

MISSOURI PACIFIC FREIGHT OFFICES DESTROYED BY FIRE; TELEPHONE GIRL IS HEROINE

Miss Bertha Statz, Night Switchboard Operator, Sticks to Post and Sends in Alarm; Rescued by Clerk After Being Overcome By Smoke; Loss on Building is \$100,000.

Fire destroyed the Missouri Pacific freight offices at Fifteenth and Nicholas streets Friday morning with a loss of \$100,000.

The blaze threatened the Nicholas street viaduct, the freight houses, Ford Motor company branch and hundreds of cars in the railroad yards.

FLEE FOR LIVES.

Three men made their escape in night garments from a burning way car.

Miss Bertha Statz, night telephone operator in the freight offices, was trapped on the third floor of the doomed building. She stuck to her post, turned in the alarm and was rescued by Al Peterson, clerk, after she had been overcome by smoke.

Peterson carried her through smoke and flames to safety.

Six cans of gasoline stored in a freight car exploded and scattered firebrands to other cars.

Seven freight cars, containing clothing and machinery consigned to the government, were destroyed.

After the explosion of the gasoline, firemen confined their efforts to saving the Nicholas street viaduct and the freight depot and let the office building burn.

No Dynamite Cars.

Employees in the freight house and switching crews assisted firemen in saving other property. Freight cars were switched out of the danger zone after a report had been circulated that a large quantity of dynamite was in the railroad yards.

M. L. Loftis, Missouri Pacific freight agent, branded as false a published story in a newspaper that several cars of dynamite were in the path of the flames. He said there were no explosives in the railroad yards.

The first fire alarm, turned in at 5:45 o'clock by Miss Statz, was followed by two others. All fire apparatus in the city and both day and night shifts of firemen were on the scene when the blaze was at its height.

Street car service and telephone service in the fire district were discontinued for some time.

When the fire broke out W. W. Webster, L. R. Jacobs and E. Baker were asleep in a way car on a track 100 feet from the office building. They were awakened by the intense heat. The men fled in scanty attire, leaving their clothing and personal effects behind.

Freight records and all papers in the office building were lost. Confusion in the settlement of claims will result, railroad officials said.

Mr. Loftis lost \$400 worth of personal effects, including a wedding present, recent gift from Missouri Pacific employees.

Harley Has Sold Harley Hotel to H. J. Plumb

Harley Conant has sold the Harley hotel, Twentieth and Farnam streets, to Henry J. Plumb, formerly an Omaha hotel man, but more recently a ranchman. The price was \$15,000. Mr. Plumb will take possession January 1.

The Harley hotel is a three-story structure of 100 rooms. The original building was known as the Bachelors' hotel, but was later added to and remodeled by Mr. Conant and renamed the Harley about three years ago.

Mr. Plumb, the new owner, opened and ran the Chait hotel in Omaha about twelve years ago. He ran this until about three years ago, when he went on a large ranch. He has decided to come back to Omaha and engage in the hotel business.

FILE COMPLAINTS FOR VIOLATION OF DRY LAWS

Four Additional Suits Asking Injunctions Filed by State and City Prosecutor, Charging Bootlegging.

Four more bootlegging injunction suits have been filed by Assistant Attorney General Munger and Special Prosecutor, McGuire against Omaha resorts where it is alleged intoxicating liquors have been on sale in violation of the prohibition law.

Stella Marquette, alias Mrs. A. L. Smith, and Julius Trietschke are named as defendants in the suit against the Stella Marquette rooming house, 420-22 North Thirteenth street.

Patrick Manning, as owner of the Des Moines hotel, 501 South Thirteenth street, Emil Leal, Harry Gasparri, Sam Nauman and Julius Trietschke are named in the second suit as violators of the law.

The Big Four saloon, Ninth and Douglas streets, is spotted in the third petition, and the Vogel Investment company, owners, Carl Grace, James Ryan and Pat McConnell, lessees and occupants, are named as defendants.

The fourth petition designates the London hotel, 523 North Fifteenth street, and names Abraham Rosenberg as owner, Della Boyd, keeper, James Bennet and Charles Belangi, clerk and manager.

To Curtail Omaha-Chicago Passenger Train Service

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Immediate curtailment of the luxurious passenger service equipment was among the first steps taken today by some of the railroads with headquarters in Chicago when the government came into control of the nation's rail system.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul announced that it would eliminate both observation and buffet-smoking cars from its trains. The change will be made between Chicago, Milwaukee and Minneapolis at once and on the lines to Kansas City and Omaha next week. Officials said the discontinuance of this heavy equipment will result in a considerable saving of fuel.

Many Bricklayers Are Ready to Cross the Pond

Chairman C. C. Redwood of exemption division No. 3, did a land office business Thursday afternoon. Some war had passed around the news that Uncle Sam would pay \$9 a day for bricklayers to go to France. All bricklayers desirous of serving their country were directed to Mr. Redwood—and they followed directions. Men of all ages, sizes and colors applied in great numbers. Some of them had their suit cases with them and were ready to set sail instantly for "somewhere in France." Great was their disappointment when they learned that Uncle Sam did not contemplate paying such munificent wages, and that only 35 bricklayers were to be selected from the whole state.

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Allan Tukey Tells of Life in the Trenches

Lieutenant Allan Tukey, son of A. P. Tukey of Omaha, is now conducting a school for noncommissioned officers in France and censoring mail between times. This is among the information contained in his latest letter to the home folks.

He is with the Twenty-sixth infantry, and attached to a machine gun section. He spent one week in the British trenches and saw some action there. He tells of going into the dugouts when the German shell fire became heavy, and says, "When one is in the dugouts the explosion of the shells is not loud, but rather weird."

Few Registrants Appear When Mercury Goes to Zero

Sub-zero weather put a crimp in the ambition of registrants Friday. Usually at 9 o'clock the main floor of the court house would be overrun by a small army of registrants waiting for members of the legal advisory board to get ready for business, but

many chairs were vacant. "Quite a change," commented Chairman Foster, "but they will come to straggle in after a while and within a couple of hours there'll be 200 here."

The legal luminaries were also late in arriving, and many varied were the excuses offered by the different ones.

The January Clearance Orkin Bros' Double Clearance Sale The Removal Sale

Two Great Buying Events Rolled Into One

It is More Than Likely That Saturday Will Usher in the Most Spirited Selling of Women's Garments Ever Witnessed Between These Walls. At any Rate There is MATERIAL Here to Bring About Such a Result. There's a garment here for you--will you be here?

They say that "necessity is the mother of invention." Well, then, here's a case of "necessity" and the "Double Clearance" is the invention. The invention was made necessary because Orkin Brothers must soon MOVE into newer quarters in the Wolf-Hiller-Conant Hotel building now in the course of erection at 16th and Harney streets. The feminine public of Omaha would distrust every future move of Orkin Brothers if a single garment of the present stock were to be removed to the newer quarters—therefore there will be NO garments moved over.



Be calm now that you are in the season of garment sales. Take your time. Look around. Compare carefully. Don't judge a bargain to be a bargain until you've gone beneath the very surface of the fabrics, until you have examined every thread of the workmanship; until you have carefully gone over the various priced garments offered you here and there. Give the matter so thorough a test and you will end up by purchasing a HALF DOZEN pieces of attire at Orkin Brothers' "Double Clearance" Sale. This is a sale of absolute REALITY.

All Skirts Must Go!

- LADIES' SKIRTS, formerly \$5.75 to \$7.50, in "Double Clearance," at \$3.95
- LADIES' SKIRTS, formerly \$10.00 to \$12.50, in "Double Clearance," at \$6.95
- LADIES' SKIRTS, formerly \$8.50 to \$9.50, in "Double Clearance," at \$5.95
- LADIES' SKIRTS, formerly \$13.50 to \$15.00, in "Double Clearance," at \$8.95

Coats Snappiest Things in Cloth, Plush or Velvet In the "Double Clearance"

- WINTER COATS, formerly \$25.00, are in "Double Clearance" Sale, at \$13.50
- WINTER COATS, formerly \$29.50 and \$35.00, in "Double Clearance," at \$17.50
- WINTER COATS, formerly \$45.00 and \$49.50, in "Double Clearance," at \$27.50
- WINTER COATS, formerly \$55.00 and \$59.50, in "Double Clearance," at \$32.50
- WINTER COATS, formerly \$65.00 and \$75.00, in "Double Clearance," at \$38.50
- WINTER COATS, formerly \$79.50 and \$85.00, in "Double Clearance," at \$42.50
- PLUSH COATS, formerly \$29.50, are in "Double Clearance" Sale, at \$19.50
- PLUSH COATS, formerly \$35.00, are in "Double Clearance" sale, at \$23.50
- PLUSH COATS, formerly \$45.00, are in "Double Clearance" Sale, at \$28.50
- PLUSH COATS, formerly \$55.00, are in "Double Clearance" Sale, at \$32.50
- PLUSH AND VELVET COATS, formerly \$65.00, in "Double Clearance," at \$36.50
- PLUSH AND VELVET COATS, formerly \$75.00, in "Double Clearance," at \$44.50

Suits and Dresses Priced Irresistibly in This "Double Clearance" Sale

- LADIES' SUITS, formerly \$25.00 and \$29.50, in "Double Clearance" .. \$14.75
- LADIES' SUITS, formerly \$32.50 and \$35.00, in "Double Clearance" .. \$16.75
- LADIES' SUITS, formerly \$39.50 and \$45.00, in "Double Clearance" .. \$21.75
- LADIES' SUITS, formerly \$45.00 and \$49.50, in "Double Clearance" .. \$24.75
- LADIES' SUITS, formerly \$55.00 and \$59.50, in "Double Clearance" .. \$28.75
- DRESSES — Formerly \$19.50 to \$25.00, in "Double Clearance," at \$9.95
- DRESSES — Formerly \$25.00 to \$35.00, in "Double Clearance" .. \$14.95
- DRESSES — Formerly \$35.00 to \$39.50, in "Double Clearance" .. \$19.95
- DRESSES — Formerly \$39.50 to \$45.00, in "Double Clearance" .. \$24.95

Women who have put off garment buying until now, are indeed fortunate, for Saturday at this store will bring forth the very greatest values of the "Double Clearance."

Blouses--All Are Included in the "Double Clearance"

The "Double Clearance" includes all of those tony things in Georgettes, Crepe de Chines, Satins and Voiles, many being embroidered, others in beaded effects. The assortment, too, includes all sizes from 34 to 58.

- LADIES' BLOUSES—Former \$3.50 kinds in "Double Clearance," at \$1.68
- LADIES' BLOUSES—Worth \$2.50, in "Double Clearance," sale price, at \$1.38
- LADIES' BLOUSES—Former \$4.50 kinds in "Double Clearance" at \$2.68
- LADIES' BLOUSES—Former \$6.50 kinds in "Double Clearance," at \$3.88
- LADIES' BLOUSES—Former \$7.50 kinds in "Double Clearance," at \$4.88
- LADIES' BLOUSES—Former \$10 kinds in "Double Clearance," at \$5.88

All Furs Priced to Sell Immediately

- MUFFS—Black Coney, \$6.50 kinds, go now at... \$1.95
- MUFFS—Natural and black Opossum kinds, \$12.50 values, now... \$5.95
- MUFFS—Brook Mink and Musk Rat, \$15.00 kinds, \$8.95
- MUFFS—Raccoon and Fox, \$22.50 kinds, at... \$11.95
- MUFFS—Black Fox, Wolf, Hudson Seal, Beaver and Red Fox kinds, worth \$32.50, go at... \$14.95
- MUFFS—Black Fox, Linx, Hudson Seal and Kolinsky kinds, \$35 and \$39.50 values, go at... \$18.95
- FUR SCARFS—Raccoon, Opossum or Silver Fox Scarfs, in \$25.00 grades, at... \$11.95
- FUR SCARFS—Red Fox Scarfs in \$25 grades, at... \$12.95



It's Your "Now or Never" Fur Chance

- FUR SCARFS—Fox and Linx Scarfs, in black or brown, \$35.00 values, at... \$18.95
- FUR SCARFS—Linx or Fox, in Black, Brown or Taupe, in \$39.50 grades, at... \$24.95
- FUR SCARFS—Fox or Linx, in Black, Brown or Taupe, in \$45 grades, at... \$31.95
- FUR SETS—Silver Fox, Gray Wolf and Raccoon sets, in \$29.50 values, now at... \$17.95
- FUR SETS—Red Fox Sets, in \$39.50 grades, at... \$24.95
- FUR SETS—Red Fox and Cross Fox Sets, in \$45.00 values, on sale... \$31.95
- FUR SETS—Black Fox sets, \$50 values, at... \$34.95
- FUR SETS—Black, Brown and Taupe Fox and Linx sets, \$65 values, at... \$44.95

This Is the Sale That Has a Definite Reason to Back It!
ORKIN BROS., 1519 Douglas Street
 Please Note That This Firm Is On the South Side of the Street

FAMOUS FOREMOST

A famous star is famous, but a Paramount or Arcraft star is foremost.

TRADE MARK

 Pictures

TRADE MARK

 PICTURES

(That's why these trade-marks are displayed by the best theatres.)

FAMOUS PLAYERS—LASKY CORPORATION
 15th & Douglas

FIRST PRESENTATIONS IN OMAHA AT THE **Strand** 15th & Douglas