

RE-ELECT SMITH PRESIDENT OF FARMERS' BODY

Congress Opposes Plan of Shorter Hours and More Pay as Aid to Profiteers.

The 11th annual three-day convention of the Nebraska Farmers' Congress closed at the Hotel Cass yesterday afternoon with the election of officers and the adoption of a series of resolutions touching on civic and economic matters.

O. G. Smith of Kearney, was re-elected president, Frank Tannehill of Norfolk, first vice president, and Charles Graff of Bancroft, second vice president. M. K. Thompson of Havelock, was elected third vice president, replacing A. L. Stoner of Invalle. J. B. Grinnell of Omaha, was re-elected secretary, with the added duties of treasurer.

Want More Work. Short work days and weeks, with increasing pay, were pronounced "allies of profiteers" in causing the present high cost of living," by the congress, which further resolved that the farmer is ready to go to lower price levels, but that the farmer alone should not be affected by the drop in prices.

Legislation to give county road supervisors control of all roads of the state not now under their control was recommended, and a demand that the present constitutional convention "speed up the administration of justice," and that every felon be tried by a jury as soon as possible after an arrest is made were passed by the congress.

Stop Land Speculation. Members of the constitutional convention were also urged to make

an effort to destroy speculation in land and to encourage the ownership of farms in the state.

Another resolution passed by the congress stated that the high cost of moisture in corn, and the apparent shortage of cars has resulted in a damage of from 35 to 50 per cent of corn stored in many elevators. In view of this condition the congress recommended that the state railway commission investigate the shortage of cars and secure, if possible, immediate relief.

The longest and probably the most important resolution, from the delegates' standpoint, passed favored legislation for the repeal of the tax-free feature of joint stock land banks and advocated amendment to the federal farm loan act to provide for an increase in the maximum loan limit by federal land banks from \$10,000,000 to \$25,000,000, "so that farmers and ranchers operating standard farm units may be accommodated."

Sugar Shortage Myth. C. H. Gustafson, president of the Nebraska Farmers' Union, of Omaha, declared that the sugar shortage in this country was a myth, that the country is overflowing with sugar which is held off the market, speaking before the Nebraska beet growers are to meet this month in Denver, Colo., to organize a co-operative marketing concern, and if they succeed there will be fewer sugar shortages, said Mr. Gustafson.

There are a large number of co-operative elevators, coal yards and stores in Nebraska, and all are successes, Mr. Gustafson declared. He mentioned one small grain elevator run on a co-operative basis by 93 farmers which made a total profit in one year of \$22,000.

"There is nothing radical in the co-operative idea," Mr. Gustafson said. "Millions of dollars have been taken from Nebraska by stock salesmen, many of them with worthless stock. If this money were invested in a co-operative project, where the investor would have a voice in its business, real returns would be received."

Implement Dealers Close Meeting Here By Electing Officers

The 11th annual convention of the Midwest Implement Dealers' association, held at the Hotel Ramey yesterday, with election of officers, O. A. Rystrom of Stromsburg, Neb., was re-elected president; James Wallace of Council Bluffs, Ia., secretary, and J. M. Elwell of Springfield, Neb., treasurer.

C. E. Bass of Anselmo, Neb., was elected vice president of the organization, replacing A. W. Dyer of Exeter, Neb. Jacob Bender of Sutton, Neb.; M. E. Southwick of Moline, Ia.; and A. E. Tumbler of Hooper, Neb., were elected directors.

The meeting of the association was one of the most successful ever held, according to members. The exhibition of implements at the Auditorium was also the largest and most complete ever on display here.

First Air Mail to Sheriff Is a Bill, But He's Satisfied

Sheriff Clark received a letter yesterday by the first aerial Chicago-Omaha mail.

"It was a bill for \$85, but I was glad to get it," said the sheriff, who showed it to many friends and court house officials.

The letter was a bill to Douglas county for one international time recorder, sent out by the company that makes the instruments in New York.

The letter left Chicago at 8:29 yesterday morning and was delivered in the sheriff's office at 1:59, just five and a half hours later.

Mother Wants Court to Annul Marriage of Son

Attempting to annul the marriage of her son, Mrs. Nora Hoon filed an amended petition in district court yesterday, alleging that Dorothy Weston secured a marriage license, May 4, 1919, and induced William Zweibel, son of Mrs. Hoon, to marry her. Mrs. Hoon alleges that Dorothy told William that her mother and brother threatened to throw her out of their home if she continued to "keep company" with William.

Mrs. Hoon sets forth that both Dorothy and William were minors at the time of the marriage.

NETHAWAY CASE ENDS AND JURY DELIBERATING

District Court Room Crowded To Hear Oratory in Closing Conspiracy Trial.

The court room of District Judge Sears was crowded to its capacity yesterday afternoon to hear the orations in closing the Claude L. Nethaway case. Nethaway has been on trial since last Monday on the charge of conspiracy to murder Will Brown, the negro lynched by the mob at the court house the night of September 28, 1919.

The case was given to the jury at 4:30 yesterday afternoon, after three hours of oratory.

Nethaway Sheds Tears. Deputy County Attorney Arthur Rosenblum opened the argument for the state. He was followed by H. B. Fleharty, attorney for Nethaway.

County Attorney Shotwell made the closing argument for the state. Mr. Nethaway shed a few tears while Mr. Fleharty was drawing to the jury a picture of Nethaway's grief over the murder of his wife in August, 1917. He wept for a few moments, covering his face with his handkerchief. His sister, Mrs. Belldene, came and sat beside him and also wept.

Mr. Fleharty, in his argument, quoted a Persian poet, who, he said, quoted a man as saying to his God: "How are you any better than I am? If I do evil and you punish me by doing evil also."

He quoted considerable poetry. County Attorney Shotwell began his argument by asserting that "Nethaway is not to be tried by poetry or any fine-spun theories of what might be, nor yet by any contemplation of shipwrecks that may strew his life. He is on trial on a clear-cut issue of conspiracy to murder the negro, Will Brown."

The evidence in the case was concluded yesterday noon.

"Glad He's in Hell." Nethaway denied that he was in favor of getting the negro in the way he was captured.

"You were glad they got the negro, Will Brown, weren't you?" asked Mr. Shotwell.

"I'm happy that he's in hell," said Nethaway.

"Were you in favor of lynching Brown?"

"Not particularly," Mr. Shotwell's cross-examination came finally to the movements of Nethaway with regard to his wife, whom he had left about 8 o'clock, she going to a moving picture theater and he to the riot scene.

"Looking in Crowd." "You had promised to meet her at the Brandeis corner after the show, hadn't you?" asked the county attorney.

"It was understood," said Nethaway.

"Did you go there to meet her?"

"No, but I was looking around in the crowd for her. I looked all through the crowd to find her."

"You went to the place where they were burning the negro's body at Seventeenth and Dodge streets about midnight, didn't you?"

"Why did you go there?"

"Well, I thought I might find my wife up there."

"You didn't go there to see them burn the negro?"

"No, I just took a glance at that."

"When did you find your wife?"

"About 1 o'clock that night."

Wife Not Present. "And instead of meeting her where you promised, you were looking through the crowd for her?"

"Yes, and I went around looking at the hotels to find her."

Nethaway's second wife to whom he was married December 2, 1918 has been conspicuously absent from his trial. In answer to a question yesterday he stated that she has been in Chicago since the middle of December.

Omaha Fire Insurance Firm Holds First Annual Meeting

Officers and directors of the National American Fire Insurance Co. of Omaha were re-elected at the first annual meeting of the stockholders at the offices in the Barker block yesterday. The following officers were re-elected: W. H. Almonson, president; W. L. Wilcox and W. A. Smith, vice presidents; James E. Foster, secretary-treasurer; Merrick E. Lease, agency superintendent. The directors are: N. H. Tyson, E. R. Goodman, F. R. Achtmeier, H. H. Jones, C. W. Wentz, C. L. Dunham, Dr. Frank Barta, Dr. J. E. Hathorn, F. O. Baker, S. J. Lydick, G. C. Huefue, J. F. Smith, L. M. Boyer, D. J. Poynter, C. J. Harrison, J. E. Foster, C. L. Brinkerhoff, Henry Misko and A. J. Johnson.

Douglas County Pioneers Elect Officers for 1920

Officers for the ensuing year were elected yesterday afternoon by the Douglas County Pioneer association. The new officers are: Henry D. Rhoades, president; George W. Winship, first vice president; Augustus Lockner, second vice president; Mrs. Robert M. Taylor, third vice president; George A. Wilcox, fourth vice president; Mrs. Jennie M. Maginn, fifth vice president; Andrew Treynor, sixth vice president; Judge George Holmes, seventh vice president; Mary Carmack, secretary; Anna K. Bowman, assistant secretary, and Jacob M. Counsman, treasurer.

The meeting was held in the county commissioners' rooms at the court house. About 75 members of the association were present. Short talks were made by the officers.

PRAEGER FEARS END OF AERIAL MAIL SERVICE

Attitude of Congress in Curtailing Appropriations Criticized by Assistant Postmaster General.

Unless congressmen change their attitude, yesterday's celebration of the extension from Chicago to Omaha of the aerial mail service is likely to prove not only the end of the great transcontinental air mail but also the end of the American mail service itself, according to Assistant Postmaster General Otto Praeger, who came to Omaha yesterday morning to witness the arrival of the first mail plane.

"I am informed," Mr. Praeger said, "that the house committee on postoffices and postroads, which originates the Postoffice department appropriations, has refused—and newspapers say by a strictly party vote—to increase the air mail appropriation beyond what it is for the present fiscal year, \$850,000, permits us to maintain and operate a route only from Washington to New York, and from New York to Chicago, the year through, with an operation for but a part of the year from Chicago to Omaha and part of the year from Minneapolis-St. Paul to St. Louis if all things go well with the service."

Plans Daily Service. "The plans of the Postoffice department for the ensuing fiscal year called for a daily air mail service from the Atlantic to the Pacific in 59 hours against 90 1/2 hours by rail; from Pittsburgh to Kansas City in 10 1/2 hours against 24 1/2 hours by rail; from New York to Atlanta in 10 hours instead of 26 1/2 hours by rail, and from the Twin Cities to St. Louis in 7 1/2 hours instead of 20 3/4 hours by rail."

"I have been furnished unofficially with two reasons why the appropriation for the air mail has not been increased for this proposed extension: One is that congressmen want to save money to the people, and the other is that they want to let a separate department of air, instead of the Postoffice department, operate the air mail in the future."

"Clearly, this attitude cannot have been taken on the ground of economy, because in the estimates furnished congress the cost of the proposed transcontinental service, with all its feeders, would not exceed the savings made by the reduction in the rail rates by \$500,000 per year. As a fact, the air mail has been operated now for nearly one year and eight months far below all estimates of operation, and the estimated \$3,000,000 extension of service would not cost the government a cent more than the present distribution which the airplane would displace."

To Starve Air Service. "But the most inexplicable reason given is that it has been decided not to increase the air mail appropriation beyond what it is for the fiscal year, because it is proposed to create a department of air which would operate the air mail. Now it happens that all the bills for a department of air give such a department no money for operating an air mail service of any kind, but provide that the proposed department of air shall take over from the Postoffice department, the army, the navy and any other department which it would supersede their respective appropriations for air operations. So if congress starves or holds down the appropriations for their departments it to that extent starves the proposed new department of air. Congress in effect would say: 'You shall have no air mail to the Pacific coast because it wants to pass legislation creating a department of air. Can anybody see any connection between cause and effect in this illogical attitude?'"

"I might say here that the proposed department of air is not designed to develop commercial aviation, but to combine and make more proficient, if possible, our military aeronautics by the creation of a joint land and naval army of the air. The Postoffice department does not hesitate to advise the public now that if the operation of the air mail is taken out of the hands of the Postoffice department, it will meet with a speedy death, and all of the splendid rapid service that the Postoffice department has created through the air mail will be lost."

Another Identification Of Mystery Girl Offered

Another "positive" identification of the "mystery girl," whose body was found November 20 in a ravine 15 miles north of Omaha, was made yesterday by M. Brandt of Randolph, Neb.

Brandt identified the beads found near the body of the girl as belonging to his wife, who left him last June following a heated argument. He said that during the argument, the string of beads was broken, and that his wife gathered up some of the beads to take away with her. He also identified the clothes found on the body of the "mystery girl," according to Detectives Troby and Bolar who are still working on the murder case.

Brandt came to Omaha Wednesday night. He said his wife's name was "Alice" and that she may have changed her name after leaving him.

The last "positive" identification and most promising one toward solving the mystery was that the murdered girl was Alice Masette, formerly of Council Bluffs.

Police are still looking for the former sweetheart of the Masette girl.

Alleged Deserter Arrested Three Hours After Escape

Three hours after Lester Dunkin, alleged deserter from the United States army, walked out of Fort Omaha yesterday, he was apprehended at the home of his sister by Detectives Danbaum and P. Haze. He was turned over to military authorities at the fort.

Dunkin had been in the guard house awaiting trial for desertion, authorities say. While with a working party at the fort unloading coal, Dunkin escaped.

FLASHES from FILMLAND

PHOTO-PLAY OFFERINGS FOR TODAY.

ONE cannot complain of a dull moment in "My Husband's Other Wife," the feature on the screen at the Moon today and Saturday. There is action in every inch of its plot and the action revolves not alone around one central figure, but about every one in the cast, which is a small one. Adelaide Hedler, a famous actress, is indifferent to her husband and encourages the attention of Wilfred Hedges, the playwright whose plays have made her famous. A divorce follows, after which the husband goes among strangers and sees his dreams of administering to others come true.

Rialto—The daily laugh you so much enjoy will be kept up all day long at the Rialto and see Charlie Chaplin in "A Day's Pleasure," his latest \$1,000,000 picture. All of the humor of Chaplin's previous successes have been combined in this production, the theme of which is a strong avowal of the fact that one who is intended to be a day's pleasure turns out to be a day of intense labor.

Sun—Out on the blistering, relentless desert Norman Kerry as Robert Clay heads a party of civil engineers blazing the trail for a transcontinental railroad in "Soldiers of Fortune," a photo-production offering at the Sun theater. He pushes forward, winning fame and a sweetheart, a girl whom he had never loved before. Adventure, love and romance all are to be found in "Soldiers of Fortune."

Empress—Like a bit of golden sunshine is Mae Murray in her new

AT THE THEATERS

ON account of the excessive demand for seats this week the management requests patrons to take up seats they have ordered early. With beautiful scenic and lighting effects "A Song Romance" is being presented this week as one of the stellar attractions by Amelia Stone and Arman Kaliz. Sharing headline honors is another attractive musical act presented by Saranof, Billy Abbott and the Winter Garden Violin Girls. A featured part of the bill is clever Venita Gould, impersonator.

Those who have seen "Scandal" at Boyd's are advising those who have not to be sure to see it before the week is over. It is Cosmo Hamilton's most daring, as well as most successful comedy. Its theme and its handling make it worth while.

"Parlor, Bedroom and Bath," the big farce success, will be at Boyd's for the three days commencing Thursday the 15th.

Sunday next, A. H. Woods will present "Friendly Enemies" at the Boyd for an engagement of four days. "Friendly Enemies" has been a sensational success in two continents. A splendid company will interpret the piece in this city.

This is the last day of the engagement of "Girls A La Carte" at the Gayety. Tomorrow matinee will witness the opening of a week's run of Jack Singer's famous "Belmont Show," which missed playing Omaha last season because of the flu closing order. Ladies' matinee today and tomorrow at 2:15.

All the members of Billy Hawtheater's musical act at the Empress are picked minstrel men. The interlocutor is a handsome woman, who also contributes pleasing songs. The jokes have the punch for an audience to appreciate, while the soft-shoe dancing is a treat.

Judge Day Promises To Sit On Supreme Bench by February 9

District Judge Day, after consultation Wednesday with the supreme court judges, made a definite promise to take his seat on the supreme bench at Lincoln not later than February 9 and possibly before that time.

The only thing delaying him is completion of the arguments on the condemnation proceedings of the Omaha Gas company. With Judge Good of Walworth and Senator Allen, he composes the board which has heard all the testimony in this case. Final arguments will probably be made January 29.

Judge Day was appointed to the supreme bench to succeed the late Justice Sedgwick.

G. A. R. Department Chaplain Dies in University Place

Lincoln, Jan. 8.—(Special.)—Rev. James L. Leonard, chaplain of the Nebraska department G. A. R., died at his home in University Place, Wednesday. He was elected chaplain of the department at the meeting last May.

He was 78 years of age, had been a Methodist minister in Nebraska for nearly 40 years and was highly esteemed among all of his brethren. He leaves a widow and four children. One of these, Willard Leonard, with his wife, has been caring for the chaplain at his home for the last month.

No announcement has been made yet of funeral services.

Jailed for Enticing Girl To Live at Howard Hotel

A six weeks' search for Ada Knight, 18-year-old beauty, 2866 Fremont avenue, during which time the girl's parents had sworn out a warrant for her arrest for vagrancy, led to the finding of the girl Wednesday night in company with her sister-in-law, Mrs. Harriet Knight, 4732 Seward street.

The latter, who is 25 years old, and mother of two children, was given 60 days in jail by Police Judge Fitzgerald in Central police court on testimony that she had enticed Ada to live in company with men at the Howard hotel, Tenth and Howard streets.

A new one-man farm tractor can be completely controlled with ropes by a driver at any point on an implement being drawn or walking on the ground at a distance

Wants Protectorate Lifted.

Cairo, Jan. 8.—A conversation between Viscount Milner, special British commissioner, with the grand mufti of Egypt, who is the religious chief of the Mohammedans in Egypt, is reported in the newspaper El Misri, in which the grand mufti attributed the present trouble in the conditions to the country's desire for independence.

Lord Milner contended that the mufti's arguments did not prevent a discussion, and asked him to discuss the questions. But the mufti replied: "We can have no discussion until the protectorate is withdrawn."

PHOTO-PLAYS.

Two Attempts Made by Villa to Wreck Trains

El Paso, Tex., Jan. 8.—Twice within the past week Francisco Villa has attempted to wreck trains on the railroad south of Chihuahua City, Mexico, according to apparently reliable information reaching here. He also had two small encounters with federal troops during the same period, it was said.

Villa was reported to have attempted to destroy a bridge near Ortiz, Chihuahua, and to have also attacked the railroad at La Cruz, Chihuahua. He was reported to have 800 men under his command.

PHOTO-PLAYS.

don't get a divorce until you see



Sylvia Breamer, Robert Gordon and an all star cast in—

MY HUSBAND'S OTHER WIFE

Divorce causes many a matrimonial mixup. In this strong picture a stage favorite falls out of love with her husband, in love with another man, and then when her husband has married another woman, in love with him again.

TODAY AND SATURDAY

MOON

Tie a String Around Your Finger

—switch your ring from left hand to right; mark your calendar—for today, in the theatre listed below, you may see the second episode of the fascinating serial.

RUTH ROLAND in THE ADVENTURES OF RUTH

Produced by Ruth Roland Serials, Inc. Adapted by Olive Wilson. You remember the thrills and surprises of the first episode, don't you? There are more to come in the second episode.

This Wonder Serial Is an Added Attraction for Patrons of the

MUSE

RIALTO

A Milestone in the History of the Screen

SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE

By Richard Harding Davis

The Epic Romance of All Time

At the

SUN

TODAY and Tomorrow.

Your Last Chance.

CHARLIE CHAPLIN

In His Own Speedster

"A Day's Pleasure"

Augmented Jazz Orchestra

Strand

Today and Saturday

EUGENE O'BRIEN

Robert Edson and Lucille Lee Stewart in

"Sealed Hearts"

Pathe News Christie Comedy Pathe Review

LOTHROP

24th and

MARY PICKFORD in "HEART OF THE HILLS."

Hard Luck

in "Hard Luck"

PHOTO-PLAYS.

DANCING!

PRAIRIE PARK

Twenty-sixth and Ames Ave.

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