

BECKER BLAMES RETAILERS

Former Association Secretary Says They Cause High Cost.

PRODUCE ROTS IN WAREHOUSE

Man Who Lost Position with Association Says It Has No Black-List and Does Not Fix Prices.

Retail grocers cause the high cost of living in Omaha, according to Joseph Becker, former secretary of the Omaha Retail Grocers' association.

Becker declares there is no produce men's organization in Omaha such as the one recently indicted and fined in Portland.

Becker asserts that although one grocer testified before the committee that the Retail Grocers' association had never indulged in fixing prices that very grocer once introduced in the association a resolution to the effect that no member should pay more than 85 cents a dozen for goods selling at 90 cents a piece.

Becker says there are vast quantities of goods such as cabbage and onions literally rotting away in warehouses about Omaha, because the prices on them are kept high by the grocers on tacit agreement and consequently are not in demand by consumers.

were placed by the grocers at a fair profit. Becker says the demand for these goods would be greater and they could be moved out of the warehouses.

Not Like Portland.

Becker declares there is no produce men's organization in Omaha such as the one recently indicted and fined in Portland.

The produce men of Portland had an agreement with brokers, whereby cars of goods which could not be used by association members were diverted to other cities and towns, the broker reporting to his shipper that there was no market.

Thus produce merchants outside the association were scarcely able to get goods and those within it kept down the quantity of goods on the market and were able to hold up prices.

It was an agreement by which the brokers prevented the use of "pool" cars by wholesalers

outside the association, and sent out of the city, such "ramp" cars as the members could not use.

The Portland case was the first of its kind to be handled by the government authorities, who are said to be working through the west at the present time and procuring evidence against similar organizations.

MIDDLE MEN GET THE PROFITS

J. J. Foye Tells Living Cost Committee Producers Are Sufferers.

Producers and consumers of life necessities both are victims of the middle men, according to testimony given yesterday afternoon before the state legislative committee investigating the high cost of living.

An interesting situation developed when J. J. Foye, a fruit broker, was called as a witness. He attempted to shield the commission men by declaring that not one of them ever made large profits, and to prove his statement cited the sale of two cars of apples made during the morning.

The commission man who bought the apples, willing to take a small profit, priced them to the retailer at 27.75, who sold a peck, \$1.90 per barrel, three times what the grower received for them.

MUNYON'S COLD CURE advertisement featuring an illustration of a man holding a sign that reads: 'Every person suffering with a cold or grippe should obtain a vial of my Cold Cure. I guarantee that this remedy will relieve the head, throat and lungs almost immediately. It will cure old colds, new colds and obstinate colds, and prevent Grippe, Diphtheria and Pneumonia, Munyon.'

Berg's Final Clean-Up Sale advertisement. Features a man in a suit and lists various clothing items and prices. Text includes: 'Saturday is the last day of our final clean-up sale in the men's young men's and children's departments—we offer suits, overcoats, trousers, hats and furnishing goods at prices below one-half original price. Our spring stock is here. In order to make a little more room we give you this last opportunity. We call your particular attention to our one day hat sale. Note the reductions. Our spring display of the highest and most reputable makes of wearing apparel for men and boys made in the world is open for your inspection now.'

DAKOTA PAMPHLET LAW TAKEN FROM THE STATUTES. PIERRE, S. D., March 7.—(Special Telegram)—The Curtis publicity pamphlet, which was the cause of so much contention in the last legislative session and all through the campaign of last summer and fall, is no longer a part of the law of this state, having been repealed this afternoon, when the house adopted the senate bill requiring publication of amendments and referred laws through the newspapers of the state instead of by pamphlet publicity.

their report in shape to hand in tonight, the probability now are that they will not be able to report until tomorrow. E. A. Platte, former assistant secretary of state, was before the committee this afternoon and explained several matters which the committee desired to learn about the department. It is generally known the committee will declare irregularities of greater or less importance to have shown up in the matter of attempting to make a sale of a national bank on the part of Public Examiner Winfield, which he admits in his testimony and conversation outside the committee room and declares to have been within his rights.

amended it to 600 population, allowing two saloons in towns of any size and reducing the maximum of saloon licenses to \$1,000. POLICEMAN'S LITTLE SON KILLS HIS BABY SISTER. NEW YORK, March 7.—When Herman Correll, a policeman, opened the top drawer of his dresser today his pistol was missing. As he started to look for it he heard a shot in the next room. There he found his 4-year-old son holding the weapon in his hand. In a little while on the floor lay the boy's sister, aged 18 months. The bullet had entered her left eye, pierced her brain and killed her instantly.

mended the purchase of the Champion iron mings by the steel corporation in 1912 in order that it might not be taken over by competitors. The Union Sharon Steel company, subsequently acquired by the trust, was after the property at the time. Bronze Bust Given to James Wilson. WASHINGTON, March 7.—A life-sized bronze bust of himself will serve to remind James Wilson, retiring secretary of agriculture, of his sixteen years of service in that department when he returns to his home in Iowa. The bust, a replica of which will be placed in the department, was presented to Mr. Wilson tonight in the National Museum building by the employees of the department in the presence of Secretary of State Bryan and Secretary of Agriculture Houston and several hundred of the men and women who have worked with the retiring secretary in the many years he has served the department.

Killer's Killers WATER DAMAGE SALE! THE DEWEY HOTEL FIRE. Two doors east of us caused our basement to be flooded over five feet deep. Thousands of dollars worth of bottled goods—all in perfect condition (excepting the labels)—must be sold quickly, regardless of cost or value. We absolutely guarantee the sound and perfect condition of every article. Settlement with the Insurance Companies having been completed, our object is to clear this damaged label stock out in a hurry to make room for clean new stock already ordered. Olives—Olive Oil—Sardines—Cherries—Wines of All Kinds—Whiskies—French Sauternes and Claret—German Wines and Kummel—Italian Liquors—Swedish and Danish Liquors—Fruit Brandies and Cordials—Imported Gins—and many others.

John Smith, a south side retail grocer, proved to be something of a rate man on the property value and wealth of commission men. He explained that he had been in business here twenty years and had made a close study of what the commission men are worth. He gave his information to the committee. Taking up the Trimble brothers, Bob and Charles, Mr. Smith told the committee that fifteen years ago they were drivers for J. R. Snyder, working at \$5 a month. Then they became salesmen at \$7 a month, and five years ago they were taken into the company. Now they are the sole owners and the concern is one of the richest of its kind west of Chicago.

While the appointment of George B. McClelland as mine inspector was announced today, it did not go to the senate with the other appointments made at the same time, and the Black Hills members announce that they will oppose the confirmation, if it comes in. The appointment of Guy B. Frary as pure food commissioner to succeed A. N. Cook was announced later this evening and did not go to the senate with the other names. The senate passed the house thousand-to-one saloon bill this evening and

Two New California Trains Overland Limited. Effective April 1st (from Omaha April 2d) will be new in every respect but name. It will operate daily between Chicago and San Francisco via the Chicago & North-Western and Union Pacific. Pacific Limited. Effective April 1st (from Omaha April 2d) will operate between Chicago-San Francisco and Los Angeles via Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Union Pacific. Other Through Trains now in Service to the West. To San Francisco: California Mail. To Los Angeles: Los Angeles Limited. To Portland: Oregon-Washington Limited, Portland and Puget Sound Express. To Denver: Denver Special, Colorado Express, Colorado Special. Union Pacific. Standard Road of the West. Protected by Automatic Electric Block Safety Signals. Dustless Roadbed. Double Track. New and Direct Route to Yellowstone National Park. Season Opens June 15th. For literature and further information relative to schedules, fares, routes, sleeping car reservations, side-trips, stop-overs, etc., call phone or write L. BEINDORFF, C.P. & T.A., 1324 Farnam St., Omaha. Phone Douglas 334. Direct Route to Panama-Pacific Exposition.