

COUNCIL PLAYS OUT FARCE

Investigating Committee Adjourns, No Charges Having Been Filed.

STUHT SEES GOLDEN CHANCE SLIP AWAY

Member Desiring to Gain Pleadings as Clearer of Public Morals Looks in Vain for Evidence of Corruption.

The council, as an investigating committee, plunged against a wall yesterday and came to a full stop. The members have been gradually losing heart as the inquiry accomplished no purpose and yesterday the attendance varied from two to five. They realized on Saturday that they were being called to a farcical performance and would have adjourned if Stuhrt had not declared himself a reservoir of pent-up indignation against the council for more time. The drought of facts was not relieved, however, and at noon the committee stood adjourned without day.

On Saturday a subpoena was issued under the authority of Stuhrt, as chairman of the committee, directing City Engineer Rosewater to testify regarding the Walnut Hill grading and the Guming street paving contract. The dark spots which Stuhrt hoped to secure the credit of scouring from the official recalculation pertained to Councilman Mercer's record. The story of the grading contract is an ancient one and has appeared exhaustively in the public prints for years. It was declared illegal in the state supreme court. Mercer and other property-owners gaining their attention that the tax was unlawfully levied. The controversy has been repeatedly made a matter of inquiry by the council to no result.

Engineer Ready to Testify. Stuhrt, however, as clearer of public morals, desired to enter into this time-worn theme and the city engineer, in obedience to the summons appeared in the council chamber with an armful of documents and charts. He said, however, that before he gave testimony which might reflect upon any member of the council he wished to have that person present. Mr. Rosewater remarked that he did not wish to be put in the attitude of making statements behind any one's back and in addition wished to have Mr. Mercer present to verify or deny certain statements.

A subpoena was accordingly issued under the authority of Stuhrt commanding the sergeant-at-arms to bring Mercer forthwith before the tribunal. Mr. Mercer, however, was engaged with other matters and refused to obey the summons. Stuhrt, therefore, as there were no charges filed against him he failed to see why he should be interrogated. Furthermore the subpoena was issued not by the committee, but by a single member, whose authority Mercer felt was open to some doubt.

In explaining his position to a Bee reporter Mr. Mercer said that he would be glad to obey the summons of the committee provided any specific charges were brought against that person. He said that his position was political and he therefore wished to be able to hold his accusers responsible.

If charges were brought, Mr. Mercer said, he would be in a position to force the complainants to prove them or to answer for criminal libel. When the sergeant-at-arms reported to the committee that he had read the summons to Mercer in vain Stuhrt went in frantically to the attorney. The legal department, through Assistant Attorney Scott, advised that if Mr. Mercer refused to appear there was no way to compel obedience unless specific charges were filed. Even then, Mr. Scott added, there was grave doubt as to the authority of the committee. Stuhrt appealed to the city engineer to give testimony in spite of Mercer's absence, but Mr. Rosewater replied that he did not wish to pose as a prosecuting attorney and had no desire to reflect upon anyone's conduct unless he were present.

Other Members Interfered. The remainder of the committee who had been indulging Stuhrt's whims to what they considered a natural limit, at this point took a hand. Burmeister said that the committee had originally been appointed upon information that the Commercial club wished to enter certain charges. It was understood, he said, that the complaints were relative to the water works and voting machine ordinances and he, as chairman of both committees, was accordingly anxious to be satisfied. "The proceedings have degenerated into a burlesque," added Mr. Burmeister, "and I for one am not in favor of going into old controversies already settled before the council, especially when no charges have been filed as required by the resolution."

Charges Must Be Filed. The resolution under which the committee has been working was called for and read by the secretary. It recites that all persons having complaints must file them before the committee, together with a list of substantiating witnesses. The legal department, through Assistant Attorney Scott, advised that if Mr. Mercer refused to appear there was no way to compel obedience unless specific charges were filed. Even then, Mr. Scott added, there was grave doubt as to the authority of the committee. Stuhrt appealed to the city engineer to give testimony in spite of Mercer's absence, but Mr. Rosewater replied that he did not wish to pose as a prosecuting attorney and had no desire to reflect upon anyone's conduct unless he were present.

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ROYAL Baking Powder advertisement. The Absolutely Pure BAKING POWDER Made from Grape Cream of Tartar. Baking powders made from alum and other harsh caustic acids are lower in price, but inferior in work and injurious to the stomach.

STILL MORE SHOES FOR \$1.08. The Excitement of the Excitement's Sale of \$4.25 1857 Fine Shoes at BOSTON STORE, OMAHA. Will be brought to a climax today. We have heaped up the pile again until they are as high as your head—every kind of good shoe you can think of.

AT BOSTON STORE, OMAHA \$5.00 Ladies' Jackets \$1.00, Also 75c Silks 10c—35c Children's Underwear 10c—10c Laces 2-2c.

AT BOSTON STORE, OMAHA. \$5.00 LADIES' JACKETS, \$1.00. To close out every winter jacket we will offer today 200 more ladies' jackets that we have been selling up to \$4.00.

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BIG GRIST FOR BLUE MONDAY Many Small Malefactors Arraigned in Police Court—One Morning with the "Vags" and "Drunks."

Thirty-seven petty offenders, all candidates for judicial clemency, stood before the police court yesterday and told why in their opinion they should not be punished. It was an unusually large grist, even for blue Monday. There were "vags" galore, a generous quota of "suspicious characters" and the usual sprinkling of "drunks" and peace disturbers.

Judge Learn can always think of something witty to say to fit every emergency. For instance, in the case of John Boyd, a "drunk and disorderly," with a grotesquely warped countenance, the judge "called the turn" in an instant. An ordinary police judge might have remarked that Boyd was ugly enough to stop a clock, but Judge Learn said that "that mug would trip up a Billy goat" and said so. The court room audience shouted its approval.

The following is a representative Monday morning program in the down-town tribunal: The delinquents being classified according to the nature of their misdemeanors, it will be noticed that vagrants, negative offenders, outnumber those of any other class almost two to one. Here is the schedule:

Vagrants, Eleven—Mike Novack, Henry Main, Alex Gurney, Mike Hickey, F. A. Bloom, Frank Wells, John Cunningham, Fred Tyson, Lou Dingy, Frank Smith, Charles Wilson. All of these except Novack were given ten days with suspension of sentence if they would get out of town at once.

Suspicious Characters, Six—Peter O'Malley, Stephen H. Edkin, Tom Murphy, Frank McFarland, Jim Smith, Carl Felker. These, with the exception of Felker, were given short jail sentences with stay of execution to give them a chance to leave the city. Felker will be tried Tuesday.

Begging on the Street, One—Mike Kennedy. He will have a chance to leave town. Drunk, Four—Owen McGath, Michael Smith, A. L. Styer, Barney Metelma. All were discharged.

Assault, One—Henry Barns. No complaint filed. Drunk and Disorderly, Three—Jack Hill, Fred Wignore, John Boyd. Hill was discharged, Wignore was given 45 and costs and Boyd will be tried February 2.

Shooting with Intent to Kill, One—Robert Fisher. Held for trial. Solliciting on the Street, One—Lotta Bell. Set for trial Tuesday.

Interfering with an Officer in Discharge of His Duty, Two—Harry Tracy, Fred Johnson. Set for trial February 2. Petit Larceny, One—J. Kemp. Case continued.

Disturbing the Peace by Fighting, Five—C. W. Tubb, Howard Harney, Sam Goldsmith, Mike Evans, C. M. Reynolds. Set for trial Tuesday.

Daylight Burglary, One—Dick Allen. Pleading not guilty, case set for trial January 31.

CROOK GETS \$20 FOR \$10 Short Change Artist Gets Quick Returns on His Money at a Thirtieth Street Saloon.

A young man with a beetling brow and a nice, new overcoat entered the saloon of Joe Pedritz, 1024 South Thirtieth street, Sunday afternoon, and throwing a \$10 bill on the counter, asked for change in silver.

Pedritz said the best he could do was two fives and these were placed upon the bar. "Well, have you a \$20 gold-piece?" asked the caller.

Pedritz said he had and the coin was produced. The caller very deliberately placed the two \$5 bills on top of the ten, as though counting them, showed the green-backs toward the proprietor, took the gold-piece to himself and departed.

Some minutes later Pedritz realized that he had been flim-flammed out of \$10 and notified the police.

"I am indebted to One Minute Cough Cure for my health and life. It cured me of lung trouble following grippe." Thousands owe their lives to the prompt action of this never failing remedy. It cures coughs, colds, croup, bronchitis, pneumonia, grippe and throat and lung troubles. Its early use prevents consumption. It is the only harmless remedy that gives immediate relief.

Diamond Glass Cutter Thief. Some one with a diamond glass cutter and a string out of a neat circle out of the plate glass window of the Hayden Bros. jewelry store Sunday night, and then stole from the goods displayed within seven gold filled watches, twelve gold band rings and five set rings. The lot is valued at \$50.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MITTENS IC

Most Extraordinary Bargains in Winter Goods Ever Offered on Sale Today.

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\$5.00 Ladies' Jackets \$1.00, Also 75c Silks 10c—35c Children's Underwear 10c—10c Laces 2-2c.

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HAYDEN BROS.

Competitions Prices in Crockery. 1-gallon milk crock, 2c; cups and saucers, 2c; small size yellow-mixing bowls, 8c; medium size yellow-mixing bowls, 14c; beautiful decorated Holland bowls, genuine porcelain, underplated decorations, 14c; decorated oyster bowls, in assorted patterns, worth 10c, 42c; oatmeal bowls, very pretty decorations, assorted patterns, worth 10c, 42c.

STAKING MILITIA COMPANIES Funds Left from First Nebraska Entertainment Given to Local Companies.

An unexpected windfall has been encountered by the Thurston Rifles and the High School Cadets. When the First Nebraska returned from Manila last summer a considerable sum was raised by subscription for its entertainment while visiting Omaha and the exposition. Owing to the small proportion of the regiment which could be induced to forego the pleasure of home visit to their homes the brief stay in Omaha of those who came the fund raised was found to be considerably more than was needed.

Large bargain table with many styles of English and German work—knives, cutlery and tinware, in fine quality, go at 25c and 35c yard. All the extra fine torchon lace and insertion in medium and wide widths, regular price up to 25c, in this sale 50c yard.

REPAIRS ON SEWER BOMS Engineering Department Engaged in an All-Winter Task of Patching Defects in Drains.

Two gangs of men are now being utilized by the engineering department in repairing worn or defective sections of the main sewerage drains. One squad of six workmen began operations several weeks ago on Sixteenth street near Mason, and is working toward the intersection at Thirtieth and Jones streets. The men have worked the way under ground for 500 feet and are making excellent progress.

THE MOST POPULAR LINE TO DENVER, SALT LAKE, SAN FRANCISCO, PORTLAND

Superb New Equipment. DINING CARS PALACE SLEEPERS BUFFET SMOKING AND LIBRARY CARS. FREE RECLINING CHAIR CARS. NO CHANGES. SOLID COMFORT City Ticket Office, 1302 Farnam. TEL. 316.

DISTEMPER MANGE Just the kind of weather to make your dog sick. Coughs, colds, fever, distemper are now prevalent. They can all be cured by the timely use of Clayton's Distemper.

Second Ward Republicans. There will be a meeting of the Second Ward Republican club at No. 1443 South Sixteenth street Wednesday evening, January 31, at 8 o'clock. All republicans are expected to be present.

WANTED—Thorough musician. 120 So. 9th. DIED. YOUNG—Daniel, aged 44 years 10 months, at his residence, 304 North 10th street. Funeral notice later.

How Those Bells Rang November 21st—the Telephone Bells calling the druggists of Omaha to the Commercial club rooms. It was on Saturday night at 9 o'clock when the 50 pill makers of the Union Pacific Association were organized. Sunday morning positions were circulated in Omaha by the members and WZ refused to become one of their "gang" and not one word about paying Doc office and commission was mentioned.

Pyramid Pills Cure 75c Hood's Sarsaparilla 40c Syrup of Fig 40c Hucan Dyspepsia Tablets 20c Gem Catarrh Cure 40c Hostetter's Stomachic 75c A. S. S. 75c Wine of Cardui 75c Carter's Catarrh 40c Carter's Liver Pills 40c Bromo Quinine 15c Kramer's Kidney Pills 75c Pender's Compound 40c Pender's Extract 40c Kilmer's Swamp Root 75c

SCHAEFER CUT PRICE DRUGGIST Cor. 10th and Chicago Sts.

Burlington Route THE LAST TO LEAVE

The Burlington's St. Louis Flyer leaves Omaha 4:55 p. m.—later than any other Omaha-St. Louis train.

ONLY 9 LEFT. Just think of buying the best high-grade wheel made for—\$33.00

Remember, this price is only good on the nine Storings we have left over from last season. The 1900 prices are \$40 and \$50. For \$1.00 we will get your wheel, clean, oil and adjust it.

Omaha Bicycle Co., Cor. 16th and Chicago. ED. T. HEYDEN, Proprietor

The SLOSSET Collar

HAYDEN BROS.

Cut Price Sausage Sale. Fresh pork sausage, 45c. New bologna, 42c. Best summer sausage, 65c. Fancy Frankfurt's, 75c. New minced ham sausage, 9c. Boneless cottage ham, 9c. Fancy lean bacon, 10c. Fancy pig pork (boneless), 9c.

SLAUGHTER GOES TO ST. LOUIS Ordered to Take Up Duties of Major Baker, Who Will Be Transferred to Omaha.

An order has been received at the local adjutant general's office directing Major Brad Slaughter to proceed to St. Louis to take the place of Major Baker, who will hereafter be located at Omaha, as announced in The Bee on Saturday.

Today at 16th and Dodge. We commence doing business in our New Drug Store at S. W. Corner of 16th and Dodge Streets Today.

Sherman & McConnell Drug Co. S. W. Cor. 16th and Dodge. Laboratory and Warehouse, 1313 Farnam St., Middle of Block.

A Grand Special Piano Sale

Mason & Hamlin Organ only \$19. Fine Sterling High Top Organ \$18. Ester Organ, good condition \$18. Two Schottling Organs, fine tone \$28-\$38. Gilbert Square Piano \$25. Emerson, rosewood case \$25. Solmer and other squares at \$45, \$55, \$60. Rollings Upright, ebony case \$42. Hallet & Davis, Kimball, Lyon & Healy Uprights, Story & Camp Uprights, at \$100, \$125, \$135 and up.

..Schmoller & Mueller.. THE LARGEST PIANO HOUSE IN THE WEST. Steinway & Sons 1313 Farnam Street. Representatives. 337 Broadway, Council Bluffs.

J. A. FULLER & CO 14th and Douglas St.

OMAHA & ST. LOUIS R. R. WABASH R. R.

41 Miles the Shortest To St. Louis. 28 Miles the Shortest To Quincy.

Home Seekers Excursions Feb. 6th and 20th.

Max Solomon's Skirts Are All the Go—At Half Price.

One table ladies' coats in boules, kersays and caterrillars—worth \$10.00, for only, each \$3.50

One table ladies' coats in fine kersays, in black and colors, silk and satin lined throughout; the lining alone costs more than our grand closing event price \$5.00

One table coats in kersays, whipcords, montanas; no finer nor better garments made by a tailor, on safe at, each \$7.50

One lot ladies' crushed plush capes, 20 inch long—trimmed with tulle—worth \$5.00, for \$3.50

One table ladies' skirts in plaids, checks and stripes and plain colors—sold as high as \$5.00, for only \$2.98

500 Silk Waists to Be Slaughtered. Silk and satin waists in plain colors and blacks—all in one lot for Tuesday only at \$2.98

GRAND WRAPPER SALE WEDNESDAY.

THE NAME OF SWIFT G'n Lard, on Ham, on Bacon is a guarantee of purity. Swift and Company, Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, St. Joseph, St. Paul.

HAYDEN BROS.

The bargains are great and many, and the seekers after them will come from far and near. Let not the knowing ones forestall you.

The Great Sale of Cloaks—will continue until the present stock of winter garments are sold out.

You didn't find any duplicates for those women's \$1.90 Jackets, did you? No! They're not to be duplicated in Omaha. 'Twouldn't be like 'The Nebraska' to permit it. And that boucle jacket that we are showing at \$3.90, we don't expect you to take our word for their value. Come and see them, try them on, look at yourself in the mirror. See how an \$8.00 jacket looks on you with a \$3.90 tag tied to it.

Every store don't have such cloaks to show you. Did you see our cloak window?

Nebraska Clothing Co. CLOTHES FOR MEN AND WOMEN

A Grand Special Piano Sale

Mason & Hamlin Organ only \$19. Fine Sterling High Top Organ \$18. Ester Organ, good condition \$18. Two Schottling Organs, fine tone \$28-\$38. Gilbert Square Piano \$25. Emerson, rosewood case \$25. Solmer and other squares at \$45, \$55, \$60. Rollings Upright, ebony case \$42. Hallet & Davis, Kimball, Lyon & Healy Uprights, Story & Camp Uprights, at \$100, \$125, \$135 and up.

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