

Brief City News

Have Root Print... For Everything Electrical... J. P. Palmer has moved his law office to 532 Bee building... Fire Damages Office—Fire Monday noon did slight damage to an office in the Omaha National bank building... Elks to Grand Island—Thirty-five Omaha Elks will participate in the dedication of an Elks lodge building at Grand Island Tuesday... Y. M. H. A. to Meet—Young Men's Hebrew association will hold its monthly meeting at its rooms in the Paxton building next Wednesday night... Ulmer Found Pavements—Harry Ulmer, who has been regulating the downtown automobile parking, will start on a beat Tuesday... Fire Damages Home—Fire Monday afternoon damaged the home of Edward Mohr, 2417 Capitol avenue, to the extent of \$200... Joint Installation—Lee Forby camp No. 1, W. S. W. V., and Henry W. Lawton auxiliary No. 1, will hold joint installation of officers in the Ancient Order of United Workmen hall, Fourteenth and Dodge streets, Wednesday evening, January 2... State Bank at Omaha, corner Sixteenth and Harney streets, pays 4 percent on time deposits... Edmonds Here Wednesday—T. P. Edmonds, civilian relief director for the Red Cross Central division will be in Omaha Wednesday... Cathedral Chorists to Meet—The chorists of St. Cecilia's cathedral, senior division, will meet at their regular rehearsal auditorium Wednesday evening, January 2, at 8... Boy Scouts Collect Old Books for the U. S. Soldiers... All Enlisted Men Summoned Into Service by the Army... Joe Bumber Sentenced to One Year for Selling Beer... Lewis Wiggins Commends Omaha Red Cross Record... Obituary... Four Public High Schools Will Reopen for Work Today

COUNCIL DECIDES BUDGET THURSDAY

Commissioners to Apportion Funds Among the Various Departments After Trimming Them All.

City commissioners will sit on Thursday as a budget board to apportion a general fund of \$1,750,000 among the various municipal departments. Total of the amounts wanted by the departments exceeds the general fund, wherefore arises the annual ordeal of trimming down to meet the available funds. A recent amendment to the city charter removed maximum funds for the police, fire and a few other departments. Superintendent Kugel wants \$278,500 for 1918, as against \$249,000 for 1917. Patrolmen and detectives will receive increases of pay beginning January 1. Superintendent Withnell of the fire department will receive \$413,110 and if his men are given a \$10 raise instead of \$5 he will ask for \$430,000 for the year. It is practically assured that the police and fire departments will be allowed more than \$700,000. Heads of departments in the city hall are asking for increases for many of their employes, the amounts ranging from \$10 to \$25 a month. There has been some discussion on the subject of abandoning or reducing some of the boards, but this has not yet been formally brought up. The general fund for 1918 is \$250,000 more than 1917 and it is said it will be absorbed by increases of salary, wages and cost of materials.

Godfrey Tells of Traffic Congestion in the East

T. F. Godfrey, general agent of the passenger department of the Missouri Pacific, has returned from Philadelphia, where he went to spend Christmas with his son, Dr. Godfrey. Mr. Godfrey asserts that when it comes to traffic congestion people of the central west know nothing about the conditions with which the railroads have to contend. According to Mr. Godfrey, at all the eastern terminals and on the sidings in the towns there are miles of loaded freight cars. The major portion of them are loaded with goods and supplies for overseas trade and consumption.

Hall County Restaurants Observe All "Less" Days

Restaurants, hotels and boarding houses of Hall county are observing meatless and wheatless days every week, according to Mrs. C. G. Ryan, county food administrator of that county, who has written to State Food Administrator Wattles. C. G. Bliss, county food administrator of Buffalo county, has written from Elm Creek that he has arranged with the county superintendent of public instruction a co-operative program of education to be held in the schools of the county. Meetings will be held in all the school houses of the county at stated times.

Well Known City Planner Dies in Rochester, N. Y.

Charles Mulford Robinson of Rochester, N. Y., died Sunday. He was well known as a city planner and was connected with the Omaha City Planning commission for two years in an advisory capacity. During his last visit here he conferred with the planning commission in connection with plans for the proposed widening of Twenty-fourth street.

Omaha Police Detectives Get Increase in Salary

Twenty-eight police detectives will receive an increase of pay from \$110 to \$125 per month, beginning Tuesday. Judge Day of the district court ruled that the city council may legally grant this increase. These detectives will hereafter be known as detective sergeants and their pay will be the same as the regular sergeants of the police department.

HYMENEAL Welty-Jones.

The marriage of Harry L. Welty and Jane E. Jones was solemnized yesterday at 3 p. m. at the Central United Presbyterian church, Rev. B. R. Vanderlippe officiated. The bride is matron of the School for the Deaf and the groom is a teacher in the same institution.

Seaman Crump, Halifax Survivor, Visits in Omaha

A. Crump, a seaman of the British navy, who is on extended shore leave, is visiting old friends in Omaha. Crump was aboard H. M. S. Niobe, which was anchored in the Halifax harbor during the horrible disaster caused by the explosion of the cargo of the Mont Blanc. In telling of the catastrophe Crump says that he was below decks when the explosion occurred and attributes that to the fact that he is alive and well today. The force of the explosion, he says, lifted the Niobe clear out of the water and just as it dropped back, a huge tidal wave struck it with such force that it threatened to capsize the ship. Nearly all the crew was killed, and 15 were wounded. Not a man who was standing on the deck escaped. Crump tells of the rescue work, and of the horrible scenes in the harbor. He praises the work of the crew of the United States hospital ship, Old Colony, which was in the harbor at the time of the explosion. The Niobe was immediately turned into a hospital ship and those who escaped injury were assigned to rescue work.

Grain in Storage Continues To Decrease in Quantity

Quantity of grain in storage in Omaha has continued to decrease until it has reached 2,080,000 bushels, less than on the corresponding date of the year ago, according to the report of the inspection department of the Omaha Grain exchange. It is said that the falling off is in a measure due to the fact that now grain quickly passes through the elevators, whereas a year ago it was being held for higher prices. The figures in bushels now and one year ago:

Close Political Balance in Lower House of Congress

Washington, Jan. 1.—How close the political balance in the house will be when congress reconvenes on January 3 is shown by this summary made by South Trimble, clerk of the house: Total membership, 435; democrats, 211; republicans, 209; independent group, six; vacancies, nine. The vacancies are by resignations of Representatives Fitzgerald, Griffin and Bruckner of New York; and Adamson of Georgia; deaths of Representatives Bathrick of Ohio and Martin, Illinois; and absences on army service of Representatives Johnson, South Dakota; Laguardia, New York; and Heintz, Ohio.

State Red Cross Headquarters Moved to the Wead Building

State Red Cross headquarters have been moved from the court house to the Wead building on Eighteenth and Farnam, second floor. Omaha chapter's work has expanded to the extent that the whole room in the court house is needed. Frank W. Judson and Mrs. Z. T. Lindsey, director and assistant director for state work, will henceforth be located in the Wead building. Gould Dietz and the Omaha chapter heads remain in the court house.

J. Phillip Bird Cancels Engagement in Omaha

J. Phillip Bird, general manager of the National Association of Manufacturers, had to cancel his engagement to speak at the Commercial club of Omaha Thursday of this week. He was to speak at a public affairs luncheon at the club, on "The Relation of Industry to War." Commercial club received a telegram from his secretary saying that unavoidable and unforeseen circumstances had arisen which made it absolutely impossible for him to be here.

Fire Alarms for Year Just Two Less Than 2,000

When Chief Salter of the fire department closed his desk at noon, and went home to get a slice of pie and cup of coffee, he noted that the total fires for the year up to the hour was 1,998. "Only two more to make it 2,000," he remarked to Clerk Haverstock. "I'll bet we will have two more before the day is over," suggested Assistant Chief Dineen. Fifty-eight alarms were sent in during a three-day period ended Saturday night.

The Bee Want Ads Are Business Boosters.

BUSY YEAR FOR THE OMAHA RAIL LINES

Properties Kept in Good Condition, But No Attempt Made to Enter Into New Fields.

Omaha roads, those operating in and out of the city, were crowded with business all last year, both freight and passenger, and it is asserted that they closed their books with large balances on the right side of the ledgers. While they all had the freight car shortage to contend with, they kept the shipments on the move, and, consequently, were in better condition to combat the congestion of traffic than were the lines farther east. The volume of business incident to the war was enormous, and at times the Omaha lines were taxed to capacity. Similar conditions maintain with the beginning of the new year, but relief is anticipated as the outcome of the government assuming control over the properties. While all the Omaha lines had all the business they could handle and were piling up dollars, the amount of money expended for improvements and extensions of lines was the least in years. The war had to do with this and officials contend that in the matter of betterments, money was spent only where it was necessary to keep the properties up to the highest standard of efficiency. The Union Pacific probably spent more money in and around Omaha than any of the other lines. During the year it completed the \$1,000,000 steel bridge over the Missouri river. At a cost of \$775,000 it erected a brick power house, a brick machine shop and an airbrake and hose shop on the Omaha shop grounds. Five miles of siding was laid in the Council Bluffs yards and five and one-half miles on this side of the river. It added 85 engines to its motive power and 3,034 cars of various kinds to its equipment. The total sum expended along the lines of the system on new work and betterments aggregated \$10,000,000, with \$9,700,000 more for miscellaneous work and equipment. In Omaha territory, during the year the Burlington expended \$538,000. This included the work on the Chalco cut-off, the Ashland-Sioux City line, the second track between Ashland and Greenwood, the Gibson-Omaha and South Omaha second track, the Gibson terminals, the Omaha industry track, the Omaha ice house, addition to the Omaha freight house, automatic signals and fuel and water stations. The Missouri Pacific started the elevation of the Belt line tracks during the year and has the work pretty well along, most of the grading done and the overhead crossings partially completed. New trackage was laid in the Omaha yards and in Ralston. It is estimated that money expended has aggregated close to \$750,000. Other roads made minor improvements, but made no attempt to erect new buildings, or to go into construction.

Peace Is Gift Cardinal Gibbons Asks of New Year

Baltimore, Jan. 1.—Cardinal Gibbons today issued a brief sentiment for the New Year to the American people as follows: "For the American public, I pray for a year of peace and prosperity. I trust that the New Year will soon see the advent of a permanent and solid peace through the world."

Navy Recruiting Records Broken for This District

The record of 1916 with 211 recruits for the navy through the Omaha station has been "shot all to pieces" by the phenomenal record of 1917, even though allowances are made for the fact that the nation is now in a state of war. During the last half of the year 1,500 recruits qualified for the navy. This, of course, includes the big drive during the fore part of December. According to Ensign Condict, in charge of the local recruiting station, 6,000 applicants applied, but only one out of four was enlisted on account of the rigid physical tests. This is a big average, he says, and is due to the fact that he had the pick of the best young men of three states—Nebraska, South Dakota and the greater portion of Iowa, which territory comes within the jurisdiction of the Omaha station.

Records Show 525 Probate Cases Filed in County Court

Records in the office of George Kennedy, clerk of the county court, show 180 county court civil cases filed during the year 1917 and 331 cases filed on the "justice" docket of the county court. Last year 323 justice court cases were filed and 191 county court cases. The probate records show 525 estate cases filed and 134 applications for guardianships. There were 64 adoption cases this year and 65 last year.

Heavens in January

By WILLIAM F. RIGGE. On the first at 10 a. m. the earth is in peril, that is, nearest the sun, 91,344,000 miles away. On July 5 it will be in aphelion, farthest away, 94,452,000 miles, the average distance being 92,897,000 miles. Days are slowly increasing in length, from nine hours 10 minutes on the first and nine hours 28 minutes on the 31st, so that the gain during the whole month is only 48 minutes. On the 3d we have the latest time of sunrise, 7:54. The sun is from three to 10 minutes slow during the month according to sundial time, but from 27 to 37 minutes slow on central time. On the 21st the sun enters Aquarius. We have three bright evening stars this month. Venus in the southeast attains its greatest brilliancy on the 4th, being then 145 times as bright as a standard first magnitude star. It sets on the 15th at 8:25. Jupiter on that day crosses the meridian at 8:45 p. m., high up in the sky. And Saturn becomes technically an evening star on the 31st, rising then in the east-northeast at sunset. Jupiter is 19 times, and Saturn only two and one-half times as bright as a standard star of the first magnitude, such as Aldebaran and Altair. Mars is morning star, rising on the 15th at 10:45 p. m. The moon is in conjunction with Mars on the 4th and 31st, with Venus on the 14th, with Jupiter on the 21st, and with Saturn on the 27th.

Table with columns: SUN, MOON, Rise/Noon/Set, 1918, Rise/Noon/Set, 1917. Includes data for various dates in January.

American Exports of 1917 Pass \$6,000,000,000 Mark

Washington, Jan. 1.—America's exports were estimated today at the Department of Commerce to have passed the \$6,000,000,000 mark in 1917, a new high record. Imports were less than \$3,000,000,000 and the trade balance in favor of the United States probably will be more than \$3,150,000,000. Many Federal Prisoners Handled by Marshal Flynn. Six hundred and nineteen prisoners were handled by United States Marshal Flynn's office in 1917; 460 in 1916. Eleven of the 619 were sent to the

FIRE LOSSES SHOW GREAT INCREASE

More Than \$1,000,000 Worth of Property Destroyed During 1917; Ten Persons Die From Burns.

The total number of fire alarms for 1917 up to and including December 26 was 1,934; total for 1916, 1,671. For the first 11 months of the year the total fire loss was \$1,117,131, as against a total of \$703,206 for the entire year of 1916. During the first 11 months of last year there was 13 fires which caused a loss of more than \$5,000 each. Sparks from chimneys caused 247 fires and cigar or cigarette stubs caused 52 fires. There are 28 pieces of motor apparatus and seven horse-drawn vehicles in the service and 301 men in the department. A few of the large fires of the year follow: Sherman & McConnell Drug company, 312-24 South Sixteenth street; Levi & Gorman livery and garage, 2721-3 Leavenworth street; residence of Harry Dooly, 131 South Thirtieth street; Willow Springs Brewing company, Third and Hickory streets; Brunswick-Balke-Collerend company, 407 South Tenth street; M. B. Koory Dry Goods company, 1405 South Thirtieth street; Hartman Furniture company and others, 1414 to 1422 Douglas street; new Masonic temple, Nineteenth and Douglas streets; Fred Busch transfer barn, 1324 Pacific street; Mandy Milling company, 2463 South Twenty-seventh avenue; Globe Van and Storage company, 2207-9 Izard street; Omaha Auto Top company, 709-11 South Fifteenth street; Northwest railway coal chutes, Forty-first and O streets; Cady Lumber company, Sixth and Harney streets; William B. Etchison Coal company, 4220 North Thirtieth street; Nonpareil Laundry company, 1702-8 Vinton street; Twin City Transfer company, 1010 North Eighteenth street; Sherman-McConnell Drug company warehouse, 509-11 South Twelfth street; Missouri Pacific freight house, Fifteenth and Nicholas streets; Flomar hotel, Seventeenth and Capitol avenue. Ten persons were fatally burned during the year and 18 survived burns. During the year 129 horses were fatally burned.

Hotel Clark advertisement. Located in Los Angeles, California. Features: Logical Nebraska headquarters, 655 rooms—each with private bath. Every desired luxury, refinement and convenience. Situated in heart of city. Fully accessible to all places of interest. Absolutely fireproof. Best breakfast and American plan. Traffic from L.S. Look for Hotel Clark bus at depot. Hotel Clark bus at depot, St. Blumhof, Leavenworth, Kan.

Nuxated Iron 100 Forfeit advertisement. Increases strength of delicate, nervous, rundown people 100 per cent in ten days in many instances. \$100 forfeit if it fails as per full explanation in large article soon to appear in this paper. Used and highly endorsed by former United States Senators and Members of Congress, well-known physicians and former Public Health officials. Ask your doctor or druggist about it.

OPEN NOSTRILS! END A COLD OR CATARRH advertisement. How to Get Relief When Head and Nose are Stuffed Up.

Count Jiffy! Your cold in head or catarrh disappears. Your clogged nostrils will open, the air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more snuffing, hawking, mucous discharge, dryness or headache; no struggle for breath at night.

Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist and apply a little of this fragrant antiseptic cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothing and healing the swollen or inflamed mucous membrane, giving you instant relief. Head colds and catarrh yield like magic. Don't stay stuffed-up and miserable. Relief is sure.

Don't Use Any Other Than Cuticura Soap To Clear Your Skin advertisement. Six hundred and nineteen prisoners were handled by United States Marshal Flynn's office in 1917; 460 in 1916. Eleven of the 619 were sent to the

Jiffy-Jell advertisement. Dessert Molds Free. Pure Aluminum—Assorted Styles. A Lifetime Gift if You'll Try Jiffy-Jell. A Fruity, Economical Dessert or Salad. We want you to know Jiffy-Jell for your own sake. See how it excels the old-style gelatine desserts. It will surprise and delight you. Jiffy-Jell is an exquisite product, made with rare-grade gelatine. No sugar, no fruit need be added. Just add boiling water. Then add the rich fruit flavor from the vial in each package. The great distinction lies in these wondrous flavors, made from fresh, ripe fruit. They are highly concentrated, so Jiffy-Jell desserts and salads have a wealth of rich fruit taste. They come sealed in bottles—one in each package—so they keep their strength and freshness. Mail Us This Coupon. I have today received two packages of Jiffy-Jell as pictured here from (Name of Grocer) Now I mail this coupon with 10c for Pint Mold, heart or fluted, or 10c for 3 Individual Molds, or 20c for 6 Individual Molds (Check which) Write plainly and give full address. Your Name Address Be sure you get Jiffy-Jell, with package like picture, for nothing else has true-fruit flavors in vials. Mail coupon to Waukesha Pure Food Company, Waukesha, Wis.

The Great Sugar Saver Grape-Nuts. Over 10% by weight of this famous food with the barley flavor is pure, sweet, easily digested sugar. Not sugar "put there" in the making, but a pure grain sugar developed from cereals in the process by which Grape-Nuts is made. Use it as your cereal—Without sugar. Sprinkle it over other cereals instead of sugar. At Grocers Everywhere.