

OMAHA HONORS WASHINGTON

Most of Public Offices Closed and Special Events Are Held.

PROGRAM AT OMAHA CLUB LAST NIGHT

City Hall, County and Federal Buildings, Schools, Grain Exchange and Society Pay Tribute to First President.

Though it is a far cry back to the days of government making, Americans are not too distant from the hallowed memory of George Washington, not too completely encased in the traditions of the twentieth century commercialism to pause and pay homage to the father of his country, him of whom immortal history recites, "First in peace, first in war, first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Rich and poor alike in Omaha, where no general holiday was declared, observed the 15th anniversary of the first president of the United States.

The holiday was observed at the city hall by the closing of the offices, although the heads of some departments were at their desks during the forenoon. All of the clerks were on duty.

The postoffice was closed at 10 a. m. Two mail deliveries in the business and one in the residential districts were made.

The Omaha Grain Exchange observed Washington's birthday. The local pit was closed and there were no quotations from Chicago, consequently the commission men had to take a day's rest.

REPORT ON THE NEW YORK LIFE

Insurance Commissioners of Various States Give Results of Examination.

John L. Pierce, Nebraska state insurance commissioner, passed through Omaha on a Burlington train last night, en route to Lincoln, Neb., where he will be in attendance at the meeting of the insurance commissioners of Kentucky, Tennessee, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Nebraska to investigate the New York Life insurance company.

The report of S. H. Wolfe and William J. Graham, who were examining in charge of the joint examination, assisted by a large force of men.

Mr. Pierce had an advance copy of the findings which were out of the printers' hands today. It is a lengthy report of eighty-three pages and closes with the comments of the commissioners themselves.

The document ends with the following conclusion: "We have avoided discussing many proposed reforms with reference to the subject of life insurance. The question relating to standard policy forms, prohibiting ambiguous contracts, prohibiting insurance for limited periods, including policies to officers and commissions and bonuses to agents, and the annual examination of policy holders, are of absorbing interest, but reflections has convinced us that proper systems of annual examination, judicious investments, closer relations between policy holders and management and the publicity of the annual examination, the application of which will rehabilitate the entire system, are deemed to be the most important reforms to be adopted."

The New York Life insurance company has for years played in the economic life of our people a great part as any insurance company should. It has been able to say that while its contracts made pursuant to law have been largely based, as we believe, upon a sound basis, and secured at an excessive cost, its contractual guarantees have been made good by promptness which must be admitted by the most critical. Errors have been committed in the past, and specific transactions are disclosed in this report which can neither be excused nor condoned, but it should be remembered that this company, which during its life has seen so many financial institutions come and go, and has lived through so many changes in business conditions, can still point to assets made up of sufficient to meet its contractual liabilities.

"The commissioners of all the states represented signed the report."

VISITING NURSES' BIRTHDAY

Ninth Anniversary of Organization is Fittingly Celebrated.

The Omaha Visiting Nurses' association celebrated its ninth birthday anniversary with a gathering at Elks' hall, Fifteenth and Farnam streets, yesterday. During the afternoon several hundred members of the organization with their friends and relatives were at the hall. As each visitor was required to give a gift, many presents as he was years old and donate into the treasury, the funds of the society received a substantial boost, particularly as some seemed to count their years by the hundred and donated proportionately.

About 100 were present during the evening when a delightful program of music was rendered. Messrs. Stewart, McCune and Ellis, Miss Goetz and Mrs. Rich sang the quartet from the First Presbyterian church also giving some numbers. Mrs. Stella Brown played at the afternoon assemblage.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that the Keith and Lincoln Counties Irrigation District will issue the 36,000 bond issue of said district up to the time of the first day of March, 1912, at the rate of 5 per cent, and the time of the 3d day of April, 1912, at the rate of 6 per cent. The office of the secretary of said Irrigation District, in the State of Nebraska, Lincoln county, in the state of Nebraska, 3121 Commerce street, in the denomination of \$1000 each and bear interest at the rate of six per cent, payable semi-annually, on the 1st day of September, 1912, and on the 1st day of March, 1913, due on the first day of March, 1914, due on the first day of March, 1915, due on the first day of March, 1916, due on the first day of March, 1917, due on the first day of March, 1918, due on the first day of March, 1919, due on the first day of March, 1920, and 101 due on the first day of March, 1921.

The mailed proposals may be for the whole of said bonds or for any portion thereof and may be opened immediately after the hour of 3 o'clock p. m. of said day of April, 1906, the board reserving the right to reject any and all bids. Dated this 13th day of February, 1906. JAMES SHOUPE, Secretary.

ZEES DEPENDS ON AN ALIBI

Man Charged with Arson Deales Everything in Testimony Offered Against Him.

John Zees, on trial in the police court for alleged arson, expects to establish an alibi to upset all the damning testimony offered by Morris Kaspar. The defense gave an inking yesterday by starting the alibi which Zees hopes to establish. The case was called at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, but on request of several of the interested parties the hearing was put over until 3 o'clock this afternoon. It is believed the case will be finished today.

In connection with the alibi Zees will have to overcome the testimony of Kaspar, which was that Zees went to the candy store about 5:30 on the morning of the fire and soon afterward saw until 3 o'clock this afternoon. It is believed the case will be finished today.

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WOMAN IN CLUB AND CHARITY

Mrs. Sarah Platt Decker, Mrs. Philip Moore of St. Louis and Mrs. Lydia Avery Conroy of Chicago visited St. Paul this week to conclude their plans for the biennial convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs to be held there in June. A conference was held at the Aberdeen with Mrs. Russell R. Dorr, chairman of the local biennial board, and later were guests at luncheon there. Later a reception was held at the Aberdeen in the honor of the club women of the city entertaining. The following statement was made to one of the visiting committees:

"We have come here for the purpose of installing the exhibits and making the final arrangements for the convention. It may be, or seem to be, of his words in moments of distraction, the American people would order its national life, would mould its traditional policy with the councils of Washington. I answer therefore the first of the two questions I have prefixed to this little paper by saying that we need our navy to make and keep ourselves such a nation as Washington hoped and believed we should become to assure what he called 'the rank due to these United States among nations,' not to the matter of our credit, as at once the measure and the sanction of our national duty to mankind."

To understand its full mission, however, we must constantly bear in mind that the navy is essentially a branch of the country's military strength. It exists that it may fight if need be, and to be really useful it must be sufficiently strong and sufficiently prepared for its work to meet at any moment any enemy it might be, according to an reasonable probability, called upon to encounter. We need such a navy, because again in the words of Washington, "To secure peace there must be known that at all times we are ready for war."

Navy Costs Money. The same thought gives us answer to my second question, "The navy needs what it ought to have and, indeed, must have to do its work. It costs money. It costs money in the first place. It needs a great deal of money for modern warfare is already very expensive and grows more expensive daily. I may note here a few features of the situation, features of which a civilian can hardly appreciate the significance until he has been brought into personal contact with naval interests and naval problems. Our present smokeless powder requires some six months after it is made to be really fit for use. A war must be well nigh fought out now therefore with the stock of powder on hand when it is declared. The tremendous energy of this same powder so affects the guns in which it is used that after a certain number of discharges, these cease to be trustworthy and must go into a sort of gun hospital for treatment. The matter is more serious than it seems. At the present session Dr. Palmer of Ashland delivered an address on "Missions as the Christian's Duty," following which Miss Crammer read a paper on foreign missions and brought the meeting to a close.

Plenty of Trouble for Torrey. KEARNEY, Neb., Feb. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Sheriff Sammons last night arrested Charles Torrey, alias Charles Smith, wanted in Mitchell county, Kas., for abduction. Sheriff G. G. Wallace of Mitchell county was already in the city with requisition papers and left this morning with his prisoner. Three years ago Torrey eloped from Beloit, Kas., with Myrtle Gilbreath, his wife's sister, who was at that time less than sixteen years of age. The couple had a child, and followed by a sheet of flame, and in a few moments the flames had broken through the roof. It was the impression that some of the dynamo were overcharged and exploded. Another theory is that the fire which started in the battery storage room, was caused by short-circuited wires or the melting of a lead pipe used to convey gas. The flames communicated at once with waste and oil and were immediately beyond control. In imminent danger of their lives, the employees "plugged out" before trying to make their escape, thus preventing a heavy fire and weakening of the other power stations.

The origin of the fire, which completely gutted the building in which it originated, has not been positively determined. Workmen, who were in the building at the time, say that the flames started in the battery room, which was a heavy fire and followed by a sheet of flame, and in a few moments the flames had broken through the roof. It was the impression that some of the dynamo were overcharged and exploded. Another theory is that the fire which started in the battery storage room, was caused by short-circuited wires or the melting of a lead pipe used to convey gas. The flames communicated at once with waste and oil and were immediately beyond control. In imminent danger of their lives, the employees "plugged out" before trying to make their escape, thus preventing a heavy fire and weakening of the other power stations.

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BONAPARTE ON THE NAVY

Member of Cabinet Talks on the Subject at Baltimore.

MONEY NECESSARY FOR EFFECTIVE SHIPS

In Peace Drills and Practice Consume Guns and Ammunition While New Devices Increase the Expense.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 22.—The thirtieth annual commemoration day of the Johns Hopkins university was celebrated today. Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte delivered the principal address.

On the 23d of February one can hardly say that he has forgotten in any way, or seem to be, of his words in moments of distraction, the American people would order its national life, would mould its traditional policy with the councils of Washington. I answer therefore the first of the two questions I have prefixed to this little paper by saying that we need our navy to make and keep ourselves such a nation as Washington hoped and believed we should become to assure what he called 'the rank due to these United States among nations,' not to the matter of our credit, as at once the measure and the sanction of our national duty to mankind."

To understand its full mission, however, we must constantly bear in mind that the navy is essentially a branch of the country's military strength. It exists that it may fight if need be, and to be really useful it must be sufficiently strong and sufficiently prepared for its work to meet at