

AFFAIRS AT SOUTH OMAHA

Transfer of Omaha to Hammond Plant is Stirring Up Talk.

VIADUCT CHANGES LIKELY TO RESULT

Approaches to O Street Bridge Will Be Built and Make Possible a Readjustment of Local Travel.

Within two months the work of transferring the property of the Omaha Packing company to the old Hammond plant will have commenced in earnest, and it will probably be along in the spring before the transfer will be fully made.

Ever since the building of the O street viaduct there has been a demand for an approach on the north side of the bridge and the building of the new Union passenger station, now in course of construction, has afforded additional necessity and demand for an approach there.

There are good prospects for general improvements in South Omaha the coming year. With the assurance of a viaduct at Y street the two new depots and other railroad improvements there will be much activity from the very outset of springtime.

Telephone Company Building.

The Nebraska Telephone company will continue in its old quarters for some time to come, the announcement being made Saturday afternoon that work on the new exchange would not be begun until the breaking of the cold weather in the spring, when the work will be started as soon thereafter as the weather will permit.

Sewer Committee Meeting.

The sewer committee, which was appointed by Chairman O'Keefe to confer with the city council, mayor and the stock yards officials, will meet Tuesday night, December 20, at the city hall.

Y. M. C. A. Farewell Services.

The farewell meeting of the Young Men's Christian association in the old quarters was held yesterday afternoon, the new services being conducted by Robert C. Walker. The old quarters were occupied by the Young Men's Christian association for the past eleven years and during that time the association has grown until new quarters were an absolute necessity.

week the association will move into the new quarters at 415 North Twenty-fourth street. When the new quarters are complete more attention will be paid to the general work of the association, the old rooms being too limited in space to give much attention to this popular branch of the association. A good field presents itself in South Omaha for Young Men's Christian association work and it is the intention of the directors to strive to make the local association as popular as possible.

Funeral of J. L. Olson. J. L. Olson of this city, who had been sick for a long time and died last week, was buried Sunday. The funeral was held from the Methodist church and was under the auspices of the Odd Fellows, the Danish Brotherhood and the Danish Sisterhood. These were all in the funeral procession, which was over two blocks long.

Death of Harry White. Harry M. White, engineer at the Union stock yards, residing at Twenty-fourth and H streets, died Saturday at the South Omaha hospital. He was stricken with pneumonia a short time ago and did not recover. The Scottish Rite Masons, of which he was a member, will have charge of the funeral arrangements. A sister of Mr. White resides in Spokane, Wash., and she has been notified of his death and is on her way to the funeral, so that nothing will be done until her arrival. The body is at Brewer's undertaking rooms.

Inquest on Springer. The body of M. Springer, the carpenter who was killed at the Cudahy levee at Seymour lake Friday by falling from a scaffold and alighting on his head, is still at the Brewer undertaking rooms. An inquest will be held Monday and it is hoped at that time that someone will turn up to take charge of the body. It is thought that he has a brother in Washington and some friends living south of Waterloo, but none of these have been heard from. Springer resided in Council Bluffs.

Lodge Elections. Fraternal Life association, South Omaha circle No. 40, elected officers for the coming year at the regular meeting last week. Those elected were: P. H. S. I. Beers, Robert H. S. Mike Prock; H. T. Edward Stormer; H. C. John Flynn; M. C. Charles B. Ayres; H. R. Winter H. Nichols; I. S. James McMahon; O. S. Clyde Johnson; trustees, John Mortensen and Mrs. Edward S. Mortensen. The entertainment committee consists of William Paynter and Ed. E. Mortensen.

At the annual meeting of Companion court of Alexander circle No. 40, Independent Order of Foresters, there were elected officers for the coming year: C. R. Mrs. Anna Remer; P. C. Mrs. Sophia Kline; V. C. Mrs. Margaret Gorman; R. S. Mrs. Ida B. Davis; F. S. Dr. Grace W. Ralston; T. Mrs. Pearl Boyd; O. Miss Louise Doll; S. W. Mrs. Margaret G. Main; J. W. Mrs. Anna Mickala; S. B. Mrs. Caroline Schmidt; J. B. Mrs. Lizzie Burton; C. D. Mrs. Lena Marz; trustees, Madames Main and Schmidt; M. D., Dr. Grace W. Ralston.

Magie City Gossip.

Rev. W. J. Burch, pastor of the First Christian church, has resigned.

The annual election of officers of Washington No. 67, Knights of the Maccoas, will be held Tuesday night.

Mayflower No. 35, Ladies of the Maccoas, will give a dance Wednesday evening at Maccoas hall, Thirty-eighth and G streets.

Action will probably be taken by the Board of Education at its next meeting in reference to the fence around the high school grounds.

A meeting of the Women's Christian Temperance union will be held Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. E. D. Weira, 101 North Twenty-first street.

Over thirty births have been reported at the Board of Health offices already this month, and if the same rate continues, December, 1905, will make a record in that line.

Stick Pins—Frenzer, 15th and Dodge.

DROWY ENGINEER WAS WARY

With Recent Happenings in Mind, He Made Bellboy Throw Message Over Transom.

Con Kirk, an engineer on the Union Pacific who boards at the Murray hotel, does not propose to take any chances on midnight or early morning holdups in the dark corridors of a hotel. He says all messages for him will have to be thrown over the transom. The affair at the Midland Saturday night and like affairs during the last week at two other Omaha hotels have put Mr. Kirk on his guard.

During the wee small hours of Saturday morning Kirk came in off his run and went to bed. He had not gotten fairly asleep when a telephone call was received from the depot for Mr. Kirk to take out an extra train Sunday morning. The bell boy was sent to his room with the message and after considerable knocking awakened the sleeping engineer.

"What's wanting?"

"Here's a telephone call for you; open the door."

"I guess not. You hike out. I'm onto your little game."

"No, sure, this is the real thing. I ain't no burglar."

"Well, all right, but you can just throw that message over the transom; it's open. And the bell boy fired the call over the transom."

Clerk Hastings went up and assured the suspicious engineer that this was no holdup and confidence was restored.

When Mr. Kirk came down stairs he denied being particularly scared, but he added:

"All night messages for me come in over the transom, or they are no go."

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

N. A. Huse of Norfolk is at the Her Grand.

Charles H. V. Lewis of Kansas City passed Sunday at the Paxton.

G. E. E. of the largest dealers in Norfolk, prominent banker of that town, is registered at the Millard.

OUR LETTER BOX.

Reply to Mandereson's Brief.

LINCOLN, Dec. 15.—To the Editor of The Bee: In the elaborate article published over General Mandereson's signature recently in your paper defending the action of the Burlington in enjoining the payment of taxes levied on it in this state, the general states that his employment by the railroad company as attorney does not require that he should be guilty of misstatement or misrepresentation either to the courts or at the bar of public opinion. This assurance by the general that he is disinterested and truthful will carry weight in the public mind, in his defense of the position of his clients who pay him \$12,000 or \$15,000 per annum for his valuable services.

The general states that the railroad property of this state was assessed in 1903 at \$7,254,936, and in 1904 the same property was assessed at \$6,177,564, and that the increase of assessment in the year 1904 over that of 1903 was 78 per cent on the property of the Burlington railroad. It would seem that the increase on the property of all the railroads of the state was but 9.2 per cent instead of 78 per cent. Probably when the general stated in the connection by calling the increase in the valuation of the property of the Burlington was 78 per cent he did not intend to mislead the public, which might inadvertently think that the property of all the railroads of the state was increased 78 per cent and not that of the Burlington road only.

The general states that the other property of the state in 1903 was assessed at \$16,173,432, and in 1904 at \$24,900,581, being, as he states, an increase of 54 per cent in the valuation of other property. By calling the increase in the valuation of other property slightly in excess of 54 per cent in 1904 over the assessment of 1903, but slight inaccuracy upon the general's part should not be attributed to misrepresentation.

Perhaps the fact that the Burlington road has been so active in politics and the selection of state officers heretofore was the reason why its property was comparatively under-assessed prior to 1903, and the state board found it necessary in 1904 to increase its assessment 78 per cent, whereas the assessment of all the railroad property of the state was increased only 9.2 per cent.

The general states that "The inflated condition of the public mind that leads to the denial to a railroad of every right except existence, and would compel it to operate and yet have its revenues absorbed by unfair and excessive taxation, while fixing rates of transportation that are practically confiscatory, results from the falsehoods and time-exaggerations of demagogues and time-serverers who for purely selfish purposes mislead their followers."

The state auditor's report shows the gross earnings of the Burlington road for the year ending December 31, 1902, were \$12,574,823.71.

The general states that in 1903 the Burlington road paid into the treasury of the state of Nebraska \$309,600, which is a little more than 4 per cent of its gross earnings for the year 1902. Its taxes were a trifle more than one-twenty-fifth of its gross income. Is it possible that the inflated condition of the general's mind has led him to denounce as unfair, an undue tribute and excessive taxation, the exaction of only about 4 per cent, or one-twenty-fifth of its gross revenue, of the railroad which he represents? The residents of towns and cities in this state who have frequently paid from 10 per cent to 40 per cent of the gross revenues of their properties for the different forms of public taxation to which they are subjected cannot fully sympathize with the general in his denunciation of the taxation levied on the Burlington road. Even should the general's road pay in full the taxes levied in 1903 on it, the amount, as stated by him, would be but a trifle over 5 per cent of the gross earnings of the road, which could not be considered "confiscatory."

The total amount of stock of the Burlington road outstanding January, 1902, was \$10,717,800. This stock was bought in by the Northern Securities company on a basis of two dollars for one, which would make the actual value of the stock \$21,435,600. The total amount of the mortgage debt of the Burlington system at about the same time was \$14,165,500. This would make the total value of the Burlington system \$29,553,300. The total number of miles operated was 7,592, which would give an average value of \$3,893.27 per mile. It is possible that the value of the Burlington in Nebraska are probably higher than in the other sections of the country, so that the average value per mile in Nebraska would not be very much less than the average value of the entire system.

The general tells the public that one of his roads in Butler county was assessed in 1904 at taxable value, \$8,500 per mile, real value, \$22,500 per mile; the other was assessed, taxable value at \$8,500 per mile; real value, \$42,500 per mile. The average selling value of the entire system, by the figures given above, was \$4,963.57 per mile, one-fifth of which would be \$972.66, and all property has gone up at least 1902, when the Burlington was sold to Hill.

The general says that "since 1885 the average value of farm lands in Butler county has been at least \$60 per acre." Is it not possible the general is mistaken in this allegation? He has assured us he could not, and would not, willfully misrepresent the facts. But it is the opinion of this humble citizen, who draws no salary from a great railroad corporation, that there were very few acres in Butler county that could have been sold for \$60 in 1885. The great rise in land values had scarcely begun at that time. In the spring of 1904 we are of the opinion that the average value of little land in Butler county was worth \$60 per acre, and even now, when the rough, rocky, bluffy, pondy and otherwise indented land is considered, it may well be doubted whether the average value of all lands in Butler county is \$60 per acre. Perhaps, it may be that the statements made under oath by the county assessor of Butler county and his deputies, based upon a careful, actual inspection of each parcel of land in the county, are entitled to equal consideration as to this matter with the allegations of the paid attorney of the road. The average value of the land in the spring of 1904 that the average value of land in Butler county was, for taxable purposes \$3.30; real value \$6.50 per acre, and we think they are as nearly correct as it is practicable to be, from our knowledge of values in that county. The general cites the assessed value of live stock, and items of personal property in Butler county, in 1904, in stating that it is but one-fifth of the real value. If the values given by him were multiplied by five, the showing would not be so bad, especially when it is remembered that the values given are for the good, bad and indifferent items of property, which go to make an average.

The general also states that "not over 9 per cent of the live stock of the state ever reaches the assessment rolls." This is an assumption that the farmers are assessors of this state are perpetrating a fraud. Of course, the general must know the facts in this matter and has been assured by him he would not be guilty of misstatement nor misrepresentation, although the farmers and assessors may be. It is a great pleasure and privilege to the people of this state to be told the truth fairly and dispassionately by the learned and able gentleman who comments so kindly upon them, while serving this great corporation with its annual gross revenue of \$12,574,823 and 71 cents do not forget the cents) at an annual salary exceeding the entire fortune of a vast majority of the Nebraska farmers, in what a high-handed and rapacious manner, the officers of this great and glorious commonwealth are trying to confiscate the property of the real friends of the people, the railroad companies, by levying a tax of almost 8 per cent upon their gross annual income, while other people pay a tax of from two to three times as much of the income of their property in many instances.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Child's Life Saved by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

Mrs. John Englishart of Gera, Mich., tells of the anxious moments spent over her little 2-year-old daughter who had taken a hard cold, resulting in croup. She says: "I am satisfied that if it had not been for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy she would have choked to death. I gave this medicine every ten minutes and she soon began to throw up the phlegm. I can recommend it in the highest terms, as I have another child that was cured in the same way."

Diamond Lockets—Edholm, Jeweler.

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THE HISTORY OF CHAMPAGNE—No. 5.

VEN THE IDEAL CHAMPAGNE GLASS was invented by Dom Perignon, who also discovered Champagne. This glass he called a "flute." The original was a very slender V-shaped glass, bubbling from the tip of which the endless effervescence seemed like the spring of life itself. It is ever so with

Great Western

Equal in effervescing qualities, flavor and bouquet to Champagnes of foreign make—at half the price. The duty, not the quality, makes the difference. This is because the vineyards in which grapes for Great Western are grown have been cultivated so long (longer than any other wine-producing vineyards in America) that the soil has at last attained those peculiar qualities which have for centuries imparted the flavor and conditions hitherto found only in the grapes of the French Champagne district. Great Western has these qualities—and is made with equal care.

Try Great Western—the standard Champagne for banquets and the home table.

PLEASANT VALLEY WINE CO., Sole Makers, RHODES, N. Y.

Sold everywhere by Dealers in Fine Wines.



Dr. Lyon's PERFECT TOOTH POWDER

Cleanses and beautifies the teeth and purifies the breath. Used by people of refinement for over a quarter of a century.

Convenient for tourists.

PREPARED BY S. W. Lyon, D.D.S.

The Best Heated Office Building in Omaha is The Bee Building

Don't wait till cold weather; there are several choice offices vacant now—but they never stay empty long. Some fine offices at from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per month, including heat, light, water and janitor service.

R. C. Peters & Co., Rental Agents.

Ground Floor, Bee Building.

Rock Island Rock Bottom Rates

- \$18.25—AUSTIN, TEXAS, AND RETURN.
- \$20.00—BEAUMONT, TEXAS, AND RETURN.
- \$10.00—BURLINGTON, COLO., AND RETURN.
- \$17.05—CORINTH, MISS., AND RETURN.
- \$18.25—DENVER, COLO., AND RETURN.
- \$14.40—DALLAS, TEXAS, AND RETURN.
- \$13.60—DALHART, TEXAS, AND RETURN.
- \$25.85—EL PASO, TEXAS, AND RETURN.
- \$21.10—GALVESTON, TEXAS, AND RETURN.
- \$10.00—GOODLAND, KANS., AND RETURN.
- \$19.90—JACKSON, MISS., AND RETURN.
- \$21.20—LAKE CHARLES, LA., AND RETURN.
- \$22.70—MONTGOMERY, ALA., AND RETURN.
- \$46.45—MEXICO CITY, MEXICO, AND RETURN.
- \$22.70—MOBILE, ALA., AND RETURN.
- \$22.15—NEW ORLEANS, LA., AND RETURN.
- \$10.70—OKLAHOMA CITY, O. T., AND RETURN.
- \$22.70—PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, AND RETURN.
- \$17.25—PUEBLO, COLO., AND RETURN.
- \$20.00—SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, AND RETURN.
- \$17.85—SANTA ROSA, N. M., AND RETURN.
- \$10.00—WICHITA, KAS., AND RETURN.
- \$15.80—WACO, TEXAS, AND RETURN.

Correspondingly low rates to many other points in above states.

ON SALE DECEMBER 19TH. ALL TICKETS GOOD RETURNING 21 DAYS FROM DATE OF SALE.

Rock Island System

F. P. RUTHERFORD, D. P. A.,

1323 FARNAM ST. OMAHA, NEB.

...VERY LOW RATES... HOMESEEKERS' EXCURSION

TUESDAYS, December 5th and 19th

The Iron Mountain ...Route...

To Certain Points in the West and Southwest

THREE-FOURTHS ONE WAY RATE FOR THE ROUND TRIP

STOPOVERS allowed within the limit FINAL LIMIT of tickets, twenty-one days.

For Further Information or Land Pamphlets, Folders, Maps, etc., Address any agent of the company, or

Tom Hughes, Thos. F. Godfrey, Traveling Passenger Agent Passenger and Ticket Agent

Southeast Corner 15th and Farnam Streets, OMAHA, NEBRASKA

H. C. TOWNSEND, G. P. T. A., ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILWAY

DRINK Frig THE BEER YOU LIKE TELEPHONE 420 FOR A CASE You Sometimes Annoy

Your friends with that hacking cough. Why not accept a suggestion of a remedy? LA GRIPPE COUGH SYRUP will be a relief and the relief begins with the first dose. IT STOPS THE TICKLING. RELIEVES SORENESS. SOOTHES NERVES. After severe colds the cough that is not and would not, willfully misrepresent the facts. But it is the opinion of this humble citizen, who draws no salary from a great railroad corporation, that there were very few acres in Butler county that could have been sold for \$60 in 1885. The great rise in land values had scarcely begun at that time. In the spring of 1904 we are of the opinion that the average value of little land in Butler county was worth \$60 per acre, and even now, when the rough, rocky, bluffy, pondy and otherwise indented land is considered, it may well be doubted whether the average value of all lands in Butler county is \$60 per acre. Perhaps, it may be that the statements made under oath by the county assessor of Butler county and his deputies, based upon a careful, actual inspection of each parcel of land in the county, are entitled to equal consideration as to this matter with the allegations of the paid attorney of the road. The average value of the land in the spring of 1904 that the average value of land in Butler county was, for taxable purposes \$3.30; real value \$6.50 per acre, and we think they are as nearly correct as it is practicable to be, from our knowledge of values in that county. The general cites the assessed value of live stock, and items of personal property in Butler county, in 1904, in stating that it is but one-fifth of the real value. If the values given by him were multiplied by five, the showing would not be so bad, especially when it is remembered that the values given are for the good, bad and indifferent items of property, which go to make an average. The general also states that "not over 9 per cent of the live stock of the state ever reaches the assessment rolls." This is an assumption that the farmers are assessors of this state are perpetrating a fraud. Of course, the general must know the facts in this matter and has been assured by him he would not be guilty of misstatement nor misrepresentation, although the farmers and assessors may be.

GORDON FURS



LONDON-DYED ALASKA SEAL SKIN

THE great fur seal fisheries off the Alaska coast furnish the choicest skins.

Between the curing of the skin and the making of a jacket similar to the one shown in the picture, must come the process of dyeing.

In all the large cities of the world there are men with varying degrees of skill who dye seal skins.

All the most skillful dyers of seal skins live in London.

They possess secrets unknown elsewhere.

So it is that the choice skins must be London dyed.

They cost some more and are worth much more.

A twenty-four inch Gordon jacket of best London-dyed Alaska Seal will cost this year \$400. Lower grades at lower prices.

Ask your dealer for GORDON FURS