorney Shields against The Bee for alleged damages to his reputation. It will be remembered that when Mr. Shields assumed office he thoughtfully sent written notices to the protected gamblers warning them to desist if they were violating the law, while gamblers who did not stand in with the gang were forthwith arrested and arraigned for prosecution.

When Mr. Shields went to Acting Chief Donahue for assistance in raiding the game at Cole's place he received this reply, according to the latter's deposition:

"I told him this, I said, 'now, Mr Shields, if I am informed right, you are in possession of evidence right now that would convict Cole.' 'No,' he says, 'I am not.' 'Now,' I says, 'I will tell you what I am informed you are in possession of, and if you are you ought not to hesitate to go and file a complaint,' and he wanted to know what that was. I says, 'I am informed that Larry Fay and another man went up there—a man, I think, by the name of Murphy—went up there into Cole's place. I think this man Murphy had lost something like $30. Now,' I says, 'if that is a fact,' I says, 'Larry Fay has been somewhat in your employ and I think you ought to use him as a witness. Why not file a complaint?' Well, he said that Larry Fay was not in possession of that evidence, and if he was, he was not in a position to give it to him. He said he tried to get Larry Fay to take the stand, but Larry for some cause or other had refused and finally said he knew nothing about the case. I think that was his statement."

Question.—Did you call his attention to any other places where they were playing?

Skin Game in Jacksonian Rooms.

Answer.—Yes, sir. I called his attention to a game that had been run in a hotel. This man Sampson had been running a game on St. Mary's avenue, and after we had pulled the outfit over there and they had been discharged by the judge, they went down and rented rooms in a hotel for the purpose of running a game there and I sent two men to the proprietor of the hotel there and told him that if he continued to allow Sampson to run a game there that we would back up the wagon there some night and load the whole outfit in. After the proprietor had thrown Sampson out of there, regardless of the fact that the rent was paid ahead, he went down to the Jacksonian club and ran a game there. I told him that this man Sampson, that had been running the game at the hotel, was now in the Jacksonian club and that he was running a skin game there, the worst in the city. Now I did not mention any names or who was there. He asked me if I would go down with him to the Jacksonian club. I said, "For what?" He says, "Right now." I says, "At this time of day it would be no use to go there.'

Q.—What time was that?

A.—It was in the afternoon. I said the time to go there was in the evening or night. He asked me if I would go and I said, "Yes. I will go with you any time you want me to go." "Well," he says, "I understood some time ago they had been playing there, but had quit and that they had not played any cards there recently at the Jacksonian club."

The sequel to the incident came out in the cross-examination.

Q.—Now, captain, you spoke about it being your understanding that Judge Shields had notified members of the Jacksonian club that they would be pulled if they did not stop gambling. From whom did you get that information?

A.—I got it from a man named Van Inwegen.

Q.—Explain how you got it.

Shields' Personal Part.

A.—He asked me, he says, "who filed this complaint?" I says, "Mr. Shields, the county attorney." "Well," he says, "he is a fine sucker." He says, "he has lost every friend he has on earth." He says, "he was over there tonight at the Jacksonian club. He has raised h—l over there, and I understand he has raised h—l at the Omaha club and the Metropolitan club." I says, "I don't know anything about that."

Q.—That was all the information? What did he say exactly?

A.—That was the first information I had that anything of the kind had been done.

Q.—Did you question him in regard to the Jacksonian club or did he volunteer the information?

A.—That was voluntary on his part. I was trying to find out why or how they got out of there without us catching anybody. He told me a friend of his called him out and gave him the information.

Q.—Did he say he was there himself when Judge Shields came?

A.—No, no.

Q.—That he just heard this?

A.—That he heard this at Cole's place and that Judge Shields had been to the Jacksonian club and had gone from there to the Omaha club and the Metropolitan club.

Q.—Did he say from whom he got the information?

A.—No, sir. He said a friend of his, and I learned afterward it was Larry Fay.

Just how Larry Fay got the tip was explained in the following answer to a question relating to the facts as to the raiding of Cole's place and why no one was caught in a game there.

A.—Larry Fay called Van Inwegen, one of the parties interested in Cole's place, out in the hall or down stairs. I don't know which place, and told him, he says, "if you fellows are playing in there you are taking big chances." He says, "this man Shields," he says, "is raising h—l everywhere. He was over at the Jacksonian club and told them that he would come up there personally and see that they were pulled, every man of them, if they did not stop playing," and he said, "he is liable to fly down on you here any minute." So they turned out the lights and went away. Now, that was my information.

Q.—Did you make any arrests that night?

A.—O, yes.

Q.—Where were they taken?

A.—I took them to the police station at Eleventh and Dodge.

Moise Furnishes the Bond.

Q.—And who went on their bond? Who was there?

Objected to by the counsel for the plaintiff as incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial.

A.—Walter Moise was there.

Q.—When you got there?

A.—I did not see him when we got there. But he must have been right in the vicinity close to there. I don't think we had got inside the gate when he was on the outside.

Q.—What did he do.

A.—He signed a bond for Mr. Cole, a $500 bond.

Captain Donahue also testified as to the notorious report that the slot machine men of South Omaha had been raised from $5 to $10 a month for protection soon after Shields assumed office. The testimony was as follows:

Q.—Now, I wish, captain, you would state whether or not it was commonly reported in South Omaha, within the last three or four months, that the gamblers of South Omaha and the parties who had slot machines paid anything for protection or not to be prosecuted?

Objected to by the counsel for the plaintiff as incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial.

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—State what the report was.

Raised on the Slot Machines.

A.—The report was, and I would like to state now that when I had my conversation with Mr. Shields in the presence of Mr. Karbach the day I gave him the report, I told him then that the reports were that these machines were giving up $5 a month each.

Q.—For what?

A.—For protection, to somebody, and that they raised it to $10.

Q.—When did they raise it.

A.—Well, I don't know just when they raised it. Recently. And that if he did not know that he should know it.

On cross-examination Captain Donahue explained further.

Q.—Captain, from whom did you hear this rumor that there was protection afforded to the gamblers in South Omaha?

A.—Well, I heard it from the different detectives that went down there. It was rumored down there.

Q.—What did they say their source of information was?

A.—I don't know who they heard it from or how they heard it. I presume they heard it on their rounds. Personally I have not been to South Omaha myself for some time.

Q.—So that all the information you had came from detectives?

A.—And then I heard it talked about amongst the fellows. Different ones.

Q.—Now, this rumor was to the effect that part of this money was going to some one for protection from prosecution, was it not?

A.—Yes, sir.

The Eyesight

Is the most precious of gifts. Impaired or defective eyesight is almost a crime in these days. Glasses can be made that will take away these defects—We make scientific eye examinations free and can tell you if glasses will help you—All lenses ground by a competent spectacle man.

THE ALOE & PENFOLD CO.,
Leading Scientific Opticians.
1408 Farnam, OMAHA.
OPPOSITE PAXTON HOTEL.

You Are Invited—

To our grand house warming next Saturday evening, April 29th, from 7 to 10 p. m.—For the first time we will throw open to the public our entire remodeled three floors—Every room will be open—all the private studios—the Auditorium, art and piano rooms—Music by the best talent in Omaha—lots of it—music on every floor—Arrange to be down town Saturday evening so as to come to the grand opening—the greatest store event ever in Omaha—We now have the finest appointed music and art rooms in the west.

A. HOSPE,
We celebrate our 25th business anniversary Oct. 23rd, 1899.
Music and Art. 1513 Douglas.