Lincoln Bureau of The Omaha Bee

P. A. Barrows, Correspondent

STATE ORDERS PROBE OF BANK AT HALSEY, NEB.

Mysterious Certificates of Deposit for $10,000 Excite Curiosity of Nebraska Banking Board.

Lincoln, Dec. 25.—(Special.)—The state banking department has taken charge of the affairs of the Farmers state bank, Halsey, Neb., and an examination is being made in an effort to find out about $28,500. which it is alleged, is unaccounted for.

The bank has a capitalization of $10,000 and up to the early part of this year was controlled by B. L. Mills, president. Mills' interests were sold to F. M. Ridings of Minneapolis, who is now president and holding 56 per cent of the stock.

According to information obtained by the state banking department from June 1 to August 1 paper began arriving from out of the state and Ridings had certificates of deposit for this paper, made out to him, payable in six months in amounts of $1,000 cash.

Banks Hold Certificates

The First National bank of Nora Springs is said to have $4,000 of these certificates dated June 1 and endorsed by Ridings, and another $1,000 is said to be in the hands of the State bank of Plymouth, Ia.

The banking department had no inkling of affairs until the statement of the bank was received November 1 when A. T. Dickinson, state bank examiner, made an examination of the bank and discovered suspicious circumstances and took charge of the bank about 10 days ago. At present the bank is in charge of Vice President Bowen, who lives at Halsey.

F. A. Reisner, county attorney of Thomas county, and A. E. Touzelin, bank examiner, have been in Minneapolis several days and it is said they will be in Lincoln tomorrow with Ridings, who agreed to come back without a requisition.

Suspicion N. P. League.

It is suspicioned that same of the paper held by the Nonpartisan League bank in North Dakota has been unloaded in other states and that the Bank of Halsey was one of the "favored" banks in getting the paper. Color is given to this view of the situation by reason of the fact that Ridings is associated with H. D. Hagerty (incorporated) of Fargo, N. D., in which several prominent associates of President Townley of the Nonpartisan league are connected.

Among the names connected with the Hagerty company is J. R. Waters, a former livery stable keeper of Plymouth, Ia., who went to North Dakota and was later made state bank examiner. Another man connected with the Hagerty company is J. J. Hastings, treasurer and secretary. Hastings was formerly president of the Scandinavian bank of North Dakota.

Wood River Stores Severely Damaged by Christmas Day Fire

Wood River, Wyo., Dec. 25.—(Special)—Fire of unknown origin destroyed the Mat Jarvis building and the Turner Grocery and Furniture stock Thursday morning causing loss estimated at $15,000. The Brett general merchandise store, and the Tangent building were also badly damaged.

The fire was discovered at about 2 o'clock and before daylight the Jarvis building was a complete loss. The Brett establishment was discovered to be on fire shortly afterward, and it was nearly noon before the fire in this building could be subdued.

A slight rain aided in preventing the spread of the flames. The Jarvis and Turner loss is covered by insurance and the Brett loss practically covered.

Aged Mother's Tears Fail to Move Judge In Police Court

An aged mother's tears for her son, David Wiltse of Newport, Neb., who was arrested two days ago for passing worthless checks, failed to move the sympathy of Police Judge Foster in central police station Wednesday. The youth was ordered held until continuance of his hearing on December 29. Bonds were set at $1,000.

While Wiltse stolidly faced the bench, his mother pleaded for clemency toward her son.

"He just wanted to remember me with a Christmas gift, judge," she cried.

Young Wiltse passed a worthless check for $50 on a clerk at the Nebraska Clothing company, the complaint against him reads.

Standard Oil Company Man Crushed Underneath Truck

Broken Bow, Neb., Dec. 25.—(Special)—Fred G. Grennell, a resident of Omaha, was instantly killed Monday afternoon, by being crushed underneath a truck. Grennell was repair man for the Standard Oil Co., and was on his way from Broken Bow to Sargent. The heavy tank truck skidded on a treacherous hill 22 miles northeast of Broken Bow, and went over a steep embankment, plunging 50 feet to the bottom, where it overturned. Grennell was 28 years old and leaves a wife and three children, who reside in Omaha.

Incendiary Fire at Beatrice.

Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—An attempt was made to set fire to a barn of Leo Muenster here. Just after the blaze was discovered two neighbor women saw a man jump from a window in the barn and run away. The fire was extinguished with slight damage

APPRAISEMENT OF STATE LAND IS INCREASED

New Valuations in 16 Counties Will Add $105,374.38 Revenue From Rentals.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 25.—(Special)—Land Commissioner Dan Swanson does not do much talking about his conduct of the office to which the people elected him a year ago, but according to a report prepared covering the work of that office in reappraising the school lands of the state, it appears that acts speak louder than words and that in the first year of his administration just closing he has added to the income of the state from reappraisments alone in the way of rentals, $105,374.38 yearly.

The old value of the lands in the counties so far reappraised was $624,312.80. The new valuation placed upon these lands is shown to be $2,380,552.48, an increase of $1,756,359.68.

During the year 9,011 acres of school lands were examined and reviewed for sale purposes by the land commissioner and he raised the appraisement as found by the county commissiers from $142,449 to $179,390, a gain of $36,941. The changes in the lease valuations in the 16 counties so far revalued is as follows:

County	Old Value	New Value	Increase
Boone	$ 15,599	$ 31,697	$ 16,097
Buffalo	46,176	93,530	47,353
Chase	51,659	445,500	393,840
Cherry	224,010	815,842	591,831
Dawson	74,711	171,940	97,228
Greeley	28,680	36,928	8,248
Harlan	40,190	119,295	79,115
Johnson	7,019	37,249	30,229
Otoe	6,550	39,300	32,750
Pierce	58,500	162,960	104,460
Platte	7,211	38,900	31,689
Richardson	11,580	26,955	15,375
Sarpy	1,821	18,207	16,386
Stanton	5,440	8,860	3,420
Wheeler	30,640	313,160	282,520
Webster	14,531	20,224	5,693
Total	$624,312	$2,380,552	$1,756,239

New State Capitol Plans Asked From Outside Architects

Inviations will be sent in a few days to five architects living outside of Nebraska to submit plans for the new state capitol building at Lincoln. It is expected that February 1 will be designated the day for the consideration of the plans of these architects in competition with the plans of John Latenser & Sons and John and Allan McDonald of Omaha and Ellery Davis of Lincoln, winners in the Nebraska competition.

It is believed that Jarvis Hunt of Chicago will be one of the architects to enter the contest. Cass Gilbert, who designed the Minnesota capitol, is reported to have declined to enter the contest.

Grain Cars Will Be Given Preference Over All Shipments

Chicago, Dec. 25.—An order giving grain preference over all other commodities, was issued by R. H. Aishton, regional director of the northwest, and Hale Holden, regional director of the central west.

The order followed complaints by grain men of the northwest and central west that they were unable to move crops on account of car shortage and will remain in force until the present crops have been distributed.

Not only are grain cars to have preference on the right of way, but they are to receive attention first in repair shops and extra forces to put bad order grain in condition are authorized by the orders.

Attorney General Rules On Nebraska Suffrage Law

Lincoln, Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Women voters of Nebraska may vote for delegates to the national party convention, according to an opinion rendered by Attorney General Clarence A. Davis, issued yesterday.

The opinion is given in response to an inquiry sent to the attorney general's office by Mrs. W. E. Barkley, president of the State Suffrage association. The opinion also says that women may be candidates for delegate.

Second Pan-American Congress Is Postponed

St. Louis, Dec. 25.—The second Panamerican congress scheduled to open in Washington, D. C, January 12, has been deferred one week, according to a telegram received here today from Carter Glass, secretary of the treasury. The postponement was necessitated by the delay of several foreign delegations in obtaining steamship accommodations, it was said.

Nebraskans in Washington.

Washington, Dec. 25.—(Special.)—W. W. Alt of Hyannis, Neb., one of the prominent ranchmen of the Sixth district, is spending the holidays in Washington. Mr and Mrs. W. F. Gurley of Omaha are visiting relatives in Georgetown and will remain in Washington until after the new year. Congressman and Mrs. Evans have gone to Pittsburgh to spend Christmas with Mrs. Evans' sister.

Prominent Farmer Dies.

Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—John Havlovic, well known Bohemian farmer living four miles north of De Witt, dropped dead after eating a hearty dinner. He was 60 years old and is survived by his widow and five children, three sons and two daughters.

To Heal a Cough
Take HAYES' HEALING HONEY. 35c per bottle.

CHEERING MOB WELCOMES WAR HERO FOR XMAS

Pershing Greeted at Old Home In Lincoln by Wildly Enthusiastic Crowds—Praises Boy Scouts.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 25.—(Special.) Crowds of cheering people thronged the Burlington station here yesterday morning to greet General Pershing on his first visit to his old home here since the entrance of the United States into the world war.

General Pershing's train arrived 15 minutes late, the engine puffing into view at just 10:25 a. m. The general was accompanied from Omaha by Governor McKelvie, Mayor J. E. Miller of Lincoln, and a state reception committee headed by Adj. Gen. H. J. Paul.

More than a quarter of a century ago the general made this city his home. He was then a law student at the University of Nebraska and commandant of the university cadets, and was known as "young Lieutenant Pershing." He returned yesterday an international figure, and friends here declare they are bent on "drafting" him as a republican presidential candidate.

Quarterback Drives Car.

As the general alighted from his special coach Boy Scouts of Lincoln in uniform made a line through the crowd, down which he passed to the waiting automobile, followed by Governor McKelvie, his sister, Miss Mae Pershing, and his son, Warren Pershing.

The car was driven by Harold McGlasson, quarterback on the University of Nebraska foot ball team, who saw service in the A. E. F. as a lieutenant.

Headed by the Nebraska State band, a long parade of automobiles filled with city officials, and prominent Lincoln citizens, formed behind the general's car, and filed through the main streets of the city to the home of Mrs. D. M. Butler, another sister of the general.

Here the general dismounted, and again passed through a double column of Boy Scouts to the porch of the home, when he stopped to shake hands with countless children who had gathered to welcome the military idol of the American people to his old home town.

Shakes Hands With Children.

"You are the best bunch of Boy Scouts I've seen anywhere," said the general to his escort. He then turned to other boys not in uniform and told them he hoped to see them soon in the Boy Scouts.

"I am glad to spend Christmas in Lincoln," he told the throng which filled the Butler lawn. "I am glad to get back to my old home in Nebraska. Four of the happiest years of my life were spent at this university."

"Merry Christmas to you all, and I shall try to see you all before I leave Lincoln," he called, as he disappeared into the home of his sister.

Spanish war veterans were out in force to greet the general, many of them shaking hands with him at the porch.

Pershing to Meet Boy Scouts of Ogden, Utah

Ogden, Utah, Dec. 25.—Answering invitations of the American legion and boy scouts to spend part of January 16 in Ogden, Gen. John J. Pershing sent messages from Lincoln, Neb., saying he will try to make such arrangements and adding:

"I am deeply interested in boy scouts."

Gen. John J. Pershing troop of boy scouts is located in Ogden.

Germany Puts Penalty On Exports Shipped Without Permission

Berlin, Dec. 3.—The Reichsanzeiger says that an order of export trade control will be issued shortly empowering the national economic minister to fobid all exports, consequently exports will require the permission of the national commissary, who can transfer his authority to other bureaus. The existing central bureaus for export permission will be replaced by export permission headquarters.

To cover the rising export expense to the nation, charges will be imposed according to the decree of the economic ministry. The export bureaus can also make special rates to meet their additional expense.

The money derived from export permits will be devoted to improving social conditions. The penalties for illegal export have been increased. The goods will be confiscated, imprisonment has been provided, as well as fines equal to triple the value of the commodities.

SIX MEN STORM TOLEDO JAIL AND FREE FRIENDS

Four Desperate Convicts Escape Through Assault Upon Prison Guards—Deputy Sheriff Shot.

Toledo, O., Dec. 25.—Four men with police records all over the country escaped from jail here today by an attack by six men upon deputy sheriffs, one of whom was shot. The four men at large are Edward Meehan, alias D. E. West, 30, known nationally as a safeblower; Albert Loach, store burglar, known to police under six aliases; Leo Mitchell, with 11 aliases, safeblower, and Frank Howard, alias Albert Johnson, alias Whitey, safeblower and burglar.

Meehan on January 25, 1912, was sentenced to 11½ years at Fort Leavenworth for a postoffice robbery at Paulding, O. The following year President Taft commuted his sentence to three years. He was arrested here for a killing in a resort, was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to 20 years.

Loach was arrested here September 10 for the robbery of a silk store.

Mitchell has served several terms in prisons in different parts of the country. His most prominent "bit" was done at Auburn, N. Y., for the robbery of a jewelry store at Rochester. He was awaiting trial here on a charge of carrying concealed weapons.

Howard was held as the result of a brawl in which a woman was killed. In August, 1917, he was given 19 years in Sing Sing for holding up a New York gambling resort. He served two years and escaped.

Six men visited the jail this morning and said "Merry Christmas" to the three deputies on duty. While one of the deputies was returning the salutation, the men attacked the guards, locking them in a cell. In the melee Leo Noonan, a deputy, was shot in the shoulder.

Sheriff John Mathias, hearing the comotion, arose from his bed and, unarmed, appeared on the scene. He was promptly taken to the cellar and incarcerated.

The 10 men then departed from the jail and although an almost immediate alarm was given, no trace was found.

An abandoned automobile was found near a roadhouse in the outskirts and it is believed they escaped in it. Two men suspected of the freeing of the jail inmates have been arrested. Fearing an attempt to release them police with shotguns are guarding the city prison tonight.

The raid on the jail took place shortly after 3 o'clock in the morning. The jail is located outside the business section, where there is little traffic at that hour of the night. Nobody has been found who saw the convicts and their deliverers leave the jail.

Hunting for Planet Supposed to Exist Outside of Neptune

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 25.—Professor William H. Pickering of the Harvard astronomical observatory, who is stationed at Mandeville, Jamaca, is now engaged in a search for the planet which is supposed by astronomers to exist outside Neptune and estimates that this undiscovered member of the solar system is some 55 times as far from the sun as is the earth, according to a statement made by Professor Solon L. Bailey, acting director of the observatory.

"Astronomers have suspected the existence of a planet outside Neptune for at least 50 years," Professor Bailey said, "and since 1877 many observers have tried to locate it.

"It is expected that the planet will be in apposition to the sun this winter and, therefore in a favorable position for observation. The exact date set for apposition by Professor Pickering in an estimate was December 30, 1919. It is thought that the planet will be of about the fifteenth magnitude, which means that it will prove to be several thousand times too faint to be seen with the naked eye."

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Starts December 26th, 9 A. M.

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9 A. M.

Remember, Parents, School Opens December 29th

The January sale of juvenile apparel has been brought forward several days for your particular benefit, giving you two days, Friday and Saturday, in which to outfit the children from head to foot at January Clearance Sale Prices.

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