

"WILD HORSE" MEN SAY THEY'RE 'GOATS'

J. Sidney Smith, President, Says Farmers and Land Sharks "Stung" Him.

PROCLAIMS HIS INNOCENCE

If any one got stung in wild horse transactions, it was the United States Live Stock and Investment company. This was the testimony of J. Sidney Smith, president of the organization and one of the eleven men now being tried in the United States district court for using the mails to defraud.

He testified that hundreds of real estate dealers and farmers who had property and who had found it impossible to sell or trade, attempted to load it off on his concern for the exchange of horses which his firm owned in Coconino county, Arizona.

At all times he testified his firm acted in good faith and at no time did it use the mails to defraud in the carrying out of its transactions.

One Deal. And to prove his statements he told of a number of dealings where traders had attempted to make his corporation. He told of Ed Mason, Villisca, Ia., farmer who had traded property valued, he said, at \$15,000 for twenty-four head of horses.

"After looking into the property I found that it was worthless and traded it off for one Villisca horse, which I shipped to Omaha and afterwards sold for \$15."

"Then there was M. Emde, Rolfe, Ia., another government witness who testified that I traded him seventeen horses for his eighty-acre farm in Missouri. I found the property so badly incumbered that it was sold for taxes. I never recorded the deed for the property."

"And there was E. T. Dufer, Lormore, Ia., who told of trading his farm in Colorado to my firm. The truth of the transaction was that I gave Mr. Dufer a bill of sale for twenty-five 2-year-old colts and my new seven-passenger Buick for the land. I took a back mortgage on his property for \$1,000, and to bind the deal he gave me \$750 cash. Before I had time to realize on the trade Dufer foreclosed the mortgage and started action in the courts whereby he got back his land. I certainly was the loser in that deal."

Owens Some Wild Ones. That he actually owned a large number of horses, rather, he thought he owned them, he told the jury. To prove this he showed a number of cancelled checks for which he purchased in the neighborhood of 4,000 animals from parties in Flagstaff.

When asked if he had misrepresented his brands as being bred up from Percheron and Morgan stock, he refuted the allegation and said that he only told his purchasers what had been imparted to him at the time he bought his range horses.

"I was told that Bishop Lot Smith, one of the founders of the Mormon faith, had once made a settlement on Mormon lake on the Coconino reserve, and that he had bred some of the horses in the locality with Mormon stock."

Judge Henry Morgan of Alberta Lea, Minn., one of the chief counsel for the defense, was unable to appear in court because his eyes had become infected with blood poisoning. It is probable that he will not be able to continue in the case.

Since the government has started its case against the United States Live Stock and Investment company and the Omaha Land and Investment company for the use of the mails to defraud in the selling of wild and imaginary horses in Coconino county, Ariz., a number of local hotels and restaurants have adopted the "wild horse" slogan.

It is now possible to walk in some of the select eating places and order a steak with a "wild horse" dressing and Arizona salad. In fact there appears to be no limit to the foods now bearing the "wild horse" appellation.

Christmas Musical at St. Mark's Lutheran

A Christmas musical service will be given by the choir of St. Mark's English Lutheran church, Twentieth and Burdette streets, at the church, Sunday, at 4 p. m. It will be under direction of Arthur Melcher, choir director, with Miss Rachel Schultz at the organ. The services will include a short sermon by the pastor, Rev. Dr. L. Groh. The program will be as follows:

Anthem—There Were Shepherds, G. Vincent incidental solo, Miss Christine Poulson. Anthem—Behold I Bring You Glad Tidings, E. S. Barnes. Anthem—The Song of the Shepherds, E. H. Woodman. From The Message of the Star. Contralto Solo—The Virgin's Slumber. Song—H. H. Brewer. From The Holy Night, Mrs. Arthur Melcher. Sermon—Rev. Dr. L. Groh. Pastor. Anthem—Ring, O Heavenly Bells, C. Hempel. Doxology.

Many People's Don't Know. A sluggish liver causes a awful amount of misery—in keep it active use Dr. King's New Life Pills. Only 25c. All druggists—Advertisement.

It is Not So Much the Value of the Gift as Spirit in Which It's Given

By POLLY. Had you thought of it? The manner of giving is far more important than what you give. Oftentimes the insignificant present accompanied with a clever, little verse—done up ever so carefully in tissue paper and tied with a bit of holly-red ribbon—gives more pleasure to the recipient than a very costly gift. And when we give our gifts to one another as a surprise and with the spirit of love and self-sacrifice, then we can join in the true celebration of Christmas. Our gift shops are showing a variety of unique things accompanied with funny little rhymes that it is needless to bother your brains trying to concoct an appropriate jingle. An attractive box containing two bottle stoppers topped with queer, little figures—the kind that were made in Nuremberg before the war, but are made in this country now—has this bit of verse on the cover:

The cork and the count, as you'll agree, Are as corking a pair as ever you'll see. So here they are to stop with you And I'm sure they'll pop when you want them to.

A clever idea in calendars answers the question, "What shall we have for

dessert 365 days in the year?" and seems to be one of the most popular and inexpensive of gifts. One of the largest manufacturers of beautiful gift cards and calendars has issued this year a "Garden Year Book" with the accompanying verse that made me want it at once:

The kiss of the sun for pardon, The songs the birds fer mirth, One is nearer God's heart in a garden Than anywhere else on earth. Then for the kiddies! You may be surprised, but I actually found educational gifts for the baby who is about to experience his first Christmas. Have you seen the bunny, with his big long ears? Such a funny bunny, for he certainly appears Not to be as plump and fat as bunnies should. Stuffed with beans! How funny! But I believe he hops. Anyway I found him while hunting through the shops. Then I saw the queerest thing, 'twas not a Noah's ark, But a leather bag monogerie—I'm sure if you go up to bed with the lion roaring or the elephant's big tread Or the wildcat creeping up behind when you go up to bed with a kiddie, I'd love such pets if I were just a kiddie. I'd love such pets if I were just a kiddie. I'd love such pets if I were just a kiddie.

Noted Lecturer to Speak in Homes of Some Omaha Women

S. Richard Fuller, noted lecturer in Boston, Rome, Milan and other Italian cities, will give four lectures in Omaha, beginning January 12. Mr. Fuller's talks are given under unique arrangements—there are no admission tickets; no society sponsors these lectures; he pays his own expenses, and all the proceeds go towards a fund for the homeless women and other victims of the war in France. Collections are taken after the lectures under the direction of the hostess at whose home he speaks.

Mrs. George H. Palmer is arranging for the lectures to be given in the homes of four prominent matrons. Eastern friends of Mrs. Palmer are lavish in their praise of the lecturer and Mr. Fuller's efforts in behalf of the war victims.

The subjects of Fuller's Omaha lectures are "Cleopatra and Her Children," "England in the Great War," "France in the Great War," and "Selene, Daughter of Antony and Cleopatra."

Mr. and Mrs. Fuller are going to the coast, speaking in Cleveland, Omaha, Denver and Kansas City en route.

Says that Nagging By His Wife Has All But Ruined Health

Mr. White, given name, Robert T., is a much-abused man, with a spouse who has been making things hum for him ever since they were married in 1898, according to a divorce suit filed with the clerk of the district court.

He alleges that shortly after he and Maude A. White started traveling in single harness she began harassing and haranguing him—and has been at it ever since. His wife's alleged constant nagging has undermined his health and resulted in making him incapable of performing his business duties. He asks for the custody of a 14-year-old daughter, Marion Bernice White.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

Miss Marion Hand is convalescent at the Wile Memorial hospital after an operation for appendicitis. Dean Page Sunderland, student at Oberlin college, will arrive Thursday morning to spend the holidays at Omaha with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Sunderland.

Seasonable Medicine

As Winter approaches it is advisable to help Nature maintain the highest possible standard of health. TRY HOSTETTER'S Stomach Bitters. When a safe tonic, appetizer and stomach remedy is needed.

ICE HARVESTING TO START TODAY

Lakeside Ice Co. Will Put Two Hundred and Fifty Men to Work at Carter Lake.

OTHERS TO BE READY SOON

With temperatures far below zero, ice companies scent the harvest, and preparations for beginning active operations on the lakes and reservoirs are being made. If the weather continues cold the annual harvest will be under way within a few days, and hundreds of men will be given employment cutting and storing the cool blocks away for use next summer.

The Lakeside Ice company, with houses on the west side of Carter lake, will commence cutting Friday morning and at the start will give employment to 250 men. A test of the company's ice field, extending up and down the lake from Fourteenth and Manderson streets, showed ice ten inches thick. One to two inches will be added to this thickness before Friday.

The Omaha Ice and Cold Storage company has not announced a date for starting its harvest, but it is certain that it will be as early as the first of next week, providing the weather does not warm up. This company harvests the ice on the water works reservoirs, where the ice is now nine to eleven inches in thickness and freezing down pretty rapidly. Cutting will begin soon after a thickness of twelve inches is reached.

The packing houses are laying their plans to begin cutting ice within a few days, and, with cold weather con-

Holdups Relieve Jacobs Of About Forty in Cash

Ezra Jacobs, 911 1/2 North Seventeenth street, reported to the police that two well-dressed young men held a large revolver near his face in a menacing manner at Seventeenth and Nicholas streets Tuesday evening. He was so much impressed by this militant demonstration that he handed over \$40 without a murmur.

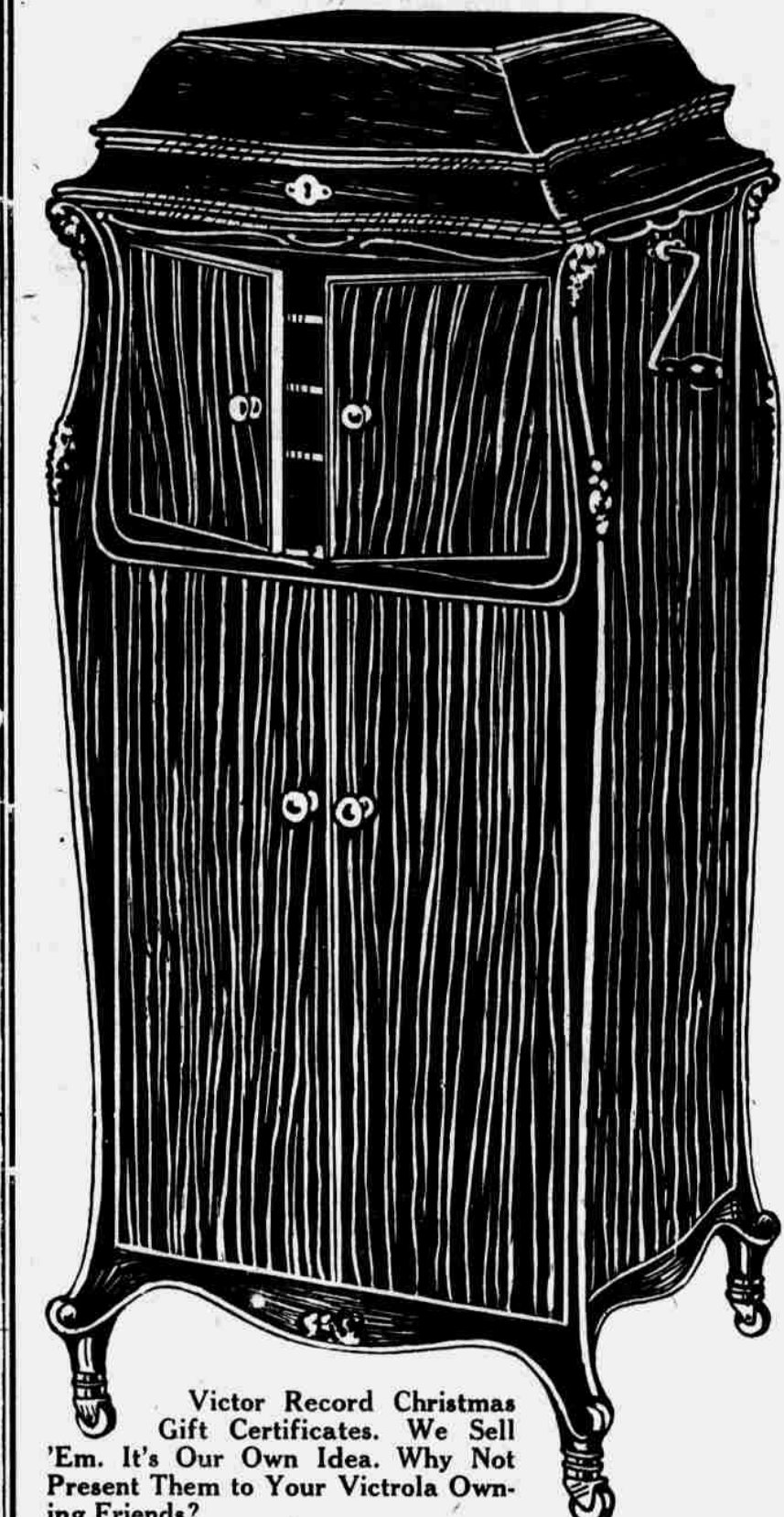
State of Iowa After Unregistered Autos

Fort Dodge, Neb., Dec. 20.—Special.—Thirty Fort Dodge men have been told either to procure 1916 automobile licenses or answer a summons in justice court to show why they should not be punished for not obeying the provisions of the state automobile registration law. George U. Shipley of Spencer, a state agent, has been here checking up automobilists who are disobeying the law.

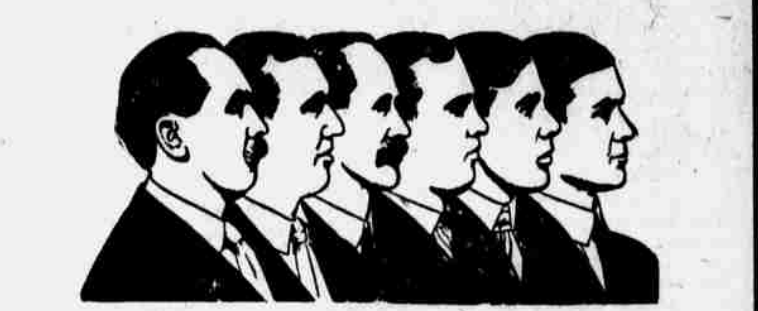
MILTON ROGERS & SONS CO. 1515 HARNEY ST. SKATES BOYS' SKATES GIRLS' SKATES ROLLER SKATES Ball-Bearing, Special, \$1.48 Tool Cabinets, only \$4.95 Tool Benches \$11.75 Boys' Sleds .75c Air Rifles \$1.25 Foot Balls \$1.00 Pocket Knives .25c Boy Scout Axes .75c Boy Scout Knives \$1.25 Flexible Flyer Sleds, \$2.50 Flash Lights .75c

ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS GIFTS. Electric Grills, only \$6.50 Electric Toasters—\$4.00, \$4.25, \$5.00 Electric Irons—\$4.00, \$5.00 Electric Chaffer—\$10.25, \$13.50 Electric Curling Irons—\$4.00 Electric Percutor, regular \$8.00. Special \$6.50 Scissors Sets, up from \$2 Manicure Sets low as \$2

Will There Be A Victrola In Your Home This Christmas



Possession Is Easy---The Time is Ripe---Why Not Say: "I'll Own One Now!" Something New A Brand New Victrola Style \$250.00 (\$300 If Operated Electrically)



"Buy It of the Six Mickels" Of course, the Victrola shortage has been widely and correctly heralded, and even now many of the models are as scarce as "hen's teeth." But, rest assured, we have them if they are to be had at all. Our stock at this moment is easily the most complete in the entire west; shop at once and you will most likely be able to secure the model you've set your heart upon.

We Have a Very Liberal Easy Payment Plan to Offer Should You Wish It! Ask Us for Details

This announcement reaches you in the nick of time for the Holidays. Reach the stage of enjoyment you've hoped for; have a Victrola about your home. Keep it refreshed with new Victor records. Know that we will ship outfits, together with records, to any distance, charges prepaid. Come in and hear one of the many models demonstrated in our admittedly superior demonstrating rooms. Do it soon. Christmas is but a few days away.

Mickels Nebraska Cycle Co. WRITE OR PHONE DOUGLAS 1662 15th and Harney Sts., Omaha Also at 334 Broadway COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

Important Notice Account reconstruction of the Union Pacific bridge across the Missouri River, until further notice Rock Island local passenger trains, No. 303, due Omaha 12:05 p. m., from Des Moines, and No. 310, due to leave Omaha 4:20 p. m. for Des Moines, will run to and from Council Bluffs only. For further information inquire of J. S. McNally, D. P. A., 14th and Farnam, W. O. W. Bldg.