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THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER
Fair

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WORK IN OMAHA POSTOFFICE IS TO BE SWITCHED

Roper Sends to Wharton Orders for New Plan of Operation Under the Two Division System.

MANY CHANGES IN THE FORCE Woodard to Have Charge of Finance Department, with Nothing to Do with the Mails.

KLEFFNER OVER THE CARRIERS

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, March 17.—(Special Telegram.)—First Assistant Postmaster General Roper today mailed to Postmaster John C. Wharton of Omaha the complete report and recommendations of the inspectors who recently conducted an investigation of the postoffice service in that city. The report is accompanied by a detailed letter of instructions for putting the recommendations into effect.

What Plan Means. The two division plan of organization will at once become operative. Postmaster Wharton becomes the active executive of the postoffice, supported by two chief lieutenants in charge respectively of mails and of finances.

Assistant Postmaster James I. Woodard is relieved of all general supervision and connection with the mailing end of the service, so that he may act as superintendent of finance.

The resignation of H. C. Akin as postmaster is accepted. In this division of the postoffice Charles F. Wille continues in charge of the money order and postal savings with the title money order cashier.

The Omaha postoffice is given the additional position of bookkeeper. Postmaster Iren W. Barr has been promoted to fill his duties as regarded as most important under the new plan, as all the financial records of the postoffice will be in his charge, and he will operate a new "double check" system of accounting that greatly safeguards all transactions.

Metten Handles Mails. The division of mails embracing all work and operations relating to incoming and outgoing mails, including registered and parcel post mail, is placed under W. J. Metten, the present superintendent of mails, with no change of title, but a definite assignment of complete responsibility to the postmaster for all the work under his control. He will be assisted in this general supervision by L. Prouty and William J. Brown.

Kleffner Over Carriers. The carrier force will continue in immediate charge of G. J. Kleffner, under the direction of the superintendent of mails.

The delivery system received special attention at the hands of the inspectors, and as a result, the department has called on Postmaster Wharton to insist on closer supervision of the carrier force and more scientific arrangement of their working schedules.

The Weather

For Omaha, Council Bluffs and Vicinity—Fair; not much change in temperature.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday	
Hour	Deg.
5 a. m.	35
7 a. m.	37
9 a. m.	39
11 a. m.	41
1 p. m.	43
3 p. m.	45
5 p. m.	44
7 p. m.	42
9 p. m.	40
11 p. m.	38
Lowest yesterday	35
Mean temperature	40
Precipitation	0.00

Comparative Local Record	
1915	1914
Highest yesterday	44
Lowest yesterday	35
Mean temperature	40
Precipitation	0.00

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.	
Station and Sta. Temp.	High-Low
Cheyenne, part cloudy	41-44
Denver, cloudy	40-44
Des Moines, part cloudy	40-44
North Platte, cloudy	39-43
Omaha, clear	35-40
Pueblo, part cloudy	35-40
Rapid City, cloudy	35-40
Salt Lake City, cloudy	35-40
Santa Fe, part cloudy	35-40
St. Louis, cloudy	35-40
St. Paul, cloudy	35-40
Valentine, cloudy	35-40

TENANTS SO POOR THEY WOULD GIVE CHILDREN AWAY

Federal Commission Hears Two Found in that Condition and Story of Typical Cotton Farmer of Class.

RAGGED OFFSPRING WITH HIM Witness Describes His Futile Struggle of Years to Get "Hooked Up"

FAILS TO BECOME PROPRIETOR

DALLAS, Tex., March 17.—W. S. Nobel, secretary of the Land League of Texas, told the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations today that he had this week found two land tenants in north Texas so poverty stricken that they were offering to give their children away. He testified at the hearing on American farm land conditions.

Nobel said he had found these tenants in a search for what he considered a typical example of the poorer class of tenant farmers. Not believing this typical, he said, he had brought to Dallas as a voluntary witness, L. T. Stewart, a farmer, whose experiences were more typical of some fifty thousand tenant families in the southwest.

Children Beside Him. Stewart then took the stand. Beside him sat his wife and six of his eight children, ranging from 3 to 20 years old. Three of the smallest were barefooted, their feet showing sores from frost bites.

Stewart described his efforts for twenty years to buy a farm home, beginning in Arkansas and finally coming to Texas. After his first year's farming, he said, he sold his mules to "get square of debt" for food. Next year he borrowed a mule and came out \$15 to the good on the year. Then he bought a small farm on six years' time, but was forced to give it up for lack of \$80 to meet payments at the end of the first year.

After several years, he said, he got \$200 ahead, whereupon he immediately bought an eighty-five acre farm in Arkansas. He did well, but two children died and their doctors' bills cut into his savings so that he gave up the farm, unable to meet the interest. He told the commission that one year he had lost money when cotton was 7 cents a pound, but that he saved a little the next year when he received only 4 cents a pound. He saved by reducing living expenses.

Can't Go to School. He said some times his wife "got to town" only once in two years. Some times, he said, he had lived two far from a school house for his oldest boy to attend. Then when he lived near town later on the boy was ashamed to go on account of his clothing.

Commissioner Walsh asked: "What do you want your children to do?" "I had rather," replied Stewart, "that they be farmers. I think that is the happiest life if you get hooked up right."

Getting "hooked up," Stewart said, consisted of securing ownership of a place. Mr. Nobel, in introducing Stewart, said he believed his troubles typical of difficulties which kept two-thirds of southwestern tenants from buying farms.

Rector Kills Young Woman Member of Church and Himself

MIAMI, Fla., March 17.—William Alfred Tucker, rector of St. Agnes Episcopal church here, late today shot and killed Harriet Delaney, member of his church, and then committed suicide.

Tucker yesterday was bound over to the federal court under \$2,000 bond on a charge of sending obscene literature through the mails.

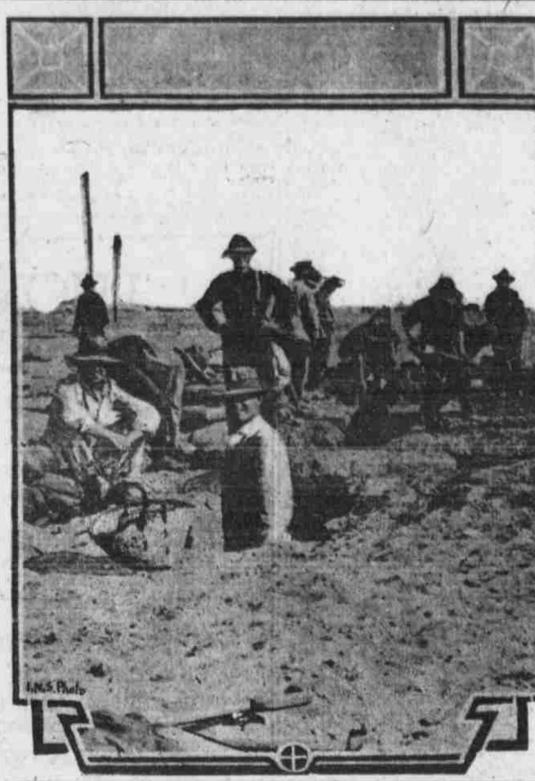
When arraigned on the charge of violating the postal law, Tucker waived preliminary examination and was released on bail furnished by members of his congregation. It was charged he sent letters containing objectionable matter to Miss Delaney.

Official Report Says Dernberg Was Blown Up by Its Own Crew

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Count Bernstorff, the German ambassador, today received an official report that the cruiser Dresden was blown up by its own crew after having been attacked in neutral waters of Chile by British warships.

The official report added that British ships began firing from a distance of 3,000 meters, but that rather than be destroyed by the enemy's ships, the commander of the Dresden chose to save his crew and abandon the vessel. The report came from the German legation at Santiago, Chile.

TRENCH DIGGING BY NEW ZEALANDERS IN THE SANDS OF EGYPT'S DESERT ALONG THE SUES CANAL.



DOUGLAS SHERIFF PUSHES JAIL BILL

McShane and Friends Turning Legislature Over to Get Forty Cents for Feeding Prisoners.

SEVENTEEN CENTS AT PEN

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, March 17.—(Special.)—It is evident that a great deal of work is being done in a quiet way by Sheriff McShane and his friends for the passage of two bills before the legislature introduced by Hunter of Douglas and numbered H. R. 532 and H. D. 533. Sheriff McShane has been on the ground several days, as have others interested in the passage of the bills. They cover the proposition of feeding county prisoners of Douglas county.

H. R. 532 seeks to set the amount which the sheriff and jailers of the different counties shall receive for feeding prisoners.

What Bill Specifies. In order not to antagonize the sheriffs of other counties, who receive 50 cents per day for feeding the prisoners, the statute is changed to read as follows:

For housing prisoners, where there is an average per month of less than 100 prisoners per day, 50 cents, and where there is an average per month in excess of 100 prisoners or more per day, 40 cents per day.

This is an amendment to the present law, which calls for a straight payment of 50 cents per day without regard to number.

The companion bill simply changes the old law passed in 1889, which allowed 17 cents per day.

Owner of Educated Chimpanzee is Sued for \$71,500

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 17.—Suits for \$71,500 damages have been filed against E. W. Knowlton of Pasadena, owner of an educated chimpanzee. Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Lindley allege that the animal escaped March 17, 1914, from the Knowlton home, traveled two miles, entered their home and threw their son, Milton, aged 10, against a bed, disabling him for life.

ATTACKS GIRL HE LOVED AND HER FATHER; KILLED

MITCHELL, S. D., March 17.—Charles Streble, a farm hand, was shot and killed by J. T. Sledge last night after a desperate struggle between the two men at the Sledge home, four miles north of Mitchell.

Sledge and his 16-year-old daughter, Chloe Sledge, are at a local hospital suffering from bullet wounds inflicted by Streble. Streble had been discharged by Sledge and it is believed that he was infatuated with the daughter.

BRITISH LOSE FOUR SHIPS IN STRAITS; CRUISER DAMAGED

Three Mine Sweepers and Sailing Vessel Go Down in Dardanelles Under Fire of Turk Guns.

UNIDENTIFIED WARSHIP HIT English Fleet Meets Reverse in Attempt to Clear Waters of Hidden Explosives.

CANNONADING IS VERY HEAVY

LONDON, March 17.—11 p. m.—A casualty list issued by the admiralty tonight discloses that in the fighting in the Dardanelles Saturday night the light cruiser Amethyst, which according to an Athens dispatch made a dash through the strait as far as Nagara, had twenty-three men killed and nineteen men severely and eighteen men slightly wounded.

The battleship Ocean had two men killed and the battleship Prince George two men wounded, while two trawlers between them had three men killed and two wounded.

DARDANELLES, March 12.—(Via Constantinople, March 14, and via London, March 17.)—The British met with a reverse today in an attempt to clear the Dardanelles of mines. They lost three mine clearing ships and one sailing vessel. Considerable damage was inflicted on one British cruiser, under whose protection the operations were undertaken. The identity of the cruiser has not been established.

The British vessels arrived well inside the entrance to the Dardanelles of Kum Kali at about 11 o'clock last night. The cruiser immediately began a heavy bombardment of the searchlight positions of the Turks. This was continued for some time, but without effect. At 3 o'clock this morning the mine sweepers were sighted from shore. The Turkish gunners permitted them to come in close and then opened fire, sinking the three mine sweepers and damaging the cruiser.

The sailing vessel had been sent into the mine field to take observations. It struck a mine and sank.

The cannonading was unusually heavy and lasted until 5 o'clock in the morning. No further bombardment was undertaken today, although the Turkish ships withdrew shortly afterwards. On March 8, 9 and 10 there was no bombardment.

Factory Owners and Labor Leaders See Chancellor

LONDON, March 17.—Factory owners, labor leaders and representatives of the engineering, ship building, coal mining, transport and other industries, had a meeting in London today with David Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer, a member of the committee of imperial defense, naval and military officers of high rank and other government officials to discuss the problems arising from the decision of the government to assume control of factories in England and thus increase the production of war material.

The conference was unique in history, the same time being one of the most important meetings held since the beginning of the war. The first step decided upon was the appointment of a committee of seven, composed of labor officials and representatives of all the industries concerned, to act in an advisory capacity to the government.

The selection of a man to head this great organization was tentatively discussed, and the remuneration of the workmen should receive under the new arrangement, Mr. Lloyd George delivered a brief address and the labor delegates promised the government their whole support.

Mrs. Angle Faints While on Stand

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., March 17.—Mrs. Helen M. Angle, on trial for manslaughter, collapsed today during a recess of the court, her strength giving way under the ordeal of the cross-examination.

She is charged with having caused the death of Waldo R. Ballou in Stamford last June.

Mrs. Angle revived shortly and was on the stand at the noon recess. It was expected that her cross-examination would be completed at the afternoon session.

Replying to a question of the state's attorney Mrs. Angle said she had never seen Ballou intoxicated.

The witness' answer to many questions was that she could not remember. The state's attorney then asked if she could have stopped the stairs or the halls during one of those lapses of memory. She replied that she did not remember, but did not think so.

Mrs. Angle entered court for the afternoon session supported by her father, Mr. Cummings continued reading from the record of the testimony. Her cross-examination was concluded and after a short recess examination Mrs. Angle was excused. She was on the witness stand eleven hours.

3 BRITISH SHIPS ARE TORPEDOED

Atlanta is Struck Off Galway Coast and Fingal Goes Down Off Northumberland.

LONDON, March 17.—The official announcement was made today that the British steamers Atlanta and Fingal had been torpedoed. The text of the communication follows:

The British steamer Atlanta, 319 tons, owned by Messrs. J. and P. Hutchinson of Glasgow, was torpedoed off Inishurk on the west coast of County Galway, Ireland, about noon of March 14. The crew was landed on Inishurk island and the vessel is now in the harbor.

The British steamer Fingal, 1,542 gross tons (60 net tons), owned by the London-Edinburgh Shipping company of Leith, Scotland, was torpedoed and sunk at 10:30 on March 15 off the Northumberland coast. Twenty-one members of its crew were landed at North Shields, but six lives are reported to have been lost, including the chief mate and the stewardess.

The crew of seventeen men were given five minutes to take to their small boats, when the submarine towed until a pilot steamer was met. The men were then transferred to the pilot boat and landed at Hook of Holland.

The Leuchwarden was a cross channel steamer of 24 tons and was owned by the Steam Navigation company of London.

Survivors of Fingal Landed. NORTH SHIELDS, England, March 17.—The survivors of the Fingal were landed here today. They declare that the casualties on board were due to the fact that the vessel went down before the starboard boat could be freed. The Fingal, as it sunk, dragged this boat under with it, leaving the occupants, including the captain, struggling in the water. The port boat picked up the captain and several others, but six men lost their lives.

The Fingal was proceeding in a northerly direction, with fine weather, when it was struck by a German torpedo. It at once began to settle, and went down quickly.

Western Roads Want to Advance Freight Rate on Hay 2 Cents

CHICAGO, March 17.—Advances in freight rates on hay 2 cents 100 pounds on shipment from Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska to Chicago were urged before W. M. Daniels, Interstate Commerce commissioner, today in the hearing of the forty-ninth western railroads for increases of rates.

F. P. Eymann, assistant freight traffic manager of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad, testified that hay was one of the commodities in the hauling of which the railroads were losing money. Mr. Eymann said that of the total annual increase of \$10,000,000 which the railroads are seeking \$175,000 would be provided by the proposed increase on hay.

"The proposed rates," said Mr. Eymann, "are higher than the rates approved by the commission for Minnesota, Wisconsin and South Dakota. A comparison also shows that the proposed charges from western territory to Chicago are no higher, but are practically the same as rates for similar distances from Chicago eastward, although the density of traffic east of Chicago is much greater. Thus from Watertown, S. D., to Chicago, 600 miles, the proposed rate is 25 cents a hundred, while from Sandusky, Mich., to Albany, N. Y., 500 miles, where the traffic is heavier, the present rate is 23 cents.

"A small proportion of the car capacity is used for hay as compared with other commodities. Hay occupied only 1 per cent of the car capacity, while for all other products of agriculture the proportion is 50 per cent.

"Another factor increasing the cost of handling hay is the situation at terminals where hay is handled as a peddling proposition and sold from team tracks to small purchasers. This causes greater detention of cars on team tracks than any other commodity."

C. C. P. Rauch, assistant general freight agent of the Missouri Pacific road, gave similar testimony.

Buy Unbroken Horses for Warring Nations

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 17.—Large sales of young unbroken horses are adding to the activity of Kansas City stockmen, who are said to have supplied a quota of belligerent countries since September 1 with 40,000 horses and mules, valued at \$2,000,000, and are endeavoring to supply the French government with an additional 30,000 head.

Purchasing agents, it is said, have lowered their former strict requirements and even have purchased a large number of unbroken western horses. Most of the animals sent from here have been secured in Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado.

AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION BILL BACK TO COMMITTEE

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, March 17.—(Special.)—The omnibus registration law, advanced to third reading by the senate committee of the whole yesterday, was recommitted this morning, following a bitter attack by Robertson of Holt upon the provision of the bill that gave the secretary of state 50 cents of the increased fee.

The expense of providing the new standard numbers required to be furnished each year by the secretary of state is to be paid out of this part of the fee. Any surplus goes into the state general fund. Robertson was of the opinion that the good roads fund, to which the rest of the fee goes, was being robbed of too much. The bill is house roll 351.

BIG BATTLES ARE RAGING IN EAST AND WEST AREAS

Neuve Chappelle and St. Eloi, Przasnysz and Przemysl Are Pivots Around Which Struggles Are Turning.

SPRING CAMPAIGN DEVELOPING

Germans Driven from French City with Loss of 2,000 Men Attempt to Retake It.

AUSTRIANS CHECKED IN GALICIA

The Day's War News

BRITISH ADMIRALTY announced today that the steamers Atlanta and Fingal had been torpedoed. The crew of the Atlanta was saved, but six lives are reported to have been lost on the Fingal.

TWO ATTEMPTS of cruisers to approach the outer fortifications of the Dardanelles, in connection with mine sweeping operations, are said to have been frustrated by the fire from shore.

NEUFORT has been bombarded by the Germans and Westende by the allies. The Belgians are reported to have made some headway against the Germans, capturing positions in two localities. The British army is still on the offensive although its advance apparently has been checked by the Germans.

FRENCH AND GERMAN accounts of the fighting in the west are at complete variance. Both official statements announce successes in Champagne and near the Belgian border.

NEGOTIATIONS between the British and Turkish authorities concerning the port of Smyrna are said in London to have failed.

LONDON, March 17.—Neuve Chappelle and St. Eloi in the west, and Przasnysz and Przemysl in the east are the pivots of the battle areas in which struggles that may mark important milestones in the war are now being fought.

The outcome of the fight for Neuve Chappelle, from which the British have driven the Germans with a loss of nearly 20,000 men, should prove, in the opinion of British observers, whether the Germans can mass men and retrieve ground lost by them with the same battering tactics they displayed last year. On the other hand, if the British can hold the positions gained by them it will go far toward attesting what may be expected when the allies begin their spring advance.

Przasnysz and Przemysl. The outcome of the battle of Przasnysz will demonstrate whether Field Marshal von Hindenburg again has failed and virtually nullified all his costly efforts to reach Warsaw.

To the south the Austrians are attempting what they have tried many times before—a dash to relieve the fortress of Przemysl. According to dispatches from Petrograd, this latest effort, which was a northward advance from the Carpathians, has definitely failed short. The Austrians having been checked in the center of their chief offensive movement at Smolnik, to the south of Lutovka.

In the meantime the Russians are drawing closer their lines around the Przemysl fortress.

London has received no confirmation of the report that the British cruiser Amethyst has penetrated the narrows of the Dardanelles as far as Nagara, and unless the destruction of the forts has been more rapid than officially has been reported such a feat is regarded as unlikely.

Nagara is the northern limit of the narrows, to reach which a ship would have to run the gauntlet of the forts on both shores at ranges varying from 600 to 1,000 yards.

Coal Rate Hearing Ordered

WASHINGTON, March 17.—(Special Telegram.)—The Interstate Commerce commission has ordered a hearing held at Washington on April 15 on the coal rates from Illinois mines to Omaha and other points.

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