

Lincoln Bureau of The Omaha Bee

PRESIDENT OF HALSEY BANK TO BE PROSECUTED

F. M. Ridings Agrees to Submit to an Information and Arranges \$25,000 Bond.

Lincoln, Dec. 26.—(Special Telegram)—F. M. Ridings of Minneapolis, president of the closed state bank of Halsey, who reached here today from Minnesota, left Friday night in charge of County Attorney Reiner for Thedford, county seat of Thomas county. The county attorney said before leaving he would on arriving at Thedford file an information against Ridings charging him with covering up and embezzling the bank's funds. Mr. Ridings, he said, would submit to arrest and proffer a bond of \$25,000 which he obtained before leaving Minneapolis. The county attorney said he had consented to this arrangement and would offer no objection to the release of the banker on bond. Cashier E. N. Dion, who will appear as a witness, also left for Thedford.

Return From Trip.
The return to Lincoln of State Bank Examiner Touzalin and County Attorney F. A. Reiner of Thomas county from their quest of funds to make good the shortage in the Farmers' State Bank at Halsey, has not developed anything which tends to throw much new light on the matter, except, according to those investigators, the Hagerty company, which appears to be behind the whole matter, has spacious quarters on the first floor of the Metropolitan Life building in Minneapolis, furnished with mahogany furniture and other evidences of prosperity and that at least a part of the missing funds of the Halsey bank went to help pay the rent of the offices.

"Jim" Had No Money.
After getting to Minneapolis, Mr. Touzalin found it necessary to make a trip to Bismark, N. D., to see James Martin, manager of the Bank of North Dakota, to see if the money could not be raised there, but "Jim," as his associates called him, had gone to Beahm. The bank examiner followed "Jim" to Beahm, but found that Governor Frazier of that state and "Jim" had gone to some hot springs in Wyoming.

Touzalin then hiked back to Bismark and saw the auditor of the North Dakota bank, who said that he could not advance any money because "Jim" was away and money was scarce anyhow. They applied to other banks in Bismark in hopes to get a line on some money, but were unsuccessful. Later Hagerty, who was with Touzalin, got in touch with "Jim," but was told that he had no money.

Bank Was "Easy."
Notes among the papers in possession of Secretary Hart of the banking bureau disclose that the Halsey bank was "easy money" for some of the gentlemen connected with being responsible for the present condition of the bank. When the exception there is no severity. The exception is a note for \$1,400 given by B. Vedeler, one of the prime movers in the whole scheme, who gave an insurance policy on an Oldsmobile roadster located in Omaha. The others are as follows: Hagerty, \$2,000; brother of Hagerty, \$2,000; H. J. Hjort, \$2,000; W. H. Rick, \$2,000; Geo. W. Ridings, \$2,000; Earl Capron the well-known former Minnesota quarterback, \$800, and several other notes running from \$2,000 down to \$700.

Ridings and Dion, the cashier, are here and will return to Thomas county with County Attorney Reiner and have given bond for \$2,500.

Ridings "Pans" Reporters.
F. M. Ridings visited the office of the secretary of the state banking department Friday afternoon with E. N. Dion, cashier of the Halsey bank, and was interviewed by the newspaper men. He seemed rather inclined to "pan" the reporters because of the connection made of the trouble the bank was in with the Nonpartisan league. He denied that the Nonpartisan league had any connection with the bank or that Hagerty, Hastings, "Jim" Waters and the rest were Nonpartisan leaguers.

He said that when the truth was learned the officers of the Halsey bank would have been found to be more sinned against than sinning in that they had been put "in bad" by publicity. He denied that Waters was connected in any way with the Nonpartisan league, but admitted that he was president of the Bank of North Dakota, which was established by the Nonpartisan league.

He denied that he had any stock in the Hagerty (Inc.) company, but admitted that he had been acting as secretary-treasurer for several months.

Secretary Hart of the banking department said that Mr. Ridings had been able to explain some things, but in the main the statement as given out by the department embodied the facts so far as the department had been able to determine.

Street Car Fare in Lincoln To Be Raised to Seven Cents
Lincoln, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The State Railway commission has given authority to the Lincoln Traction company to raise its rates in this city from 6 to 7 cents. Some time ago permission was given the company to raise the rate from 5 to 6 cents, but the company alleges that this has not been sufficient to cover expenses and the new rate has been allowed to go into effect January 1.

Outs Arm on Saw.
Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Al Mosher of Wymore was seriously injured south of town, while sawing wood with a circular saw. His sleeve caught on the saw, pulling his right arm over the blade.

DENIES BOARD IS TO CONTROL ALL STATE SCHOOLS

State Official Corrects an Impression That Has Spread Over State.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—An impression appears to prevail, according to C. A. Fulmer of the state department of vocational training, that the recommendations of the state association commission for the constitutional convention includes the university, state normals and public schools under the one board. This is a mistake, according to Mr. Fulmer, who gives out the following:

"The constitutional convention commission of the State Teachers' association, including representative teachers from all parts of the state and from rural schools, city schools, the normal schools and the university, have been studying the problem of the reorganization of the state school system for the past three or four months. On Thursday, December 18, the recommendations of this committee were introduced into the constitutional convention by the following resolution:

State Department.
1. A state department of education controlled by a state board of education of seven members appointed by the governor, one each year for a seven-year term and with reference only to merit and personal fitness. The state board of education to employ a commissioner of education to serve as the executive officer of the state board of education and as the head of the common school systems of the state.

2. A state tax for the purpose of equalizing the educational opportunities of the state.

3. County boards of education for the promotion of better rural schools and to hear the same relation to the office of county superintendent that the state board is to bear to the state department of education.

English Language.
4. Provision that the English language shall be the basic language of instruction in all the schools of the state.

This commission makes no recommendation as to the government of the university or of the state normal schools, but confines its recommendations entirely to the organization of city and rural schools and of the state department.

Should the plan proposed by the commission be adopted, the following three educational boards in the state:

1. A state board of education for the control of the state department of education.

2. The board of regents for the government of the University of Nebraska.

3. A normal school board for the government of normal schools.

Governor Respites Men Under Sentence Of Death for One Week

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Governor McKelvie today respited Anson B. Cole and Vincent Grammer, under sentence of death by electrocution January 9 for the murder of Grammer's mother-in-law, for one week, because of possible delay in the arrival of the executioner from New York.

The hearing before the governor, for these two men, was likewise postponed from December 29 to January 5. This hearing will be semi-public, in that persons having a direct bearing on the case may be present.

The supreme court today refused a rehearing to Cole. Direct action by the governor is all that can save these two men now.

Several Names Are Mentioned at Lincoln For Governor's Job

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Prominent politicians of this city are brooding several names for the republican nomination to the office of governor. Among those most frequently mentioned are Senator John Heasty of Fairbury, Mayor Steiner of Hastings and former Mayor Don Love of Lincoln.

Governor McKelvie has not yet announced his intention of running for another term, but it is generally understood around the capital that he will do so.

Supreme Court Sustains Secret Society Judgment

Lincoln, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The supreme court in a decision affirms the judgment of the Douglas county district court in a case brought by Gertrude Nichols against the national council of the Knights and Ladies of Security, a fraternal benefit association, incorporated under the laws of Kansas.

The defendant alleged false representation made in the certificate of application for membership, but the court held that the representations were not material and ordered the payment of the certificate for \$2,000.

The supreme court also affirms a judgment secured in Douglas county by Lillian Livingston, who sued the Omaha & Council Bluffs Street Railway company for \$50,650 damages for injuries sustained while alighting from a street car. The high court holds that there was no error in the charge and affirms the verdict.

GOVERNOR GIVES EDITOR SHARP CALLING DOWN

Denies Insinuations of St. Paul, Neb., Republican in Cole and Grammer Case.

Lincoln, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The publication of an article in the St. Paul Republican reproduced in the Nebraska State Journal has caused Governor McKelvie to write the editor of the former paper a letter in which he remarks that the article published is unwarranted and uncalled for. It relates the matter of the Cole and Grammer cases pending before the governor for a hearing on a plea for clemency. H. B. McKibben is publisher of the paper, according to information given, and M. Lorkosky is local editor. The governor says:

"Editor the Republican, St. Paul, Neb.
"I have read in the Evening Star Journal of December 24 what is reported to be a reproduction of an article from your publication, bearing upon the action that shall be taken by me in the matter of Alson Cole and Vincent Grammer.
"Your article is replete in unwarranted innuendoes and misstatements, but worse than this is the fact that you have apparently sought to intimidate those who shall finally pass upon this matter.

"I have referred this article to the attorney general so that I may ascertain whether there is any source through which legal action may be taken regarding publications that thus anticipate the action of those who are charged with the solemn responsibility of passing final judgment in such vital matters. Legally it may not be defined as contempt of court, but the effect can be nothing less than this.

"Aside from the legal aspects of the case, I want to assure you, sir, that this case has no relation to any other that has, or will, come before my attention and action. It will be handled at my hands in the light of the facts, and the action that I will take will not be influenced one particle by questions of political expediency, veiled threats or healding from outside sources.

"I do not question your right to criticize for acts that have already been committed, but I do certainly question the wisdom, if not the legality, of the action of any editor or publisher who seeks to influence through threats or prejudiced expressions, the action that is yet to be taken by a public official in so vital a matter.

"Publications that seek to inflame the public mind and prejudice the action that shall be taken by the courts and other public officials, are a menace to the community and, through their acts, they far transcend anything that was ever anticipated in the constitutional rights of a free press. The really hopeful aspect of it all is that there are really very few editors who so deport themselves."

Supreme Court May Recommend Man for Sedgwick Vacancy

Lincoln, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The supreme court probably will be called upon to make recommendations for the appointment of a man to fill the vacancy caused by the sudden death of Judge Samuel H. Sedgwick.

Two men are already mentioned among state officials. E. P. Perry, who recently resigned as judge from the Fourteenth judicial district may be prevailed upon to accept the appointment, it is strongly rumored here. He was a candidate for the nomination to the supreme bench at the last primary.

Grant G. Martin of Lincoln, formerly from Fremont, is also mentioned. He served as attorney general for two years and was a member of the supreme court commission. He lost the nomination to the supreme court bench by a small margin at the last primary.

Furloughed Because Of Heart Trouble; Is In Jail in Omaha

Lincoln, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Thomas D. Foley, sent up from Douglas county for auto stealing, and given an indeterminate sentence of one to seven years, was furloughed September 9, on a certificate from Dr. Mungler, prison physician, that he had organic heart trouble of a serious nature.

Information has been received at the governor's office that Foley is in jail in Omaha for stealing automobile tires. He will be brought back to the penitentiary.

All Well Aboard 'Ark,' Wireless Message Says; Report 'Reds' Contented

Washington, Dec. 26.—A wireless message from the army transport Buford, on which a number of radicals were deported from the United States, received at the War department, said everything was well on board the ship and the "reds" contented.

All dealings between the ship officials and the passengers are carried on through Alexander Berkman, who before the Buford sailed was chosen by the deportees as their leader.

Link Uruguay to U. S.

New York, Dec. 26.—Uruguay was linked to the United States through the opening of a new line from Buenos Aires to Montevideo, putting New York and Montevideo in direct telegraphic communication with each other for the first time.

Prisoner Who Leaped To Freedom From Train Near Omaha



Henry Wegsworth.

Police and county officers have found no trace of Henry Wegsworth, better known as "Frisco Pete," who escaped from Deputy Sheriff Roy Johnson by jumping from a train near Plattsmouth, Neb. Wegsworth was being brought to Omaha from Tulsa, Okla., to answer a charge of robbing the Charles Storz home, 1901 Wirt street, last summer while the family was attending a funeral.

SHEEPMEN PLAN CO-OPERATION IN SALE OF WOOL

Annual Meeting of Nebraska Sheep Breeders Will Be Held in Lincoln January 20.

The Nebraska Sheep Breeders' association will hold its annual meeting at Lincoln January 20 during the week of Organized Agriculture. Among those on the program will be Dr. H. G. Hewitt of David City, John Reese of Broken Bow, George Parker of Omaha, Charles Atkinson of Pawnee City, W. G. Savin of the state university, Spencer Butterfield of Osmond, Walter Boireau of Chicago, Ill., Elmer Lohse of Omaha and A. R. Hecht of Lexington. An important matter to be taken up at this meeting is the co-operative selling of Nebraska's 1920 wool clip. The program for the meeting follows: Address of welcome, Dr. H. G. Hewitt, David City.

"Care and Management of a Farm Flock," John Reese, Broken Bow.

"The Kind of Feeder Sheep to Buy," George Parker, Knollin Sheep Commission company, Omaha.

"Lambing Out Western Ewes," Charles Atkinson, Pawnee City.

"Present Needs of Nebraska Sheep Men," W. G. Savin, University farm, Lincoln.

"Feeding Lambs," Spencer Butterfield, Osmond.

"Eat More Lamb," Walter Boireau, Swift & Co., meat expert, Chicago.

"Caring for the Wool Clip," Elmer Lohse, Omaha Hide and Fur company, Omaha.

"Wool Pools," Alvah R. Hecht, Lexington.

12-Year-Old Boy Is Principal in Queer Love Triangle Case

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Benny Sokolonski, 12 years old, today was at a hospital, thoroughly atwain, out of his mind, after being crammed into an ash can in freezing weather for a day and a night. Benny was the base of an infantile example of the age old triangle and the other two sides were formed by Annie Barzyk, 15, and Florence Mosler, 11. As a result he had, he said, crawled into the ash can seeking death.

Tightly clasped in his little fist when a policeman dragged him from his refuge, Benny had a letter from his "loving wife, Annie," a strange grouping of childish devotion to a playmate, mature abnegation and sorrow which usually accompanies triangles.

"I know you love Florence and I know you don't love me any more," read the letter, "but, oh, if you only knew how I love you. Don't tell Florence how much I love you or she will be mad. If you only knew how much she loves you. Oh, I hate her.

"But if you love her better than me, you can have her. I love you, dear. I love you, dear."

Paris Must Abridge Fun New Year's Eve

Paris, Dec. 26.—The rule forcing restaurants and entertainments to close at 11:30 p. m. which was lifted for Christmas, will be enforced on New Year's eve. The police explain that the shortage of coal, the waste of electricity and the danger of quarrels necessitates enforcement of the rule.

ONLY YANK WHO FACED TREASON CHARGE FREED

Secretary of War Pardons Man Convicted of Treasonable Intercourse With Enemy.

New York, Dec. 26.—Secretary of War Baker today remitted the 20-year sentence imposed upon Private Lawrence Perlmutter of New York, the only member of the American

expeditionary force to be convicted of treason, according to word received from Washington by Representative Isaac Siegel of New York, who interested himself in the lad's case.

Perlmutter, who served in the medical department, Ninth infantry, Second division, was convicted of having supplied military information of value to the Germans while a prisoner of war. He was court-martialed in Coblez after having rejoined the American army after the armistice and his sentence was approved by general headquarters.

According to Mr. Siegel, who went over the record in the case with Provost Marshal General Crowder,

it was not shown that the answers which Perlmutter gave the Germans were true and only one witness, Capt. William H. Gordon, captured with him, testified against him, whereas two witnesses are needed before an American can be legally convicted of treason.

Bury Airman's Body.

London, Dec. 26.—The body of Captain Cedric Ernest Howell, one of the British air men in the London to Austria flight, who lost his life when his machine was wrecked off the Island of Corfu December 12, was washed ashore on Corfu and buried by an English chaplain, according to a Corfu dispatch.

Father Loses Life In Futile Attempt To Rescue His Son

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 26.—A. A. Kenworthy and his son, Glenn, aged 5, were burned to death by flames which destroyed their home here. Firemen said the positions of the bodies indicated the father lost his life in attempting to save the child. Mrs. Kenworthy was away from the house when the fire started.

The End-of-the-Year Clearance Sale Is Now in Full Progress

This organization compels and holds the confidence of the public by a reputation built upon truth-telling in advertising, backed by high standards and service.

So that when we say that for high types of merchandise, forceful values and remarkable saving opportunities, this sale is without precedent, we know the public is with us.

Notwithstanding the radical price reductions, every article of apparel included in this sale is a masterpiece of style, distinctively typical of Benson & Thorne Specialty Shops' high standards.

Women's Evening Wraps
Stein Blaine Models
1/2 Price

The beauty, grace of line and coloring; the marvelous artistry of exquisite furs, braidings and embroidery of these models are irresistible.

Fur Trimmed Coats
Previously to \$95.00
\$49.50

In texture of fabrics, colors and high class tailoring these coats are expressive of the highest type of women's distinctive winter apparel.

Women's Distinctive Suits
Previously to \$89.50
\$40.00

Every fashionable mid-winter mode included, majority having huge fur collars; developed from silvertone, peach-blooms, yulama cloth, tricotine and broadcloth.

Evening Gowns
From \$25.00 to \$195.00
1/2 Price

Distinctively resplendent models of dashing color brilliancy or softest, daintiest tones; exquisitely-fashioned from tulle, chiffon velvet, metal lace and net combinations, satins, taffetas and brocades.

Fine Furs Of Superb Qualities
25% Off

Most appealing and exquisite models of the highest grade furs, selected for their superior qualities and dependability. Every skin a perfect match.

45 Baffin Seal Coats
From \$49.50 to \$195.00
1/3 Off

Including the latest in short and long-length models. Trimmed in big collars and cuffs of skunk, coney, stone marten, beaver.

Tailored Coats
Previously to \$95.00
1/3 Off

Including the cleverest of the smart mid-winter tailored coats, splendidly tailored and finished, with huge collars, wide belts all beautifully lined.

Fur Trimmed Suits
Previously to \$125.00
\$60.00

Each model with its beautiful fur trimmings, excellence of tailoring, clever styling, expressing that extreme note of luxury underlying all exclusive creations. Of peachbloom, duvet de laine, yulama, silvertone.

Semi-Formal Frocks
From \$50.00 to \$195.00
1/2 Price

Developed in velours, peachblooms, duvetyne, duvet de laine, yulama, tricotine, satin and crepes. Each model typifying the charm and distinctiveness that have made the creations of this store the vogue.

Trimmed Millinery
Choice of Entire Mid-Winter Stock
\$1.00

Consisting of the entire balance of our mid-winter pattern hats, of beautiful velvets, brocades, satins and broadcloth and fur combinations.

The Eldredge-Reynolds Annex Features In the End-of-the-Year Clearance Sale

Women's Winter Coats
1/3 Off

- \$65.00 Coats at \$43.33
- \$55.00 Coats at \$36.66
- \$50.00 Coats at \$33.33
- \$45.00 Coats at \$30.00
- \$40.00 Coats at \$26.66
- \$39.50 Coats at \$26.33
- \$35.00 Coats at \$23.33
- \$29.00 Coats at \$19.66
- \$30.00 Coats at \$20.00

Women's Dresses
\$27.50

Of serge, tricotine, georgette crepe; smartly designed; cleverly fashioned with trimmings of lace collars, fancy pockets; beautifully braided, embroidered.

Men's Shoes
Previously to \$10.00
\$4.95

800 pairs. Also big boys' shoes included in black calf and kid; English or broad toe last; lace or button; heavy welt sewed soles; sizes slightly broken, but all sizes in lot.

Women's Tailored Coats
\$23.50 to \$49.50

Exceptionally well tailored, smart looking coats—distinctive in style, trimming and colors. In plain back, belted, beltless styles, with huge collars, belts, pockets; some fur trimmed.

Women's Shoes
Previously to \$10.00
\$4.95

1,000 pairs. For street and dress; complete line of sizes 2 1/2 to 8; in all gray, brown, field mouse, gray and black kid, brown with cloth tops. Many two-toned styles.

Girls' and Boys' ribbed hose—black and brown—sizes 5 to 10—Limit 2x pair to a customer. 25c.

Irregulars, Women's all silk hose, previously to \$4.00, \$1.39.

Annex Hosiery Shop

Benson & Thorne

ELDRIDGE-REYNOLDS CO.

"The Store of Specialty Shops"

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Our Year-End Clearance Sale Advertisement on Page 5.

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