

COMMISSIONERS MAKE ESTIMATE ON COUNTY FUND

New Board, Following Reorganization, Decides Approximately Million Dollars Will Be Spent.

COMMITTEES ARE NAMED

New Heads for County Hospital, Riverview Home Are Appointed.

MEET WITH ROAD EXPERT

Nearly one million dollars, about the same amount as estimated at the beginning of 1916, will be required to keep the machinery of Douglas county going for another year, the county commissioners decided at their meeting yesterday afternoon.

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name, Amount. Total: \$945,000.

Four Get the Axe.

Four appointees of the old board got the axe when the reorganized commissioners' body started operations.

A. E. Agee was appointed superintendent of the court house, to take effect April 1. He will succeed Joe Calabria.

After March 1 W. L. Nichols will be superintendent of the county hospital, the job at present being held by E. R. Woods.

W. T. Hogan, who relinquished, by request, his deputy sheriff's star when Sheriff Clark stepped into Felix McShane's shoes, was appointed administrator of county charities.

The change will be made March 1. He is to succeed J. M. Leidy.

John L. Sexton will be the superintendent of Riverview detention home after February 1. M. E. Thompson is the present superintendent.

Committees For Year.

Committees for 1917 were named as follows: Judiciary—McDonald, chairman; Lynch and Compton.

Court House and Jail—Lynch, chairman; O'Connor and Compton.

County Hospital—Bedford, chairman; Lynch and O'Connor.

Riverview Home—McDonald, chairman; Bedford and O'Connor.

Charity—O'Connor, chairman; Bedford and McDonald.

Roads and Bridges—Compton, chairman; McDonald and Bedford.

O'Connor, chairman of the construction committee; Compton, chairman of the committee of the whole.

At the morning session, Commissioner O'Connor was elected chairman of the board.

Goods Roads Man Here.

James E. Wonders, division engineer of the federal good roads, fifth district, together with directors of the Commercial club met with the board in regard to the establishing of the permanent headquarters of the government good roads bureau in the court house.

When the county commissioners some time ago were notified of the fact that Omaha had a chance to land this goods roads plum, they were quick to offer rooms in the court house providing the bureau was established here.

Mr. Wonders, who is from Washington, D. C., told the board of the requirements of the bureau. He said that he and the department he represented appreciated the action of the county commissioners in offering the free use of space in the court house.

Resolutions, together with blue prints of adequate space on the second and fourth floors of the court house, were ordered prepared by the board and forwarded to Washington, where the final plans for the locating of the bureau here will be made.

The Weather

For Nebraska—Fair.

Temperatures at Omaha Yesterday.

Table with 2 columns: Time, Temperature. Includes 'FAIR' icon.

Comparative Local Record.

1917, 1916, 1915, 1914.

Highest yesterday, 52; 46; 44; 32.

Lowest yesterday, 24; 21; 22; 18.

Mean temperature, 44; 38; 23; 23.

Precipitation, .00; 7.00; .00; .00.

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal.

Normal temperature, 39; 39; 39; 39.

Total excess since March 1, 285.

Normal precipitation, 62.1 inch.

Deficiency for the day, .03 inch.

Total rainfall since March 1, 18.72 inches.

Deficiency since March 1, 43.38 inches.

Deficiency for cor. period, 1915, 2.03 inches.

Deficiency for cor. period, 1914, 3.42 inches.

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.

Station and State Temp. Hum. Rain.

Omaha, clear, 48; 46; .00; 48.

Chicago, clear, 42; 40; .00; 42.

Denver, cloudy, 42; 40; .00; 42.

St. Louis, clear, 48; 46; .00; 48.

FORMER BRITISH PREMIER—May be new envoy to the United States to succeed Sir Cecil Spring-Rice as British ambassador to Washington at an early date.



LORD ROSEBERRY

SENATE VOTES TO DRY CLEAN DISTRICT

Sheppard Prohibition Measure Passes Upper House by Vote of 55 to 52.

SPIRIT OF BITTERNESS

Washington, Jan. 9.—The Sheppard prohibition bill, forbidding the sale of intoxicating liquor in the District of Columbia, but allowing small importations for personal use, passed the senate today, 55 to 52.

Neither the vote on the referendum amendment nor that on the passage of the bill, was on party lines.

There were twenty-six democrats and seventeen republicans voting for the referendum, and twenty-seven democrats and twenty-one republicans voting against it.

For the bill itself there were twenty-eight democrats and twenty-seven republicans votes, with twenty-two democrats and ten republicans against it.

There was evident a spirit of bitterness on the part of many senators and a feeling of tension that was only broken a few times when amendments were offered or suggestions made that the senate and the galleries thought humorous.

The spectators, half their number women, made only one real demonstration, that of hearty approval when the final vote was announced.

Twice during the debate, however, the noise became so great that President Protemore Sausbury had to threaten to clear the galleries.

Colonel Cody Drops Into Deep Sleep; His Vitality Remarkable

Denver, Jan. 9.—The remarkable vitality shown by Colonel William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill), said by his physician to be dying tonight, was a source of amazement to his medical attendants and members of the family at the bedside.

According to Dr. J. R. East, who has been in constant attendance, the noted scout gained strength during the day, although the heart action was very weak and digestive functions had ceased.

Early tonight it was said he had been sleeping quietly for two hours.

Fight Upon Shannon As Nonresident of State

Lincoln, Jan. 9.—(Special Telegram.)—Shannon, a resident of New Jersey, will submit evidence within a week—A. Z. Walker.

This is the reading of a telegram received by Speaker George Jackson and several other members of the legislature today from Omaha. It refers to John J. Shannon of the Douglas county delegation and it is said that the sender of the message claims that he has evidence to show that Shannon is a resident of New Jersey.

Shannon says he has lived in Douglas county for four years and attended Creighton law school three years, graduating last spring. As yet Speaker Jackson does not know what he will do, but will withhold any comment until further evidence is furnished.

Ginning of Cotton Shows Increase Over Previous Year

Washington, Jan. 9.—Cotton ginned prior to January 1 amounted to 11,845,225 running bales, including 188,052 round bales and 113,359 hales of Sea Island, the census bureau today announced.

Last year, prior to January 1, ginings amounted to 10,636,778 bales, or 96.1 per cent of the crop, including 105,785 round bales and 88,933 hales of Sea Island.

Three Persons Injured When Big Warehouse Collapses

Cleveland, O., Jan. 9.—Three persons were badly injured, two fatally and scores had narrow escapes today, when a portion of the five-story warehouse of the Cleveland Storage company collapsed without warning.

HOUSE PARCELS COMMITTEE WORK TO ITS OWNERS

Douglas County Representatives Get Four Chairmanships in General Distribution of Honors.

RICHMOND LANDS AGAIN

Norton of Polk Heads Committee on Judiciary, Regan Railroads.

HOWARD GIVES INAUGURAL

Washington, Jan. 9.—Charles H. Sabin, president of the Guaranty Trust company of New York, went on the stand at the opening of the leak inquiry this afternoon. He testified he was in no way connected with the Stock exchange and said he did not know in what connection he was called.

Four Douglas Men Are House Chairmen

Richmond—Cities and Towns. Shannon—Fees and Salaries. Howard—Labor. Lovely—Privileges and Elections.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

Lincoln, Jan. 9.—(Special.)—Under the assignment of standing committees, as prepared by the committee or committees of the house and agreed to by the house this afternoon, Douglas county gets four chairmanships, the honors going to Richmond as chairman of the committee on cities and towns, Shannon as chairman of the committee on fees and salaries, Howard on labor and Lovely on privileges and elections.

Other Douglas assignments are as follows: Nielsen is on the committee on banks and claims; Shannon—Cities and towns, fees and salaries; Keegan—Constitutional amendments, cities and towns; Lovely—Privileges and elections and judiciary; Hopkins—Insurance and corporations; Richmond—Cities and towns and miscellaneous subjects; Bulla—Railroads and live stock and grazing; Craddock—Finance and fees and salaries; Schneider—Fish and game and manufactures and commerce; Goodall—Medical societies and labor; Howard—Labor; Jelen—Privileges and elections and revenue and taxation.

List of Chairmen.

The chairmanships are allotted as follows:

Employees and expenditures, Hoffmeister; agriculture, Meyensburg; banks and banking, Murty; cities and towns, Richmond; claims, Fries; constitutional amendments, Thomas; corporations, Trumble; education, Ollis; irrigation, McAllister; engrossed and enrolled bills, Naylor; fees and salaries, Shannon; finance, ways and means, Rieschick; fish and culture, Gormley; insurance, Swanson; judiciary, Norton; labor, Howard; live stock, Dug; manufactures and commerce, Neff; medical societies, Hoffmeister; miscellaneous subjects, Daffoe; privileges and elections, Lovely; railroads, Regan; revenue and taxation, Osterman; roads and bridges, Christ Anderson; rules, Jackson; school lands and funds, Labounty; state institutions, Fuller; special committee on prohibition legislation, Norton.

Weiss Assistant Clerk.

House democrats held a caucus at 1:30 this afternoon at the Lindell hotel and elected Walter Weiss of Hebron first assistant clerk of the house to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Lee Metcalfe to accept the private secretaryship to the governor. The democrats hastened to the state house and at once began business, first by adopting the report of the committee on committees, putting over one or two resolutions for a day under the rules and then adjourning to meet tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

The vote on first assistant clerk in the caucus was: Walter Weiss, 35 votes; E. E. Ridgway of Omaha, 14, and 2 votes for W. O. Worrall of Wahoo.

In the senate the precedent set by Lieutenant Governor Pearson two years ago of delivering an inaugural address was followed by Lieutenant Governor Howard, who appeared in his usual happy frame of mind and a Prince Albert coat.

Wouldn't Pass Hat.

Short speeches were made by Helen Bournois in behalf of the French soldiers and by Thomas Majors, who was invited to the chair by the lieutenant governor. Mrs. Bournois tried to prevail upon Secretary Gene Walthart to pass the hat, but the secretary told her it would do no good as none of the senators had yet drawn any salary, so she departed, but may return a little later when the picking is better.

Address by Howard.

The senate adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow, after listening to the address of Lieutenant Governor Howard, which was as follows:

"Senators of Nebraska, I greet you in the bond of a common service, in the spirit of pure friendship, in the desire and in the hope that our joint labors may work the welfare of our commonwealth and all of our fellow citizens therein.

Pleads for Friendship.

"While neither the law nor the precedents command me to offer to you any manner of message or of admonition, both the law of gentility and the precedents established by many of the men of mark who have preceded me in this chair command and impel me to now plead for your respect and for your friendship, with the earnest hope that in the largeness of your erudition you may be good to be my mentors when my paucity of knowledge shall appear, and in the wealth of your generosity be kind to

(Continued on Page Two, Column Five.)

BANKER HAS HUNCH WILSON REQUESTED BY KAISER TO ACT

Charles H. Sabin, Trust Company Head of New York, Has Advance Tip of Information About Peace Note.

NOT FROM U. S. OFFICIALS

Told Financial Writers His Duty to Suggest They Suggest to Country Parleys Near.

TALKS TO THE COMMITTEE

Washington, Jan. 9.—Charles H. Sabin, president of the Guaranty Trust company of New York, went on the stand at the opening of the leak inquiry this afternoon. He testified he was in no way connected with the Stock exchange and said he did not know in what connection he was called.

"It has been said," Representative Chipfield told him, "that you called the financial writers of New York to your bank and told them you felt it your duty to suggest to the country that there were to be negotiations for peace and you felt they would affect the price of stocks. If there was anything of that kind suggested please outline it."

"I shall be glad to do so," said Mr. Sabin. "In October I said to newspaper men that I had information that the German government had asked the president to approach the allies on the subject of peace."

"Did you make any statement in this connection as to the effect that it might have on stocks?"

Talked to One Man.

"I talked to only one man on that. He asked me what effect it would have. I did not venture an opinion."

"Evidently you were in possession of some information not generally known."

"I think I was." He added that the source of his information was in no way connected with the United States government.

"Would you object to stating for what purpose you made this statement?"

"Purely my personal judgment that it should be known," Sabin replied.

Sabin was excused from telling the source of his information about the German peace proposal because he said it had been given to him in confidence by some one absolutely without connection with the government of the United States. He was released by the committee from further attendance.

Denies Advance Information.

Bernard Baruch of New York denied that he had any advance information regarding President Wilson's peace note. He said:

"I had no information of any nature from anyone connected directly or indirectly with the administration or any other sources in connection with the president's peace note or Von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech until I read of them in the newspapers."

Baruch was named by the mysterious "A. Curtis" in a letter to Representative Wood of Indiana as having profited largely by leak information on the note by selling short on United States Steel.

General Denial by Kahn.

Otto H. Kahn of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., New York, followed and read into the record a statement denying all connection with any leak. He was excused.

Allen Curtis, Boston, followed Mr. Kahn and denied authorship of the "A. Curtis" letter upon which Representative Wood based his charges. He wrote his name for the committee to show it was not the signature of the letter.

Bernard Baruch called, said he first learned of the president's peace note on the morning that it was issued. At the time of the market flurry, he said, he had been buying United States Steel.

Cause of the Flurry.

"The thing that affected the market," said Baruch, "was first Von Bethmann-Hollweg's peace note from Germany. That was followed by Lloyd George's speech in Parliament which at the very outset tended to strengthen the market December 19.

"The first cable bulletins said that Lloyd George refused to consider peace at all. Later, as the full speech came through, Lloyd George went on to say 'But,' and left the door open to possible peace negotiations. That caused a decline in the market."

Notice to the World.

"It was a notice to the world that there was no final bar to peace, and whether it was coming at once or not, we had to turn our minds to its effect on the market. Bearing this situation before me, I sold the market short Tuesday before the speech when Lloyd George uttered the word 'but.'"

"The next day I bought a little over one-third of the stocks I was short on, or more than one-half of the stocks I had sold on the Lloyd George speech."

"December 20, the day after the Lloyd George speech, I bought a large amount, continuing to buy to cover my shorts, and I also bought some long. I knew nothing of the president's note until it was published on the morning of December 21."

Rev. Mr. Fouse Comes Out In Favor of Birth Control

Denver, Colo., Jan. 9.—Rev. David H. Fouse, Denver minister, addressing the Ben Franklin club last night, made a plea for birth control, on moral and racial improvement grounds.

Lack of general knowledge of sex, the preacher said, was responsible for excesses that were "one of the most damning sins that curse the community."

HARRY K. THAW IS INDICTED FOR WHIPPING YOUTH

Slayer of Stanford White Is Charged With Flogging 19-Year-Old Fred Gump Until Blood Flows.

LAD IS ENTICED TO ROOMS

Accused Man Cannot Be Found, But Alleged Accomplice Is Arrested.

MEETS BOY IN CALIFORNIA

New York, Jan. 9.—Harry K. Thaw, who was legally released fifteen months ago from an asylum for the insane where he was sent after he killed Stanford White, was today indicted here, charged with kidnaping Fred Gump, jr., of Kansas City, Mo., a youth of 19 years, and assaulting him with a whip.

With him was indicted on the kidnaping charge a man described as George F. O'Byrnes and supposed to have been employed by Thaw as a bodyguard. Word was received that O'Byrnes had been arrested in Philadelphia and detectives were looking for Thaw there tonight.

Walsh Filed Complaint.

The complaint was placed against Thaw with District Attorney Swann by Frank P. Walsh, former chairman of the United States Industrial Relations commission, who, appearing as Gump's counsel, alleges that Thaw enticed the youth to his rooms at a hotel here Christmas night and there beat him with two whips three different times until he bled and became almost unconscious.

Testimony describing the whipping of young girls by Thaw made up some of the most sensational chapters in the numerous court actions on the question of Thaw's sanity after his acquittal of the murder of White on the grounds of insanity and his commitment to the Matteawan state hospital for the criminally insane. Alibatis for the state testified that whipping was a mania with Thaw.

Met Boy in California.

After several years' litigation at a cost of several hundred thousand dollars to New York state and to Thaw and in which bitter partisanship was engendered whether he was justly or unjustly kept in Matteawan he was declared sane by a jury in habeas corpus proceedings in the latter part of 1915 and released by a court order.

According to the information laid before the district attorney, it was toward the end of 1915 that Thaw first met and became interested in Gump.

He had gone to California after his release here to attend the Pan-American exposition at San Francisco and later went to the southern part of the state spending some time at Long Beach, Cal., where he met Gump at an ice cream parlor.

Gump's mother and his father, Fred Gump, who is said to be a manufacturer of leather trunks in Kansas City, were with the boy at Long Beach and made no objection to their son's acquaintanceship with Thaw, the district attorney was informed, apparently "sharing popular opinion that he had been vindicated."

Corresponds With Gump.

After Thaw left California he continued to correspond with Gump, according to Mr. Walsh. These letters, Mr. Walsh said, warned the boy not to show them to any one, but he let his mother read them and she answered them to him.

The exchange of letters continued through 1916, Thaw expressing a great interest in the boy's future and a wish to pay for his education abroad.

Although profers of money by Thaw were refused the boy at last came on to New York and went to Thaw's hotel, where it is alleged the assault took place.

Arrested as Thaw Aide.

Philadelphia, Jan. 9.—Charged with aiding and abetting Harry K. Thaw in an alleged assault upon Fred Gump, jr., in New York and with attempted kidnaping, a man said to be George F. O'Byrnes and described as Thaw's bodyguard, was arrested at a railroad station here today as he was about to leave the city. He was held pending requisition from the New York authorities.

While admitting, according to the detectives, that he is acquainted with Thaw, and that he has been with the Pittsburgher in this city until last night, the prisoner denied that he is O'Byrnes or that he is the man wanted in New York. He declared that he had absolutely no knowledge of the charges upon which he was taken into custody and said that he had been with Thaw only as a friend. He said his name was Oliver Browder, that he was a Pittsburgh salesman and that he had known Thaw for some time.

Thinks He Is Man.

Barney Fould, the New York detective who assisted in making the arrest, however, stated tonight that the description he had of O'Byrnes fits the prisoner in all details and that he is convinced he is the man wanted. In support of this belief Fould said that the police had found in the prisoner's pockets a telegram dated December 23, from the authorities of Long Beach, Cal., replying to a message alleged to have been sent by Thaw seeking information as to the whereabouts of the Gump boy.

Both his attorney and a private detective who said he had been engaged to act as a private bodyguard for the Pittsburgher while he was here, said that Thaw had left the city last night for Washington and that he intended to leave the capital tonight for Pittsburgh. Efforts to locate him here so far have proved futile.

REPRESENTATIVE HENRY—Of Texas, chairman of the house rules committee, who is conducting the inquiry into the "leak" scandal by which it is alleged certain Wall Street operators profited from advance information concerning the recent German peace note.



OMAHA BANKS HOLD ANNUAL MEETINGS

Changes in Directorates Announced at Several Financial Institutions.

ONE INCREASES SURPLUS

The Omaha National bank at its annual meeting yesterday, transferred \$500,000 from the undivided profits to the surplus, thus giving the bank a surplus of \$1,000,000, as well as a capital of \$1,000,000, which it has had for some time.

At the same time one of the vice presidents, W. H. Bucholz, was designated as first vice president, a designation which is new in this bank, as in past years vice presidents have not been designated as firsts, seconds, etc. Joseph H. Millard was re-elected president. Ward M. Burgess, J. DeForest Richards and B. A. Wilcox were made vice presidents. Mr. Richards was formerly cashier, and Mr. Wilcox was assistant cashier. Frank Boyd, formerly assistant cashier, was made cashier. Ezra Millard and Otis Alvison, were re-elected assistant cashiers. Randall K. Brown of the Hill Coal company, and chairman of the executive committee of the Commercial club, was elected a director, filling the vacancy caused by the death of William Wallace.

President W. T. Auld of the Corn Exchange National bank is to take a less active part in the affairs of the bank. This he does under the doctor's orders in order to conserve his health, as it is found he must avoid the rigorous winter climate in Nebraska. He was therefore made chairman of the board of directors at the annual meeting of the board.

H. S. Clarke Promoted.

H. S. Clarke, jr., becomes president, and E. F. Folda, some years ago vice president of the Stock Yards National bank, and more recently a director in the Nebraska National, became vice president of the Corn Exchange. L. H. Tate was made cashier, and O. A. Helquist, assistant cashier. The old board of directors was re-elected, with the addition of E. F. Folda.

Mr. Clarke, formerly vice president, came to the bank with Mr. Auld five years ago, when the two acquired a large block of the stock. The bank has shown an increase of over 100 per cent in deposits during their management.

Mr. Folda, after traveling for four years, says he is glad to get back into active banking again. He now comes to the assistance of the new president in handling the bank's affairs. Mr. Folda is very well known among Nebraska bankers as a country banker, and well known also through his connections with the Stock Yards National bank of south Omaha.

At the United States National bank R. P. Morsman, former cashier, became vice president and cashier. Charles F. Brinkman, formerly assistant manager of the credit department, became assistant cashier. T. F. Murphy and O. Williams became assistant cashier and auditor, respectively. The directorate remained unchanged.

No Changes at First.

The First National made no changes in either officers or directors. At the Nebraska National E. F. Folda withdrew from the directorate to enter the Corn Exchange. John W. Agnew and Epes Corey became new directors.

At the Merchants National the place of the late George Joslyn on the directorate remains unfilled. Fred P. Hamilton, who was cashier, became second vice president. B. H. Meile, who was assistant cashier, became cashier.

At the Stock Yards National H. C. Miller was chosen director, in place of J. Ogden Armour.

The Live Stock National decided to double its capital, making the figure \$400,000.

The Packers National made no change, with the exception of the addition of another assistant cashier, W. E. Philby.

No changes were made in the State Bank of Omaha.

New Business Develops.

The First National has developed some new business during its short existence in the new quarters in the new building at Sixteenth and Farnham streets. The very first day in the new location the bank received over 100 new accounts. Half of them were savings accounts. They range in amounts from \$2 to \$25,000.

C. F. Junod and Augustus Kountze, who were here for the reception and formal opening of the bank in the new quarters, returned last night to their homes in New York.

PEACE NOTE LEAK WORTH A MILLION TO THE