

**TOURIST RATES
VICTIMIZE OMAHA**

Commercial Club May File Suit to Reduce Fares to Eastern Cities.

TRAFFIC BUREAU FIGHTS

If necessary the Omaha Commercial club will enter suit before the Interstate Commerce commission in an effort to get what the club considers just tourist rates to eastern points.

A year or more ago, a new basing rate was established in passenger tourist rates, which left Omaha at a disadvantage with Kansas City. The club became active an once in an effort to obtain a readjustment of schedules that would put Omaha at least on a parity with Kansas City in this respect.

Thus far the club has nothing definite in the way of a promise; other than the assurance of some of the roads that every effort would be made to see that Omaha gets justice in this matter of making up of tourist rate schedules. These schedules will probably be made up and printed within the next few weeks.

The club's traffic bureau has been instructed to go the limit to obtain what Omaha considers justice in this matter, and if necessary to sue before the Interstate Commerce commission.

Sheriff Foils Mob Seeking Man Held As Parents' Slayer

Peoria, Ill., March 7.—A ruse by Sheriff Close of Mason county today probably averted the lynching of William Becker, whose arrest was ordered by a grand jury investigating the murder of his aged father and mother at their home near Mason City, Ill., on the night of December 17, last.

Tonight Becker, who was confidential secretary to his father and handled the hundreds of thousands of dollars belonging to his parents, is in the Logan county jail at Lincoln, Ill., under special guard and held without bail. His parents were shot and killed and an attempt to destroy their home by fire was made, apparently in an effort to conceal the murder. The house was ransacked.

While en route to Havana, Ill., with the prisoner in an automobile the sheriff was warned of the approach of a mob in automobiles. He turned his machine toward Pekin, Ill., but a messenger warned him that the mob would try to head him off near that town, too. The sheriff then backed his car into some brush and in a little while the string of automobiles carrying the mob sped by and the sheriff proceeded to Lincoln.

Railroads Are Told What Commodities To Transport First

New York, March 7.—Railroads throughout the country were urged by the American Railway association to exempt from all freight embargoes as far as practicable certain commodities—chiefly necessities of life—which, it was asserted, would do much to relieve the present confusion of the railroads themselves and the shipping public.

Following is the list of articles which the railroads were asked to accept forthwith: Live stock, perishables, shipments consigned to the United States government or its officers; foodstuffs and feed for live stock; tin cans for condensed milk when so way-billed; printing paper; fuel coal, material and supplies consigned to railroads.

Trade Commission Busy Arranging to Fix Price on Paper

Washington, March 7.—The Federal Trade commission put a large staff at work today on details for fixing news print paper prices.

Many of the publishers in the country not represented in recent conferences here must be induced to enter the arbitration arrangements before it is a success and additional manufacturers must be persuaded to co-operate in the plan.

The price of \$2.50 a hundred pounds in carload lots, named by the commission Sunday, is expected by the commission to give general satisfaction to publishers, some of whom have been paying twice that.

Mrs. Mary Hutchinson Dies After Short Illness

Mrs. Mary H. Hutchinson, 36 years old, wife of Charles E. Hutchinson, department manager of M. E. Smith & Co., died at a local hospital last night, following a brief illness. She had been a resident of Omaha since her marriage, nine years ago. Mrs. Hutchinson was prominent in church and charitable work. Besides her husband she is survived by two brothers of Ravenna, Neb., and a married sister in Los Angeles. Funeral services will be held from St. Cecilia's church at 9 o'clock Friday morning. The body will be taken to Ravenna, Neb., for burial.

Kansas City Voters Beat Proposal for New Charter

Kansas City, March 7.—The proposal for a new charter for Kansas City was voted down at a special election yesterday, according to figures compiled by newspapers tonight. The voting virtually was even on the issue, the negative vote having a majority of less than 100 votes. A four-sevenths majority was necessary for passage. The proposed charter called for a simplified form of city government founded along the lines of the city manager plan.

German Wing Eighteen Planes.
Berlin, March 7.—(Wireless to Tuckerton), March 7.—Eighteen hostile airplanes were shot down by the Germans on Sunday, says an Overseas News agency review of recent operations today. Twelve of these machines were accounted for north of the Somme and in the Arras region and the others at isolated points.

Woman Leads Stranger Into Den Of Thieves; Loses His Valuables

E. A. Brennen of Friend Tells Police About Bad House in North Omaha.

FIRST WENT TO A DANCE

That he was strongarmed and robbed of \$20 in cash, a gold watch valued at \$25 and two travelers' checks, each for \$50, by two men with whom he was returning at an early hour this morning from an exclusive road house in north Omaha, was a story recited to police officials by E. A. Brennen of Friend, Neb.

Brennen says he met a young woman Tuesday night and that he escorted her to a dance. At the dance he says the young woman met two other young women and that it was suggested the party visit the north side road house which Brennen averred seemed to be more like a

German Society in Cuba, "Iron Cross," Is Reported Active

Havana, March 7.—According to the Cuban government, the rebels are making little headway. It declares the rebels in Oriente province will have to surrender and mentions successes in other provinces of the loyal forces and defections from the revolutionary ranks.

Much interest has been taken in the stories of German intrigue in Cuba, with the object of fomenting rebellion.

Two Germans have been arrested thus far in Cuba, one of them known to be a close friend of ex-President Gomez, one of the leaders in the revolution. The other was caught in the act of making drawings of the coast near Pinar Del Rio.

A number of American detectives are in Havana, working in harmony with Cuban detectives, with the object of ascertaining if there exists here a branch of an organization known under the name of "The Iron Cross," which is alleged to be perfectly organized in Mexico, having for its purpose the spreading of anti-American propaganda in Latin-American countries. Members of the association are distinguished by an iron finger ring on which is an iron cross.

U. S. Guard Gets Five Years for Supplying Kaiser Information

Minneapolis, March 7.—Officers of the First Minnesota infantry, returning to Fort Snelling today from the Mexican border announced that Paul L. Scharfenberg of St. Paul, a private in Company L, First Minnesota infantry, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., February 5, by a court-martial of regular army officers, sitting at San Antonio, Tex., for furnishing military information to Germany.

A letter addressed to relatives in Germany, asserting that 10,000,000 Germans in this country were ready to rise up against the government in the event of war with Germany, was intercepted by British authorities and turned over to Washington officials, according to statements by the officers. Scharfenberg is a native of Germany.

Colonel E. D. Luce, commanding the regiment, and Captain P. L. McClay, regimental adjutant, in confirming the story of Scharfenberg's activities, declared that he had predicted in his letter that President Wilson "soon would be put out of the way" and had stated that "the 100,000 troops on the border would not stand up if put against an efficient force."

Movie Teaches Man and Wife the Holdup Game

Kansas City, Mo., March 7.—When Clarence Curtis lost his "job" a few months ago, he and Mrs. Curtis went to a moving picture show where they saw a film depicting a holdup.

The result, police say, was that Mrs. Curtis confessed here today that she and her husband engaged in a three weeks' series of similar robberies. She and her husband are under arrest on charge of having held up a taxicab driver last night.

They admitted that robbery and Mrs. Curtis astonished the police by saying she and her husband had robbed several grocery and drug clerks who had brought packages and change for large bills to vacant houses to which she and her husband had directed orders.

Man is Sentenced to Study Marshall's Address

Sioux City, Ia., March 7.—Arnold Brown was sentenced to study Vice President Marshall's inaugural address during his seven-day sentence in jail for disorderly conduct by Police Judge Iddings today.

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PREACH CEMENT AND BOOM TRADE

Kansas City Man Tells Midwest Dealers the Value of "Talking Up" Business.

WINNING FARMER FRIENDS

Cement and concrete dealers should constantly spread information about the use of cement and concrete and the method of using it, according to P. B. Naylor of Kansas City, Mo., who addressed the Midwest Cement Users' association at the opening of its convention at the Hotel Rome, land, cement company.

He urged that the dealers spare no efforts to make the farmer familiar with the use of cement and concrete. "Instruct the farmers how to use cement and concrete," he said, "for the more they know about it the better results they will get, and the better results, the more they will demand cement and concrete construction."

The foundation of the business of a cement products man in a town is agricultural development around that town.

No Final Decision On Wilson's Right To Arm U. S. Craft

Washington, March 7.—There was no final decision today on whether President Wilson has the authority to arm American merchantmen for defense against German submarines without action by congress. Authoritative intimations were given that the president was seeking a way to take the step on his own responsibility, but would act only after most mature deliberation.

The president conferred with Secretaries Lansing and Daniels at their offices, but the usual Tuesday cabinet meeting was cancelled, and in some quarters it was believed there would be no further announcement on the question until after the cabinet meeting Friday.

Some administration officials, after careful study of the old law of 1819, cited in the senate as preventing the arming of merchantmen against submarines, were stronger than ever in their belief that the act has no application to the present situation. The statute was passed specifically to allow American merchantmen to fight pirates and privateers and officials contend that the exemption in this connection of "a public armed vessel of a nation in amity with the United States" does not prevent a peaceful merchantman from resisting an attack in violation of international law.

Jack Dillon and Les Darcy May Meet in Denver Ring

Denver, March 7.—Negotiations were begun here today for a twenty-round fight in Denver, between Jack Dillon and Les Darcy, according to local promoters. It was understood that a purse of \$20,000 was to be raised, with 60 per cent of the receipts in excess of that amount. Local promoters claimed to have a telegram from Dillon at Indianapolis agreeing to fight Darcy here, provided the match could be arranged for inside thirty days.

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