SALTER EXPLAINS HIS CASE

Fire Chief Gives Technique of His Opposition to Double Shift.

DEEMS IT CONTRARY TO BEST INTERESTS

and Commercial Club Committee Oppose Measure Only Because of Relation to Omaha's Welfare, They Say.

The Commercial club committee which went to Lincoln Wednesday to present to the legislative committee on labor arguments why the proposed double shift bill for the fire department should not be passed returned well pleased with the showing made.

Just what kind of a report the labor committee will present is not yet known, but the Commercial club committee hopes to defeat the bill on purely business grounds. The Douglas county delegation is divided on the matter.

The bill will be brought up Thursday. Those who went for the Commercial club were W. S. Wright, Frank Carpenter, Frank Sanborn, David Cole, Ed George, Byron Hastings, Walter Jardine, John S. Brady and G. W. Hoobler. Chief Salter of the fire department accompanied the Omaha committee to explain conditions as they actually exist in Omaha and to give expert testimony on the question of a double shift system.

In justice to himself Chief Salter wanted it understood he did not go to Lincoln with any idea of either opposing or supporting the bill, but merely on request of the Commercial club and with permission of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners.

States His Position.

"I really did not want to go, but felt it my duty when the Commercial club made the request, and if any of my statements had the effect of placing the double shift bill in an unfavorable light I could not help that, for I said only what could be verified by investigation and answered such questions as were asked me." Chief Salter explained. An impression got out that the chief went to Lincoln with the avowed purpose of opposing the measure.

Part of the facts and figures presented by Chief Salter Wednesday before the committee on labor, of which Representative Ed Leeder is chairman, was:

Should the double shift system be adopted it would entail an additional cost of nearly $100,000 to maintain the department on a safe footing, allowing for a reduction of one man from each hose company and figuring the salaries on a basis of the highest that might be paid according to present conditions. At present the department has 117 men besides the chief, two assistants and a secretary, the salaries amounting to $119,100. With the double shift system in operation and allowing but five men to each hose company, in place of six as at present, and eight men for an engine company, the salaries would figure $188,000, or a difference of seventy-seven men and $78,900 in expense.

Coming Down to Brass Tacks.

Chief Salter explained that by reducing the number of men on the hose wagons and engines the salaries would be reduced, but to cut the department, under the double shift, from the figures presented by him, would make the department inefficient and cause excessive insurance rates. At present, he said, the men receive twenty-four hours in "offs" each in six days and ten days a year vacation with pay, making about seventy-two days a year off duty. The chief explained how less than five men to a hose company would not be practical even under the double shift system. He said:

"One man has to take care of the horses, one man stays at the plug, a third man may be absent for one of several reasons and there you have two men to carry a hose and handle it. It is not feasible."

Ed. George, one of the Commercial club committee, said the Commercial club was opposing the bill on straight business lines and had not the least desire to entail any unnecessary hardship on the firemen.

"The double shift system has been tried elsewhere and found wanting," he said. "By the best figuring the adoption of the system would entail an added expenditure of nearly $100,000 and would not yield returns commensurate with the expense. It is, therefore, patent that the taxpayers would be paying for something they would not get. To reduce the force numerically to offset the added expense would be out of the question, because the force is none too strong as it is."

PORTERS FROM THE WRECK

Several Colored Men Who Were on Fated Train Pass Through the City.

Several porters who were on the Southern Pacific No. 16 when it struck a broken rail Monday morning at Death's Curve, near Gardner, Nev., arrived in Omaha Thursday enroute to their homes in Chicago. No passenger was injured in this wreck, although the engineer was killed. Frank Knox, one of the porters, was suffering from a broken nose. J. Jackson had his hand severely cut by glass and W. Adams was also slightly injured.

Johnson Case Delayed.

Owing to a delay the hearing on the injunction case of J. Cook Johnson, poultryman, to restrain Postmaster Palmer from withholding mail addressed to Johnson, the case has not yet come to trial and in the meanwhile mail is accumulating in the postoffice for Mr. Johnson, being held there under the fraud order issued against him some time ago by the postmaster general. The hearing of the case has not been definitely fixed as yet and it may not take place until after the close of the Lincoln term of the federal courts.

WORDS OF DEAD AT OWN BIER

James B. Kitchen Writes Address to Be Read at His Funeral.

The funeral services over James B. Kitchen will consist merely in the reading of an address which was written by Mr. Kitchen in November, 1896, upon upon the theme, "Where Life is, there Death is King." These services will be held at the Kitchen home at 3 p. m. Friday and the body will be taken to Leavenworth, Kan., Friday night for burial. Mr. Kitchen was a member of several secret organizations, but none of these will participate in the obsequies. George E. Pritchett, vice president of the Kitchen Bros. Hotel company, will read the address left by his dead associate. There will be no active pallbearers in Omaha, but these have been seelcted as honorary: General John C. Cowin, George E. Pritchett, Guy C. Barton, W. W. Morsman, George F. West, John R. Ringwalt, Samuel Burns and C. F. Weller.

At 10:45 Friday night the body will be taken to Leavenworth and will be accompanied by Mr. Kitchen's nephew, Ralph Kitchen; the latter's son, Richard; Miss Rubel and Mrs. Catherine Sprague, niece and sister, respectively, of the deceased.

Definite arrangements for the funeral of Major Furay have not been made as yet, although the funeral will be held Saturday morning at St. John's church. The Knights of Columbus and other Catholic organizations will participate in the ceremonies. Interment will be at the Holy Sepulcher cemetery.

Major Furay had a kindly feeling for the late Colonel Frank E. Moores. The two were the closest of friends. Mr. Furay and Charles H. Guiou were Mr. Moores' original bondsmen, Mr. Furay remaining such during Mr. Moores' term of eight years as clerk of the district court, and when the late mayor was elected in 1897 Major Furay called on his friend and asked to be one of the bondsmen. Mr. Furay was bondsman with George T. Mills, park commissioner, during Mr. Moores' mayoralty career.

When Mr. Moores was in trouble over an alleged misappropriation of fees as clerk of the district court Major Furay wrote to him: "Never mind, old comrade; I'll stay with you."

Colonel Moores wrote back, saying he never would allow a bondsman to pay a cent for him.

MAYOR BECKER THE FEATURE

Youthful Executive of Milwaukee Will Be Star at McKinley Club Banquet.

Speaking of the McKinley club banquet arrangements, John J. Ryder of the committee having the banquet in charge says:

"We considered ourselves fortunate in being able to secure Mayor Sherburne M. Becker of Milwaukee for this annual event. He is in constant demand as a speaker at political and commercial banquets and will come to Omaha from Louisville, Ky., where he addresses the Board of Trade a day or two previous to our date. While not as radical a republican as La Follette, Mayor Becker is every whit as forceful. His fight for the mayoralty against democrats, socialists and 'conservative' republicans was one of the most notable political battles ever fought in Wisconsin. Becker always has something to say that makes people talk.

"In addition to the Wisconsin leader we have the promise of United States Senator Norris Brown that he will make all possible effort to get back from Washington in time for the banquet, and the tone of his letter leaves no doubt of his intention to be with us. He wants to meet and become acquainted with the Omaha leaders in business and politics, and has let his friends so understand. The McKinley club, because of its position as a boosting club purely, provides a safe meeting ground for men of all elements in the party, and Senator Brown has always been a very popular man with the membership. He knows, too, that his friendliness is heartily reciprocated.

"Governor Sheldon has also given the committee an acceptance of its invitation, conditional on his official duties permitting the trip. As matters demanding his immediate attention will be pretty well settled by the end of the month, we are confidently counting on his attendance.

"Tickets will be on sale with the members of the club the coming week. Those wishing to attend must make their reservations early, because we expect to test the capacity of the Millard to accommodate the crowd on the evening of January 29."

MAN ON WARPATH IN HOME

Thirteenth Street Restaurant Keeper Threatens to Exterminate His Whole Family.

Theodore Rigbey, proprietor of a restaurant at 410 South Thirteenth street, went on the warpath Wednesday night by threatening to exterminate his family. His wife and children went to the city jail for protection, and during their absence Rigbey transferred his attention to roomers in the house, who also complained to the police. Sergeant Samuelson and Officer Glover were sent to the scene of the attempted carnage and placed Rigbey under arrest. His wife appeared against him in police court Thursday morning and testified that her husband had threatened many times to kill her and their children. In sentencing Rigbey to ten days in jail Judge Crawford said he would either have to be good or spend the rest of his life in prison.

MOHLER SAYS ALL IS WELL

Union Pacific General Manager Satisfied With Result of Conference.

PEACE FOR FORTY-SEVEN RAILWAYS

Engineers Complimented as Being Able Body of Men, Led by Strong Executive in Stone.

General Manager Mohler of the Union Pacific, who has been attending a meeting of the executive committee of the managers of the western roads, returned to Omaha Thursday morning. Mr. Mohler was one of a committee of twelve who represented forty-seven western lines in the conference with the engineers in their demands for more pay and better hours.

"The committee has been dismissed," said Mr. Mohler, "and everything adjusted satisfactorily to both sides. The agreements are all signed and will be effective February 1, for all the engineers employed on forty-seven roads, all situated west of Chicago. The engineers withdrew their request to have the time reduced to eight hours and said their purpose in asking for eight hours was simply as a basis of value; that they knew trains could not be run between terminals on that time and that to insist on eight hours as a day's work would change every terminal on most of the roads and make men abandon their homes at the present terminals.

"The conference was most representative and Mr. Stone of the engineers showed himself to be a man of unusual ability, fairness and tact. All the chairmen of these lines were representative men and an exceptionally fine appearing, conservative and intelligent body."

Four Sample Steel Cars.

The Union Pacific is building at its Omaha shops four sample steel cars, two for freight, one for passenger service and one mail car. Steel car construction is attracting the attention of railroad managers all over the country because of their great superiority over the old wooden type. The difficulty has been that steel cars were built along the same lines as the old wooden cars, and this has made them too heavy, although they were considerably stronger. The problem is now to develop a car which will get the additional strength from the use of steel without piling on too much additional weight.

Demurrage Law Big Help.

The railroads claim the new demurrage law is a great help to them in getting coal to the centers where it is needed. Under this new arrangement the dealers are required to unload the cars within a certain time or pay a heavy demurrage, while under the old ruling cars were held for weeks before they were unloaded. Take the instance of the Burlington alone, which is the heavy coal carrying line into Omaha because it brings coal here from all directions. Before the demurrage clause was enforced it was no uncommon occurrence for that road to have 500 loaded cars on the tracks in Omaha at one time. Thursday that road had 200 loaded cars and all these probably would be unloaded before they began to draw demurrage. Omaha is consuming more and more coal every year as the homes increase in number as well as the manufacturing institutions.

DOWN WITH THE DEADBEAT

Slogan of Hotel Clerks Who Want Law to Prevent This Sort of Rascality.

"Down with the readbeat."

With this slogan as the shibboleth of their campaign the hotel clerks of Omaha will go into the meeting of the Nebraska and Iowa Hotel Clerks' association next Monday night with a determination of devising a bill to be passed into law at the legislature which will give them and their employers some protection against the deadbeat more effectual than that now provided.

The meeting will be in the building of the Hotel Reporter on Fourteenth street.

TOM JOHNSON STILL ACTIVE

Beats Out Attack of Pneumonia and is Worth Several Dead Men, He Says.

Word comes from the home of "Tom" Johnson, 440 Burdette street, that his threatened attack of pneumonia has been dissipated. Mr. Johnson, one of the oldest and best known residents of the city, suffered a stroke of apoplexy something over a year ago, but was able to be out every day during the summer. A bad cold contracted recently threatened to develop into pneumonia, but the danger is now past and the veteran assessor and politician asserts he is still worth several dead men.

The Time to Buy Farm Land.

Many land investments have yielded 100 per cent during the past year. This has been especially true of the cheap lands in Nebraska, Kansas, the Dakotas, Texas and Arkansas. Wheat lands, in many cases, have paid the purchase price out of one crop. Land has made a thousand fortunes where mines have made one. The most glowing prospectus of a mining company sounds tame beside the actual profits reaped from bountiful crops and increasing land values. And prices are still going up. Now is the time to invest. Look for bargains in the want ad pages of The Bee.

Dan B. Butler Makes Big Hit.

City Clerk Dan B. Butler has scored a ten-strike in the new official roster of the city he has issued. The little card folder is succinct and at the same time comprehensive. It really contains information that a person might be able to use, differing in this respect from many similar affairs.

MODJESKA'S LADY MACBETH

Impressive Performance of Important Character by Great Actress.

FAREWELL APPEARANCE OF THE STAR

Splendid Company Supports Her Efforts, and Brilliant Audience Gives Her an Enthusiastic Reception.

Mme. Helena Modjeska and company in "Macbeth," a tragedy in six acts and fourteen scenes, by William Shakespeare. The cast:

Duncan, king of Scotland ..... Mr. Edward N. Hoyt
Malcom ..... Mr. Thomas R. Mills
Donalbain ..... Miss Clara Athy
Macbeth ..... Mr. Charles D. Herman
Banquo ..... Mr. Edward Lewers
Macduff ..... Mr. Frederic Montague
Lennox ..... Mr. William McKegney
Ross ..... Mr. L. C. Phillips
Menteith ..... Mr. Tom Robertson
Angus ..... Mr. Gilbert Parker
Caithness ..... Mr. Dallas McDonald
Drunken Porter ..... Mr. Harry Tebbett
Fleance, son to Banquo ..... Miss May Smith
Siward, early of Northumberland, general of the English forces ..... Mr. John McLeod
Young Siward, his son ..... Master Robert Lorrie
Seyton, an officer attending on Macbeth ..... Mr. Bonner Keel
Gentlewoman, attending on Lady Macbeth ..... Miss Elsie Fancourt
A Doctor ..... Mr. Arthur Hinton
A Bleeding Sergeant ..... Mr. Sand McPherson
A Messenger ..... Mr. John Alexander
First Murderer ..... Mr. C. Austin
Second Murderer ..... Mr. Cyril Ward
An Old Man ..... Mr. Andrew Anson
Lady Macbeth ..... Madame Helena Modjeska
First Witch ..... Miss Amy Stone
Second Witch ..... Miss Margaret Bucklin
Third Witch ..... Miss Grace Varesi
First Apparition ..... Mr. J. Moorehead
Second Apparition ..... Miss Jean Arthur
Third Apparition ..... Miss Jessie Brown

Omaha will remember Helena Modjeska as standing wide-eyed and gasping, staring at her hand, the anguish of a soul torn by remorse written on her face, while her whole attitude and aspect depicted the terror and misery and sorrow of a kindly nature overborne by sin.

It is just a little singular that Mme. Modjeska should have chosen to make her farewell appearance in the sleep-walking scene from "Macbeth," but she did, and she depicts with terrible realism the bitterness of that spectacle, prophetic as it was of her impending doom, when all the fabric of her wrong-doing, born of ambition and fostered in lust for power, should come crashing down upon her and bury her beneath its ruin. It matters not here to debate the question as to which was first the sinner, husband or wife, or to argue as to which was the greater. Lady Macbeth in Helena Modjeska's hands becomes the equal partner of her lord and sharer in his inmost thoughts. She furnishes him with that finer quality of courage which he lacks, but saps her own strength in giving the inspiration for his bloody deeds. All this is made clear by the star whose light will soon be lost in voluntary eclipse. It is a great character, and has been deemed worthy the best efforts of the greatest of tragediennes. In this attitude Mme. Modjeska has approached it, and with careful, well considered steps she develops it from the first scene, in which a newly hatched hope fledges itself into bloody resolve, to that ending wherein remorse and horror for the crime blots out all else. The climax is reached by such degrees as lessen the shock, but do not disturb the impressiveness of the cumulative effect.

Herman a Fine Macbeth.

Supporting Mme. Modjeska is a company of uncommon excellence. Mr. Herman gives such a presentation of Macbeth as might in the main be called a star performance itself. He shows a rare and discriminating intelligence in his reading of the lines, majestic in their poetry and impressive in their tenor, set down for the part, and illuminates their meaning perfectly. Once or twice during the evening he seemed to recede from the high plane on which he pitched his conception of the part, but only for an instant, and these brief relaxations were more than compensated for by the fire and vigor with which he renewed his effort to make the real Macbeth live. Altogether Mr. Herman quite dominated the situation, sharing with the star the credit for the success of the evening.

Scene Call for Mr. Montague.

Mr. Montague was the recipient of what is an honor decidedly rare in Omaha, a scene call. At the close of the scene in which he voiced his grief at the massacre of his family and vowed his vow of vengeance against the tyrant who had slain them, he was recalled to bow his acknowledgement of the storm of applause that followed him. Those lines were never read with more force or better judgment as to emphasis and inflection in Omaha. Mr. Mills as Malcolm shows strength, and Mr. Lewers is satisfactory as Banquo. Others in the long cast contribute to the successful production of the play.

Piece Elaborately Staged.

The piece has been staged with much elaboration. In the witches cavern a realistic touch has been added that hightens the general uncanny effect and gives the wierd sisters all the verisimilitude of those encountered by the thanes on the blasted heath and after sought by the king in their den. In the banquet hall something of the pleasing effect is sacrificed to the effort to produce a startling illusion. The lights are turned off, and Banquo actually appears under a ray of blue light. This detracts, rather, from the scene. It would seem that Macbeth could as well see Banquo in the full light as a dagger, and the audience would understand it quite as well. A slight awkwardness in restoring the light on the disappearance of the ghost lends further objection to the plan.

Reception to Star Warm.

Mme. Modjeska has reason to feel pleased with her reception at the Boyd last night, for it was not only an enthusiastic audience, but a studious one as well. The intellect of Omaha as well as the wealth and fashion was there, and the warm applause that caused the star and her leading man to appear again and again to bow acknowledgement of the appreciation of their efforts was a genuine tribute to the excellence of the performance.

FAT MAN WEARS A BARREL

Robbed of His Trousers, Sam Morris Dons the First Thing in Sight.

For the immediate present, at least, Sam Morris of 2011 Webster street is fancifully attired in a barrel of the latest London cut, due to the operations of two burglars, who stole the trousers of Mr. Morris early Thursday morning, and, on account of the portly form of Mr. Morris, he has been unable to find trousers that will fill the vacancy. Mr. Morris was wakened about 3 a. m. Thursday to hear the two burglars running down the stairs leading from his room, but too late to rescue his trousers, which contained only 25 cents and some letters.

Burglars also entered the house of W. M. McElry, 630 South Twenty-eighth street, Wednesday night by breaking open a rear window. The thieves ransacked the house and broke open two trunks, but obtained nothing, as they were evidently in search of money only.

CRAZY MAN SHOOTS AT DEVIL

Demented Negro Pours Volley Into Ceiling, Sending Terror Throughout Neighborhood.

Repeated fusillades of revolver shots startled the occupants of the house at 1823 North Twenty-third street shortly before noon Thursday and gave the impression that some desperate outlaw was in the act of committing murder. The police were notified and a hurry run was made in the patrol wagon by Sergeant Rentfrow and Officer Lahey, who found John Howard, colored, shooting the ceiling of his room full of holes. Howard is demented and was under the impression that his majesty of the land of brimstone was after him. Howard was taken to the city jail and locked up for safekeeping. Howard recently achieved notoriety by trying to sell an infallible cure for asthma and hay fever to Mayor Dahlman and others in the city hall.

UPS AND DOWNS OF PALMER

Information Bureau of Postoffice is Making the Postmaster's Hair White.

The old adage of "telling your troubles to a policeman" is not in it with the number and variety of inquiries received at the Omaha postoffice during the day for information. These run all the way from a pathetic inquiry for a lost child, wife, husband, father, mother or sweetheart, supposed to be swallowed up in the great maelstrom of daily life in this metropolis, to an inquiry as to the reliability of a clairvoyant.

A letter was reveled Thursday morning asking "confidential" information as to the accuracy of the skill of certain advertised astrologers, fortune tellers in foretelling the future, offering liberal compensation for the information, as the writer (from Sibley, Ia.,) had some important matter to confide to the fortune teller, whose advice was asked for.

Only recently a jealous wife wanted the postoffice department to keep track of the letters received by her husband and save out a few for her, but not let him know anything about it.

Then, again, there occurs the daily kick for the nonappearance of some expected letter or inquiry for the recovery of a letter which the writer forgot to stamp, or, in some cases which they forgot to address.

The day's routine in the Omaha postoffice is filled with stories of hope deferred disappointment, joy, sorrow and unwritten romances that would make a thrilling story of life surpassing in reality the wildest dreams of a novelist's fancy. And it is just these troubles that is making Postmaster Palmer grow more gray each day.

HIS HEAD THE STORM-CENTER

Man Accuses Wife of Hurling Tangible and Intangible Bludgeons at It.

If all is true that William Waack alleges in a petition filed in the district court Thursday he probably will not be deprived of a decree of divorce from Louise C. Waack. He says she threatened him with a revolver, saying, "I will blow your head off;" offered to cut his head off with a butcher knife, struck him over the head with a granite dish full of milk and "whitened" him and his brother with the milk. He says she used, in fact, dishes, pans, knives and every culinary article in the house and threatened to destroy his looks and sight and "face" by throwing blue vitriol upon him. He alleges that she followed him to work and denounced him before his employers, and had him arrested twice without cause. He went to Lincoln to get work, and she followed him there, he says, and had him arrested.

Waack says he earns $24 a week as a steam fitter and that he has always given his wife $10 or $12 of this. He asks a divorce, the custody of their two children an an order restraining his wife from following him or their children or threatening them with bodily harm.

WADSWORTH BACK FROM EAST

President of Bellevue Visits Eastern Colleges for Notes on Summer Assemblies.

Dr. Guy W. Wadsworth, president of Bellevue college, returned Wednesday from New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Wheeling, Cincinnati and Chicago, where he had been in the interests of the college, principally to investigate the methods of operating summer assemblies at the eastern colleges. Bellevue is to have a summer assembly this year, and Dr. Wadsworth is endeavoring to get the work outlined as early as possible. Dr. Wadsworth attended a reunion of the Amherst college class, in which he graduated.

Rev. Anderson Crane of Oberlin, Kan., has been engaged as business manager for the college and he will manage the affairs of the summer assembly as well. He has resigned his pulpit position at Oberlin and has already arrived at Bellevue.