

OMAHA BANK DEFENDANT IN BIG SUIT

M. F. Shafer Asks Judgment Of \$250,000 for Damage to Business Reputation and Health Impairment.

ALLEGES CONSPIRACY TO FORCE HIM OUT OF BANK

Claims Resignation From Presidency Caused Through Fake Charges of Misuse of Funds and Vicious Habits.

Suit for \$250,000 damages against D. W. Geiselman and five other directors of the American State bank was filed late Friday by M. F. Shafer, former president of the bank.

Mr. Shafer alleges a conspiracy to force him out of the bank, to his business reputation and \$100,000 for impairment to his health by the alleged circulation of false reports concerning him.

Says Tried to Oust Him. The petition states that ever since the summer of 1919, D. W. Geiselman and the other directors of the American State bank have endeavored to force him out of the bank.

It is claimed that the defendants intimidated Mr. Shafer, through false charges of having used the funds of the bank, to resign from the presidency in August, 1919.

Immediately after the election, it is claimed, the new directors began a campaign of misrepresentation. They are said to have told the state banking department that he was a man of vicious habits and unfit to be a bank officer.

Alleges False Reports. The banking department is said to have urged by the defendants to demand that Mr. Shafer and his brother be removed from their interest in the American State bank.

Several law suits were filed against Mr. Shafer, and he declares these to have been instituted by the bank directors to injure his credit, compel him to dispose of his bank stock and turn over control of the company planning to erect the office building.

Claims Suits Groundless. These suits are alleged to have been groundless, one instance being given of a note for \$6,000 paid at the Merchants National bank, on which the American State bank, having bought the note, it is said to have sued Mr. Shafer after it had been paid.

The warfare of the directors on Mr. Shafer is declared to have gone even to the extent of urging stockholders in his other enterprises to sue him. Investigations by the Iowa and Nebraska state departments are said to have been instituted, with the result that both not only refused to stop his companies from doing business, but found them to be in good condition.

Funeral Services in Peking For Congressman's Daughter. Funeral services were held at the American legation here today for Ida Vane, daughter of Congressman William S. Vane of Philadelphia.

Spain Controls Flour Mills. Madrid, Aug. 20.—Customs officials are instructed by an order issued by the ministry of finance today to take possession of flour mills, which the government will in future control in order that flour may be properly distributed.

Wisconsin Farms Show Gain In Acreage Yield Despite Lure of Cities

During Last 10-Year Period Many Farmers Bought Their Own Land—Growth of Dairying and Fat Stock Industries Afford Ready Market for Crops.

By ARTHUR M. EVANS. Chicago Tribune—Omaha Bee Loaned Wire. Madison, Wis., Aug. 20.—Wisconsin is one agricultural state where farm tenancy is decreasing while acreage under cultivation and farm output are increasing.

In 1909 the state had 177,127 farms of which 86.1 per cent were owned by their operators and 13.9 per cent were rented. In 1919 the latest figures show there were 181,909 farms, and of these 87.7 per cent were owned by their tillers and 12.3 per cent were rented.

The 10 years not only saw more farms in the state and more farmers owning their land but it also witnessed an increase of 12.6 per cent in the area under plow. As to improved agricultural practices and the trend of crop yields, the statistics at the state house have computed that an acre of Wisconsin soil today produces 37 per cent more food than it did in 1885.

In the United States as a whole an acre of soil produces 21 per cent more food than in 1885, so Wisconsin in this period has improved its yield 75 per cent more than has the country at large. The figures are based on seven-year averages for seven leading crops.

Wisconsin Shows Gain. All told this series of figures appears to indicate that as a food producer Wisconsin's efficiency has not been diminished despite the drain of the cities upon the countryside. In fact, its adjustment agriculturally has more than kept pace with changed industrial conditions.

Reclaim Large Acreages. The great growth in cultivated area has been in the northern counties. More than 2,300 families were on the land last year in the old cut-over regions.

Colonyists for the most part come from Indiana, Illinois and Iowa. A large percentage are foreigners. They get land for \$30 to \$40 an acre, clear it for about \$50 an acre, which brings the cost to between \$80 and \$85. About 90,000 acres a year are being reclaimed in this state.

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ARMY CORPS LOCATED AT FORT CROOK

Seventh Army Corps of Military Will Have Headquarters at Omaha Fortress With Major General Bundy in Command.

WILL BE HEADQUARTERS FOR SEVEN STATES

Establishment of Area Offices Here Means Building Up of Post Vacated in 1916 During Border Troubles.

Headquarters of the new Seventh army corps, created by act of the last congress, will be established at Fort Crook, just south of Omaha, according to announcement by the War department at Washington late yesterday.

The new army corps area will include the states of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. The commander will be Maj. Gen. Omar Bundy, who won fame abroad as commander of the hard-fighting marines and other troops in the Second division of the American expeditionary force.

The announcement means that Omaha will return to a position of pre-eminence in the administration of army affairs. Army officers say that its importance as an army corps headquarters will outrank that held as headquarters of the Department of the Missouri years ago.

Bringing of headquarters to Fort Crook means the reoccupancy of that post for the first time since 1916, when the last troops quartered there went to the Mexican border.

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The Changing World



The League of Nations, which was to prevent war, has shown its helplessness.



A recent cable dispatch quoted Premier Millerand as saying that France would officially recognize the bolshevik government if it would guarantee payment of the French debt.



A few months ago Poland became dissatisfied with her new eastern border as prescribed by the Versailles treaty and extended it a couple of hundred miles into Russian territory to her old border of 1919.



Today Poland would no doubt be satisfied with the border established by the Versailles treaty.

GOVERNOR CANTU ON WAY TO VISIT MEXICAN CHIEF. Lower California Executive Who Surrendered After Revolt Will Confer With President de Huerta.

Los Angeles, Aug. 20.—Col. Esteban Cantu was here today on his way to Mexico City to confer with Provisional President de la Huerta and Gen. Alvaro Obregon concerning recent events in the northern district of Lower California, which ended when Colonel Cantu surrendered the governorship of the district to Gen. Luis M. Salazar.

General Salazar's first official acts included announcement that the Owl gambling house, just across from the United States, would be closed on September 1, unless orders came from Mexico City by its closing before that time.

Deny Koreans Plan Arrest Of Party of Congressmen. Washington, Aug. 20.—Reports from Tokyo that plot to "hold" the party of American congressmen now visiting the Far East when they arrived in Korea has been unearthed, were characterized today by Kinsie Kim, chairman of the Korean commission, as "another groundless Jang ane fabrication."

Forest Fires Dwindling. San Francisco, Aug. 20.—The forest fire situation throughout the far west showed much improvement today, except in Oregon, where a large fire has broken out.

Wounded Man Recovering. Beatrice, Neb., Aug. 29.—(Special).—"Billy" Bettley, the alleged auto thief who was shot and seriously wounded by Officer Paul Acton, east of the city, early Monday morning, is gaining strength, and the attending physician believes that he will recover.

BIG DEALERS IN SUGAR ARE HIT BY SLUMP

Hoarders Who Loaded Up on High Market to Hold for Large Profits Are Now Howling Loudly for Help.

PRICES MAY GO DOWN TO 15 CENTS PER POUND

Bottom Falls Out When Prohibition Fails to Create Heavy Demand for Sweets—Importers Also Unload Here.

Chicago Tribune—Omaha Bee Loaned Wire. Washington, Aug. 20.—Big sugar dealers are howling for help. Many of them who loaded up and held sugar when prices were high with a view to unloading when they went still higher, find themselves facing serious losses as sugar is falling downward with big strides with no immediate prospect of a check to the decline.

Within a week when sugar prices have dropped from 23, 24 and 25 cents a pound to 16, 17 and 18 cents, many dealers have lost thousands of dollars of their former fat sugar profits and the end is not yet. Yesterday, according to information reaching Washington, one of the largest concerns in the country planned to put sugar on the market at 15 cents a pound in order to meet competitors.

Government officials who are watching the situation said today that it would not be surprising if prices dropped to even lower levels before they stabilize. A miscalculation, as the effects of prohibition, is declared to have been the real instigation of the break in sugar.

Foreign Supply Large. A contributory cause is attributed to the haste of sugar dealers all over the world to rush their supplies to this country to get the benefit of the high prices. Many of these foreign supplies have already reached here or are en route, coming from Brazil, Peru, Argentina, China and even from Africa.

None of these countries has figured in American sugar markets before. Big candy and soft drink manufacturers and speculators calculated last summer and fall that nationwide prohibition would create a demand for candy and soft drinks never before known in this country and gobbled up available sugar supplies.

Then for weeks this past spring growers informed the average consumer there was no sugar to be had. Refiners took advantage of the demand to boost prices until they reached as high as 25 and 30 cents a pound.

Selling at Loss Now. This summer candy and soft drink manufacturers were awakened to the fact that the public had not gone crazy over candy as anticipated. Accordingly they began to unload.

The demand for "irrevocable letters of credit" for the purchase of sugar, which is a letter from a bank, backed by actual security that will guarantee payment for sugar as agreed. It tied up the purchasers' money.

Apparently the big refiners have the upper hand, and are able to force payment for the big supplies purchased. Much of the sugar now being sold at a loss averaging 5 cents a pound.

Another circumstance that makes it difficult to slide the downward competitive slide now is the approach of the beet sugar yield, which will supply large quantities needed for western states. This is expected to cut down the eastern refiners' market and bring an even sharper competitive stage.

Bride of Omaha Man Makes Long Trip to Join Husband Here. Through all the perils of a trip across half the world, Mrs. Frances Howse has come safely to her husband from war-torn Turkey.

\$100,000 Taken in Chicago Mail Pouch Robbery. Chicago, Aug. 20.—A mail pouch believed to contain money and valuables worth \$100,000 was stolen today by two men from the 111th station of the Illinois Central railroad.

GERMANY IS MERE ONLOOKER IN THE SILESIA FIGHT

Rioting at Kattowitz Seemingly Comes as No Surprise to Official Quarters—Outbreak Feared.

Berlin, Aug. 20.—In high official quarters it is said the German government has been, consigned to the role of a mere onlooker in the upper Silesian disturbances, as the rights of that territory have been transferred to the interallied governments.

The present rioting in Kattowitz seemingly has come as no surprise to official quarters, where for some time it has been asserted that sufficient combustible material was accumulating there to make such an outbreak a logical consequence.

Want Plebiscite Date. While the workers and all classes of the population in upper Silesia are reported to be firmly determined to have Germany's neutrality rigidly observed in connection with the Russo-Polish war, and while this attitude is believed to have been the pretext for the present outbreak.

Sees Happy Signs. The German press hitherto has been chary in its comment on the situation. While deploring the outbreaks in upper Silesia because, it says, they are likely still further to complicate Germany's tangled foreign situation, the Tagliche Rundschau expresses the belief that the occurrences have given "evidence of a healthy national will which will prove upper Silesia faithful to Germany when the ballots are counted."

Mrs. Wanamaker Dies at Home in Atlantic City. Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 20.—Mrs. Mary B. Wanamaker, wife of John Wanamaker, department store proprietor, died today.

The Weather. Forecast. Omaha and vicinity: Fair Saturday and Sunday; continued cool. Hourly Temperatures.

ONLY A DOG BUT HE HAD HIS DAY IN COURT YESTERDAY

Wilbur Has Dog Now But Another Hearing Must Be Had.

"Gentleman Jack," Omaha's most talked-about dog at this time, is experiencing a giddy whirl of legal ramifications.

Yesterday morning the animal was brought into the justice court of George Collins, in the custody of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Ballinger, 2544 North Twenty-eighth avenue.

During the hearing yesterday morning Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wilbur, 3212 Poppleton avenue, testified that the dog belonged to them; that they lost the dog last April and that they had a city license tag. Mr. Ballinger testified that he bought the dog last February from a "Mr. White," whose first name or address he could not give.

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Steers Top Market. O'Neill, Neb., Aug. 20.—(Special).—Holt county grassed cattle, for the second time this summer, topped the Chicago market Wednesday. The cattle, two carloads of long yearling steers, averaging 1,140 pounds, were from the L. W. Arnold ranch, north of O'Neill, as was the other top consignment.

Find Harding's Name Traced in Red Meat On Watermelon Rind. Quincy, Ill., Aug. 20.—The "Ant Nature Wonderfull" club of Quincy is all agog today as the result of the discovery of a slice of watermelon whose red meat was plainly traced with the name "Harding," spelled by the white fiber.