

OFFICERS UPON LEAVE MAY PROVE 'SKEE' RUNNERS

City and Army Officials Try to Discover Frequent Use Put to U. S. Trucks; Cross River Booze Route.

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during the entire time of their "crusade" against whisky runners, it is noted, excepting in several instances in the heart of the city.

"Where is all the booze that was brought across the river and stored in the vicinity of Omaha?" is the question that police and government officers are also working on. Police have learned that more than 3,000 cases of whisky have been transported by motor boats across the river from the shack in the willows.

Following the disclosure of the recent whisky traffic, Mayor Smith declared that he had received numerous reports during the past two months that officers, in the army camps here were using orderlies to haul and distribute liquor.

Mayor Makes Complaint.

"I am not going to mention any names in this connection," said the mayor, "but I will state that I forwarded the complaints to Washington. I will be interested in watching the developments in this case, and it may be interesting to know what, if anything, these fellows who were arrested will say about their higher-ups."

Chief Eberstein held a lengthy conference with officials at Fort Omaha Saturday afternoon, the outcome of which has not been divulged.

The names of the men brought into the affair up-to-date are: Sergeant A. E. Drew, Sergeant H. H. Bruno and Sam Trappini of Omaha; Antonio Manescolo of Council Bluffs; Tom Kelly, 1606 Third street; Henry Wedgworth, alias Frisco Pete; Pat Burkrey, James Cosgrove and F. J. Keating, Omaha.

Police Chief Starts Belated Probe Into Shooting of Soldier

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soldier from going overseas, despite numerous requests that he be transferred to an overseas regiment.

Private Coleman was one of the old Fourth Nebraska boys to be sent to the Mexican border three years ago. He was honorably discharged shortly before this country's entrance into the world war.

Urge Some Action.

A number of persons, including witnesses of the shooting, already have urged the police commissioner and other members of the commission to take some definite stand in regard to the matter.

With scarcely a single exception, persons who saw the detective shoot down the soldier, turn a deaf ear to his victim's appeal for water and medical attention and refuse to allow a passerby to convey the wounded boy to the hospital in his automobile have expressed unqualified indignation and a hope that Superintendent Ringer and city officials would take prompt and proper action against Knudson.

Some have appeared at the city hall in person to urge action by the police commissioner and chief of police. Others have written letters and offered to testify at a hearing.

So far as is known, until yesterday, Chief Eberstein has contented himself to remain in his office and comment on the "good record" of Detective Knudson. The single statement he has issued to an anxious and indignant public was to the effect that "Knudson was justified in shooting young Coleman."

Statements of witnesses unanimously condemn the shooting and are to the effect the boy was pleading with the officer to be allowed to return and see his wife and mother before being locked up as an alleged deserter.

It is pointed out that County Attorney Shottell will see the matter in the proper light, said Attorney Aye. "He is absolutely fair in my opinion. I have confidence in Mr. Shottell, and I think his investigation will result in an indictment against Knudson."

The detective positively was not justified in the shooting. The act was criminal and the man should not only be discharged, but he should be prosecuted.

Accused of Being Deserter.

Young Coleman was shot by Knudson after he had been placed under arrest by the detective on an alleged charge of being a deserter from the army. The boy admitted he was absent without leave, having overstayed his time limit to marry Miss Edith Mues. He intended to return to Camp Dodge last Tuesday, but the automobile in which he and his bride were riding broke down in the country and he missed the train.

Mr. Flinn declared his nephew had made his plans to return to camp Wednesday night. After he was taken into custody by the detective an argument developed and Knudson, who is twice the size of the unarmed soldier, drew his revolver and fired a shot into the boy's right side. The bullet penetrated his body and emerged in the pit of the stomach. He says the boy struck him and tried to escape.

Condition still was critical last night, according to the statement of the attending physician.

Another witness to the shooting found yesterday is H. Eisenmann, residing at 308 North Twentieth street. He said:

Tells of Shooting.

"On Wednesday evening about 6:20 I was walking south on Twentieth street when I noticed a crowd across the street on the east side of Twentieth street at about Twentieth and Capital avenue. I crossed over on that side, followed them up the street. An officer and a soldier seemed to be arguing over the way the policeman was handling him. The boy re-

German Warships Must Be Distributed Among Victors

—Georges Leygues, French War Minister

France Having Suffered Most, He Says, Demands a Share Corresponding With Its Sacrifices As It Is Unable to Build New Man-of-Wars Under Present Conditions.

By NABOTH HEDIN, Staff Correspondent of Universal Service.

(Special Cable Dispatch.)

Paris, March 22.—France insists that the surrendered German warships be distributed among the victors as legitimate prizes of war. As for these ships being called "white elephants" by those who advocate their sinking, France is willing to take a chance. Having suffered most France demands a share corresponding with her sacrifices. France also opposes the suppression of the submarine as a war weapon.

"Generally speaking, we should not follow the German principle of destruction," said Georges Leygues, French minister of war. "On the contrary, we should try to preserve whatever utilizable after four years of continual destruction and terrific losses. To destroy is brutal and barbaric; it is the German method."

Distribute Ships, He Urges.

"Consequently, the French view is perfectly clear: The German fleet, which is a common prize of war, should be distributed among the victors. Whatever use each state may make of the ships is the business of that state alone. If some wish to sink their share, they may do so. But we, who have suffered such cruel damages from the war are faced by the imperative duty to employ our part to our best interests."

"France asks no special favors although she bore the heaviest war burden; she asks her due, nothing more. The German invasion destroyed our principal industrial centers, ravaged our fields and ruined our towns and villages, and before retreating, the enemy carried off our factory machinery."

"Naturally, our financial situation is involved and our burdens will weigh heavily upon several coming generations. It is possible to earn money and rebuild houses and factories, but who will give us back our children?"

"Our dead number 1,400,000, almost all of them in the flower of youth, in the most productive period. We have priority claims to whatever we can to any extent replace their productivity and the economic force they represented. The number of our dead exceeds those of the British empire and Italy combined."

"France should for her own sake and for the sake of the world's equilibrium, recover at least the same relative position she occupied before the war."

"We entered the war on the first day and remained in it till the last. We protected the Mediterranean, preventing the Austrian fleet from coming out while the British fleet was held in the North sea keeping the German fleet bottled up. Thereby we made possible in the early months of the war the transportation of troops from Africa and Asia who helped stem the German army's advance."

"We attacked the Dardanelles with the British, losing several important ships. We saved the Serbian army from destruction and then transported and supplied the army of the Orient which broke the Bulgaro-Austro-German front, helping to turn the scale in our favor."

"We lost a great number of warships through mines and submarines. We are unable to replace our losses. Our warships reached Archangel in the extreme north and Vladivostok in the extreme east, supporting the bases of the Russian front."

"We desisted from completing five dreadnoughts of the Normandie class, though four were already suitably advanced to enter the water during the war if construction had been continued. We had to discontinue it because our whole activity had to be devoted to the construction of heavy artillery—the 75's especially—wagons, trucks, many millions of shells, gun carriages, iron bridges, etc., thus replacing not only what the enemy destroyed of our own material but for the Russians, Roumanians, Serbians, Greeks, Americans and British."

W. E. Reed to Represent This City at National Scout Meet

W. E. Reed left for New York last night to represent the Omaha Local Council, Boy Scouts of America, in the National Council meeting on March 24. The National council is made up of representatives of every first class local council in the United States. The Executive committee, which

Mr. Reed will serve on, is a small body of men elected by the larger body to do the actual work of scouting.

Mr. Reed, who is the president of the Omaha Local council, wrenched his knee a few days ago and is unable to attend the meeting, so Mr. Reed is attending in his place.

The Bee Want Ads are the Best. Try One and See.

Husband, Suing for Divorce, Says Was Forced From Home

Alleging that his wife, Elizabeth J. Cowan Raggs Whitney, expelled him from her home in Long Beach, Cal., in October, 1915, Arthur D. Whitney has filed suit in district court here for a divorce. He says she has harassed him by threatening to begin criminal proceedings against him without any reason.

They were married at Long Beach, Cal., in 1912.

Reserve Deposits Grow.

Washington, March 22.—Government deposits in federal reserve banks were increased by \$135,000,000 during the last week, and deposits of members increased \$70,000,000, while the ratio of reserves to net deposits and federal reserve note liabilities went up two-tenths of one per cent.

Fisherman's Luck.

A minister, with two lovely girls, stood entranced by the beauties of a flowing stream. A fisherman happening by, and mistaking the minister's occupation, said: "ketchin' many, pard'?"

"I am a fisher of men," answered the preacher with dignity. "Well," replied the fisherman, with an admiring glance at the girls, "you sure have the right bait."—Montreal Journal of Commerce.

Spring Opening Hartman's

announce the arrival of their extensive new 1919 Spring and Summer displays of Homefurnishings. This is, in all probability, the largest showing of new furniture, rugs, carpets, etc., in both designs and finishes, ever displayed in America. The fact that we are the world's largest buyers and sellers of homefurnishings arms us with a mighty purchasing power which no other concern can command. It accounts for our superior values in every instance. Typical of the extraordinary values now available are the following random selections—which can give but a hint of the immense varieties of fresh, new stocks now on display at our stores. Inspection cordially invited.

No Change Whatever in Our Easy Credit Terms

A charming Queen Anne Bedroom Suite in American Walnut, quality, workmanship and finish are the features that recommend these pieces. **\$171**

Or Priced Separately as Listed Below:

CHIFFONETTE, conveniently arranged drawers, upper compartment conceals three sliding drawers, metal drawer pulls. Special— \$41.75	"QUEEN ANNE" DRESSER, 24 1/2 in. top, large size mirror, beaded edges around drawer base. Priced— \$49.85	"QUEEN ANNE" BED, full size, artistic panels, hand carved decorations on head board. Splendid value at— \$39.50	Triplicate mirror dressing table, beautiful design, two large drawers beaded edged. Fitted with period metal pulls. At— \$39.98
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William and Mary Buffet in Jacobean Oak \$43.89

One of the fine period reproductions we are offering for this week is this artistically designed William and Mary Buffet, built of selected quarter-sawn oak, with Jacobean finish. Has large linen drawers, silverware drawers, two china compartments, neatly carved. Top measures 44 inches long. Come and see this remarkable value.

Don't Miss It! Big Carload Lot Sale Sounds an OPPORTUNITY for Every Woman

But there's only five days more, counting tomorrow! After that no more Sellers Kitchen Cabinets at the prices now being offered! Come tomorrow. See how easily you can now own a **SELLERS** Kitchen Cabinet "The Best Servant in Your House."

Special Terms —Of \$1.00 a Week— Special Prices

If you ever want to get out from under the yoke of cooking drudgery, now is the time. Come and see how women all over the country have done it—how they are saving hours of time, hours of work, and quantities of cooking materials with this wonderful kitchen convenience.

15 Long Wanted Features

- 1—Automatic Lining Flour Bin.
- 2—Automatic Base Shelf Extender in Lower Cupboard.
- 3—Ant-Proof Casters.
- 4—Gravity Door Catches.
- 5—Porcelain Work Table.
- 6—Dovetailed Joints and Rounded Corners.
- 7—False Top in Base—Dust Proof.
- 8—All Oak.
- 9—Oil Hand-Rubbed Finish. Withstands Steam in Kitchen.
- 10—Full Roll Open Front Cupboard.
- 11—Roller Bearings for Extension Work Table.
- 12—Commando Kitchen Linen Drawer.
- 13—White Enamelled Interior—Upper section.
- 14—Built-in Long Base Construction.
- 15—Glass Drawer Pulls.

See Demonstration This Week Sure! Won't cost you a penny to see the great Sellers features demonstrated. Won't obligate you. Will enlighten you. Come Today—before too late.

An Exquisite Adam Style Living Room Suite Only \$165.00

A genuine guaranteed "Karpis" living room set. Splendid construction. Martini spring seat, cushion, pillows upholstered to match; artistic cane back and sides, antique mahogany frame.

THE DAVENPORT, mahogany veneer, upholstered in blue. Priced specially for this week at... **\$108.65**

THE CHAIR, including to match. Priced specially for this week at... **\$56.35**

Purchase a Few Columbia Records And Get Your Columbia Grafonola At Hartman's With No Money Down

The first payment on your Grafonola does not become due until thirty days after you receive your machine. This offer applies on any model machine. You couldn't think of an offer which would make it easier for you to have WORLD'S BEST MUSIC IN YOUR HOME.

Grafonola Section, 1st Floor.

THE MACHINE ILLUSTRATED is our Model E 2-A—marvelous instrument in every way, mahogany case, holds seventy-five records. Only... **\$90.00**

New Spring Baby Carriages \$24.75

See our new full display of Baby Carriages and Go-Carts. Cart illustrated finished natural with heavy roll on hood and sides, and upholstered throughout to match. Large wheels. Special price. Priced specially for this week at... **\$24.75**

White Enamel Wood Crib \$10.89

LARGE SIZE COMFORTABLE CRIB, made with square post and finished in white enamel, fitted with flexible springs, automatic drop side. A foot 6 inches wide, 4 feet 6 inches long. This week's selling price... **\$10.89**

Conference on Missions April 10

The committee in charge of the Laymen's Missionary Movement conference which is to be held in Omaha on April 10, have decided to hold the banquet of laymen and ministers at the First Christian church. The evening mass meeting, when Dr. Potat and Dr. S. M. Zwemer will address the young people will be at the same place. The morning session for men will be at the Y. M. C. A. at 10:30 and the afternoon session for women at the Y. W. C. A. Dr. Zwemer and Dr. Potat are two of the strongest speakers now before the church public, and their visit to Omaha is awaited with much interest.

Hartman's World's Largest Home Furnishers

Grass Rugs for Spring

8x12 Grass Rug	\$15.95
8x10 Grass Rug	\$11.75
6x9 Grass Rug	\$ 8.85

413-15-17 South 16th Street

LUMBERMEN HIGH PRICES HOLD OUT SMALL FOR BUILDING HOPE OF SLASH PROVE HAMPER

(Continued From Page One.)

board that the lumber men take the initiative in submitting a schedule of revised prices, it was pointed out that nobody present had authority to take such action other than for his own plants and that even if an agreement were reached at the conference, its effect would be local to those plants and have no general effect.

Members of the board said frankly that they recognized the difficulties involved as peculiar to the trade. S. P. Bush, presiding chairman in the absence of George N. Peek, pointed out that the western fir producers were not represented and that there was no basis available at the meeting on which to effect adjustments between southern pine, northern pine, hardwood and all the other varieties of lumber, each of which had its own production problems and no general spokesman.

Opposed to Price Agreements.

Some of the lumber men were dubious as to the legality of any price agreements. Mr. Kirby bluntly said that the association of which he was a member would "throw out any man guilty of conspiring to fix prices. What the board members told the lumber men on this subject was not disclosed, but it generally has been accepted that the announcement of agreed steel prices and the holding of today's conference, following consultation between Mr. Peek and the attorney general, meant that no obstacle would be placed by the department of justice in the way of agreed price reductions designed to improve the general economic situation."

A. C. Johnson of Dubuque, Ia., representing some retail lumber dealers, declared many buyers would begin construction as soon as there was announcement that there would be no reduction in lumber prices. The trade at present was said to be good. Mr. Johnson had the support of the lumber producers in declaring that price reductions would have so small an effect on dwellings and other wooden construction that it was assurance of stability rather than lower cost which was desirable. He said a reduction of \$2 a thousand feet would mean a saving of only \$30 in a house consuming 15,000 feet of lumber. The material was said to be a smaller factor in wooden construction than in any other class of buildings.

O'Leary Jury in Deadlock After Deliberating 36 Hours

New York, March 22.—The jury which heard the evidence against Jeremiah A. O'Leary, former editor of the anti-British magazine, Bull, and others at their trial here in federal court on charges of violating the espionage act, had failed late tonight to reach a verdict, after deliberating nearly 36 hours.

marked that he would come along all right and not to be so rough.

"The officer seemed to be overbearing and handled the boy pretty severely, calling him a deserter. This remark the soldier resented. A scuffle ensued and several minor blows were exchanged.

"The officer pulled his gun and shot the boy without giving him the least chance. The soldier did not once offer to run and it seemed to me the most cowardly, uncalculated affair that I have ever witnessed or heard of. In my opinion it should be taken up by the citizens of Omaha and put through to the fullest extent of the law."

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is going to happen to prices. We wouldn't build on the prices asked now. If we were not far-sighted enough to have made these contracts last year, we wouldn't do any building at all this year," said F. W. Carmichael.

"The demand for houses is very great and we could rent and sell all kinds of dwellings if we had them. Scarcity of houses and impracticability of building more at present prices is acknowledged by Rasp Brothers, Scott & Hill, Johnston Brothers, Byron Reed company, Emil Holstrom, and a score of smaller builders.

The high prices affect the small builder more than the large home-building companies, because the latter buy in larger quantities and receive larger discounts.

Temple McFayden of the Bankers Mortgage and Loan company was the only builder who announced high prices would not affect his plans to build 100 new homes this spring.

Labor Cheaper Now.

"While everybody is talking about the high prices and waiting for prices to come down before building, there is a scarcity of work. So I am going ahead with my building and am getting men to work for me cheaper than they would if there was a lot of work," he said.

"I'm counting on selling the houses I build before prices go down. If I don't sell them and prices go down, of course I will lose money, but I believe prices are not going to come down."

"Of course, we charge more for the houses we sell now than we did in the past on account of high prices."

Norris & Norris company is said to be selling houses for \$2,200 and \$2,400 cheaper than any other firm can, because they have their own lumber yard and can build cheaper in consequence.

All realtors and builders interviewed by The Bee expressed great satisfaction with the investigation and disclosures made by The Bee in this important matter.

"The Bee has done a great good to the city by this exposure. Its effects can already be felt in the business," said C. W. Martin.

"The Bee's work is fine; it's a step in the right direction and has the support of every loyal Omahian who wants to see Omaha grow—with the exception of half a dozen lumbermen and building material dealers," said J. H. Osborne.

Pickell-Dean.

Chicago, March 22.—(Special Telegram.)—George W. Pickell, Jr., Blair, Neb., today obtained license to wed Miss Gladys Dean of Chicago.

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