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THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

BIGGEST VALUE FOR LEAST MONEY — BEE WANT ADS

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 18, 1905—TEN PAGES. SINGLE COPY THREE CENTS.

READY FOR BLOCKADE

France Preparing to Bring Pressure on Venezuela if Needed.

WARSHIPS ORDERED TO WEST INDIES

Measure Declared by the Officials to be Simply Precautionary.

SHIPS DUE AT MARTINIQUE IN TWO WEEKS

This Will Increase Force of France to Five Cruisers.

CASTRO IS EXPECTED TO APOLOGIZE

Hope Expressed at Paris that Differences Will Be Settled by Diplomacy Before Arrival of Fleet.

PARIS, Oct. 17.—The departure of the armored cruiser De Saix from Cherbourg yesterday for the Island of Martinique, French West Indies, inaugurates the preparations for dealing with the Venezuelan question with a strong hand if President Castro persists in his present course. The De Saix will stop at Brest, where it will be joined by the cruisers Lavoisier and Chasseloup-Laubat. The three warships will proceed together to the French West Indies, joining the cruisers Jurien de la Graviere and Froude, now at Martinique. This will give the division five ships, under Admiral Bevoe de Lapeyrere. The rendezvous will be Fort de France, Martinique.

These preparations are precautionary, as the officials here are still hopeful that President Castro will make suitable amends. Therefore no orders have been issued concerning the nature of the ultimate naval action against Venezuela, as this awaits the assembling of the ships and the result of the diplomatic negotiations. There is no desire here to have the assembling of the warships taken as a menace. On the contrary, the French authorities are deferring the announcement of final plans until President Castro's protracted inaction shows he is not willing to make any amend.

It is pointed out that President Castro's withdrawal of his offensive action toward M. Taigny, the French charge d'affaires, and the presentation of a suitable explanation would avert the necessity of France adopting stronger means of persuasion.

The duration of the voyage to Fort de France will be about two weeks. Therefore time remains for President Castro to make explanations. It is understood that the demonstration, if finally resorted to, will take the form of a blockade of Venezuelan ports.

Washington Government Informed.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—In sending war ships to the West Indies France is acting not only with the knowledge, but with the full approval of the Washington government. Before this action was decided upon M. Jusserand, the French ambassador, informed Secretary Root of his government's course of action, which the secretary heartily approved. It is made clear that the Washington and Paris governments have arrived at a thorough understanding regarding Venezuela.

RUSSIA WITHDRAWING TROOPS

General Linevitch Instructed to Carry Out This Provision of the Peace Treaty.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 17.—The war office has communicated the news of the ratification of the peace treaty to General Linevitch, who has been ordered to arrange the necessary steps to carry out the provisions for the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Manchuria in eighteen months and the evacuation of Corea and instructing him to communicate with the Japanese commander in chief if necessary. Orders have been given for the return to Russia of the army reserve men and the Thirteenth army corps which was on its way to the front when peace was arranged. No decision has been arrived at as to the size of the army which shall remain in Siberia. It depends to some extent on financial conditions and the outcome of the coming negotiations for a new loan. Though the interned Russian vessels are free to leave neutral ports the date of their departure has not been fixed. Rear Admiral Enquist's squadron at Manila and the warships at Saigo and Shanghai will return to European ports. The cruiser Lena now at San Francisco, and the transports wil go to Vladivostok.

BURTON INDICTMENT FAULTY

Judge Vandeventer Sustains the Demurrer and Orders Grand Jury to Return Amended Charges.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 17.—Judge Willis Vandeventer in the United States court of appeals late today announced that he had sustained the demurrer of the indictment of United States Senator Burton of Kansas on the ground that the indictment was faulty. He ordered that another indictment be returned at once. Before announcing his decision Judge Vandeventer explained his position discussing the indictment in parts and pointing out its faults. He coincided with the attorneys for the defense in their contentions that if in their action they had entered into an agreement to appear before the Postoffice department for compensation he was entitled to know who he had entered into this alleged compact with. Judge Vandeventer then set November 9 as the date for a special grand jury to hear witnesses for the government against Senator Burton. Senator Burton gave bond in the sum of $5,000 assuring his appearence on that date and thereafter at the call of the government officers.

FEJERVARY IS REAPPOINTED

Premier of Hungary to Resume Office on Basis of Scheme for Universal Suffrage.

BUDAPEST, Oct. 17.—The Gazette tomorrow will contain an autograph letter of the king-emperor reappointing General Baron Fejervary to the premiership, on the ground that his new program has been accepted by his majesty and issues instructions for him to fill the important portfolios.

It is understood the cabinet will be instructed to dissolve Parliament and prepare for a general election next summer on the basis of the granting of universal suffrage on the Belgian system.

It is reported that the reappointment of Baron Fejervary will involve the resignation of the Austrian premier, Baron Gautsch von Frankenthurn.

SPECULATING ABOUT SHAW

Generally Accepted Secretary Will Return to His Iowa Home.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Secretary Shaw of the Treasury department has announced his intention to retire from President Roosevelt's cabinet in February, and since that announcement here have been many rumors set afloat as to what Leslie M. Shaw will do while awaiting the result of the deliberations of the next national republican convention. One story is that Mr. Shaw upon his retirement from the treasury will become the head of a prominent financial institution in New York. This, however, Secretary Shaw denies. It is not believed here that Secretary Shaw has any other intention than to return to Iowa when he leaves the cabinet. It is well understood that he has presidential ambitions, which would be ruined if he went to New York to head a big corporation. Iowa advices are that he is reorganizing a private banking business he and his partner have built up at Denison. After January 1 the private bank will be replaced by a national bank, savings bank and loan and trust company. Mr. Shaw and his partner will retain control of all these. The secretary's close friends believe that he is getting his affairs on a better basis to devote himself entirely to his plans to run for the presidency.

Secretary Shaw is certain to have a contest in his own state to secure the delegation to the national convention. Governor Cummins has given notice that he will oppose giving the delegation to Secretary Shaw in 1908.

The First National bank of Shelby, Neb., has been authorized to begin business with $25,000 capital. A. P. Anderson is president; Charles Krumbach, vice president; E. L. Anderson, cashier.

Lieutenant J. A. Schofield and Acting Assistant Surgeon C. K. Winn, United States navy, have been ordered to duty at the navy recruiting rendezvous at Omaha.

John Starr has been appointed regular and J. B. Atchison substitute rural carrier, route 3, at Montrose, S. D.

C. A. Scott of the forest service has recently sent in a report regarding experiments to determine the advisability of sowing pine seeds broadcast on old burns in the Black Hills forest reserve. The first work of this kind in this region was done last spring. About thirty acres were sown broadcast to western yellow pine and eight acres put in with a corn planter. The seeds germinated promptly last spring, and this recent report indicates that they have survived the summer drought and heat successfully. On even the most exposed and dry situations sample counts made in October showed an average of one seedling per square foot where seed was sown broadcast, and in the hills planted with a corn planter were found from one to five seedlings per square foot. The evident success attained means much to the forest service, for it points a way to a cheap method of securing a valuable forest growth on large areas now entirely unproductive.

The case of the Union Pacific Railroad Company against the Mason City & Fort Dodge Railroad Company, brought to the supreme court on appeal from the decision of the United States circuit court of appeals for the Eighth circuit, will be called for hearing in the supreme court of the United States tomorrow. John N. Baldwin, R. S. Lovett and Maxwell Evarts appear for the appellants, the Union Pacific, and W. D. McHugh of Omaha, who arrived tonight, and F. B. Kellogg represent the Mason City & Fort Dodge Railroad company.

FILIPINO WOMAN WINS SUIT

American Judge on Islands Grants Divorce from Lieutenant Burbank with Alimony.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Oct. 17.—The divorce suit of Conception Vasquez Burbank, the Filipino woman, against First Lieutenant Sidney S. Burbank, Sixth infantry, which has attracted much attention in the army, has been decided in favor of Mrs. Burbank. Word reached Fort Leavenworth today that Judge Bates of the court of first instance at Iloilo, P. I., had granted a divorce to Burbank's Filipino wife, had given her the custody of their daughter and allowed her alimony.

Mrs. Burbank brought action after Lieutenant Burbank's return to the United States and after his engagement had been announced to a prominent young Leavenworth woman. The War department provided counsel for the deserted wife.

Lieutenant Burbank is now being tried by court-martial at Iloilo on charges growing out of the case that has just been decided.

The complainant's petition recited that Lieutenant Burbank married Conception Vasquez at Vallodid, P. I., on January 25, 1902, the ceremony being performed by Ferdinand Mapa, justice of the peace of the province. Burbank's company was at that time stationed at Vallodid and for several months until ordered to the United States with his regiment, the petition alleged, the officer lived with the woman as his wife. On the return of the regiment to the United States, Lieutenant Burbank promised, it was stated, that he would return to her in five months. In December, 1902, a child was born.

The suit in the Philippines is a different proceeding to that instituted some time ago in Leavenworth by Mrs. Burbank. The Leavenworth case was to have come up this week, but since the court in the Philippines has acted, it undoubtedly will be dropped.

SCHEME FOR RATE ADJUSTMENT

Proposal to Create Bureau of Transportation to Adjudicate Disputes, with Appeal to Special Court.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Oct. 17.—A new scheme for the adjustment of the question of railroad rates as an alternative to conferring on the Interstate Commerce commission the power to fix rates, is proposed by D. M. Parry of this city, president of the National Association of Manufacturers. Circulars containing a tentative resolution bearing on the subject, suggested by Mr. Parry, are being mailed at the local office of the National Association of Manufacturers today to prominent shippers and manufacturers of the country. The resolution prepared by Mr. Parry, which is to be addressed to the president and congress, suggests the creation of a bureau of interstate transportation as an adjunct to the department of commerce and labor presided over by the commissioner who shall have in charge all differences arising between shippers and the railroads. If these differences cannot be adjudicated by the commissioner and his assistants, the resolution suggests that they be carried before a special court of transportation, the judges of which shall devote their entire time to the adjudication of such differences.

TEN BANKERS ARE INDICTED

Denver Grand Jury Unearths Conspiracy to Steal Nearly Two Millions.

EXTENSIVE PLOT TO ROB SAVINGS BANK

Five of Accused Live in Denver, One in Boston, Two in Fort Worth and Two in Enid, Oklahoma.

DENVER, Oct. 17.—Leonard Imboden, James A. Hill, C. B. Wilfey, E. E. Hull, H. L. Hull, C. C. Robert, W. T. Camp, D. E. Carey, A. B. Davis and J. H. Edmondson, were indicted by the grand jury today on the charge of conspiring to steal $1,712,587 from the Denver Savings bank.

Wilfey and Edmonson were former presidents of the Denver Savings bank and Hill was president when the receiver was appointed on August 19 last. H. L. Hill is president of the Mount Vernon National bank of Boston, Roberts and Carey are officers of the Cherokee State bank of Enid, Okl., Camp and Davis are officers of the Texas State Trust company of Fort Worth, Texas, and Imboden and E. E. Hull promoters.

In addition to the general conspiracy indictment seven indictments were found against Edmondson on charges of larceny, embezzlement and converting the funds of the depositors to his own use. He is charged specifically with the robbery of $105,000.

Four indictments were returned against Wilfey, charging him with loaning certain funds belonging to the bank and securing heavy commission for his own use.

One indictment was returned against Hill, charging him wth the embezzlement of $10,000.

Warrants were immediately issued for the arrest of the indicted men. Imboden, Wilfey and Hill were arrested her this afternoon. Capiases for those not in the city were telegraphed to the cities where they reside.

Both Hill and Wilfey had previously been arrested on warrants based on information sworn to before the district attorney and had given bonds. These bonds were accepted by the court today as sufficient to guarantee the appearance of Hill and Wilfey to answer the charges contained in the indictments and they were released late today. Imboden is still in jail.

MAYOR WEAVER EXCLUDED

Committee Appointed by Council Begins Investigating His Administration.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 17.—The special committee of seven members of the select council appointed last August to investigate the affairs of the various departments of the city as conducted by Mayor Weaver and his directors began the taking of testimony today. The meeting of the committee was not without its sensations, chief of which were the request to Mayor Weaver and three of his directors to leave the hearing room, and the statement of John B. Taylor, superintendent of police, that David J. Smyth, director of public safety, had told him not to molest election repeaters. Superintendent Taylor's statement was made despite the vigorous efforts of Milton C. Work, the chairman of the committee, to confine him to the questions propounded by the committee's attorney.

The committee brought out statements from witnesses that policemen attended the meeting of a political club when they should have been on duty. Mayor Weaver and the city party insisted that the police are not in politics, while the leaders of the republican organization claim that the police are as much in politics as they ever were.

Unusual precautions had been taken to exclude from the council's finance room, where the meeting was held, all persons except a limited number of newspaper men and witnesses. Only one of the latter was admitted to the chamber at a time. All doors and windows were kept closed. The meeting was called for 3 o'clock. Prior to that time Mayor Weaver sent a letter to the committee asking permission for himself and his directors to be present for the purpose of hearing what may take place and to give the committee such aid as he could.

The committee did not make a reply and on the minute of 3 o'clock Mayor Weaver, accompanied by Colonel Sheldon Potter, director of public safety; A. Lincoln Aker, director of public works, and F. J. Shoyer, director of the department of supplies, walked into the committee room before the committee had assembled.

A few minutes later the sergeant-at-arms politely informed the mayor that inasmuch as only witnesses and newspaper men would be admitted to the room, the directors would have to retire. Mr. Weaver asked the sergeant to notify the committee that the mayor of Philadelphia and three of his directors desired to remain during the hearing. Then Chairman Work appeared and informed the mayor that the committee would not change its rules and that he and the directors must leave the room. The mayor at first demurred, but finally, with the directors, left the room.

TRANSPORT SHERMAN ARRIVES

Body of Colonel Baldwin and 247 Enlisted Men Brought Back from the Philippines.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 17.—The United States army transport Sherman arrived today from Manila with a large number of cabin passengers, 247 enlisted men and twenty military prisoners. About twenty soldiers and several passengers who were ashore at Nagasaki were left behind, as the vessel sailed sooner than was anticipated. Among the officers on board were Lieutenant Colonel W. T. Tucker of the pay department and Major W. K. Wright of the Twentieth infantry. The transport also conveyed the body of Colonel W. H. Baldwin, who recently died in the Philippines. Mrs. Baldwin and family accompanied the remains.

VANDERBILT WINS PRIZES

New York Millionaire Takes Three Ribbons in Three Classes at Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 17.—Reginald Vanderbilt won three important prizes at the horse show tonight. In the driving horses' class his pair, Amagement and Astonishment, received the blue ribbon, and in the polo ponies' class Imp. Peggy, ridden by Mr. Vanderbilt, was first. In the ladies' class, horses in harness, Herald, driven by Mrs. Vanderbilt, was second, the blue ribbon going to Crow & Murray's Sporting Duchess.

Dr. Selwonk, owned by Vanderbilt, took the blue ribbon in the class for saddle horses over fifteen hands.

PROVIDES SUMMARY DISMISSAL

Cabinet Officers Will Have Power to Dismiss Civil Service Employes for Cause.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—An amendment to the civil service rules, sweeping and comprehensive in its character, was authorized today by the president. Hereafter a cabinet officer will have the power to remove summarily and without hearing any civil service employe in his department, who to the personal knowledge of the head of the department has been guilty of misconduct or who is inefficient in the performance of his duties.

By the terms of the amendment the cabinet officer must have personal knowledge of the misconduct or inefficiency of the employe whom he proposes to discharge. With this personal knowledge the power of the head of the department is absolute.

The amendment authorized today is one of the most important and far-reaching made to the civil service rules in many years. It confers upon cabinet officers practically unlimited power as to the personnel of their departments. The amendment is made to rule xii, section 2, which provides that the appointing officer of the executive civil service shall report in detail to the Civil Service commission all changes in their departments as soon as made and the reasons for making them. Heretofore, in every case of the removal of a civil service employe, charges had to be filed against the person whom it was proposed to remove and the employe was given time in which to meet the charges with such defense as he might have to make. Under the authorized amendment such a proceeding will not be necessary. A head of a department may discharge an employe for misconduct or inefficiency with the simple statement to the Civil Service commission that the misconduct of inefficiency is a subject of his personal observation. The discharged employe will have no recourse.

It is said that the amendment was made at the instance of members of the cabinet who hold that under the present construction of the civil service rules they often are unable to deal properly with cases of misconduct and inefficiency of which they are personally cognizant. Assurance is given that the amendment was not made to apply to any particular case now pending. Its purposes, as stated, is to improve the discipline of the departmental forces.

The amendment was discussed by the cabinet at its meeting today and approved unanimously.

After the amendment had been discussed and adopted by the cabinet President Roosevelt issued the following executive order, embodying the terms of the new regulation:

When the president or head of an executive department is satisfied that an officer or employe in the classified service is inefficient or incapable, and that the public service would be materially improved by his removal, such removal will be made without hearing; but the cause of removal shall be stated in writing and filed. When misconduct is committed in the view and presence of the president or head of the executive department removal may be made summarily and without notice.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

While members of the cabinet frequently have discussed such an amendment to the civil service rules as was authorized today, the subject was brought directly to the attention of President Roosevelt recently by the misconduct of a chauffeur of one of the government automobiles. The driver of the automobile piloted his machine directly in the way of the president's carriage and seemed to take delight in cutting him out of the road.

When the president learned who the chauffeur was he said he ought to be discharged as incapable of operating the machine. The subject was pressed by members of the cabinet and the decision was reached to make the amendment to the civil service rules in order that misconduct of a government employe might be made the cause for instant dismissal.

OIL COMPANY PRIVATE AFFAIR

Such Position is Taken by Attorney for Officials at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 17.—That the affairs of oil companies are as properly private as the personal affairs of an individual was the contention of John D. Johnson, one of the counsel for the defense in the resumption today of the inquiry into the methods pursued by the Standard, the Republic and the Waters-Pierce oil companies before Special Supreme Court Commissioner R. A. Anthony.

"The testimony being taken," said Attorney Johnson, "merely caters to public excitement. It is not being taken in good faith. The attorney general has no intention of carrying the proceedings to a conclusion."

Attorney General Hadley interrupted with: "Any statement that I am not acting in good faith in this matter is absolutely false." Attorney Johnson thereupon said he withdrew any remark which the attorney general might consider a personal reflection.

Commissioner Anthony announced today that he would not render an opinion on whether the Waters-Pierce company can be compelled to produce its books in court to show whether there is any connection between it and the Standard Oil company.

"Since I took this question under advisement," he said, "a motion involving the same question has been filed with the supreme court. Pending the court's decision I will not render an opinion."

INSURANCE MEN IN CONTEMPT

Judge Kohlsaat Issues Citations for Three Directors of Western Indemnity Life Company.

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—Federal Judge Kohlsaat today issued a rule against G. M. Moulton, E. I. Rosenfeld and E. D. Moore, members of the executive committee of the Western Life Indemnity company, to show cause why they should not be adjudged in contempt of court. Attorney S. O. Levinson, counsel for various policy holders, declared that the three officials had purchased 9,000 shares of the Security Life & Annuity company for $200,000, September 26, after the court had issued a verbal injunction against any such transaction.

MOLTEN METAL EXPLODES

One Man Dead, Three Fatally Injured and Others May Die in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—Five tons of molten metal exploded today at the Joliet plant of the Illinois Steel company, falling in a shower of death on a band of workmen about the converter. One man is dead, three are fatally burned and a half dozen injured so badly that they may die.

The explosion shook the whole plant, sending panic into every corner of the great works. Half a hundred men were within range of the liquid metal. The shrieks of the injured were heard all over the grounds of the company.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Thirty-Five Hundred Dollars for the Police Fund is Located.

COMPTROLLER LOBECK EXPLAINS MATTER

Back Taxes Collected During First Three Months of Year Will Be Applied and Another Contribution is Likely.

By the joint efforts of City Attorney Breen and Comptroller Lobeck, the city council has been shown a way to dig up $3,500 toward relieving the police fund deficit of $8,000. The council promptly took the tip. This amount alone will enable retention of three-fourths, instead of a little over one-half of the force for the remainder of the year. But the comptroller has figured out another plan to get $3,420 more, which the attorney will consider as to legality before recommending to the council. That body will meet today at 4:30 to take the matter up. A letter from the comptroller as follows explains:

Relative to the funds necessary for the use of the police department as intended by your honorable body in making your levy February 8, 1905, for the annual expenses, I have this suggestion to make:

On account of the action of the legislature in changing the charter, the back taxes and interest collected on regular taxes were diverted from their usual channels to the sinking fund, thereby causing a shortage in all funds, based on the receipts of last year, of a sum exceeding $80,000.

The police fund during the year 1904 received from this $10,528.37, which was credited to that fund and in making the apportionment for the year 1905, this source of revenue was estimated and taken into account, in making your levy to cover the expenses of the police department for 1905. The law was changed and it is accepted as a fact that all moneys that came in after the approval of the law making the new charter, from back taxes and regular interest, must go to the sinking fund, and has so been credited by this department, but I believe, and in this the city attorney agrees with me, that the moneys collected during January, February and March from back taxes and interest should be credited in the manner provided for by the charter of previous years. As it is well known there will be a shortage in the police department of over $8,000.

There came to the city in January, February and March, from back taxes, the sum of $32,220.62. Estimating on a basis of collections for the year 1904, the police department would be entitled to about $3,500. Therefore, I think that this council could safely pass a resolution crediting the police fund from this source the sum of $3,500.

Secondly, there is another source of credit: At the end of the year 1904 there was credited to the general levy fund from the police fund the sum of $4,915. Of this sum there were outstanding claims that had not been presented, amounting to $1,494.70, which after being paid left a balance in the general fund properly belonging to the police fund of $3,420.29. Therefore, if your honorable body will deem it wise to adopt a resolution:

First, crediting the sum of $3,500 to the police fund from back taxes and also the balance of $3,420.29 above mentioned, there would then be a total of $6,920.29 available for the use of the police department.

I believe that by strict economy and a little sacrifice of time on the part of the police officials and commissioners, that the city could be fairly policed and its property protected to the end of the year.

Breen Claims Credit.

"So far as I can see the $3,500 transfer is perfectly legal," said the city attorney. "The suggestion was mine in the first place. The comptroller and myself worked it out in joint conference Sunday. I think the last mentioned transfer can be made, too, but want to inquire closely into it first."

The resolution making the $3,500 transfer was adopted.

No Referendum Wanted.

For the second time the fifty-year independent telephone franchise wanted by A. B. Hunt, T. E. Parmele and T. H. Pollock was turned down with a thud spectacular for its remarkable dullness. To back up the demand for passage of the ordinance a delegation of union laboring men was present. Louis V. Guye, president of the Central Labor union, said:

In behalf of organized labor we ask for the exercise of an underlying principle, the decision in questions of this kind by the people. The charter has arranged that franchises shall be granted or refused by the people, and we think the people should have a chance to express their wishes in this instance. I admit that our motives are selfish, because we think a second telephone system will benefit laboring people. We do not believe the council can judge for all the people, and should not try to do so.

As soon as Mr. Guye was heard Councilman Huntington moved that the ordinance be laid on the table indefinitely. Councilman Hoye made a fight for the ordinance to have it referred to a committee, so it could be discussed, and said that C. R. Scott wished to talk, but it was discovered that Scott had left the room. Hoye said the tabling of the resolution was the dirtiest slap the people ever received from the council. Only he and Zimman voted against the Huntington motion. Nicholson was absent.

Reassessing Special Taxes.

The first move in the long talked of reassessment for special taxes to pay for various improvements, which have been cancelled by the courts subsequent to litigation, was made in the adoption of a resolution presented by the legal department directing the treasurer to supply the engineer with all information necessary, in all cases where sewer levies had been declared invalid, to make new levies. These are to be considered by the Board of Equalization in December. The amount of taxes involved is possibly $200,000. Other re-assessments of the same nature will follow quickly.

Percy J. Mundy of the Mundy shows wants to establish a zoo in the Capitol avenue market house for the winter. Mr. Mundy offers to pay $100 a month rent for six months from the last of October. The mayor recommends the deal and the council referred the matter to the committee on fire, water and police.

Mayor Moores approved the ordinance granting a year's more time for the street railway to bury its light and power wires in the downtown district.

Sewer Contract Awarded.

A contract for building a sewer in district 314 was awarded to Hans J. Peterson for $1,334.44, as the lowest bidder. He was also the lowest bidder in sewer district 315, offering to do that work for $2,033.43, but the contract was held up because property owners are protesting that they don't want the sewer until they get water.

Dean Noyes and H. W. Cowdurey were placed on the permanent payroll as superintendent and street foreman of the asphalt repair plant, respectively, for so long as their services shall be satisfactory to the engineer, mayor and council. This is done to take care of the men during the winter when the plant is idle.

Taft Forming Panama Party.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—Secretary Taft stated today that he had invited some of the members of the fortifications board to accompany him on his approaching visit to the isthmus. It is expected that they will look over the ground with a view to the preparation of preliminary plans for the fortification of the canal terminals.

Jerry Simpson is Very Low.

WICHITA, Kan., Oct. 17.—Former Congressman Jerry Simpson showed improvement at 7 o'clock tonight and the attending physician said he might possibly last through the night.

NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Partly Cloudy and Colder Wednesday. Thursday Partly Cloudy.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	48	1 p. m.	48
6 a. m.	48	2 p. m.	48
7 a. m.	48	3 p. m.	47
8 a. m.	48	4 p. m.	47
9 a. m.	47	5 p. m.	47
10 a. m.	47	6 p. m.	47
11 a. m.	48	7 p. m.	47
12 m.	48	8 p. m.	45
		9 p. m.	44

OMAHA MAN INJURED IN WRECK

T. B. Hord and Wife of Central City Also Among Those Slightly Hurt.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Oct. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—No. 65, the regular northbound passenger train on the Cheyenne & Northern branch of the Colorado Southern railroad, was ditched at Horse creek, thirty-five miles north of Cheyenne, today and thirty-eight people were injured. The accident was caused by spreading rails, due to the soft roadbed. A relief train was run out from Cheyenne with surgeons aboard, and the most seriously hurt were brought to local hospitals. Many of the injured had their wounds dressed and continued on their way.

A partial list of the injured follows:

Mrs. Clara Hensky, Cheyenne, skull fractured; will probably die.

Roadmaster J. P. Burns, Hartville Junction, Wyo., serious internal injuries.

George Woodberry, St. George, Utah, internal injuries; may die.

The following received cuts, bruises and sprains:

Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Hord, Central City, Neb.

Elmer Cloud, Beatrice, Neb.

A. L. Medan, Charles Cammen, A. H. Paulson, Charles Leslie, Denver, Colo.

J. R. Brannilette, Stanley, Ill.

A. H. Winder, Boulder, Colo.

T. J. Lowry, Omaha, live stock inspector.

J. R. Whitehead, Nellie Becker, John Whittaker, James Therasharis, Guy Goff, Cheyenne, Wyo.

Mrs. John Hunton, H. E. Wheeler, Wheatland, Wyo.

Eighteen Greek laborers, en route to Sunrise, Wyo.

SPOOKS HAVE NO TERRORS

Omaha Woman Willing to Share the Lot of Superintendent of Cemetery.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Oct. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—That Miss Nellie Logan, Omaha, Neb., is not in the least afraid of goblins and spooks and midnight graveyard strollers, is shown by a letter received at the Board of Public Safety, in which the young woman says she is willing to marry the superintendent of the Bowling Green cemetery, who recently resigned because he could not find a companion to share his lonely lot. Miss Logan says she is a good cook and is not afraid of anything. The letter reads as follows:

OMAHA, Neb., Oct. 14.—Chairman Board of Public Safety, Louisville, Ky.—Dear Sir: Having noticed an article in our daily paper, was attracted by the statement you make of Mr. Summerville being elected as superintendent of your cemetery, and sending in his resignation for the reason he had no companion and could not get one. Please do not accept the resignation or act on it, and if you have the young man's address, please ask him to write to an ever-willing young woman, who is anxiously waiting for a reply and who would share her life with a worthy chap and make life worth living, cook his meals, etc. Trusting I may receive a letter in reply, I remain your unseen western friend.

Secretary Lindenberger of the Board of Public Safety has been instructed to write to Miss Logan that ex-Superintendent Summerville lives in Bowling Green, but that there are several public officials here who have some sort of connection with cemeteries. She gives her address at North Thirty-first and Boulevard avenue.

TRAFFIC IN YOUNG WOMEN

Chicago Learns that American Girls Are Being Sold to Rich Chinese.

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—Traffic in young women, purchased in Chicago for practical sale in all parts of the empire of China, has been discovered by local federal and police authorities, but this far no law has been found prohibiting the exporting of American women to foreign countries. The police are in possession of the names of two women, one in Chicago and another in Shanghai, China, who are thought to be the leaders in the practice.

The plan used in the operation of the alleged ring was, it is believed, to first hire unsuspecting women, tempting them with lurid stories of wealth in the orient. A position of maid or higher servant in wealthy Chinese families is said to have been the bait offered. To bind the contract the applicant for the position was told that her traveling and living expenses would be paid and all the clothing necessary furnished.

When the women reached China they were immediately placed under guard and sent to the purchasers, who had previously paid from $500 to $1,000 for each. Many are supposed to be held in palaces of wealthy Chinese under heavy guards.

MRS. FOLSOM FOUND GUILTY

Alleged Spirit Medium Denounced as a Fraud by Spiritualists' National Board.

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 17.—A sensation was sprung at the opening session of the thirteenth annual convention of the National Association of Spiritualists in this city today, when the national board of trustees reported, finding Mrs. C. W. Stewart of St. Louis, better known as Mrs. S. K. Folsom, guilty of fraudulent manifestations and of being a false spirit medium. No sooner was the finding of the board of trustees handed to Mrs. Stewart than her husband, who sat with her in the front of the church, said he would this afternoon appeal the case to the convention.

Mrs. Folsom had a hearing before a committee of the rational association in September at St. Louis, and was there found guilty through the alleged confession of an assistant.

Mrs. Folsom, in turn, says this confession is false and part of a conspiracy to cause her downfall and promises some sensational counter charge.

Movements of Ocean Vessels Oct. 17.

At New York—Sailed, Oldenburg for Bremen; Slavonia for Trieste; Cevic for Liverpool. Arrived, Kron Prinz Wilhelm from Bremen.

At Glasgow—Arrived, Carthaginian from New York; Corinthian from Montreal.

At Liverpool—Arrived, Corinthian from Montreal. Sailed, Coronia for New York; Lake Champlain for Montreal.

At Gibraltar—Arrived, Canopic from Boston.

At London—Arrived, Minnehaha from New York.

At Boston—Arrived, Manitou from Antwerp; Centria from Liverpool.

At Queenstown—Arrived, Majestic from New York.

At Dover—Arrived, Vaderland from New York.

UNABLE TO ANSWER

Richard McCurdy Develops Surprising Ignorance of Mutual Life Affairs.

DECREASE IN DIVIDENDS UNEXPLAINED

President Refers Inquisition to the Actuary of the Company.

BUSINESS OF BIG FOREIGN BANKS

Statement Contradicting Testimony of Their Assets as Compared with Mutual.

FORMER AGENT OF COMPANY BRIBED

Mr. McCurdy Says $10,000 Was Paid Thomas H. Bowles to Settle Suit Alleging Mismanagement of Company's Affairs.

NEW YORK, Oct. 17.—Testimony in the insurance investigation which was resumed today after a week's adjournment of the legislative committee, taken because of the death last week of S. Fred Nixon, speaker of the assembly of the state of New York, was most exciting throughout the entire day and only the repeated threats of Senator Armstrong, chairman of the committee, to clear the room prevented violent demonstrations of disapprobation of the witness, who was Richard A. McCurdy, president of the Mutual Life Insurance company. As it was, however, there were jeers at several periods of the day's testimony that temporarily interrupted the proceedings. These came when Mr. Hughes, counsel for the committee, asked questions that Mr. McCurdy was reluctant to answer or evaded and were made by the crowd that stood at the back of the room, which long ago proved inadequate to accommodate the counsel and witnesses summoned and the crowds of spectators that increases with every hearing.

Assets of Mutual Life.

Before the witness was called James McKeen, associate counsel to the committee, put in evidence for the records a statement of the assets of the Mutual Life Insurance company and of the Banks of England, France and Germany.

James M. Beck of counsel for the Mutual Life Insurance company claimed last Tuesday before the committee that the assets of the Mutual Life exceeded the combined assets of the Banks of England, France and Germany.

By cable, Mr. McKeen said, he had ascertained the combined assets of those institutions were $2,226,574,725, while those of the Mutual Life were $440,978,371. Further, said Mr. McKeen, he had found the salary of the president of the Bank of Germany to be $30,000 per annum and that of the chief governor of the Bank of England to be $10,000. He had been unable to ascertain the salary of the president of the Bank of France.

Where this important investigation is going to lead or where it will end has caused no small amount of conjecture and doubtless in some quarters anxiety. With the many threads that have been taken up and dropped before they have been followed to their ends, in order that some new lead may be taken up and with the additional features that are disclosed with almost every day's hearing the interest grows more intense.

Money for Literary Bureau.

In Mr. McCurdy's testimony today a feature entirely new was discovered, and this was that the Mutual Life Insurance company employed a literary bureau to send out to the press of the country news matter that was of benefit to the company. This information was elicited during the probing of the "legal expense" account. It came out when a voucher for the payment of $2,500 to Joseph Howard, jr., in 1904, was produced. Another voucher for the same amount, paid in May, 1904, was marked "Repayable on demand," and "for professional services." Mr. McCurdy had vised the vouchers and explained that Mr. Howard was a newspaper correspondent and that his professional services consisted in syndicating news stories. Pressed further, Mr. McCurdy said: "Mr. Howard was a correspondent for the Boston Globe and several other papers." Mr. McCurdy further said that he paid Mr. Howard about $2,500 a year for these services and that the voucher for May, 1905, was "really a loan or an advance.

Witness Professes Ignorance.

During the earlier session of the day an attempt was made to obtain from Mr. McCurdy the reason for reducing the dividends on policies as the business increased and the assets piled up. This question was prompted by the large number of letters received from policyholders by the committee and cited facts and examples. These letters came from all over the country, Mr. Hughes explained. He read but a few of the letters, received from policyholders who live in this city. The examples cited were principally on the policies of the ten-payment life plan. One in particular for $3,000, that in 1876 drew a dividend of $55.76, had been gradually cut until in 1904 it received only $3. The writer inclosed tables and statements from the company's representatives and said that this was in the face of the reserve increasing year after year. To all the questions on this matter the witness said he was not fortified with the information required, that these were actuarial matters, and when pressed for his opinion replied that he refused to answer the question or to enter any discussion. He would proffer a witness, his actuary, whose business it was to know these things, but as for himself, he "would not discuss the question." Mr. McCurdy's demeanor was so insistent and at times defiant that the spectators bent forward to catch every word and stood on tiptoe expecting every moment to hear him directed by counsel to answer the question. His proffer of another witness was all that prevented steps being taken toward his indictment. When Mr. McCurdy would not offer the information himself Mr. Hughes started on another line of inquiry.

Attitude of the Committee.

Late in the day Chairman Armstrong explained that since the information declared by the committee could be obtained by another source it was agreeable to the committee to let Mr. McCurdy place himself in the position he did. Had he been directed to answer and knowing the information desired, and then refused, Mr. Armstrong said, steps would have been taken to indict him for a misdemeanor, which is the offense of a witness refusing to answer questions before a legislative committee while the legislature was not in session. While the legislature is in session the failure would have constituted contempt.

Mr. McCurdy also during the effort to induce him to answer the questions as to the reduction of dividends, launched forth into a protest as to the manner in which the investigation was being conducted. He said the committee was going beyond the scope