

# TELL HOW DRY LAW AFFECTS GATE CITY

### Chicago Tribune Staff Man Gives Interviews With Leading Omahans on Effect of Prohibition in Metropolis.

(Continued From Page One.)

community as a whole is satisfied with the new conditions, especially under the present war situation.

**Time Was Favorable.**

"We were especially fortunate in having the new law go into effect at a period and under conditions that made easy adjustments. The state of Iowa just across the river already had become 'dry' territory; the war activity made it possible for every one thrown out of employment by the cessation of the liquor traffic to find work; and the new federal law forbidding the shipment of liquor into 'dry' states aided greatly in the enforcement of our local liquor regulations.

"The fact that we are living under war conditions makes it impossible to make anything like accurate measurements of the results.

"Business men say that collections especially on installment payments, are very good, showing improvement. But the war has some effect on that, perhaps, because of the good wages that are being paid in all lines of work. Savings bank accounts have decreased, but the war again is held largely responsible, for our people have contributed most generously to the Red Cross, the Liberty bond purchases and the thrift stamp campaign."

**Dahlman Admits It "Works."**

Mayor James C. Dahlman, who has headed the city government for 12 years as a leader of the liberals or the "wets" and who is a candidate for re-election now, put it in a different way.

"I said that prohibition wouldn't work," he remarked with a grin. "But it does."

"I'm not a prohibitionist, as most everyone in Nebraska knows, but this new law seems to be working out to the advantage of the city and its people. It has resulted in a decrease of the social evil; it has cut in two the number of cases of wife abandonment and cruelty to women. Most of the saloon property, which was made vacant by the removal of the dram shops has been rented, and we've got a lot of new buildings going up.

"It's surprising to any inquirer who find how many men who voted against and worked against the prohibition constitutional amendment are accepting the situation and boosting the new law now. We never expect to see the city 'wet' again, and it probably shouldn't be. This county, Douglas, went 'wet' 9,000 votes at the last election, but it would go 'dry' today. It's costing us some money, of course, but I believe that the people are willing to pay for it. Of course they haven't paid the tax yet.

**Question Settled For Omaha.**

"Yes, I'm a candidate for re-election. I don't think the prohibition question will be any factor at all. That question is settled so far as Omaha is concerned. We have been doing our best to enforce the new law and shall continue to do so."

While the records show that the total number of arrests in Omaha have been decreased during the arid period, Chief of Police H. W. Dunn is authority for the statement that it has worked his force harder rather than made it possible for a reduction to be made, as had been claimed by the prohibitionists.

**Police Work in Figures.**

The following figures on arrests taken from the records of the police department indicate some of the new police features resulting. The figures cover the last eight months of 1917, when the "dry" regulations were effective and the corresponding months of 1916, when the city was "wet."

Character of violations	1917	1916
Violation of liquor laws	191	1,538
Abusing family	17	28
Wife and child abandonment	12	18
Drunks	1,538	1,292

\*Incomplete.  
Total arrests ..... 12,769 9,432

T. J. McGuire, assistant attorney, who handles the liquor violation prosecutions for the city, and who also has been named as a special prosecutor by the governor, stated that the total number of arrests for violations was near, if not quite, up to the 1,000 mark. Some of the cases do not get on the arrest book of the police department. The federal authorities have prosecuted 60 additional cases. Assistant United States District Attorney D. W. Dickinson said.

according to city officials, are near \$40,000.

The biggest item is the income from fines, which now reaches nearly \$20,000. The abolition of the city workhouse will save \$9,500, and the saving on feeding jail prisoners is figured at nearly \$10,000. Against these must be set off the expenditure of \$3,000 from the \$50,000 fund given to the governor by the last legislature to enforce the new prohibition statute.

**Few Tenants for Jail.**

The dispensing of the workhouse possibly resulted as much from the fact that the war has made it possible for every man to get work as from the enactment of the "dry" legislation, some citizens say. In 1916 a total of 2,242 prisoners were sent to this institution, while the county jail housed 2,060 men during the same period. During the first four "wet" months of 1917 442 men and women were sent to the workhouse, while only 338 were sentenced during the last eight "dry" months.

The jail figures for 1917 show a similar situation. The first four months show 709 prisoners sent to the county jail and the last eight months have a total of 876.

"I was not a prohibitionist when the law was passed, but I think it is a good thing and would not want to see it repealed," Mr. McGuire said. "Our regular Monday morning police court grist before last May would average more than 100 cases and often as many as 250. The daily average was in the neighborhood of 70. Our Monday average now is 35 and occasionally is as low as 5. The daily grist on other days than Mondays is never more than 30."

**Had to Close Workhouse.**

"We have done away with the workhouse because we don't have any use for it. The number of prisoners dwindled down until we didn't have enough to do the cleaning up about the place. It paid for itself except the salaries of employes, which amounted to \$9,500 a year.

"In the county jail, according to Sheriff M. L. Clark's records, we now have only 90 prisoners. They used to run from 200 to as high as 300. Before May 1, 1917, there were always more than 200. Since then they have averaged about 100 prisoners.

"The city welfare and legal aid department—I have charge of the latter—shows the same trend has changed. We had nowhere the number of calls for aid we used to have. I don't say that all this change is due to the 'dry' law, for every one who wants to can get work now.

"But we used to have many complaints from families of men who worked, but spent the money for drink instead of giving it to their families. We don't get nearly so many wives complaining about brutal husbands and we know that the elimination of the saloons has had a marked effect on vice. Dozens of reports have gone out of existence and many women of the streets have left the city."

**Declare Business Improves.**

Members of the Chamber of Commerce and the Omaha Real Estate board say that business has shown a steady development since the closing of the dramshops. They do not pretend that this steady growth is all due to the "dry" law, but they argue the change has not caused any slump, as many had feared.

There are still a few vacant buildings formerly occupied by saloons. They are being cleaned up and the first 30 days after the closing law went into effect a survey was made. It showed that 80 places vacated had not been filled by new tenants, and that 224 places had been converted into stock drink places. Others were being occupied by restaurants, pool rooms and small shops.

Records of the Chamber of Commerce show that 96 new industries had been located during the year 1917, that bank clearings had increased and that the 1916 figures almost \$600,000,000, and that total property valuation figures had grown from \$327,822,905 to \$349,571,625.

**Taxes Are Not Burdensome.**

H. M. Christie, president of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, said that rapid re-adjustment that has occurred has surprised many citizens.

"It is true that we have had to pay for being dry," he said, "but today our tax rate will compare favorably with that of any other city. We have a total of 106.28 mills for all purposes, city, county and state, including the new 10 mill increase. We are taxed upon one-fifth full valuation and we consider we are not being taxed high at all compared with many other cities."

"There are few if any more vacant buildings now, I believe, than we formerly had, and certainly not so many as we see usually in other cities whether wet or dry. We have now under construction, I think, more big buildings than any other city of 200,000 people in the country. Commercial buildings totaling \$6,000,000 in value are under construction now.

"One of these is a 15-story structure, two are 10-story buildings and there is a total of eight of five stories or more. We are building five new automobile tire factories and numerous other plants for more modest manufacturing concerns.

"Not a job has been lost to a workman through the shutting down of our five breweries. One small one is closed down. Three are being operated as soft drink manufacturing plants, one with an ice plant annex, and these three are employing more men than they did making beer.

ment may be sold. Alcohol-wintergreen-carbolic concoction gets by technically under this clause.

"It has to be diluted with water," the police chief said, "and then the addicts can be traced all over the city by the carbolic acid odor they leave in their wake."

**Confiscate Chicago Whisky.**

Two druggists now are being prosecuted for selling this new "prohibition" drink on the theory that their sole motive in handling it was to evade the state law. Nine barrels of the stuff was confiscated at one place and 18 barrels were seized at the second.

A carload of whisky in barrels shipped from Chicago also was confiscated recently. It was seized when a transfer concern took it from a car and started to unload it at a warehouse. The consignee has not been found and the name in which the whisky was forwarded is believed to be fictitious. The transfer people stated a man gave them a written order, together with the carriage charges, but they did not know his identity.

Chief Dunn and Prosecutor McGuire say they have established the fact that several well known automobile thieves have been engaged in running the bootlegging gamut between other cities and Omaha. Fourteen automobiles used in this interstate traffic have been seized. In several instances it has been proved the cars were stolen. In other cases it has been found that the bootlegging gangs have made only a small initial payment upon the cars confiscated. As great a quantity as 500 pints of whisky have been seized in a single automobile confiscation raid.

**Convict Bootleg Chief.**

"We have found that there are several gangs which have made it a business to develop bootlegging automobile lines to 'dry' cities," Mr. McGuire said. "One crew known as the Billingsley gang from Oklahoma have operated in many cities. It is said they cleaned up \$250,000 in Seattle alone shortly after that place abolished the saloons. They tried it out here, but we put them out of business 60 days ago when we caught and convicted one of them, Sherman Billingsley.

"It seems strange that the bootleggers will continue to take the chances they do for our juries are convicting them and we are trying all the appeal cases with dispatch. The plain drunk gets \$10 and costs as a penalty the first time up and the second time he is sent to jail.

**BRANDEIS ORDERS 6 O'CLOCK CLOSING**

**Head of Big Mercantile Store Makes Decision for Saturday Nights Upon Arrival From California Trip.**

George Brandeis, president of the Brandeis stores, has returned from California, where he has been traveling for the last four weeks, and immediately after he arrived he came to the decision to close the Brandeis stores on Saturday at 6 p. m.

Speaking of his trip to California, Mr. Brandeis said: "I have been to Coronado Beach, Los Angeles, Riverside, Catalina, Pasadena, San Jose, Oakland and San Francisco, and everywhere California impressed me as the land of abundance and sunshine—the beauty spot of the United States.

"While business was good in California, I find it is excellent in Omaha—while the far west has energy and initiative, we excel them, in my estimation, three to one.

"Being very fond of golf, I thoroughly enjoyed playing on the links at Coronado Beach, and at different times I had occasion to note more than 50 aeroplanes circling around over my head while I was driving the tee.

California is giving wonderful support to the government in air-fighting machines and aeroplanes.

**Wonderful Roads.**

"One thing that impressed me forcibly was the magnificent automobile roads which California possesses. The motoring roads are the best advertising which the Land of Sunshine has—thousands and thousands of tourists journeying long distances to take advantage of the almost ideal conditions which exist in California—and the influx of these tourists brings business ever to the small and otherwise inaccessible hamlets on the motor roads.

"Nebraska could well afford to improve her roads. We have a wonderful country for motorists to travel over with the rights of roads we would be bringing to our state thousands and thousands of tourists every year; we would make it profitable for more and more good hotels to establish themselves along the routes and make for bigger and better things for the entire state.

**Germans Admit Food Supply Of Ukraina Very Limited**

Washington, March 17.—The German view of the food stocks available in Ukraina and conditions generally in that country is given in a dispatch today from Berne quoting a Berlin telegram, published by the Strassburger Post, March 14. The telegram says the stores of grain are very limited and that there is great political unrest. The dispatch follows: "After leaving announced that the stock of cereal to be found in Ukraina surpassed all expectations, the German press is today obliged to admit that the resources which would be at the disposal of the central powers has been exaggerated."

**Nebraska Music Teachers Will Convene in Omaha**

Music teachers of Nebraska will meet in convention at the Hotel Fontenelle April 1-3. This will be the second annual meeting of the Nebraska State Music Teachers' association.

Among the speakers and singers will be Miss Mary Pershing, sister of General Pershing; H. O. Ferguson, and Rabbi Jacob Singer of Lincoln, and Carl Beutel of Wesleyan college.

# MASS MEETING TO OPEN DRIVE FOR LIBERTY BONDS

### Survivor of Princess Pats Will Speak at Auditorium Thursday Night; Women to Hold Conference.

The first mass meeting of the Omaha campaign for the third Liberty loan will be held in the Auditorium next Thursday night.

The principal speaker will be Sergeant Edward Edwards of the Princess Pat regiment. He was one of



Mrs. A.G. Peterson

the few survivors, having been taken prisoner by the Germans. He afterwards escaped. He has a story with which he has been thrilling the people of Canada.

He will be accompanied by Miss Dorothy Brooks, a famous aviatrix. Following their Omaha appearance Sergeant Edwards and Miss Brooks will proceed to Lincoln and other points in the state.

Mrs. A. G. Peterson of Aurora, state chairman of the Nebraska Women's Liberty Loan committee, has called a conference of the district chairmen of Nebraska to meet Mrs.

**BUY U.S. GOVT BONDS**

**Third Liberty Loan**

George W. Fuller of Kansas City, district chairman of the Women's Liberty Loan committee of the tenth federal reserve district. The meeting will be held at the Omaha Chamber of Commerce Thursday night. The

# SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

**Kearney State Normal.**

Dr. R. M. Shreve went to Grand Island Saturday to conduct study center work. The 71st meeting of the Schoolmasters' association on the subject, "Drawing in the Elementary and Grammar Grades" at Central City, April 1. Miss Smith is chairman of the work done by the training school for illustrative purposes.

Miss Florence Wethers, 16, who is teaching mathematics and science in the Clarke High school, visited Miss Emma Hendrix of the mathematics department Friday. Miss Wethers has been re-elected at Clarke. Miss Gertrude Agnew, a graduate of 14, and Miss Florence Wethers, in the class of '16, who are now teaching in the city school at Clarke, spent the week-end with Miss Laura Agnew.

The advanced class in designing has a display in the art room of colored enamel work. The students have made original designs and color schemes, applying them to the decoration of wooden bowls, bottles and brick doorposts.

Miss Inis Jennings, 18, of Hendley, has accepted a position as teacher in the public department of the Eschbury public school and will begin her work there on March 25.

Miss Gertrude Conn, county superintendent of Webster county, was in Webster Friday to attend the executive committee meeting of the Nebraska State Teachers' association.

Dr. A. Francis, government expert veterinarian detailed for hog cholera work in Buffalo, Phelps and Dawes counties, will give an illustrated lecture before the Academy of Science and Mathematics Thursday, March 21. He will explain the methods of preparing serum and of vaccination.

The Campfire held a ceremonial meeting Thursday afternoon at which the Wausau High school band, under the direction of Miss Cora O'Connell, high school supervisor, conducted a study center at Good St. Sunday.

**University of South Dakota.**

women will complete plans for the third Liberty loan campaign in Nebraska.

The Omaha committee has organized as follows: William E. Rhoades, chairman.

Raymond G. Young, director of speakers.

Mrs. E. M. Fairfield, chairman women's committee.

T. P. Reynolds, chairman industrial committee.

Arthur C. Thomas, director of newspaper publicity.

Jay Burns, director of outdoor advertising.

Franklin Mann, chairman of sales committee.

C. J. Lyons, secretary.

The state committee is: T. C. Byrne, chairman.

J. C. McNish, vice chairman.

Dr. P. L. Hall, vice chairman.

E. F. Folda, secretary.

O. T. Easman, treasurer.

The chairman for Douglas county, outside of Omaha, is J. T. Wachob.

During the absence of Jay Burns his duties will be carried on by H. E. Milliken.

# AVIATION PROBE TO HEAR BORGLUM NOTE

### Sculptor May Charge Signal Corps Heads With Failures, Blunders and Delays in Aircraft Program.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, March 17.—A report to President Wilson on the progress made on the airplane program up to about the first of this year, prepared by Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor, promises to play a part in the inquiry into aviation affairs, already begun by the special board headed by Snowden Dill of New York.

Aviation officials will invite a full investigation of all failures shown, or charges made in the document.

So far as is known the Borglum report bears little relation to the present status of the aircraft program. There have been intimations, however, that it refers to serious blunders or delays, and it is into that side of the question rather than into figures as to the actual output of aircraft at the time the report was made, that the inquiry board is expected to look particularly.

**May Charge Profiteering.**

There are suggestions that the report may contain some intimations that a profiteering ring controlled the aircraft program to its own advantage. If that is true, officials of both the signal corps and the aircraft production board feel that it should be disclosed, but they are said to be personally satisfied that there is no justification for any such accusation.

The inquiry board is planning, it is understood, a series of lectures, flying schools and aviation stations to visualize the whole gigantic undertaking and see the progress being made. Officials here in closest touch with the situation insist that only a favorable finding could be made on such an inspection.

**Frank Odell Starts East On Liberty Loan Campaign**

Frank G. Odell, secretary of the Federal Land bank of Omaha, will speak for the Liberty bond campaign in Illinois and Wisconsin for two weeks. Mr. Odell left Saturday for his new field of activities. He has been practically drafted for this service by the federal government.

Major General Swinton of the British army will accompany Odell on the speaking tour.

**Castelar Social Center Gives Dramatic Sketch**

The Dramatic club of Castelar Social center gave a play Friday evening at Castelar school. The play was a boarding school sketch called "The Trouble at Saterlee's."

The cast was as follows: Dorothy ..... Eva Dahlquist  
Alice ..... Mrs. Mabel Elquist  
Marion ..... Frieda Funk  
Mildred ..... Ruth Tuma  
Bertha ..... Lillian Kavan  
Kathleen ..... Elsie Dinkel  
Miss Saterlee ..... Miss Dinkel  
Guests ..... Helen Svoboda, Georgia Tuma, Nora Thompson

**Hastings College.**

Rev. C. E. Lemmon, who spent a few months at Camp Cody, gave a talk on the religious work of the camp before the Young Men's Christian association last week. Dr. Veach of Philadelphia also spoke on the lessons he got from Camp Cody, N. J. Rev. Lampe spoke on Korea before the Young Women's Christian association. Rev. Lampe is home from Korea on a furlough this year. He also spoke at the Presbyterian church on the following evening.

The Glebe club has been finally arranged to start on its tour April 8. It will give concerts at Helena, the encyclopaedia found, Gothenburg, Rootshuff, Bridgeport, Imperial, McCook, Cambridge, Hastings and Kenosaw.

The spring vacation will extend from April 8 to 15.

# SOUTH SIDE SWIFT SOCIETY BE FORMED FOR BOYS ON FRONT

### Circular Letter Containing Company News and Local Items Be Gotten Up; Equipment for All.

One hundred and thirty-five men from the Omaha plant of Swift & Co. have gone into war service, and the company does not intend that one of them shall lack for such comforts and pleasures as home folks are permitted to provide.

The soldiers' and sailors' welfare work for the Swift organization is handled through the Chicago headquarters office, which gathers information from all branch offices as to what is needed for the boys. Individual boxes are then made up once a month in Chicago and sent to the boys in training camps and abroad.

A circular letter containing company news and local items is gotten up by the boys' former fellow workers and sent to them once a month.

At present every boy is fully equipped with sweaters, socks, wrist-lets, helmets, etc., and Swift employes contribute every week, through the Military Welfare association, to a fund to provide their former associates with smokes, sweets and other needs.

The entire Swift organization has contributed 3,089 young men for war service—almost a full regiment.

In the Swift Legion of Honor, 103 of the men have won commissions in the army, many of them receiving a part of their training in the Swift Military club, organized when "preparedness" was the admonishment of the hour.

The Military Welfare association also gives information and advice to relatives of the boys in service. Liberty bonds to the sum of \$3,879,700 are owned by 28,718 Swift employes.

**Funeral Services for Frank Franek Tuesday**

Funeral services for Frank Franek, 66 years old, who died at his home, 5136 South Twenty-fourth street, Friday morning, will be held at the Bohemian Catholic church Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock. Rev. Father Joe Cundelack will officiate. Interment will be in St. Mary's cemetery.

Mr. Franek is survived by his widow, son, John, and two sisters, Mrs. Francis Stanek, South Side, and Mrs. Karolina Stanek, Port Chester, N. Y. The grandchildren are Charles, Herbert, John, Anton, Joseph and Bohomil Franek.

Mr. Franek was a native of Bohemia. He lived six years at North Bend and 30 years in South Omaha. He was a member of the following organizations: Hvezda Svobody No. 45, Z. C. B. J.; W. O. W.; Jiz Kub Dub camp No. 115; F. U.; of America; Lodge Vermont No. 62; I. O. O. F.; Chambers Court, and Prokop Velky No. 3380.

**Douglas Fairbanks**

In "The Habit of Happiness" at the Besse today.

Tuesday, Harold Lockwood in "The Avenging Trail."

Wednesday and Thursday, Douglas Fairbanks in "A Modern Musketeer."

Friday, Pauline Frederick in "The Hungry Heart."

Saturday, Pauline Frederick in "The Antics of Ann." Besse.

**Exemption Board Needs 300 Badges for Next Draft**

Local exemption board No. 2 is in need of 300 badges for the boys who are going into service.

"Here is a chance for the women to do another good turn for the boys," said Chairman J. J. Breen. "All that is needed to make the badges is a strip of cloth, any color, about an inch and a quarter wide and five or six inches long."

The badges the board has been giving out bear the following inscription: Omaha Division No. 2, "Our Boys' Club," Compliments of the South Omaha Business Men's Association.

**Three Improvement Clubs To Meet Monday Night**

Three improvement clubs will hold a joint meeting at the hall at Twentieth and S streets Monday night. They are the East Side Improvement club, Brown Park Improvement club and the South Side Improvement club. Important business is to come before the joint meeting.

# MRS. HIRSCH FOUND GUILTY BLACKMAIL

### Woman Sentenced to Year in Penitentiary; Would Have Extorted \$500,000 From Atlanta Mayor.

Atlanta, Ga., March 17.—Mrs. Margaret A. Hirsch was convicted by a jury in superior court yesterday of an attempt to extort \$500,000 from Mayor Asa G. Candler, by blackmail and was given the maximum sentence in Georgia for a misdemeanor—a year in prison and a fine of \$1,000.

J. W. Cook, indicted jointly with her, and tried two weeks ago, also received the maximum sentence, but instead of the prison term he was given a year and a day on the chain gang at hard labor.

When Judge Hill pronounced Mrs. Hirsch, who had remained seated, looked up and said: "I have not a word to say." Her counsel, however, immediately announced that a motion of appeal would be made later, and Judge Hill fixed the bond at \$3,000.

Mrs. Hirsch was unable to furnish bail and was returned to the cell in Fulton county jail, which she has occupied since her indictment a month ago.

**Officers and Delegates Elected at T. P. A. Meeting**

The Omaha post of the Traveling Men's Protective association held its annual meeting Saturday.

Fifteen hundred dollars was subscribed by the members to the Third Liberty Loan, and a resolution pledging the body to further the cause of the bond issue was passed. Officers for the ensuing year and delegates for the national convention at St. Louis in June were selected.

They are: J. H. Stein, president; George H. Savidge, first vice president; O. H. Peptin, second vice president; William H. Urbach, third vice president; Charles L. Hopper, secretary-treasurer; Harry R. Riley, O. L. Erickson, R. D. Kirkpatrick, George H. Jewell, A. A. Taylor, directors, and Rev. John F. Pucher, chaplain.

Chairmen for the different committees are: H. B. Patrick, railroads; W. W. Watt, hotels; J. T. Hogan, legislative; A. D. Spier, employment; O. T. Wolford, press; J. P. Fallon, government roads; A. W. Miller, sick and relief.

Delegates to the national convention and alternates are: W. Stanley Brown, John W. Gamble, H. R. Baitzer, H. B. Patrick, W. W. Watt, A. D. Hoag, George H. Savidge, R. D. Kirkpatrick, H. R. Riley, Gus Miller, Bert Milder, H. G. Hoel, George E. Begerow, D. W. Emery and O. L. Erickson.

A banquet Saturday night wound up the meeting.

The state convention of the Traveling Men's Protective association will be held at Fremont.

Bee Want Ads Bring Results.

**TWO LECTURES**

on

**Christian Science**

By

**John Randall Dunn, C. S.**

Of St. Louis

Monday Evening, March 18, at 8 O'Clock

In the Church Edifice St. Mary's Ave. and 24th St.

Tuesday Evening, March 19, at 8 O'Clock

In the Omaha Auditorium

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