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# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER  
Fair

VOL. XLVI—NO. 294.

OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, MAY 28, 1917.

SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

## FIRE DESTROYS OMAHA ELEVATOR; 100 DEAD IN ILLINOIS STORM WAKE

### BIG MANEY GRAIN ELEVATOR BURNS; MAN SEEN RUNNING FROM THE MILL; GUARDS SUSPECT ALIEN ENEMIES

Plant Is Said to Have Been Milling Grain on Contract for United States Government; Loss Is Estimated at \$200,000, Fully Insured; Forty Thousand Persons Witness Spectacle.

Fanned by a strong north wind, fire completely destroyed the elevator and warehouse of the Maney Milling company at Twenty-seventh and Bancroft streets yesterday afternoon.

The fire started in a vacant room on the top floor of the seven-story structure and is supposed to have been of incendiary origin.

The mill did not burn. Seventy thousand bushels of wheat and corn were destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$200,000. Building and contents were fully insured.

Firemen and members of the Nebraska National Guard expressed the belief that the fire was started by alien enemies of the United States or through their agency.

For some time the mill has been furnishing the United States government with flour and it is asserted that it was at work on government contracts at this time.

A man was seen running from the building by Sergeant Franek, who was told that he was an electrician. Electricians did not see anyone leave the building after the fire was discovered. Undoubtedly an accomplice of the man leaving was used to give this information.

#### Guardsmen Protect Property.

Sergeant Franek of Company C, Nebraska National Guard, camped just south of the warehouse, discovered the fire and turned in the alarm at 2:18. The guards stationed there protect the property at night, but as there are workmen around during the day the sentries are relieved. When first seen the smoke was coming through the roof of the building. Then flames then burst through at the northwest corner and spread over the entire building.

Guards were immediately ordered out to protect neighboring buildings from the flying sparks. Sergeant Franek rushed upstairs, but the fire had made such headway that he could not reach the top.

The only men who were inside the building after 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon were electricians employed by the Omaha Electric Light and Power company. They were changing lines in that neighborhood.

They got the key from the fireman and at 9 o'clock started to work. None of these men had been above the first floor and said they smelled no smoke at that time. They had cut off the electric current to the building about 8:10 in the morning.

Save Railway Cars.

Switchmen who were working in the neighborhood rushed over as soon as the fire was discovered and moved all cars that were in the danger zone. The independent elevators, about fifty feet east of the warehouse, and the mill building, just north of the warehouse, were saved.

The buildings were built in 1909 and four months after their completion were totally destroyed by fire. They were rebuilt immediately and six months later the present warehouse, with a capacity of 250,000 bushels, was completed.

H. K. Schafer, the local manager, said: "I expect we will start rebuilding at once. We will build of reinforced concrete next time. We probably will."

(Continued on Page Two, Column Four.)

### Lightning Strikes Twice In Exactly Same Place

Fremont, Neb., May 27.—(Special Telegram.)—Lightning struck twice in the same place in Fremont within a year. During the thunderstorm Friday evening, the residence of J. Johnson was struck in exactly the same place that a bolt hit a year ago. The damage was slight. Rain amounting to 1.10 inches fell.

### The Weather

For Nebraska—Fair, warmer.  
Temperatures at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour	Temp.
5 a. m.	49
6 a. m.	48
7 a. m.	48
8 a. m.	49
9 a. m.	51
10 a. m.	52
11 a. m.	53
12 m.	55
1 p. m.	56
2 p. m.	56
3 p. m.	56
4 p. m.	56
5 p. m.	56
6 p. m.	56
7 p. m.	56
8 p. m.	56
9 p. m.	56
10 p. m.	56
11 p. m.	56
12 m.	56

Comparative Local Record:

1917	1916	1915	1914
Highest yesterday	81	82	81
Lowest yesterday	49	52	43
Mean temperature	54	52	48
Precipitation	.00	.00	.29

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal at Omaha yesterday:

Normal temperature	62
Deficiency for the day	6
Total deficiency since March 1	12
Excess since March 1	0
Normal precipitation	1.56 inch
Deficiency for the day	1.56 inch
Total rainfall since March 1	8.45 inches
Excess since March 1	6.89 inch
Deficiency for year, period, 1916	3.42 inch
Deficiency for year, period, 1915	2.52 inch
Reports from stations at 7 p. m.	
Station and State	Temp. High-Low
Omaha, Neb.	56-56
Lincoln, Neb.	56-56
St. Paul, Minn.	56-56
Chicago, Ill.	56-56
St. Louis, Mo.	56-56
Indianapolis, Ind.	56-56
Cincinnati, Ohio	56-56
Cleveland, Ohio	56-56
Pittsburgh, Pa.	56-56
Philadelphia, Pa.	56-56
New York, N. Y.	56-56
Boston, Mass.	56-56
Washington, D. C.	56-56
Harrisburg, Pa.	56-56
Richmond, Va.	56-56
Norfolk, Va.	56-56
Roanoke, Va.	56-56
Wilmington, N. C.	56-56
Charlotte, N. C.	56-56
Raleigh, N. C.	56-56
Greensboro, N. C.	56-56
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