

COMBINES IN GRAIN TRADE

Interstate Commission Draws Out Evidence of Several Different Alliances.

RAILROADS DISCRIMINATE AGAINST CITY

Farmer Concerns Fix Prices and in Conjunction with Railroads Combine to Shut Out the Shovel House.

(Continued from First Page.)

on the same terms with the Great Western. We collect from the Union Pacific for unloading cars. If we did not thus recover from the stock yards company we would be compelled to close our elevators.

"We have a line of elevators on the Northwestern railroad and we are competing with the Nye-Schneider-Fowler company. Last year all roads leading to Chicago got more for their grain than if it was shipped through Omaha. Senator Millard is a stockholder in the Uplike Grain company. As is M. M. Peterson, agent of the Northwestern at Sioux City. I think the latter has fifty shares in the company which is capitalized at \$5,000,000. Mr. Peterson paid for the shares, \$5,000 in cash."

Mr. Epdike also thought that Horace F. Burr was interested in the grain business with the Nye-Schneider-Fowler company.

Not in Railroad Business.

Nathan Merriam of the grain firm of Merriam & Holmquist at Omaha said he had been in the grain business for about twenty-five years, the corporation which he was a member has been in existence since 1892 or 1893.

"None of the stockholders of the firm is in any way interested in any railway company nor does any own stock in a railway company," said Merriam. "The firm operates two elevators in Omaha, which are terminal elevators located on the Missouri Pacific railway, but the elevators are owned exclusively by the Merriam & Holmquist company. The company is an independent company with a capital of \$1,000,000 and while the company generally controls all of the grain stored in these elevators storage capacity is furnished for other customers. The company usually ships all of its outgoing grain to the Missouri Pacific, and the firm receives fifty cents per hundred from all outgoing grain shipped by that railroad. The contract was made with the Missouri Pacific before the last one of its elevators was built. The contract is still in force and the payments have been made until the recent changes in grain matters, but are under temporary suspension now. This contract was made in 1905 and has not since been repudiated, nor is the contract limited as to time.

Same Terms with Others.

"It is understood that the same agreement prevails with all other elevators similarly situated. There is no other elevator except the Merriam & Holmquist elevators along the Missouri Pacific in Omaha. The volume of grain shipped by the company is about 500 cars per month, or about 300,000 bushels. The switching charges are refunded to the grain company by the railroad company when shipped over the Missouri Pacific and any other switching charges are governed by local legislation. This rule has been the custom for years. All switching charges are refunded by all roads to all shippers with one exception and that applies to the rules adopted by the South Omaha Stock Yards company, which controls the switching facilities at South Omaha, where the rate was charged at the rate of 10 cents per car for each car and then reduced it to 5 cents. This matter is reported in the Interstate Commission report. Mr. Merriam said, and then the rate was changed to 10 cents and 10 cents per car.

Uplike Control South Omaha.

"The Uplike Grain company controls the South Omaha elevators and the Merriam & Holmquist company is an absolutely independent company," Mr. Holmquist said. "I understand that another rate is charged the Uplike company there, but I do not suppose they have to stand for any more of it than we do at Omaha. Such a charge of 10 cents per bushel would not be a competitor in possession of the business, and we are, here, at this advantage.

"We buy our grain largely on the Union Pacific, Elkhorn, Minneapolis & Omaha and Burlington roads and are an absolutely independent company. Mr. Holmquist is interested in a line of several elevators on the Minneapolis & Omaha road. His concern is known as the Holmquist Grain and Lumber company. We have no hesitancy in buying of country elevators and make no discrimination against them. We do very little receiving, as we buy almost wholly from dealers and we do not ask them where they get their grain. Most of our bids are made by telephone."

Mr. Merriam went into considerable length as to the elevator charges and the cost of handling grain at terminal points. He said Omaha is the only market that has not an elevator charge. He did not know of any combination in Omaha to fix the price of grain and he knew of no deals whereby prices were fixed and did not take part in any such deals. The Union Pacific paid 14 cents for unloading to the Merriam & Holmquist company on all grain brought in by that road and the Missouri Pacific paid 14 cents for loading out. The cost of handling grain at the elevators is approximately 2 cents per 100.

Holmquist Not in Combine.

J. W. Holmquist of the firm of Merriam & Holmquist Grain and Lumber company of Oakland, said none of the stockholders in either of the companies with which he was connected had any stock interest in any railroad company. The Holmquist Grain and Lumber company owns eight elevators in Nebraska. He said:

"I make the prices that are bid for grain and we have competitors at all of these points, but we have no combination of prices with them. Most of our competitors are buyers for Minneapolis, though there are some country buyers. No pool is entered into; we are all open competitors. If we can get more than our share we do so by bidding higher than our competitors and then drop back to the current price. We seek to make about 4 cents a bushel on wheat, yet seldom exceed 3 cents. A fair profit on corn would be about 3 or 3 1/2 cents. Last crop season we made less than 1 cent on corn.

Says Shovel Houses Are Unfair.

"We do not consider shovel houses fair competitors. We have often given better prices than the shovel houses even at an actual loss. There is no discrimination by the railroads in the matter of cars against the shovel houses. At the terminals we do not buy from shovel houses if we can help it, but are not averse to buying from independent dealers, such as farmers' elevators.

"There is no general understanding not to deal with unfair dealers. The only unfair dealer I now recall in our territory is P. F. Demers of Emerson. Shovel houses are unfair competitors.

"The establishment of the Grain exchange at Omaha and the establishment of terminal elevators have been to give the farmer more for his grain. The reason we do better with the Missouri Pacific is because our terminal elevators are on or adjacent to their tracks. There is no rule against our cars being switched in preference to other cars. The fact that the Omaha Elevator company has its elevators largely on the Union Pacific does not give that company any advantage over us."

Van Dorn Testifies.

J. E. Van Dorn of Council Bluffs of the Caverly-Van Dorn Elevator company said: "We have one elevator at Council Bluffs and two at other points in Iowa. We have competitors at each of these points and try to get our share of the business. We have no agreement with our competitors as to prices, but our prices are generally based on cards sent out by W. D. Case of Des Moines, who is a market expert, but he has no interest in our elevators, nor in any railroad that I know of. We aim to get a profit of 3 cents on wheat and 1 cent on corn and from 2 to 3 cents on wheat. We ship mostly to Council Bluffs and Omaha. A party by the name of Flynn made us some trouble for a while at Neola, but Mr. Coughlin and Great Western, who have an outgoing claim against the Union Pacific, but have heard nothing about it. We have been running our Council Bluffs elevator since September 15. On the Burlington, Union Pacific, and Milwaukee roads the reorganization charges are absorbed by the outgoing road; in fact, by all roads except the Wabash.

No Railroad Plants There.

"No elevators in Council Bluffs are owned by any railroad. Our company owns its own elevator. The objection to grain from the shovel houses is its quality and very often we are asked for a dealing with regular dealers because of their better facilities for handling grain. We do not discriminate against the shovel houses only for this reason and often buy from them. We buy grain for export and very often pay more for it than our competitors, and, as they think, more than we ought to pay. For this reason some of the Omaha companies undertook to drive me out of business in 1904 and 1905. The companies active in the matter were the Uplike Grain company, the Kansas City Grain company and the Omaha Elevator company.

"These companies handle about 80 per cent of all the grain coming to and going out of this market. I have some times thought that the Omaha companies have an interest in the Uplike Grain company, but this reason from the special privileges that company gets at South Omaha. I know we pay \$1 per car to the Union Stock Yards company and \$1 to the outgoing road, none of which is returned to us in any way. The other get it all back."

A. C. Zimmerman, head bookkeeper for the Merriam & Holmquist company, testified that the last claim paid by the Missouri Pacific for elevator was August 15. He believed the contract between the Missouri Pacific and the Merriam & Holmquist company was still in force.

Mr. Phillip, in his testimony on this point, stated that the contract between Merriam & Holmquist had terminated July 1.

Looseness in Farmers.

Cuthbert Vincent of Omaha, manager of the Farmers' Grain company, testified that his company owned two elevators in Buffalo county—one at Pleasant and one at Miller. The stock in these elevators is owned by about 300 farmers. The company has a contract with the Union Pacific, Amherst and Oconto. At these latter points they have shovel houses, holding about 2,000 bushels each, though the business at Amherst ceased during the last year, because of leaving the shovel houses to other parties. At the outlet the company had much trouble in getting sites for its elevators and car facilities, but it is all right now. The company sets its own price for grain and gets what it can. The company began business last October and the result has been to increase the price of grain in these localities 2 1/2 cents per bushel above what it was prior to the establishment of the company. J. E. Johnson of Kearney, a retired farmer, is president of the company. There are other farmer elevator companies in the state, all doing a good business, and all at the outlet had trouble with the railroad companies regarding sites and car facilities. A rule of the company is that if stockholders sell to competing elevators at the same station they must pay a penalty of one cent per bushel into the treasury of the company, which goes to keeping the machinery greased for them when they come back. Other farmer elevators are located at Des Moines, Goner, Yonka, Strausville and Island.

Grain Sold in Omaha.

At present the farmers' elevator companies have no difficulty in finding a market for their grain. In the early history of the company they did have trouble, and the first two cars of grain that witness company sold to the Omaha Grain exchange he had to let go at 2 cents less than its value. But the exchange in treating the company fairly now. Most of their grain is sold on the Omaha Grain exchange.

F. B. Cramer, president of the Trans-Mississippi Grain company, with an elevator at Council Bluffs, testified that his company operated elevators at fifty-two stations; twenty-four on the Union Pacific, three on the Illinois Central and the others on the Burlington, Rock Island and Chicago & North Western.

for my customers and give them information when they ask for it. We are in competition with the Nye-Schneider-Fowler, Omaha Elevator and Uplike Grain companies at all the points where we do business. I instruct our agents to pay the same that our competitors do. There is no pooling. Where there are two elevators at a station I think we ought to have half the business and go after. Sometimes we get more than our share and sometimes less.

Switching Charges Absorbed.

At our terminal elevators all switching charges are absorbed by the outgoing roads. All my business is in shipping. We do not recognize switching charges as fair competition and personally we pay no attention to them. I would not buy grain from track shovelmens, but do not hesitate to buy from farmers' elevators, though I think that the farmers' elevators are in some instances unfair competitors. The allowance of 14 cents to us by the railroads, particularly by the Union Pacific, does not give us any advantage over other dealers. I do not believe in railroads operating elevators; would sooner see the railroads rent their elevators to others. I do not pay tips to any railroad except to Pullman porters; neither do I engage in "buying empties."

The witness was a member of the Iowa Grain Dealers' association, but its purpose was not to raise or control prices, but to improve the grain growing conditions of the state, wherein it had already accomplished much good. Continuing Mr. Coughlin said:

"I was a party to the suit brought against the Nebraska Elevator Company. The suit was brought against the association on the ground that it was an unlawful combination. I do not know that the suit has been dismissed and believe it to be still pending."

Elevator Site Denied.

M. Andreas of Manly, Neb., testified that he was a member of the Manly Co-operative association. "Manly," he said, "is on the Missouri Pacific. We have had a hard experience with the railroad. We could not get an elevator site on the right-of-way of the railroad company, and obtained site adjacent thereto and built our elevator. We have not yet been able to get a siding or track to the elevator. We have brought suit under the state laws and the hearing was had Tuesday, but I do not know the result as yet. We have to haul our grain to the cars and scoop-shovel it into the cars. We do not get our fair share of the cars on the railroad."

Cheney-Spalding.

SIoux CITY, Ia., Oct. 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Mr. Miles Preston Cheney of Omaha was married to Miss Marie Spalding of Sioux City at 7 o'clock this evening. The wedding occurred at St. Thomas' Episcopal church, Rev. Ralph Smith officiating.

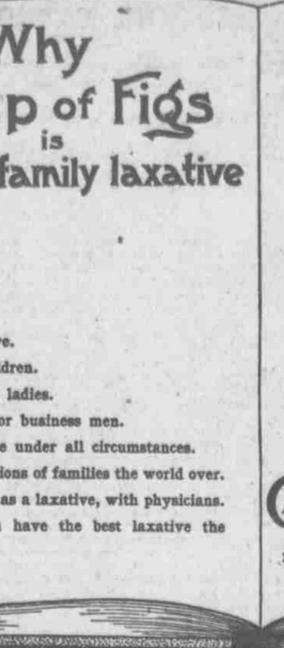
It was one of the prettiest weddings of the year. The beautiful church was decorated in green and white, the color scheme being carried out through the structure from the outer door to the chancel and altar. Mr. Cheney was attended by Mr. C. N. Crow of Denver as his "best man," and Miss Spalding had for her bridesmaids Miss Alice Spalding, her sister, and Miss Florence Hobbs of Eudora. The bride wore a gown of white silk and black lace, trimmed in cerise and black. Miss Spalding wore a gown of white silk and black lace, trimmed in cerise and black.

Occupants of Horse Show Boxes

Number of People from Outside the City Are Noted. It is noticeable that the Omaha Horse Show is attracting many from other cities. Following were the occupants of the boxes last evening: Box 1—Mr. and Mrs. T. O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Nelson. Box 2—Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Dilline, Kearney, Neb. Box 3—Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Moore, Miss Canham, Chicago. Box 4—Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Belden, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Nagle. Box 5—Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Eddy, Mr. F. G. Caldwell, Lincoln. Box 6—Miss Edith Angar, Silver City, Ia.; Miss Aline Hotter, St. Joseph, Mo.; and Mrs. John MacDonald, Alan MacDonald. Box 7—Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Hamilton, Mr. Will Herr, Miss Anna Coak. Box 8—Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Blandin, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Condon, Mr. R. Carrier, Miss Caroline Condon, Mr. R. Clement Chase, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Rora. Box 9—Mr. and Mrs. Barton, Mrs. Harriet Barton, Mrs. A. H. Howland. Box 10—Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Austin, Mrs. A. T. Austin, Mrs. Charles Ogden, Mrs. George B. Jones, Mrs. A. H. Howland. Box 11—Mr. and Mrs. E. Loring, George Byrne, Lucile Hayden, Ray Burn, Ester Burn, Mrs. Lucile Hayden. Box 12—Mr. and Mrs. E. Uplike, Miss Uplike, Mrs. Hargis, Miss Mohler, Luther Drake, Mr. J. E. George. Box 13—Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar H. Scott, N. P. Dodge. Box 14—Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Hamner, Miss Pauline Burke, Miss Mildred Butler, Miss Ruth Hitchcock, Miss Ruth Hammond. Box 15—Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Schabane, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Brinker. Box 16—Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Moorhead, Mrs. W. H. Patterson, Miss Patterson, Miss Moorhead. Box 17—Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Brandeis, Miss Gladys Bowman, Emil Brandeis. Box 18—Miss DAVIS, Miss Hughes, Miss Condon, Mr. F. E. Wilhelm, W. B. Roberts, E. T. Burns. Box 19—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cudaby, Miss Lomas, Miss Roe, Miss Brady, Mr. C. W. Cudaby, Mr. C. F. Cudaby. Box 20—Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Peck, box holder; Mrs. Tower, Chicago; and Mrs. T. L. Cookle, Mrs. H. H. Cudaby. Box 21—Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Howell, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Summers, Jr. Box 22—Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Cotton, Frank Haskell, Ezra Millard, Miss Joanne W. Cudaby, Mrs. Seaton, George H. Pritchett. Box 23—Mr. and Mrs. E. Eckler, Master Fred Rober, Harry Decker, G. D. Harman. Box 24—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dunder, Miss Juliet McCune, Miss Jessie McCune, Will Brown. Box 25—Dr. and Mrs. S. H. Sumner, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Huntley. Box 26—Miss Alice McCormick, Miss Woodward, Mrs. Maxwell, Denver. Box 27—Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Nash. Box 28—General and Mrs. Cowin, Mrs. Milton Darling, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Smith. Box 29—Miss Richardson, Mr. Edward C. Smith, Mr. Rogers, Mrs. H. W. Yates, Jr. Box 30—Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Cudaby, Mr. and Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Helen Cudaby, Miss Florence Cudaby, Mrs. E. Cudaby. Box 31—Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Hitchcock, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Howell, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. McHenry. Box 32—Mrs. A. Barnett, McCook, Neb.

Why Syrup of Figs is the best family laxative

It is pure. It is gentle. It is pleasant. It is efficacious. It is not expensive. It is good for children. It is excellent for ladies. It is convenient for business men. It is perfectly safe under all circumstances. It is used by millions of families the world over. It stands highest, as a laxative, with physicians. If you use it you have the best laxative the world produces.



Because Its component parts are all wholesome. It acts gently without unpleasant after-effects. It is wholly free from objectionable substances. It contains the laxative principles of plants. It contains the carminative principles of plants. It contains wholesome aromatic liquids which are agreeable and refreshing to the taste. All are pure. All are delicately blended. All are skillfully and scientifically compounded. Its value is due to our method of manufacture and to the originality and simplicity of the combination. To get its beneficial effects—buy the genuine. Manufactured by CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP Co. San Francisco, Cal. Louisville, Ky. New York, N. Y. FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS

HORSE SHOW PROVES WINNER

Attendance on Third Night Eclipse of Previous Evenings. SPECTATORS ALSO MORE ENTHUSIASTIC

Nebraska Hunter Surprises Public and Other Exhibitors by Jumping Away with the Blue Ribbon. (Continued from Second Page.)

belong to the velvet. With this was worn a large white hat with uncurled ostrich plumes. Miss Ruth Brandeis, who drove, was charming in a gown of cerise silk, trimmed with embroidery and lace. With this she wore a long white coat and black hat, trimmed in cerise and black plumes.

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THREAT TO BLOW UP TRAIN

Anonymous Letter Writer Demands \$5,000 from Lake Shore Railroad. EFFORT MADE TO TRAP BANDITS

Dummy Train Filled with Armed Men Is Run to Point Designated and Search Begins. CHICAGO, Oct. 24.—Threatened by an anonymous letter writer with the blowing up of one of its passenger trains unless it paid over \$5,000, the Lake Shore road tonight ran a "dummy" train filled with armed men out of Chicago and at a point in Indiana, designated by the bandits, the train was stopped, but no one was found in the neighborhood. As soon as the train slowed up Superintendent Wilson, with a score of United States deputy marshals and railroad detectives, leaped from the coaches and began a manhunt that will progress. Three posses are searching the Indiana marshes in the vicinity of Pine, Miller and Aetna. Two employes of the Actna powder works have been arrested. Their arrest was caused by the findings in their room of a bottle of nitroglycerine. The audit, in his letter, instructed the railroad company to carry the money to him on the Limited Express, which leaves Chicago at 5:30 in the evening. "I will be at the side of the track," he wrote, "somewhere east or west of Pine. When the limited approaches me I will fire two shots from my revolver. Have the money in a bag and drop it off the hind end of the train. If you don't do as I say your train will be blown to atoms with dynamite."

Three letters in all were received from the mysterious writer and the railroad officials turned the matter over to the United States postal authorities, who planned the "dummy" train to trap the bandit.

DEATH RECORD.

Small Lang. BEATRICE, Neb., Oct. 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Emil Lang, head of the Lang Grocery company and president of the Lang Preserving and Canning company, died suddenly here today of apoplexy. He was a pioneer resident of this section and did much for the upbuilding of Beatrice in an early day. He was 57 years of age. Mark A. Kurts. Friends of Mark A. Kurts have received word of his sudden death at Nampa, Idaho, Tuesday. The message was brief, not stating any details of the death. Mr. Kurts had made Omaha his home. He owned a ranch in Idaho. Amos H. Connor. CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Oct. 24.—Amos H. Connor, mayor of Cedar Rapids, died suddenly today of heart failure. Federal Building Notes. Harry E. Siegrist of Council Bluffs and Robert E. Strong of Omaha have been appointed regular substitute clerks in the office of the chief clerk in Omaha. The railway mail service is badly disorganized west and north of Julesburg and Cheyenne because of the storms and the railway officials are having all sorts of a good time in trying to get affairs straightened out. With this storm on the trail that section it is thought that the troubles will be remedied today.

DOCTORS ELECT OFFICERS

Iowa and Nebraska Veterinary Associations Hold Joint Convention at City Hall. The Iowa and Nebraska Veterinary Medical association held their annual meeting at the city hall yesterday. The two organizations are distinct and are holding joint sessions only for the purpose of obtaining better facilities.

The Nebraska association elected these officers for the year: President, Peter S. Monahan, V. M. D., of Fremont; vice president, I. W. Cochran, V. M. D., Geneva; secretary and treasurer, H. Jensen, V. M. D., Weeping Water. The Iowa association elected these officers: D. H. Miller, V. M. D., Des Moines, president; G. R. Young, V. M. D., Omaha, vice president; A. G. Peters, V. M. D., Lincoln, secretary and treasurer.

Among the speakers were Dr. C. E. Stewart, Chariton, Ia.; Dr. James Vincent, Shenandoah, Ia.; Dr. H. T. Hahn, Falls City; Dr. H. Tompkins, Newman Grove; Dr. V. M. D., Tekamah; Wednesday afternoon Dr. F. H. Davis of Chicago and Dr. J. H. Gain and Dr. A. F. Peters of Lincoln spoke.

Before adjournment a resolution was passed thanking Mayor Dahman and the Water board for the use of the room in the city hall, and thanking Mr. Ramacottelli for his share in making the meeting a success.

NOW FOR THE BIG MEETING

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society Will Begin Its Work This Morning. The general secretaries of the Women's Foreign Missionary society of the Methodist church brought to an end yesterday afternoon the work preliminary to the regular meeting of the society, which begins at 9:30 this morning at First Methodist church and continues until November 1. The last subject to engage the attention of the secretaries was that of their publications. There are four of these, all monthly magazines—the Woman's Missionary Friend, the Children's Friend, the German Friend and the Study. They are published in Boston. The editors and publishers had submitted reports of their affairs to the secretaries, which furnished the basis of deliberations. Plans for increasing the circulation of the magazines, particularly the Woman's Friend, were adopted. It is the purpose to bring this circulation up to 35,000. If you have anything to trade advertise in the For Exchange column of The Bee Want Ad page.

Advertisement for Dr. Bell's PNE-TAR-HONEY, featuring a bottle image and text describing its benefits for coughs and bronchitis.

Advertisement for Why Syrup of Figs is the best family laxative, including a bottle image and detailed text about its ingredients and effectiveness.

Advertisement for Using Dr. Graves' Tooth Powder, featuring a bottle image and text explaining how it whitens teeth and removes tartar.

Advertisement for FURS FROM MINNESOTA, RUSSIA, featuring images of fur coats and text promoting high-quality fur products.