

### CITY ATTACKS 6-CENT FARES IN PETITION

Omaha Corporation Counsel Challenges Authority of Commission to Act on Traffic Application.

W. C. Lambert, corporation counsel for the city of Omaha, went to Lincoln Saturday morning to file with the State Railway commission an appearance and objections to the application of the Omaha and Council Bluffs Street Railway company for authority to charge a 6-cent rate within the limits of Omaha.

Objection is made to the jurisdiction of the State Railway commission over the subject matter of the application and the right and authority of the commission to entertain such application is challenged.

The city of Omaha further appears for the purpose of aiding and assisting in a showing that the petitioner is not entitled to the relief it has asked of the commission.

"City Files Objection."

An abstract of the document filed by Mr. Lambert follows:

"That the city of Omaha has at all times had and now has express and full jurisdiction and authority to determine and fix the rates which the company is entitled to charge; that the city has at all times exercised and asserted such jurisdiction and authority; that the city, within recent years, enacted an ordinance requiring said company to sell seven fares for a quarter, and prohibiting it, under penalty, from exacting or receiving more."

"The city's right to enact measures determining and fixing the rates of fare which the petitioner might charge as a matter of law has been sustained by the district court of Douglas county, and notwithstanding that such authority has been sustained by the district court of Douglas county, the petitioner has not applied to the governing authorities of the city of Omaha for permission to increase the rates and charges from 5 cents (as now charged) to 6 cents."

Legal Fight Now On.

The corporation counsel states that if the railway commission should elect to proceed to a hearing of the application then the city of Omaha will resist claims made by the street railway company in its petition.

Mr. Lambert denies that the company's increased cost of operation amounts to \$595,466 a year by reason of the war and demands "strictest proof of all items of increased costs," and also demands "a full and complete showing of all revenue within the limits of the city, and from all sources."

It is further stated in the city's answer that a fair and reasonable valuation of the company's property within the limits of Omaha would amount to \$7,500,000 under normal conditions, such as prevail other than under war-time prices, and it is also claimed by the city that a surplus remains after applying a return of 6 per cent.

Effort To Shirk Charged.

"It is further suggested," the city's answer reads, "that conditions caused by the prevailing war are such as to call for and require sacrifices and curtailments from all corporations and persons alike; that the individual has laid upon him and his activities, enlarged and enlarging burdens and that his situation in life or in business is usually such that he does not find it possible to shift such added burdens in whole or in part to the shoulders of others already well weighed down. If the company be permitted to shift the burden-complained of and escape the sacrifice which circumstances but justly place upon it, it will slip to shoulders least of all prepared to carry it, because it is the wage earner and the toiler who will be more affected."

"No all-persuasive reasons arise suggesting the need of shifting of such burdens. If it means some sacrifice, and if it means some loss, the company should manfully stand under and make the same. It is then doing only what most all others are doing, and to their everlasting credit, doing it uncompromisingly. If the petitioner is not willing to do it out of the spirit that prompts others willing to make the sacrifice, then the order of this commission should compel it to that course. It is prayed that the application be dismissed."

### NEW OBSERVANCE OF FOURTH URGED BY THE PRESIDENT

Washington, May 25.—Native Americans were called upon by President Wilson today to join with the foreign born of the United States in celebrating the Fourth of July this year, the birth of a new and greater spirit of democracy.

Committees representing nation organizations of nearly every element of the foreign born citizenship recently sent the president a petition announcing plans for a great demonstration on the Fourth of loyalty to the United States and the cause for which it is fighting, and asking the entire country to join with them.

The president has made public his approval of the plan.

Million U. S. Fighters To Be in France by July

Paris, May 25.—The American forces in France will be double by mid-summer the number Secretary of War Baker recently announced as having been sent there, and by the end of 1918 they will be three times as large, said Andre Tardieu, French military commissioner, in a statement issued to the French people on his arrival from the United States today.

Secretary Baker announced on May 25 that more than 500,000 American soldiers already had been sent to France.

### Red Cross Conducts Omaha Store That Vies With Dickens' Old Curiosity Shop



By JOHN H. KEARNES.

Omaha has a store which is even more interesting than Dickens' "Old Curiosity Shop."

It is the store at 1409 Harney street, conducted by the women of the salvage division of the Red Cross.

It carries a more varied stock than a country store and contains more objects of interest than a municipal museum.

"All things come to him, or her, who waits," is the motto of the establishment.

"We wanted a desk," said Miss Margaret Riley, secretary-treasurer, "and before we could buy one a suitable office desk was brought in and donated. One of the ladies wanted a pen tray for the desk. She expressed a wish, an lo, the good fairy or genie of the place waved a wand and the tray appeared."

Young Menagerie Started.

"We have a bride and saddle and we are now waiting for the horse. Don't laugh, it will come and take its place with the rest of our live stock. All we need is a cow and a horse to stock up a small farm. We have a hen and a brood of 15 chickens, two fat geese donated by Mrs. Lyons, 3630 Monroe street; two Belgian hares, and a brother of Mrs. Follansbee, 604 South Twenty-eighth street, residing in Kansas, has promised us a pig. We have homes for all of the rest of the live stock, and also for our spitz dog, but no place for the porker. However, Frank Burkley has promised to care for it, even if he has to put it in his parlor on its arrival.

"All is fish that comes to our net. One man brought in a wooden leg the other day and the only thing that we pray is that some one does not dump a real white elephant on us. The peril is not beyond the bounds of possibility."

Real Sacrifice Here.

A case of sacrifice, based on lofty patriotic sentiment, was revealed at the store the first of the week. A woman, evidently in poor circumstances, accompanied by her little son, came in. The woman bore in her arms an old fashioned carbine, the kind used in the civil war. The incongruous spectacle of a woman carrying an obsolete weapon through the streets caused many an unthinking person to smile, but there were no smiles, tears, rather, on the countenances of the Red Cross women when they heard the woman's story.

"I'm dog poor," she said, "and the only thing I have in the world I value outside of my flesh and blood is this musket which was carried by my father in the civil war. It has been at Gettysburg and Malvern Hill where it has been used in freedom's cause. I have valued it because of that. But it is worth something and the freedom of the world is now threatened and I want to turn this for what it is worth into money to give to the Red Cross. It is all I have to give except my prayers."

The Widow's Mite.

It was the widow's mite and was accepted as such.

For many days the store was visited by a large man, a laborer, who was looking for a pair of trousers. He was evidently a section laborer and trying to make his meager dollars go as far as they could.

Daily he went through the stock of second-hand clothing that came in, but gave up in despair because he could not find a pair ample enough to fit him.

"Look for the big man's pants," was the slogan of the interested women of the store and it became a game with them.

The other day two fine pair of trousers, of ample proportions, came in from one of the dry cleaning establishments, having been discarded by some nabob. But the big poor man had disappeared and now the women are trying to find the big man to fit the big pants and take them away.

Red Cross Aid at Home.

Pitiful glimpses of the other side of life are also revealed. One day a woman accompanied by nine children of various stages of growth, came into the store. She wanted a pair of shoes to fit the littlest one of her brood. The rest of the family were literally upon their uppers, but the baby was the one she was most concerned about. She selected the poorest pair of second hand shoes in stock that would fit the little mite of humanity and tendered 25 cents in payment, all she had for the purpose.

The Red Cross women learned that the woman was having a hard struggle to make ends meet and that while her children needed shoes she was unable to buy them just then. They told her to turn her flock into the stock of shoes and fit themselves, which they did.

Whole Family Shod.

The family was satisfactorily and comfortably shod and the footwear was as free as the air they breathed.

Another woman came to the store with a pitifully small purse. She had a 2-week-old baby in her arms and a little child tugging at her side. She explained that she had raised a very large family of children and in all her life had never had the luxury of a baby buggy, nor had any of her

numerous children known the happiness of owning a doll buggy.

She was sent away with a baby buggy given without money or without any other price than her gratitude and the little girl was made radiantly happy by the gift of a doll buggy.

Salvage Trucks Busy.

There are big accumulations of all kinds of salvage material. The salvage trucks are sent to all parts of the city to collect paper, rags, second hand clothing, brass, bronze, lead, rubber, leather findings, furniture,

bric-a-brac, in fact everything that has a salvage value. This is disposed of to dealers in junk, to customers who find it necessary to buy used stuff in order to make meager salaries meet the cost of living, and to those attending the auction sales.

Los Angeles, Cal., has a salvage department that is earning \$11,000 per month for the Red Cross chapter of that city, and Mrs. F. L. Adams, chairman, and Miss Riley, secretary-treasurer, with other self-sacrificing and industrious assistants, are ambitious to make the Omaha salvage

### MEDICAL SCHOOL MATRICULATION STARTS AT ONCE

Creighton Receives Official Order From War Department Affecting Entrance Classes.

In an official War department order, issued by the surgeon general at Washington, just received at the Creighton college of medicine, authority is given to all well recognized medical schools to begin matriculation of the entering class of 1918-19 at once. This order relieves a situation at not only Creighton, but all other medical schools of the country, which threatened to eliminate the freshmen classes in medicine next year.

Through the order enlistment of such freshmen in the medical enlisted reserve corps is made. Permission from the surgeon general's office must be obtained in each individual case. Students of draft age not yet entered in medical schools, but who have finished the necessary preparatory work and have made their applications to the medical colleges, come under this order.

Conditions of Order.

The order reads: "On and after June 1 such permits will be issued in cases of registrants under the selective service law who are matriculants for the session of 1918-19 in well-recognized medical schools. The applicants must first secure a certificate from his local board that he is not in the current quota of that board. He must then fill out an application, calling himself a member of the first year class for the session of 1918-19. This certificate and application must be accompanied by an af-

firmation from the local board that the registrant is not in the quota of his local board. The War department even more profitable to the Red Cross than is the California rival.

fidavit of the dean of the school." The affidavit referred to must state in detail that credentials are on file in the office of the medical school showing that the applicant has had a secondary education of at least 14 units. Additional instructions are given in the rather lengthy order.

### Speed Vagaries of the Locomotive Wheel

It is an interesting point to consider that on a locomotive wheel, the circumference is continually traveling at different speeds, say the Popular Science Monthly for June. First a point on the circumference of the wheel will go faster than the rest of the locomotive; then that same point will go slower; at still other times the point of travel at a speed equal to that of the locomotive cabin.

This paradox is explained by considering first the point on the circumference farthest to the rear of the wheel's center. When the center of the wheel moves forward with the

same speed as the rest of the locomotive, that point will move around and in a short time it will get ahead of the center. Obviously, to do this, that point has to travel faster than the locomotive.

As the train moves on from this position; however, the average speed of that same point will become less than that of the locomotive. This is evident, since the point will soon change from a position directly in front of the wheel's center to another point directly in the rear.

This apparent paradox is not related to the old saw concerning the relative speeds of a kangaroo's hind legs and front legs when jumping Australian sand hills.

A Mixed Message.  
"Wife, I met Mrs. Wombat today and she sent you a message."  
"Yes."  
"Told me to tell you something or other."  
"What a mess you make of things. What was it?"

"Something about a light blue foulard pie or a hashed brown waist, forget which."  
—Louisville Courier Journal.

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