

COUNCIL URGED TO PURCHASE GAS PLANT AT ONCE

Representatives of Central Union and Various Improvement Clubs Demand Prompt Action.

Representatives of the Omaha Central Labor union and of various improvement clubs appeared yesterday before the city council committee of the whole to urge that the city commissioners take early action which will result in the city acquiring the gas plant at the appraised valuation of \$4,500,000, obtaining a lower figure if possible, but accepting the appraised valuation in any event.

The discussion followed the announcement of Chairman Ure of the committee of the whole, stating that there was pending an ordinance, signed by himself and Commissioners Zimman, Ringer and Towl, recommending that the condemnation proceedings be abandoned and the appraisal be rejected. This ordinance has been referred over for another week to give R. B. Howell, general manager of the Metropolitan Water plant, an opportunity to be heard in joint conference of the city council and the water board.

Hold Price Not Excessive.
George Kleffner, speaking for the law committee of the Central Labor Union, said: "If the city council should take any action other than that of accepting the appraisal, it may result in giving the gas company a franchise. We hold that none can question the honesty of Judges Day, Good and Allen, who comprised the court of condemnation in the gas case."

"There is no reason for delay in accepting the appraisal and we are asking that you take immediate steps toward taking over the gas plant. The Central Labor union holds that the price of \$4,500,000 is not excessive."

Mr. Kleffner added that the people want gas that contains sufficient heat units for cooking and heating purposes, and he contended that the gas now being furnished does not contain adequate heat value.

Confidence in Howell.
M. O. Cunningham, representing the Clifton Hill Improvement club, asserted that he had full confidence in the ability of R. B. Howell to make a success of the gas plant when its management is turned over to the water board. Mr. Cunningham added that he is not a municipal ownership advocate himself, but he is irrevocably against the installation of another plant by the city.

"It was the sense of the Southwest Improvement club," said P. O. Jennings, "that we should not do anything that would hamper the city council in the acquisition of the gas plant. We don't want any action taken that might in any way be construed by the courts as the granting of a franchise to the gas company. We don't want any more perpetual franchises saddled upon the city."

L. B. Lasbury, chairman of a committee from the Southwest Improvement club, stated that his organization favors the purchase of the gas plant.

Improvement Clubs Represented.

A. C. Smead, for the Central Labor union, stated that he had confidence that the city council will not pay any more than necessary for the gas plant.

"We believe that \$4,500,000 is not an excessive price and we are opposed to any action by the city council which may be construed by the courts as a recognition of the gas company," Mr. Smead said.

L. V. Guy and F. W. Fitch also spoke in behalf of improvement clubs.

Forty-five Candidates File

For Nomination at Primary

Twenty-eight republicans and 17 democrats have filed in the office of Election Commissioner Moorhead as candidates for nomination at the April primaries. The first filings for members of the county central committee of the various parties were made yesterday when John L. Sexton, democrat, superintendent of the County Detention home, filed, Antonio Rizzuto, 1007 South Twenty-second street, also filed.

Ralph E. Roach, 2521 Davenport street, filed as candidate for the democratic nomination for county commissioner; H. E. Cochran, republican, 1031 South Thirty-sixth street, for public defender; Henry S. Payne, 117 South Twenty-fifth avenue, for the republican nomination for police judge.

These added their names as candidates for state senator: J. W. Burns, democrat, 5422 South Twenty-third street, and A. C. Smead, democrat, 3005 Dewey avenue. The following filed for state representative: O. H. Parson, republican, Valley; F. L. Behm, democrat, 217 North Twenty-eighth avenue; M. Courtney, democrat, 2006 Baneroff street; C. H. Kang, Florence, filed for road overseer in Union precinct.

Cosgrove Pinched Again;

This Time Pays \$25 Fine

James Cosgrove, machinist, salesman, auto racer, farmer and fisherman, according to the police blotter at Central police station, was arrested for the 28th time Saturday night in Omaha. Charges against him were speeding, carrying concealed weapons and investigation. Policeman Cain arrested Cosgrove.

"You're framing on me," Cain's victim charged, but he paid a fine of \$25 for speeding. Cosgrove gave his address as 2873 Binney street.

When arrested, Cosgrove is said to have had a .45 revolver on him. He told police he kept the gun in his automobile "for protection" from bandits.

Community Night at Third Presbyterian Church Friday

Rev. A. F. Ernst will speak at the regular monthly community night at the Third Presbyterian church, Twentieth and Leavenworth streets, next Friday evening at 8. The Brotherhood Male quartet, church choir and Mrs. Raymond J. Rutt will furnish the music.

HUGE TURNOVER FOR FARM LANDS HANDLED HERE

Deals Aggregating Total of \$60,000,000 Take Place On First of Month.

Nebraska farm land deals aggregating a total of about \$60,000,000 were consummated yesterday, according to estimates of Omaha bankers, who also estimate that a cash turnover of \$15,000,000 in loans on farm land by Omaha banking institutions occurred today in settlement of March 1 payments.

The volume of this turnover is greater than ever before in the history of the state, due to the large number of deals negotiated and much higher prices which prevailed on Nebraska land, according to M. D. Cameron, vice president of the Peters Trust company.

The cash turnover of the Peters Trust company alone was approximately \$3,000,000, Mr. Cameron said. This company quit taking farm land loans for March 1 settlements about February 10, according to Mr. Cameron.

Financial Strength Sufficient.
"It is my belief that there is sufficient financial strength in the country to stand this March 1 turnover in spite of the great increase in the volume of deals," he declared.

The estimate of \$15,000,000 as the turnover by Omaha banking institutions, which is generally accepted as correct, represents only the loans based on about 40 per cent of the valuation of the land and indicates that the value of Nebraska lands changing hands at this time is about \$40,000,000, according to Fred W. Thomas, vice president of the First National bank.

"As these loans do not include land transfers where the entire consideration was cash or where the loan was handled by an individual or by a country banking institution it is safe to assume that the value of the entire amount of land changing hands today would be not less than \$60,000,000," Mr. Thomas said.

Banks in Good Condition.
"The amount of loans would have been greater had many eastern insurance companies not stopped making loans, due to tight money conditions in the east caused by unsatisfactory foreign conditions. Omaha banking institutions are in excellent condition, and will not be affected by the turnover."

Commenting on the situation Arthur Thomas of the Chamber of Commerce bureau of publicity declared that investigations during the past week showed that there had been no falling off in sales, and that there was no apprehension of any handicap to business because of heavy land financing today.

"Bankers feel that the spring deals will be taken care of with little disturbance to business and that when the money market loses some of its

REGULAR HABITS NOW; CONSTIPATION GONE

Mr. Brooks Suffered for Years—Tells How He Got Relief.

"I have tried a great many things for constipation, but the only thing that has been able to relieve me is Milk's Emulsion. I am on only my second bottle and have to take very little of it now. My bowels move regularly every morning which they have not been doing for a number of years. It seems like living again after suffering so long. I recommended Milk's Emulsion to two of my friends and both say it is the best remedy they ever heard of."—Elmer C. Brooks, 329 Washington St., Peoria, Ill.

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tightness following the closing of deals that business will quicken and many more sales will be recorded in all lines, especially real estate and building supplies," said Mr. Thomas.

Suspect Arrested In Hiding In Coal Bin Of Drug Store Cellar

Policeman Marchand arrested Ed Falconer, 21 years old, 2304 Grace street, on a charge of breaking and entering at 4 yesterday morning shortly after four unidentified men in a touring car had sped away from the Minne Lusa pharmacy, 6716 North Thirtieth street. Falconer was found hiding in a coal bin in the basement of the store, the policeman said.

Five shots fired by the policeman at the escaping car failed to cause the driver to stop. Falconer refused to talk concerning his arrest. Entrance to the Minne Lusa pharmacy was gained by breaking open a basement window. Policeman Marchand, noticing a touring car standing in front of the place, investigated. The car sped away and he fired at it. Falconer had no weapon on him when the officer found him. Nothing is missing from the store.

Amateur Racer, at Nightly Exercises, Runs Into Law

Bart Kane, amateur foot racer, 602 South Thirty-sixth street, followed a fleeting course south on Thirty-sixth street past Woolworth avenue Sunday night as his nightly exercise stunt. Policeman Rogers faithfully patrolling his beat, caught sight of the Marathon runner. The officer wondered an instant, then gave chase.

Probably a burglar, highwayman, pussyfoot prowler or highjacker was operating on the policeman's beat, Rogers thought.

With threats of the policeman to shoot, Kane stopped. He demanded the right of the bluecoat to question him concerning his exercise as a sprinter.

"Eggsplain dat to the captain," Rogers retorted. Kane was taken to Central police station and booked for investigation. Several hours later he was released on bond.

Many Autoists Delinquent In Wheel Tax Payments

W. J. Hunter, city clerk, reported that during February 3,500 motor vehicle owners and operators paid 1920 wheel tax. He states that 15,000 are amenable to the wheel tax law.

"We will begin about March 10 to round up the delinquents," Mr. Hunter said. Owners or operators of all motor vehicles, whether used for private or commercial purposes, are required to pay wheel tax. The law also covers horse-drawn vehicles.

Noted Philosopher Speaks In Omaha Church Next Week

Dr. Samuel McChord Crothers of Cambridge, Mass., America author and genial philosopher, will speak on the "Perils of the Literature" at the First Unitarian church, Wednesday evening, March 10, at 8. He is now enroute to fill a number of lecture engagements in Colorado.

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