

COUNCIL EXCEEDS AUTHORITY

Building Committee May Be Called on Carpet to Explain.

REPAIRS ROOF WITHOUT BIDS

Comptroller Charges the Committee with Ignoring the Law in Letting Repair Job on the City Hall.

Three members of the city council—M. F. Funkhouser, A. C. Kugel and Goodly—may be called upon to explain their official acts as members of the public buildings committee by the city council in committee of the whole Monday afternoon.

Comptroller F. H. Cosgrove has charged the committee with having ignored the law in letting the contract for repairing the roof of the city hall, which was damaged during December by wind. Bids should have been advertised for, he says, but the first intimation other officials had that the work was to be done was when a claim came into the comptroller's office from Hjorken & Haas, who performed the work.

The repairs required an expenditure of \$17.50. Emil Walstrom, superintendent of the city hall, said he called Mr. Funkhouser by telephone and told him the roof needed repairing at once. Mr. Funkhouser said it would be repaired.

Walstrom then called Wieg & Son and Mr. Monroe, each with a bid for the work. The bids were as follows: Wieg & Son, \$27.50; Mr. Monroe, \$18. When the bids were received Mr. Walstrom took them to Chairman Funkhouser of the public buildings committee, but he was a day late, as workmen were then busy repairing the roof.

Better Service is Promised by the Burlington Road

Judge Macomber is in receipt of a letter from the Nebraska Railway commission, in which Secretary Allen states that the suit brought by the people of Wheeler county against the Burlington road has been dismissed. This is the case wherein the business men did their living along the Burlington branch of the Burlington employed Judge Macomber to represent them in an effort to secure better train service on the Burlington branch.

At this time and during the past the Burlington branch has been running at a loss. They tried it and hired an attorney, who made it so that they were entitled to better train service. A date was fixed for taking testimony, but before that date came General Manager Holmberg wrote a letter to Attorney Macomber stating that as early as March 15 the Burlington would improve his service by putting on a night car between the two points alternating with the regular train, thus giving a daily service, as asked for.

West Enthusiastic Over Crop Outlook

Eugene Duval, assistant general agent of the Milwaukee road, is back from two weeks spent in Utah and Colorado, looking after company business. During his western trip Mr. Duval encountered none of the bright weather that has been general over the central west, the coldest that he experienced being 15 degrees above zero.

Fire Gong Stolen from Hose Wagon

Fire Chief Salter is on the warpath. Friday night the department made a run to Thirteenth and Howard streets. One of the large hose carts was left near the scene of the fire and not under surveillance. When the firemen came back to the wagon the hose was packed in the wagon and the trip to the barn started.

NEW ORLEANS HAS SEEN SOME WONDERFUL CHANGES

George L. Campen, assistant city engineer, has returned from New Orleans where he attended the meeting of the association for standardizing pavements. Two hundred members were present from every state in the union. The convention passed a resolution regretting that George W. Craig, city engineer of Omaha and vice president of the association, was unable to attend.

HE TEACHES HIGH SCHOOL LADS ART OF DEBATING.



Debating Coach at High School Most Popular With Boys

Prof. Edward R. Burke, the new debating coach at the Omaha High school, was graduated from Beloit college in 1905 and entered the Harvard law school the following September. He was given his Harvard scholarship last June.

Mandamus is Issued for Hydrant Rentals

Judge Munger has issued a writ of peremptory mandamus, commanding the city of Omaha to pay \$4,925.15 to the Omaha Water company within the next ten days in full judgment entered last October in favor of the water company.

WOLCOTT IS SENTENCED TO ONE TO TWENTY YEARS

Orville C. Wolcott, the former general agent for the Prudential Life insurance company, convicted of uttering a forgery, was sentenced to one to twenty years in the penitentiary, the term fixed by statute, by Judge George A. Day in the criminal division of the district court.

WANTS FREMONT CASES TRANSFERRED TO OMAHA

Application for an order restraining the Elkhorn river drainage district and the Standard Drainage company from further prosecution of suits now pending in the Dodge county court was filed Saturday morning by Brome, Ellek & Brome, attorneys for the Title Guaranty and Trust company, in the federal district court.

WARM WEATHER HELPS OUT STOCK IN WYOMING

The railroad trains have all weathered the storm and yesterday they were practically running on schedule time. Those from the west are right on schedule, but those from the east are a little late.

TIMELY REAL ESTATE GOSSIP

Question of Exclusive Listing Bobs Up in Realty Exchange.

WILL BE DISCUSSED WEDNESDAY

Realty Dealers Who Are Not Members of Exchange May Attend Annual Banquet—Several Acreage Tracts Sold.

The question of exclusive listing has again bobbed up in the Real Estate exchange. It evoked much lively discussion last Wednesday and is slated for discussion again next Wednesday.

Latham Davis, last Wednesday, declared that no agent should try to sell a piece of property unless it was listed with him in writing, but he spoke against exclusive agencies, which he said would work to the advantage of a few of the big firms which have the reputation of having handled a large amount of property.

Mr. Harrison's motion was tabled for the time being and the question is to be fought out next Wednesday. President Morton appointed a committee consisting of H. A. Tukey, C. F. Harrison, Latham Davis, B. R. Hastings and F. D. Wood to frame a by-law conforming to the new state law which compels exclusive listing in order to assure commission.

The Real Estate exchange will not be "exclusive" at its annual banquet, for it invites all members of the realty fraternity in the city, whether or not they are members of the exchange, to be present at the banquet, which will be held Thursday evening, January 25, at 6:15, at the Home hotel. Fifty tickets, at \$1 each, have been sold to date.

Thomas Herd will build two double brick flats on two lots that he has bought from Howard B. Smith at Thirty-third and Marcy streets, for \$1200. The sale was made through the Glover Realty company.

Louis Nash is having plans prepared for a fine new residence at Thirty-eighth and Davenport streets. It will be one of the finest homes in the city.

The Glover Realty company reports the sale from F. A. Robbins to Ed Brown, for \$900, of a house and lot at Twentieth and Emmet. The lot has a frontage of seventy-four feet.

The Byron Reed company bought two bunches of lots last week. One group of twelve is near Fowler avenue and Thirty-sixth street. They will be platted and put on the market in the spring.

Thirty-two acre lots in Patterson park, Fifty-seventh and Center streets, have been bought by N. P. Dodge for \$3,000.

T. H. Matters has sold to Cora Sherman Nos. 1215-16 South Thirty-second street for \$6000.

Mrs. Marcia Birkhauser, widow of the late Peter W. Birkhauser, has sold three houses at the southeast corner of Twenty-fifth and Dodge to Charles A. Wagner, the consideration being \$17,700. There are two brick houses and a large frame house, the latter built by the late Dr. A. A. Parker. Mrs. Birkhauser now lives in Seattle.

Certain property owners who gave options on ground in two or three blocks east of the Union Pacific headquarters building, now have a suspicion that their options were not bought in good faith, but merely to tie up the property and prevent development in that neighborhood.

BECK MAKES RECORD AT BANKERS' MEETING

Henry A. Beck, who was called the "adding machine" while assistant cashier of the Cudahy Packing company at South Omaha, is sustaining his reputation with the Kansas National bank at Wichita, Kan., judging from the following article in a Wichita paper:

WOOLRIDGE FUNERAL TO BE HELD SUNDAY

Funeral services for Harry L. Woolridge will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at Bradley & Dorrance's undertaking rooms. Two platoons of police, in charge of Lieutenant Hayes and Sergeant Samuelson, will head the procession to the grave. Dean Tancock of Trinity Cathedral will conduct the services. The pallbearers will be Patrolmen Pzanoski, Carney, Cummings, Wentz, Byrnes and Unger. Interment will be in Prospect Hill cemetery.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

Homer Winder of Kansas City has been transferred to Omaha as cattle buyer for Armour and is located at the New Ham-

BRIEF CITY NEWS

Have Meet Print It. Omaha General Hospital, Doug. 255. Gas, Elec. Fixtures, Burgess-Grandin. If unable to get Booth's Guaranteed Canned Oysters of your dealer, call Douglas 628 for nearest dealer's name.

City of Florence May Refuse to Pay Hydrant Rentals

Contention raged among the taxpayers of Florence this week, when they learned that the Omaha Water company had paid taxes on the judgment instead of the plant, thus shutting the city out of about \$3,000 in taxes. Friday evening a number of the influential business men and heavy taxpayers met at the Eagle rooms to discuss the matter.

Grain Men to Work for Better Crops

E. P. Peck and E. S. Westbrook have returned from Chicago, where they represented the Omaha Grain exchange at the session of the council of North American Grain exchanges. The crop improvement committee of the council outlined a campaign, to be participated in by all the grain exchanges, for encouraging the farmers in conservation of soil fertility.

Fined for Hunting on Sunday.

BEATRICE, Neb., Jan. 18.—(Special.)—Frank Sidel, Ernest Leach, Mayborn Salzgaver and Charles Winkler, four farmers from the south part of the county, yesterday pleaded guilty in the county court to hunting on Sunday and were fined \$1 and costs each, which they paid.

HAD CATARRH THIRTY YEARS.

Advertisement for Meekison's Pe-ru-na. Includes a portrait of Meekison and text: "EX-CONGRESSMAN Meekison Gives Praise To Pe-ru-na For His Relief From Catarrh."

EX-CONGRESSMAN MEEKISON COMMENDS PE-RU-NA. "I have used several bottles of Peru-na and I feel greatly benefited thereby from my catarrh of the head. I feel encouraged to believe that if I use it a short time longer I will be fully able to eradicate the disease of thirty years' standing."—David Meekison.

"Clearance Sale" Bargains IN PIANOS AND PLAYER PIANOS, AT Lower Prices Than Ever. Includes a list of piano models and prices, and contact information for Schmoller & Mueller Piano Co.

INCREASE YOUR EARNING POWER. Read Announcement on Page 7 of News Section Today.

Overcoat Thieves Caught by Police

The police believe that in the arrest of Harry West and George Brown, both of 1813 Chicago street, they have caught the notorious thieves who have been working overcoat thieves who have been working the various schools, public buildings and restaurants in the city for the last month.

A SIMPLE KIDNEY RECIPE

Tells How to Relieve Kidney and Bladder Trouble. Gives a Prescription Which is Easily Prepared at Home and is Said to Give Permanent Relief to Every Sufferer Who Will Try the Mixture—Forces Kidneys to Filter Out the Germs.

"Oh, How Good My Feet Feel" ANTI BUNION SHOES. Advertisement for Drexel Shoe Co. featuring a testimonial and product information.

INCREASE YOUR EARNING POWER. Read Announcement on Page 7 of News Section Today.

Most modern equipment and the best of service. The Bee Building advertisement featuring a photograph of the building and detailed rental information.