

## POLICE BONDS ARE PUZZLE TO CITY COUNCIL

Bonding Concerns Want Some Protection Against Suits Before Taking Risks—No Solution in Sight.

Bonding Omaha policemen is not one of the most desirable forms of business, according to statements made yesterday before the city council.

This matter has been pending for some time and does not seem to be much nearer a solution than it was a month ago.

New policemen are being appointed and Police Commissioner Ringer is anxious to obtain bonds for them, but there seems to be a reluctance among the surety companies.

The formal action of the council yesterday was that the Lion Bonding and Surety company and the American Bonding and Casualty company may write the business if they will agree to the requirements of the city, one requirement being a continuous bond.

### Wants Qualifying Clause.

L. W. Young, local representative of the American Bonding and Casualty company, appeared before the council and applied for some of this bonding business, but he maintained that his company should reserve the right to approve or reject any applicant for a bond and also stood for a form of bond that would be renewed from year to year, unless there were reasons for cancellation.

"We wish to investigate applicants before they are bonded and are willing to give the city the benefit of our investigations, said Mr. Young. "We also would ask for a cancellation clause which would enable us to cancel any bond within a reasonable time, say ten days. We may not, for instance, want to bond Detectives Herdzina or Sutton, and we should have that right."

Three representatives of the American company made a fight before the council for the privilege of competing with the Lion company for this business, but when they learned of the requirements of the city they were not so keen for the business.

### Company Submits Proposition.

The Lion company week before last made the city a proposition which appeared to be the best that could be obtained. This company offered to write a continuous form of bond with the understanding that the city would co-operate in the collection of \$10 per year from each policeman and that the city legal department would defend damage suits brought against policemen.

After the American company's representatives had stated their case to the council this morning, Police Commissioner Ringer called E. R. Gurney of the Lion company over the telephone to ask him whether it would be agreeable to his company if the council should throw the business open to other companies, or whether his proposition contemplated all of the business or none.

### Says Welcome to It.

"If other companies want some of this business, may the Lord bless them," replied Mr. Gurney. "We made our proposition because we thought we were doing a public service."

It is now up to the city legal department to arrange a form of bond that will be agreeable to the bonding companies, and it is further understood that the American company wishes to reserve the privilege of determining through its own investigation department whether a policeman is entitled to a bond and also to have the privilege of cancelling a policeman's bond for cause, without having to wait for the action of the superintendent of the police department or the city council.

### Study Their Risks.

The present disinclination of the bonding companies to regard policemen as good risks has been caused by the unlawful acts of members of the police department during the last year. These companies maintain personal records of policemen and watch carefully all matters which may affect their status as "risks."

The high-handed acts of the morals squad, recently disbanded, caused the bonding companies to shrink from assuming these risks. The shooting of a soldier who had not committed a felony, the murder of a bellboy at the Plaza hotel, the repeated invasion of private homes without warrants, and other unlawful activities, have placed a ban upon the indemnity bonds for policemen.

There was a time when competition was keen for this business; today it is a different story. It appears that the city will be required to accept bonds which may be renewed from year to year and also accept the proposition of granting the bonding companies the privilege to cancel a policeman's bond at the pleasure of the company.

## Mrs. Robert F. Gilder, Wife of Well Known Newspaper Man, Dies

Mrs. Robert F. Gilder, 61 years old, 625 South Eighteenth street, wife of R. F. Gilder, newspaper man and scientist, died at 3:45 yesterday morning in the Clarkson hospital after an illness of 10 months. She had been a resident of Omaha since 1884 and was a member of the Woman's club, Daughters of the Revolution, and the Social Lodge, Degree of Honor.

She is survived by her husband, three sisters, Mrs. A. V. Porter of Ottumwa, Ia.; Mrs. Ella Crane, Aurora, Ill.; and Mrs. Nettie Bennett of Kansas City, Mo.; a brother, William Smith of Chicago, and a son, George C. Clark of Omaha.

Funeral services will be held at the Hulse & Rippen Undertaking parlors, Monday at 2:30 p. m., Rev. R. L. Wheeler having charge. The body will be cremated.

# Thompson, Belden & Co



## The Wonderful Charm of Winter Fashions



As much a matter of fabric and color, this season, as of line. Especially is this evident in the new tailleurs. Furs and embroideries are most effective on soft surfaced Peachblooms, Duvetynes and Broadcloths, and with this foundation, suits have been evolved reflecting each new idea advanced by leading designers. We offer a collection embracing each authentic mode—showing

the fineness of tailoring and the nicety of detail characteristic of Thompson-Belden apparel.

Dresses for daytime wear, of both wool and silk are extremely graceful—the lowered waistline is used quite often, and the revived popularity of accordion pleated skirts is noticeable. For evening, dancing frocks and dinner gowns, with that charming simplicity associated with good taste, are being shown.



Flowing lines and a luxury of fabric characterize the Winter wraps, both for evening and daytime wear. Effective collars and bandings of Hudson seal, beaver, nutria, and raccoon add a sumptuous note to quite a few—but the simple, but finely tailored utility coat may be had in attractive mixed materials.

In the new Fur Room are coats, coatees and separate pieces of distinguishing beauty, and of the genuineness and utter dependability that is a part of Thompson-Belden furs. Each piece is selected for its individuality and its authenticity, from the small collarette to the long cape or coat. The extent of our present collection is remarkable—this is really a most advantageous time for selection.



The textile art has become so wonderful a thing that the fabric section has grown to be a fascinating place, with woolens for dresses, suits and coats and silks for afternoon and evening, and such novelties as metal broche, embroidered Georgette, metal cloth, and, as a final triumph—a fur cloth that is surprisingly like the genuine in texture and color. Make it a point to visit our enlarged department for fabrics.



And since accessories—the gloves, the hose, the boots, the veil and the like are the true Fashion points of a costume, they must not be underestimated. When these smaller things are in harmony and perfect good taste, then, and then only, a woman is perfectly gowned.

