

## WARSHIPS FIGHT BLAZE FANNED BY HIGH WIND; AMERICAN BOATS ON SEA

### DECLARE IT POSSIBLE THAT NEGRO SLEW TWO WOMEN AND LOST ALL MEMORY OF CRIME

Detectives Working on Mystery Satisfied That Smith's Nonchalance Is Due to Brain Disease; Dr. Foltz Says First Case on Record of Serious Crime Being Forgotten.

Omaha police are now working on the theory that Charles Smith, suspected murderer of Mrs. Christine Anderson and Mrs. C. L. Nethaway, is afflicted with amnesia, a disease of the brain, which made it possible for him to commit the crimes attributed to him, but left him a short while later unconscious of having done anything out of the ordinary.

This disease renders its victim capable of committing a crime of which he later has absolutely no recollection.

Police say that Smith is probably sincere in his insistent declarations of innocence, but that he is subject to this strange disease.

SAY HE IS GUILTY.

While he believes that he had nothing to do with the murders of Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Nethaway, according to the statement of detectives working on the case, circumstances clearly point to his guilt.

They declare that this is substantiated by the new light which has been thrown on the case in accounting for Smith's calm behavior on all occasions after his capture.

Dr. C. B. Foltz says that there are cases where persons have been known to perform some act or other and then completely forget about it, and even testify under oath that they did not do it.

"However, never to my knowledge has there been a case where a victim of amnesia has been known to commit cold-blooded murder," said Dr. Foltz.

Belief of detectives is positive now that Smith is the guilty man. They have received his criminal record in Kansas. In March, 1912, Smith was convicted of burglary and grand larceny and sentenced to Lansing prison, Hutchinson, Kan., for a term of from six to fifteen years. In November, 1916, he was released.

Inquest Monday. County Attorney Magney, ex-officio coroner, held an inquest on the murder of Mrs. C. L. Nethaway for this afternoon at 2 o'clock at the St. Paul and Northern Pacific building. Sheriff Clark and Police Chief Dunn announced they will be ready to submit all evidence in the case by that time. A coroner's jury viewed the body of Mrs. Nethaway Wednesday.

While both the police and Sheriff Clark's forces have been busy since Sunday "weaving" the proverbial "net of evidence around" Charles Smith, negro suspect, investigators of the murder horror are said to be preparing to spring a big surprise and some startling new evidence that will connect others with the crime.

Sheriff Clark said he and his men will leave no stone unturned to get to the bottom of the mystery, no matter whose toes are stepped on.

### Farmer Badly Hurt When Two Attack Him With Pitchforks

Sioux Falls, S. D., Aug. 30.—(Special.)—As the result of a fight as the culmination of a feud between Meade county ranchmen, George McFarland, an Elk Creek rancher, is in a serious condition, with a wound through the lungs made with a pitchfork, and Frank Devers, a neighboring rancher, and his son have been lodged in the county jail.

### The Weather

For Nebraska—Partly cloudy; cooler west and north portions.

Temperatures at Omaha Yesterday.	
5 a. m.	58
6 a. m.	58
7 a. m.	58
8 a. m.	62
9 a. m.	67
10 a. m.	70
11 a. m.	72
12 m.	76
1 p. m.	78
2 p. m.	78
3 p. m.	79
4 p. m.	79
5 p. m.	77
6 p. m.	75
7 p. m.	72
8 p. m.	71

  

Comparative Local Record.			
1917	1916	1915	1914
Highest yesterday	80	78	85
Lowest yesterday	50	44	49
Mean temperature	69	70	73
Precipitation	.00	T. 00	.00
Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal at Omaha since March 1, and compared with the last two years:			
Normal temperature	71		
Deficiency for the day	12		
Total deficiency since March 1	316		
Normal precipitation	.10		
Deficiency for the day	.10		
Total rainfall since March 1	1.19		
Deficiency since March 1	8.83		
Deficiency for one period, 1915 to 1916	10.38		
Excess for one period, 1916 to 1917	.36		

  

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.		
Station and State	Temp.	High-Low
Omaha, clear	78	50-80
Lincoln, clear	75	48-78
Denver, cloudy	84	56-86
Oklahoma City, clear	78	58-82
St. Louis, clear	72	54-80
Portland, clear	80	52-80
North Platte, cloudy	80	54-84
Omaha, clear	75	50-80
Public, clear	82	58-86
Rapid City, cloudy	84	58-86
Salt Lake City, clear	84	56-86
San Francisco, clear	74	56-80
Seattle, part cloudy	78	58-80
Sioux City, part cloudy	78	58-80
Valentine, clear	82	58-86

### KUGEL ASKS FOR INVESTIGATORS TO HELP POLICE

Asks for Special Officers to Combat Bootlegging, Notwithstanding Suit in District Court.

One of the first official acts of Superintendent Kugel, upon his return from a vacation, was to summon the city commissioners to his private office for an executive conference regarding the bootlegging situation in Omaha.

The commissioners agreed to stand by the superintendent in any reasonable manner used by investigators to get results. Special investigators will be employed, in a similar manner that Governor Neville sends his confidential men to various parts of the state, including Omaha.

No Details Concerning Plans.

Superintendent Kugel would not give any details regarding his plans. It is understood that these special investigators will work in the same manner used by investigators employed by Kugel in connection with the work of the morals squad.

### Dynamite to Aid Police To Take Payroll Bandits

Chicago, Aug. 30.—Police planned to dynamite a cottage on the north-west side late today after three detectives had been wounded in a fight with several men barricaded in the building, who were believed to be some of the bandits that figured in Tuesday's payroll robbery in which two men were killed and \$8,100 stolen. In today's fight the police attack was repulsed after fifty shots had been fired into the cottage.

### Kansas Corn Crop Looks Like Bumper, Says Mohler

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 30.—One hundred and ten million bushels of corn will be produced by Kansas this year, according to an estimate made public tonight by J. C. Mohler, secretary of agriculture. There are 9,207,000 acres planted to corn and the estimated yield here will be twelve bushels per acre. The year's estimated yield is 48,000,000 bushels in excess of the crop harvested in 1916.

### Mentioned With Funston for Distinguished Service in War



COLONEL F. A. GRANT  
Lafayette Avenue

### U. S. SHIPS ARE CONVOYED BY FIGHTING VESSELS ON THEIR TRIPS TO EUROPE

American Marine Sent to European Ports Under Protection of Warships, Is Information Given Out at Washington; How Navy Is Fighting the Menace of the German U-Boat.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Aug. 30.—American naval forces are convoying merchant craft across the Atlantic, it was disclosed officially today at the Navy department and examination of the records show that the loss of convoyed ships by submarines has averaged less than 1/2 of 1 per cent.

Details of the convoy system are withheld. It was stated, however, that American war vessels are regularly escorting fleets of British, French or other allied merchantmen across the protection being supplemented when the danger zone is reached by the destroyers and other patrol craft.

No Captures Reported.

No U-boat has been captured by the Americans. It is the best judgment of high officials, however, that

several have been sunk by Admiral Sims' destroyers and they are confident that the submarine menace will be substantially abated as the number of destroyers and other craft available for the work is increased.

Reports from London that the submarines are working now farther at sea than formerly, were confirmed by the Navy department. It may be that new boats of greater size and better sea-keeping qualities lend to this extension of the zone of activities, but it is regarded as more probable that the increasing vigilance of the anti-submarine forces is mainly responsible.

U-Boats Freed Under.

The effect of the increasing patrol, of the employment of airplanes and of the addition of new devices to the anti-submarine weapons has been to force the U-boats under water to a greater degree. Their effectiveness is limited in proportion. They cannot run down a merchant ship of average speed if kept under water. They can operate only against ships that almost stumble upon them. And all the time they are under water they are consuming the stored power of their storage batteries, decreasing their range of underwater action and compelling them to come up at night and idle on the surface while their oil

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### FIRST FIVE PER CENT STATE ARMY SOON OFF TO WAR

Governor Issues Definitive Instructions for Entrainment of Men From Several State Concentration Points.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

Lincoln, Aug. 30.—(Special Telegram.)—Governor Neville has issued instructions for the transportation of the first five per cent of drafted men to Fort Riley, there being five concentration points—Omaha, Valley, Lincoln, Beatrice and Blue Springs. The special train will go over the Union Pacific, leaving Omaha at 3 p. m. September 6, Valley at 3:30, Lincoln at 9, Beatrice at 10:45 and Blue Springs at 11:45, arriving at Fort Riley at 5 in the morning September 7.

Men from Burt, Cedar, Dixon, Thurston, Wayne and Sarpy counties will go to Omaha, from Boone, Valley, Madison and Nance to Colfax, while those from the rest of the state will gather mostly at Lincoln, except in the western part, from whence they will go to Beatrice and Blue Springs.

Send Experienced Men.

In his instructions to the chairman of county exemption boards the governor endeavors to impress upon them the importance of having the first five per cent composed of men who have had some previous military experience if possible, or who have had experience as cooks.

Each man must be supplied with a personal identification card and a baggage identification card, which will be countersigned by the chairman or secretary of the local exemption board. These cards will be furnished from this office.

Each man should be provided with a sufficient number of meal tickets to last from the time he leaves his home station until he arrives at the concentration point.

(Continued on Page Two, Column Two.)

### OMAHA BOYS IN AMBULANCE UNIT WILL GO TO FRONT

Governor Releases Them From Guard and U. S. Soon Will Send the Company to Camp Dodge.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

Washington Bureau, The Omaha Bee, 725 14th St., N. W.

Washington, Aug. 30.—(Special Telegram.)—The Omaha Ambulance company will be sent to Camp Dodge within a few days, according to a statement made by Gould-Dietz today. The hitch in the acceptance of the company as a unit of the national guard has grown out of a misconception of its muster. Officials of the regular army in charge of Red Cross work insisted that as long as the Omaha company was a part of the National Guard it could not be broken over by the regular establishment. This situation was communicated to Governor Neville and the adjutant general of Nebraska.

### Wheat Price Fixing Committee Agrees; No. 1 Northern \$2.20

Washington, Aug. 30.—The basic wheat price has been fixed at \$2.20 at Chicago on No. 1 northern spring.

Washington, Aug. 30.—The wheat price committee late today agreed upon a price for the 1917 crop of No. 1 spring northern wheat and asked for an engagement with the president to submit a report.

### Married Second Time So Parents May Be Witnesses to Ceremony

One young Omaha couple is married fast and firm, for their nuptial knot has been tied not once, but twice, within the last six months. Miss Carrie Whitehill and Mr. Roy J. Mitchell were secretly married in a small town "somewhere in Iowa" last March. A short time ago they decided to share the secret with their parents and a few friends. When the story was told Miss Whitehill's parents demanded satisfaction, that is they asked to be witnesses at the ceremony. That is why Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell were reunited in marriage, although they had never been separated, last Saturday morning at the Douglas county court house. Mr. and Mrs. M. I. Whitehill, 2611 Cass street, the bride's parents, were witnesses at the ceremony.

### City Appropriates Fund For Ak-Sar-Ben Lights

The city council approved an appropriation of \$3,500 for decorative street lighting in connection with the Ak-Sar-Ben fall festivities.

### Gen. Ruckman in Command Of Southern Department

San Antonio, Tex., Aug. 30.—Major General John W. Ruckman arrived in San Antonio this morning and at once took up his duties as commander of the southern department, succeeding General James Parker.

### Ask \$915,000,000 More for Ship Building Program

Washington, Aug. 30.—Another \$915,000,000 for the shipping board's building program was asked today of congress. It would be used for purchase and commissioning of materials and plants and ship construction.

### Record Time Made in Ball Game at Oklahoma City

McAlester, Okl., Aug. 30.—McAlester and Ardmore, leaders and tail ends, respectively, of the Western association today played a nine-inning championship game in thirty-six minutes. The players raced from the bench to the field between innings and the pitchers worked as rapidly as they could and retain control. In most innings the batters went out in order. McAlester won 2 to 0.

### Wife of Montana Senator Dies in Baltimore Hospital

Washington, Aug. 30.—Mrs. Thomas J. Walsh, wife of the senator from Montana, died in a hospital in Baltimore early today. Mrs. Walsh had been in ill health for several months. The body will be taken to her home in Helena, Mont., where the funeral will be held. Mrs. Walsh during the last election was head of a woman's organization working for President Wilson's re-election.

### WAR BREAD WILL NOT BE EATEN IN U.S., SAYS ABBOTT

Member of Hoover's Committee Tells Nebraska Millers What Will Be Required Under Federal Regulations.

"War bread is recognized as an economic fallacy and is neither necessary nor advisable," said Chauncey Abbott, jr., the Schuyler and Omaha miller, who is one of the eighteen men of the United States appointed on a millers' committee by Food Administrator Hoover.

Mr. Abbott was in Omaha yesterday meeting with forty millers of the state at the Commercial club.

Mr. Abbott says it is known to Mr. Hoover, who himself administered the war relief for the Belgians, that war bread, which contains a large percentage of ground bran, is bad for children and old people. It proved so in Belgium, Mr. Abbott said.

"Bran is great feed for a cow," he continued, "but it seems it is not for our stomachs."

These comments Mr. Abbott made when asked what is the prospect for war bread in America.

Tells of Regulations.

At the meeting with the millers at the Commercial club Mr. Abbott, as the federal representative, read to the millers of the state the federal regulations as the food administration has fixed them, and endeavored to explain their meaning in detail.

"These rules are absolutely mandatory," he said, "if a miller doesn't like them, he has no recourse. He would be foolish to try to buck the administration. The millers, however, have the greatest confidence in Mr. Hoover and the food administration. Mr. Hoover is unquestionably a big man and has a wonderful grasp of the food situation."

Mr. Abbott explained that the government regulation on the milling industry is to apply only to mills of 100 barrels or more capacity per day. He explained that these millers are to be limited to a profit of 25 cents per barrel on the manufacture of flour, or about 64 cents on the standard bag of forty-eight pounds.

Will Be Plenty of Wheat.

He explained also that flour is to be sold subject to delivery within thirty days of the date of sale. It is to be sold for delivery later than thirty days ahead of the sale. At the same time, he said, no miller coming within the regulation shall be permitted to have more than a thirty-day supply of wheat on hand. This is to aid in preventing the hoarding of wheat.

"I am confident," said Mr. Abbott, "that there is going to be plenty of wheat if we are a little more economical in the use of it than we have been. In spite of the fact that the year's crop is short there will be wheat enough for ourselves and the allies, if we use judgment."

Mr. Abbott is vice president of the Wells-Abbott-Niemann mill at Schuyler, the largest in the state, and also vice president of the Omaha Roller Mills company, soon to begin operations in Omaha on a larger scale than any other mill in the city.

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### FIRE WHICH DESTROYS BIG LUMBER YARD THREATENS THE WHOLESALE DISTRICT

Cady Company's Plant at Foot of Harney Street Burns With Loss of \$125,000; Several Firemen Injured in Spectacular Afternoon Blaze.

Fire which originated in the sawmill of the plant partially destroyed the Cady Lumber company yards at the foot of Harney street Thursday afternoon. The loss was estimated at \$125,000. The fire was discovered about 2:15 o'clock by Charles Nelson, an employe, who was working in an adjoining building.

### FIRST ISSUE OF BONDS VOTED BY THE LAND BANK

Officials Turn Over Half Million Dollars in Securities to Merton L. Corey, Registrar, Representing Government.

The first bond issue of the Federal Land bank of Omaha was voted yesterday at a meeting of the board of directors in the offices on the Twelfth floor of the Woodmen of the World building. This issue is for \$500,000.

President D. P. Hogan, Treasurer E. D. Morcom and Secretary Frank G. Odell have turned over to Merton L. Corey, registrar, acting as trustee for the federal government, \$500,000 in securities as required by law as a basis for the issue.

The registrar's department has transmitted these securities to the Federal Farm Loan board at Washington for approval. The bonds will be issued in a few days and the subscribers to the issue supplied.

From All Classes.

The subscriptions now aggregate about \$450,000 and come from all classes of investors, including individuals, banks and insurance companies. The Omaha banks have subscribed for \$100,000 and have agreed that in case individual subscribers exhaust the first issue, they will take their bonds from succeeding issues. This will enable the Federal Land bank to supply additional investors who advise the officers that they wish to participate in this investment.

The bonds will be issued in denominations of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. The interest rate is 4 1/2 per cent, payable semi-annually. By special enactment of the legislature of Nebraska, insurance companies are permitted to invest of their capital and surplus in these bonds. The legislature has also authorized the investment of school funds. The bonds are exempt from all taxes except inheritance taxes.

### Final Payment Of Liberty Loan To U. S. Treasury

Washington, Aug. 30.—Nearly \$400,000,000 was paid into the treasury today in the final installment of the Liberty loan. Approximately \$1,615,000,000 already has been paid in, representing principal and interest on the Liberty bonds.

### Navy League Apologizes For Attack on Daniels

Washington, Aug. 30.—In a statement today the Navy league announced its acceptance of the report of the Naval board on the Mare Island explosion and expresses regret that in a former statement it gave currency to an opinion that the investigation was being hampered by the Navy department under the influence of powerful labor interests. The former statement led to the bitter controversy between the league and Secretary Daniels.

### Turk Commander Explains Expatriation of Jews

Amsterdam, Aug. 30.—Djemal Pasha, commander of the Turkish forces in Syria, has given German newspaper men his version of the removal of the inhabitants of the Jaffa district. He said 40,000 of these people had been sent temporarily inland, mainly to Haifa and Nazareth. Among them were 5,000 Jews, who in the last few years emigrated to Jaffa.

### Every Man's Home Is His Castle

But it is difficult to imagine yourself in a castle when you are paying rent. Many excellent bargains in homes are offered on today's Want-Ad page.

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MR. AND MRS. R. J. MITCHELL.