

The One Great Annual Event the Women of Omaha and Surrounding Territory Have Been Waiting For

Every Garment in Our Stock at

EXACTLY HALF PRICE

no reserves whatever, Sale starts at 8 o'clock.



More Than \$200,000 Worth of New, Stylish Wearing Apparel for Women and Misses at

JUST HALF PRICE

OUR GREAT HALF PRICE CLEARANCE

Opens Thursday Morning, Dec. 26th, at Eight O'clock

More Than \$200,000 Worth of High Class Wearing Apparel for Women, Misses & Children

EXACTLY HALF PRICE

Seven years ago Orkin Brothers inaugurated the policy that, regardless of sacrifice, no merchandise should be carried from one season to another. Their first great half-price sale emphasized this policy. Omaha women were startled at the prices quoted on the high class garments bearing Orkin Brothers labels. This remarkable method of merchandising caused this sale to grow to wonderful proportions year after year. This year will eclipse all previous ones. Only a few months ago Orkin Brothers acquired ownership of the Bennett Company. Every vestige of the old merchandise was at once disposed of at special sale. Clearance of new high class apparel, much of it in the establishment but a few weeks. This fixed policy of Half Price—with a larger assortment than ever before—all new merchandise—offers to Omaha women an unprecedented opportunity to secure

STYLISH, DESIRABLE GARMENTS AT HALF PRICE

Table with 7 columns: ALL OUR TAILORED SUITS HALF PRICE, ALL EVENING AND STREET COATS HALF PRICE, EVENING GOWNS AND DRESSES HALF PRICE, ALL FUR COATS AT A GREAT SACRIFICE, All Fur Sets and Separate Pieces at a SACRIFICE, All Children's Cloth Coats—About HALF PRICE. Each column lists various items and their clearance sale prices.

TERMS OF GAS COMPROMISE

City Commissioners Read Agreement and Defer it for Week.

BILL READY FOR LEGISLATURE

Measure Embodying Compromise is Drafted by City Legal Department for Introduction if Council Approves.

City commissioners Tuesday referred the proposed gas compromise to the committee of the whole next Monday for discussion. The report of the committee was read, stating the basis upon which the compromise was effected. A bill has been drafted by the city legal department covering the essential points of the agreement and will be submitted to the legislature if the compromise is endorsed. It will be necessary to procure legislation before the agreement would become legal.

Following is the report of the committee of city commissioners who conferred with the gas company officials and agreed upon a compromise.

After numerous and continued conferences with the representatives of the Omaha Gas Company, we have arrived at an understanding and agreement with the gas company substantially as follows:

One Dollar Per Thousand.

The gas company is to furnish gas to the consumers of Omaha at One Dollar per one thousand cubic feet. The gas company is to pay the tax in lieu of the present occupation tax and royalty, a royalty of \$40,000 per year on its present output of gas, which output is over seven hundred and fifty million cubic feet per

year and when such output reaches eight million cubic feet per year, the royalty shall be \$50,000 per year, and for each additional one hundred million cubic feet of output of gas, the gas company shall pay an additional \$5,000 royalty. It is further understood and agreed between our committee and the gas company that should gas be reduced to 30 cents per 1,000 cubic feet of gas, then and in that event the royalty shall be correspondingly reduced. In other words, the royalty would be reduced to one-twentieth, and it is further agreed should the price of gas be reduced to 30 cents per 1,000 cubic feet, that the royalty to be paid the city by the gas company should be reduced one-tenth.

From a careful computation of the increase of consumption of gas in this city and in other cities similarly situated, your committee is satisfied that the output of gas by the gas company for the year 1913 will reach 80,000,000 cubic feet and will have an average increase of 20,000,000 cubic feet per year for the next ten years.

May Bill Ten Cents Higher.

It is further understood and agreed that the gas company shall have the right during the term of any of its contracts to bill gas to the city and private consumers at rates and prices 10 cents higher per 1,000 cubic feet than the rates and prices fixed, and to be determined by the contract, and to charge and collect such higher rates upon all bills not paid at the office of the gas company within ten days after the first day of the month succeeding the expiration of the period in which the gas charged for was supplied, but upon all bills so paid within such ten days a discount shall be allowed of 10 cents per 1,000 cubic feet. And the gas company shall have the right to charge and collect from such person who has a meter installed, a minimum monthly bill of 50 cents, but if the bill for gas consumed in any month is at the rate then in force exceeding the sum of 50 cents such person shall not be charged any minimum bill for that month.

The gas company is to have the right and privilege and may at any time during the term of any of its contracts with the city make rates and prices for gas in large quantities less than the rates and prices fixed and determined by such contract, but all such rates and prices shall be conditioned upon a quantity of gas to be taken or paid for in some given period of time or in some particular part of the day or under some other reasonable condition, and shall be open and available to all consumers meeting the conditions, and schedules of such rates and prices and conditions shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the city and be open to public inspection.

Ten-Year Franchise.

"On these terms the gas company wants a contract for a period of not exceeding ten years, and wants a franchise for a definite period.

Your committee is informed by the legal department that under the present laws such a contract cannot be made; it is therefore proposed to ask the legislature to pass a law allowing the city of Omaha to grant a franchise by a vote of the people for such a term of years as the voters deem proper, but no such franchise shall be granted in perpetuity, providing that the charge for gas to consumers shall never exceed the price of \$1 per 1,000 cubic feet, and that a contract shall not be made for a period exceeding ten years, and at the end of any of such contracts the city council shall have the power to fix and regulate the price of gas for the next contract period.

"It is further agreed that the situation of the litigation and the effort to enforce the dollar gas ordinance shall remain in their present condition awaiting the outcome of the proposed legislation.

"This committee has given the subject matter its most careful and candid consideration and believes that they have arrived at a reasonable and just conclusion, and believe further that all interests of the city can and will be properly safeguarded both in the legislation and in the contract hereafter to be made with the gas company."

PARK WILDE HOME TO RENEW INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT

Industrial work at Park Wilde home, under the auspices of the Associated Charities, will be started soon, as the demand for work is increasing and will justify the opening of the industrial department once again.

Secretary Mabel Porter of the Associated Charities says work for men is 1,000 cubic feet. An additional 30 cents shall be paid by the consumer for each 1,000 feet used and not paid for until after the 19th of the month. The minimum meter rate shall be 50 cents.

Annuitants as follows shall be paid in lieu of the occupation taxes, licenses and other municipal charges: When gross annual sales of gas is 100,000,000 cubic feet or less, \$10,000; between 100,000,000 and 200,000,000 cubic feet, \$15,000, and so on, the annuity increasing at the rate of \$5,000 for each 1,000,000 feet of gas.

Gas sold this year amounted to about 775,000,000 and will probably be 800,000,000 cubic feet next year, in which case, under the agreement the city would receive an annuity of \$60,000.

Ryder Will Sit Hard on the Lid in Omaha on New Year's Eve

Alas! Alack!—a blank or two, and other mild forms of expressing deep dejection. The law will not be suspended New Year's eve in Omaha.

Chicago set the example the Ancient and Onerous Order of Jollifiers fondly hoped Omaha would follow. But it could not be.

"Laws will be strictly enforced here New Year's night," says Police Commissioner Ryder with a determined snap of his jaw. "There is no excuse for ushering the new year in with orgies. It will not be tolerated here."

"But they tear loose something fierce in New York, Chicago, Seattle and San Francisco," expostulated one, who has resolute, but will as usual take one more plunge into the nether regions before boarding the good ship Lithia.

NEW POSTOFFICE RECORDS

Christmas Business Beats Anything Omaha Ever Had.

CLERKS SHOW TRUE COLORS Men Voluntarily Work Overtime Without Pay to Get the Big Rush of Mail Handled Promptly.

Another indication of the record-breaking business of the Omaha postoffice for the holidays is the fact that \$5,000 worth of postage stamps were sold Monday.

This, it is said at the postoffice, is by far the greatest sale ever made at the postoffice in a single day, barring days when the railroad companies buy thousands of dollars worth in a single day.

Clerks Do Fine Work. The older clerks of the postoffice say there never were such days of incoming and outgoing mail in the history of the Omaha postoffice as the last three days have been. The great bulk of the business is cleaned up now, however, and the clerks say they are beginning to see their way clear through the stacks and stacks of mail that had accumulated within the few days. The halls of the postoffice were still quite busy Tuesday morning with persons mailing parcels and

Chronic Stomach Trouble Cured.

There is nothing more discouraging than a chronic disorder of the stomach. Is it not surprising that many suffer for years with such an ailment when a permanent cure is within their reach and may be had for a trifle? "About one year ago," says P. H. Beck of Wakelee, Mich., "I bought a package of Chamberlain's Tablets, and since using them I have felt perfectly well. I had previously used many number of different medicines, but none of them were of any lasting benefit." For sale by all dealers.—Advertisement.

Delivery on Christmas.

Two deliveries will be made in the business section of the city today and one delivery in the residence portion.

The general delivery, the registry department and the stamp department will close at 10:30 this morning. The money order department and the postal savings bank will not be open at all.

Although the government allows no pay for overtime for postal clerks and although carriers voluntarily worked ten and eleven hours Monday in order to serve the patrons and get the work as nearly cleaned up for the day as possible.