

## Nebraska

ATTORNEY GENERAL  
ANSWERS DRUGGISTS

Many Questions Asked Concerning Rights in Handling Alcohol.

## HOW TO TEST BITTERS

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

Lincoln, May 7.—(Special.)—Druggists are bombarding Attorney General Reed to find out how to handle alcohol. The retail druggists committee sent in questions which are answered in brief as follows:

"Is there any possible way for a registered pharmacist or corporation that has no permit, to obtain alcohol for manufacturing purposes only?"

"According to Sections 16, 17 and 19 of the bill neither a pharmacist, a corporation nor any member of such corporation can legally obtain alcohol for manufacturing purposes only, without first securing a permit therefor."

## All Important Question.

"Will we be permitted to handle bitters?"

"Whatever preparations, compounds or patent medicines which the federal government permits to be sold, without first requiring on the part of the federal government any special internal revenue tax, on account of spirits which may be in the same, would seem to be a compliance with our present state law. I shall not attempt to determine whether any particular brand, such as you have enumerated, conforms to that requirement."

"Is there any possible way for a doctor to procure pure alcohol on a prescription or otherwise, for personal use?"

## Use in Hospitals.

"All persons who use alcohol in scientific laboratories or hospitals, and who are exempt from the payment of a United States internal revenue liquor dealer's tax therefor, and who have complied with all the conditions required by the United States collector, may purchase from wholesale druggists and manufacturers and keep ethyl alcohol for scientific purposes and for use in hospitals."

"What method would you suggest for labeling denatured alcohol?"

## Use Best Judgment.

"Answer: 'Not a legal question. Use your best judgment and state the facts with as much brevity as possible.'"

"Can a druggist or drug firm handle or sell Jamaica ginger in a reasonable quantity?"

"Answer: 'Answered in question two.'"

"Is it necessary for a druggist to have a government license to handle alcohol as prescribed by the state law?"

"Answer: 'A proposition for George L. Loomis, collector of internal revenue for Nebraska to determine.'"

## Lincoln Man Held Up.

Lincoln, May 7.—(Special.)—Ed Wetters, a clerk in the state treasurer's office was held up last night by a highwayman near his home in the south part of the city and robbed of \$3.

Charter No. 1775. Reserve Dist. No. 10.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK, at Omaha, in the State of Nebraska, at the close of business on May 1, 1917.

## RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts.....\$1,809,325.22

Overdrafts.....10,912.74

U. S. Bonds.....

U. S. bonds deposited to secure currency circulation.....

(par value).....\$50,000.00

U. S. bonds pledged to secure currency circulation.....

(par value).....\$5,000.00

Total U. S. bonds.....110,000.00

Bonds, securities, etc.....

Bonds other than U. S. bonds pledged to secure currency circulation.....

(par value).....\$37,000.00

Securities other than U. S. bonds (not including stocks) owned.....

Unpledged.....\$8,540.52

Total bonds securities, etc.....95,540.52

Stocks of Federal Reserve Bank.....

(100 per cent of subscription).....20,000.00

Value of banking house.....146,500.00

Net amount due from approximately.....

reserve agents.....\$2,494,232.17

Net amount due from other banks and bankers.....1,597,372.00

Exchanges for clearing house.....

Other checks on banks in various cities as reported.....12,376.52

Outside checks and other cash items.....126,071.22

Fractional currency, notes and cents.....1,281.11

Notes of other national banks.....45,640.00

Federal Reserve notes.....10,000.00

Lawful reserve in vault and with Federal Reserve Bank.....1,094,184.24

Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer.....2,500.00

Total.....\$14,349,952.60

Capital stock paid in.....\$1,000,000.00

Surplus fund.....250,000.00

Undivided profits.....\$21,587.78

Less interest and taxes paid.....529.08

Circulating notes outstanding.....50,000.00

Deposits.....

Due to banks and bankers.....\$5,006,039.41

Dividends.....1,061.50

Individual deposits subject to check.....6,527,721.19

Deposits in less than 30 days.....189,353.92

Cashier's checks outstanding.....279,325.87

Cashier's checks outstanding.....165,281.23

United States deposits.....74,145.14

Postal savings deposits.....35,427.41

Time certificates of deposit, payable after 30 days or more.....529,841.12

Total.....\$14,349,952.60

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss:

I, B. H. Miller, cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

B. H. MILLER, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of May, 1917.

(Seal.)

Correct—Attest:

LUTHER DRAKE, Notary Public.

FRANK T. HAMILTON, G. SAM ROGERS, Directors.

QUICK RELIEF FOR VOICE STRAIN

THE NEW 10¢ BOX PROTECTOR'S WORTH

BROWN'S ORIGINAL TROCHES

JOHN L. BROWN & SON, Boston, Mass.

Railroad Tax Experts  
Ask Lower Valuation

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

Lincoln, Neb., May 7.—(Special.)—The State Board of Equalization held its first session today.

T. H. Benton, representing the Pullman Car company, asked for a reduction of 5 per cent over the assessed valuation of last year. Standard cars last year were valued at \$15,596 and tourist cars at \$8,750.

He said that the Pullman company had built no new cars in four years and that since the war travel in Pullman cars was much less than ever before. In his trip from Los Angeles to Lincoln last week, with the exception of himself and a man with a small boy, there were no other passengers on one car for the entire trip.

R. D. Pollard, tax commissioner for the Burlington, said:

"The company paid taxes in Nebraska for the year ending December 31, 1915, amounting to \$1,104,574.33 and for the year ending December 31, 1916, the sum of \$1,147,794.13. The property of the road was assessed by the board last year at \$42,800 a mile. The engineering department of the State Railway commission found the reproduction value new of the property \$42,000 per mile and the then depreciation value only \$36,472 per mile."

Mr. Pollard produced figures from state reports received by the secretary of the State Board of Assessment showing that railroad property in this state was assessed at a much higher valuation than other property, especially farm property.

Tax Commissioner Scribner of the Union Pacific covered nearly the same ground as Mr. Pollard.

## State to Buy Half Million

In Government War Bonds

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

Lincoln, May 7.—(Special.)—Investment of \$500,000 state funds in the proposed bond issue of the government for war purposes was proposed to the Board of Public Funds by State Treasurer George Hall, at its meeting today.

Mr. Hall proposes to invest \$500,000 in the 3 per cent bonds, which after July 1 will be convertible into bonds, which will draw 3½ per cent. The treasurer was ordered to take such steps as might be necessary to secure the bonds.

## Charles Kitchen, Last of

Founders of Paxton, Dies

Charles W. Kitchen, last of the three Kitchen brothers, who founded the Paxton hotel in Omaha in 1882, died last week at Seattle, Wash., at the age of 92 years.

Charles Kitchen was the father of Ralph Kitchen, who, with his son, Richard, is now conducting the Paxton. Ralph Kitchen has gone to Seattle to take the body to Leavenworth, Kan., where burial will be in the Mount Munster cemetery Friday.

In addition to Ralph, Mr. Kitchen is survived by a son, Charles, Jr., of Seattle, and a daughter, Mrs. Jessie Cowherd, wife of ex-Congressman Cowherd of Missouri.

## Plenty of Freight Cars

For the Present Demand

The freight car shortage has solved itself, so far as the Omaha terminals are concerned. While there is no large number of empties lying on the sidings, there is an ample supply to handle all business offered the railroads.

Farmers throughout Omaha trade territory are all busy in their fields, planting crops. With the high grain prices maintaining, they are not taking time off to market their surplus.

HUGE TRACTORS RUN  
ON FARMS AT NIGHT

Electric Lights Attached in Effort to Handle Ground Where Crops Are Gone.

## SPRING WHEAT DOES FINE

The continued wet and cold weather of last week was not beneficial to the Nebraska grain crop, is the report that agents throughout the state sent to the Burlington headquarters here.

Company agents report precipitation of one to four inches and during most of the week temperatures of 36 to 48 degrees above zero. These express the opinion that little growth was shown by the winter wheat. They estimate that of the wheat from 35 to 45 per cent of the acreage will make a partial to a full crop.

Spring wheat is reported in excellent condition and making rapid growth. The same is true with reference to oats, of which there is an enormous acreage.

## Potato Crop Large.

The potato crop promises to be unusually large and most of the fields are planted.

The former estimate of 50 per cent of the alfalfa having been winter-killed still holds.

The Northwesters' crop report for last week indicates too much rain over Nebraska and the need of warm weather.

In Northwestern territory it is estimated that fully 60 per cent of the winter wheat and 50 per cent of the alfalfa has been winter-killed.

Spring wheat is growing rapidly and, preparatory to putting a large acreage into corn, farmers are at work night and day preparing the ground for planting.

In many localities tractors are being operated twenty-four hours a day, operated by two or three shifts. Many of them are equipped with electric lights.

## Taxi Driver Sues Russell

For \$20,000 Heart Balm

Leslie A. Overby, a taxicab driver, is suing James Russell, said to be a well-to-do Iowa farmer, for \$20,000 damages in district court, alleging that he alienated his wife's affections while he was lying at the point of death in St. Joseph's hospital.

Overby was seriously injured a year ago when a car driven by him went over an embankment at Eleventh and Bancroft streets. At the time he sued the city for damages and was given a verdict.

He alleges that while he was in the hospital "with injuries almost fatal, Russell met his wife and began paying attentions to her."

The Overbys were married in Council Bluffs March 9, 1915. Her maiden name was Margaret Ebert. The suit was filed by Attorney J. E. Von Dorn.

Friends of Mr. Russell who have investigated the case say that it is a case of attempted blackmail.

## Schuyler Defeats Bellwood.

Schuyler, Neb., May 7.—(Special Telegram.)—The Schuyler baseball team defeated the Bellwood team here Sunday afternoon, 4 to 6. The game was the first ever played here and was finished in one hour and ten minutes. Batteries: Schuyler, Burr and Arpes; Bellwood, Judes and Nantkes.

## Nebraska Penitents.

Washington, May 7.—(Special Telegram.)—Penitents granted in Nebraska: Lillian Snow, Lincoln, \$12. Lead, S. D., Charles Windolph, \$10; Cheyenne, Wyo., Wesche, Jr., \$12.

John S. Murphy has been appointed letter carrier at Omaha. C. L. Muller has been appointed rural letter carrier at Kimball, S. D.

BOY BURGLAR ADMITS  
THIRTY-SEVEN JOBS

Craving for Dope Led Harold Desmond to Enter and Rob Drug Stores.

## KEPT A TREASURE VAULT

Harold Desmond, dope fiend and burglar, confessed Monday to police that he had robbed thirty-seven stores in Omaha within the last month and stolen \$5,000 worth of loot.

Inordinate passion for morphine and cocaine made a burglar of him, he said. After each job his plan was to saturate himself with dope and then read what the newspapers said of his escapades.

Desmond, who is only 20 years old, has a smooth, round face surmounted by a shock of black curly hair. A soft, well-modulated voice and an innocent look are in striking contrast with the daring displayed in his career of crime.

Beneath the floor of Desmond's room at Twenty-first and Charles streets Detectives Rich and Pzanzowski found \$1,000 worth of the goods Desmond had stolen. This loot, which contained five revolvers, was cunningly concealed under a heavy rug which covered a loose plank. Desmond's nightly habit was to pull back the rug, remove the board and hide in the space beneath the floor the fruits of his burglaries.

While Desmond ostensibly lived with his mother at 3009 Pacific street, he kept his room at Twenty-first and Charles streets as his treasure vault.

Robbing drug stores was the boy burglar's hobby, for there he could get the drugs he craved, he told police.

George Brown, who was released from the state penitentiary at Lincoln last Friday, is implicated in the most recent burglaries which Desmond perpetrated. Brown has confessed, police say, that he was Desmond's accomplice in a number of jobs.

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Kimball, Neb., May 7.—(Special.)—Excavation for the new Commercial club building will begin this week. The building will be of brick 25x80 and two stories high. The lower floor has been rented to a baker, recently from Omaha, and who has ready a large, new steel oven. The upper floor is reserved for a club room and plans call for elaborate reading rooms, billiard tables and, in short, a place for recreation and such business for the good of the town and community as may arise.

Kimball, Neb., May 7.—(Special.)—Dr. Bailey, druggist of Bushnell, this county, was arrested Saturday on the charge of keeping intoxicants for sale and paid a fine of \$100 and costs in the county court. Twenty gallons of whisky and a case of port wine were found in an old ice house adjoining his store and several gallons of alcohol in the store. The liquor was destroyed upon order of the court.

A barrel of bottled beer which arrived at Kimball after May 1, was destroyed by Sheriff Forsching, upon order issued from the court Friday.

Only one pool hall license was issued by the village board this year, and that for but three months.

Clay County Teachers' Meet.

Clay Center, Neb., May 7.—(Special.)—The Clay County Teachers' association meeting was held at the county court room Saturday. County Superintendent Mabel E. Kirk presided and Miss Alice Florer of the state department of education was the speaker of the day. Problems that confront the rural teacher were discussed with an intimate relation to the work of Clay county. Miss Kirk had previously sent out a questionnaire, asking the teachers to report on what they had found to be the most difficult problem in their school this year. Miss Florer's talk was based upon the answers Miss Kirk received to her questionnaire.

The jury will hear the case of State of Nebraska against Leo Phillips on Tuesday and Wednesday. It is thought that this case will not take more than two days. Phillips is charged with shooting Mrs. Davies with murderous intent. It is probable that the case of Newberry against the Royal Highlanders will also be tried this week. This case involves the insurance of Mr. and Mrs. Brown. Brown shot his wife and then committed suicide several years ago.

The matter was settled with the heirs, but they have since brought suit for the difference between the amount paid them and the \$2,000 included in the two policies. The Potter divorce case will also be tried this week. The Potters live near Phillips.

Druggist Fined \$100; Booze Stock Destroyed

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Notes from Beatrice  
And Gage County

Beat