

City Gas Rates Are Denounced By Mayor Smith

Executive Quotes Figures in Speech to Prove Statement That Raise in Charges Was Unnecessary.

"A damned outrage" was the classification of the increase in the gas rates and the management of the gas plant given by Mayor Smith last night in an address to the North Side Activities club at Druid hall, Twenty-fourth street and Ames avenue.

According to the figures given by the mayor, who had procured them from the Omaha Gas Co., the receipts for 1919 were \$1,311,000. The entire costs were \$945,000, which gave a profit of \$366,000. For the first three months of 1920, receipts were \$395,668 and costs were \$243,000. The cost of manufacturing the gas and delivering it to the homes was 63 cents a thousand cubic feet in 1919, against 62.3 cents in the months of April, May and June, 1920.

"In the name of common sense," Mayor Smith remanded, "will some man tell me why, after making a profit of \$1,000 a day, did the gas plant begin to lose money on the first day of the change in ownership?" The increase in rates was wholly without justification, he said. He also attacked the charge for service and reduction in quality of gas.

Mayor Smith said he had asked for a statement of costs and receipts and Mr. Howell's reply was that a new system of accounting was being installed and for that reason he was unable to furnish it.

As to the service charge, the mayor cited an example, waving a receipted bill in the air as evidence of a scrub woman who was charged \$1 for gas and \$1.50 for reading the meter. Another woman was charged \$2.71 for reading the meter, according to the mayor.

The new rates, according to the mayor, will repay the original investment in about two years.

C. A. Beno of Council Bluffs gave a short talk on the subject of a free bridge. His views were coincident with those of the mayor of Council Bluffs and Mayor Smith. Speaking on the free bridge project, Mr. Beno said that the bridge is not only one of the entire Lincoln Highway for which a charge to cross is made. Kansas City is making a big effort to change the route of this highway, and its greatest argument is the fact that there would then be no tribute exacted from transcontinental tourists.

30 Indicted in Building Probe

Anti-Trust Campaign in New York Speeds Up With Action of Grand Jury.

New York, Dec. 10.—New York's "anti-building trust" machine went into high speed today, when more than 30 indictments, bringing the total above 60, and the disbanding of two contractors associations, were announced as direct results of grand jury and joint legislation investigations.

Another sensational development included charges by Samuel Untermyer, committee counsel, that "great financial and industrial powers" of the country "through hired propagandists and publicity agents," have thrown themselves into the fight to block the investigation of the alleged building trust just as it "is about to enter upon its most crucial stage."

Of today's indictments, 29 charged members of the Cut Stone Contractors association with violating the Donnelly anti-trust laws of the state. Each defendant was arraigned and held in \$5,000 bail after pleading not guilty.

With the announcement the association had disbanded and agreed to aid in the prosecution of New York's "building trust" the legislative committee counsel acceded to the indicted men's request for a week's time in which to change their pleas or make necessary motions.

Man on Trial for Murder

Commits Suicide in Cell

Marion, Ill., Dec. 10.—Frank Bianchi committed suicide in his cell in the county jail here on the fifth day of his trial on charges of first degree murder. He, with De Santis, also charged with murder, were indicted in connection with the death of Amiel Calcaetra and Tony Hemphill at West Frankfort, Ill., last August, when anti-alien feeling there culminated in rioting. The trial of De Santis proceeded.

Yeggs Get \$400 From Safe

Of Denison Service Station

Denison, Ia., Dec. 10.—(Special.)—The safe at the service station of the Standard Oil Co. at Denison was blown open Friday and cash and checks amounting to \$400 taken.

Wife Causes Arrest

Louis Moser, salesman, 5413 Florence boulevard, was arrested yesterday following the filing of information by Mrs. Marguerite Moser, charging him with nonpayment of alimony. He was released under \$1,000 bond.

Bankers Endorse Plan for Foreign Trade Extension

Proposed Corporation Would Be Formed Under Edge Law to Aid American Producers.

Chicago, Dec. 10.—Organization of a corporation to finance foreign trade to be backed by bankers, manufacturers and merchants was endorsed today by prominent speakers before a conference under auspices of the American Bankers' association.

The proposed corporation would be formed under the Edge law with a capital of \$100,000,000, available to American producers as cash payment for their goods on which foreign buyers would be unable to pay cash.

Herbert Hoover, speaking before the afternoon session, declared if the progress were successful today's conference would have been the most momentous since the armistice.

"You are gathered here for the fundamental purpose of doing something practical in the solution of a financial situation by everyday means," Mr. Hoover said. "You have a great problem, for our farmers today are suffering great losses and our workmen great unemployment. This is due to a considerable degree to the stagnation in orders for our export surplus."

"From this stagnation the consuming power of our own home market is reduced and effects are accumulating upon us."

Credit Only Remedy.

"We must face the issue that these economic ills arise from the vicious economic circles that can be broken in one way only and that by the establishment of credits abroad, not the dangerous short-time credits in which we have already become overextended, but the long time investment in reproductive enterprises."

Mr. Hoover declared that present problems should be solved by the processes of business and the loss of individual initiative of man rather than by the government. Government promotion, he said, would lead to vicious ends and would be subject to every pressure that desperate foreign statesmen can invent.

Declaring that if America wanted Europe's trade she must help that continent now, A. C. Bedford, vice president of the International chamber of commerce, painted an encouraging picture of Europe in the reconstruction period.

"We have a moral and a business

Obligation to help Europe," he said.

William C. Redfield, former secretary of commerce, urged a worldwide trade development, saying that America was yet in the infancy of her export trade. He asserted that "tremendous pools of English capital is operating abroad in favor of English industry."

Gives Farmers' Viewpoint.

The farmers' viewpoint was explained by J. B. Howard, president of the American Farm Bureau federation, who said that if the proposed corporation would provide a market for farmers' products it would have their backing. Julius H. Barnes, former head of the United States grain corporation, and Eugene Meyer, jr., who headed the war finance corporation, presented their views gained from experience in government work during the war.

Mr. Howard maintained that for the last four or five years the farmer had not prospered as has business. "The prosperity of this country which is not now so very promising, will not again be in full swing until buying power of the farmer is restored," he said.

"Practically one-half of the farmers of this country are tenants, men of little capital. If these farmers are forced to liquidate, one-fourth of the farms in the central west will go into bankruptcy."

A committee on plan and scope was appointed and its recommendations for organization and definite procedure will be heard tomorrow. A national committee is expected to be appointed as a result of the meeting, to evolve the necessary steps for incorporation of the financing organization. William C. Redfield's name was prominently mentioned by conferees as probable president of the new corporation.

Two Bluffs Men Held on Charge Of Young Girl

Arraigned Yesterday in Federal Court for Alleged Violation of Mann Act With Afton Waitress.

Walter Burks, employed at the Majestic cafe in Council Bluffs, and William Fountas, proprietor of the People's restaurant in this city, were arraigned yesterday afternoon before the federal commissioner in Council Bluffs upon charges of violating the Mann act.

They were held to the federal grand jury, which convenes in February. Bonds for Burks and Fountas were fixed at \$1,500 and \$1,000, respectively.

The principal witness in the case was Miss Bessie Graham, 18, of Afton, Ia., who says she came to Council Bluffs from Creston three weeks ago with Burks, whom she met at the Imperial cafe there.

The Graham girl testified that Burks took her to Omaha the night they arrived in the Bluffs, but that she paid their street car fare across the river. They stayed all night at a hotel in Omaha, she said, and next morning she pawned her watch to pay the room rent.

Last Wednesday night, she testified, Burks induced her to accompany him and William Fountas to Omaha, where she went to a hotel with both of them. Fountas paid the carfare, she said.

The commissioner told Bessie he would permit her to return to the home of her stepfather, C. R. Cooper, in Afton, if she would sign her own bond to return in February as a witness against the men.

Recipe for "Hooch" Gets Still Owner \$50 Fine and Warning

Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Chicago, Dec. 10.—Steve Berich gave Judge Barasa his recipe for making "hooch" and the best he got in return was a \$50 fine and a warning that it would be \$100 for the next offense. Officer Edward Mach, who raided Berich's moonshine distillery, testified that Berich hit him in the eye.

"You take 30 pounds of sugar," said Steve to the judge, "and 30 pounds of prunes and 10 pounds of dried apples. You put 'em in a barrel of water for 8 days and then you cook the lot. That will give you fine whiskey."

"And also a nasty temper," said Officer Mach, pointing to his discolored eye.

"And \$50 and costs," said the judge.

"Another batch will stew up to \$100, so be careful."

Pastors Plan to Invite "Gypsy" Smith for Revival

The Omaha Ministerial union yesterday decided to conduct a month or five weeks' religious campaign next October and to invite "Gypsy" Smith, famous English evangelist, to take part. The suggestion was offered by the Rev. Titus Lowe, pastor of the First Methodist church, who met the evangelist two weeks ago in New York, where he is conducting a series of religious revivals.

If Smith accepts the invitation, a tabernacle such as is used by Billy Sunday will be erected with 5,000 seating capacity.

Murderer Is Executed

Canon City, Colo., Dec. 10.—George Boskos, confessed slayer of E. C. Parks and Will Hunter, was hanged at the state prison here.

Attend Our Xmas Sale

Of boys' and girls' guaranteed BICYCLES. Scooters, Tri-cycles for the kiddies. VICTOR H. ROOS "The Cycle Man" 2701 Leavenworth St.

\$170,000 Insurance Paid

On Life of Olive Thomas

New York, Dec. 10.—It became known today that the amount for which the life of Olive Thomas, the motion picture star who died at Paris in September as the result of self-administered mercurial poisoning, was insured was \$170,000. It has been paid in full to the Selznick Pictures corporation, the concern which took out that amount on its star.

Get These Beautiful New Records For Your Victrola

- 14110—Silent Night, Holy Night—Song—Quartet..... \$1.00
 - 1087—Holy Night, Peaceful Night—Male Quartet..... \$1.00
 - 10267—Adante Fiddle—Male Quartet..... \$1.00
 - 10267—Japanese Sandman—Plantation Orchestra..... \$1.00
 - 10233—After You Get What You Want You Don't Want It—Song..... \$1.00
 - 14115—A Moughful of Kisses—Fox Trot—Saxophone Quartet..... \$1.00
 - 14091—Just Like a Gypsy—Fox Trot—Saxophone Quartet..... \$1.00
 - 10242—Whispering—Fox Trot—Van Eps Specialty Four..... \$1.00
 - 10254—Avalon—Fox Trot—Plantation Orchestra..... \$1.00
 - 10254—Go to It—One Step—Green Brothers' Novelty Band..... 85c
 - 18369—Beale Street Blues—Fox Trot—Fuller's Jazz Band..... 85c
 - 18165—Old Gray Mare—Fox Trot—Joseph Smith's Orchestra..... 85c
 - 18392—I've a Shooting Box in Scotland—One Step—Joseph Smith's Orchestra..... 85c
 - 10272—Secret of Home Sweet Home—Song—Charles Harrison..... \$1.00
 - 10272—When Shadows Fall—Song—John Barnes Wells..... \$1.00
 - 10272—Cohen at the Telephone—Comedy Monologue..... \$1.00
 - 10272—Cohen's New Act—Comedy Monologue..... \$1.00
 - 10272—Hawaiian Nights—Hawaiian Guitars..... \$1.00
 - 20001—Little Girls Good Bye—(From Apple Blossoms)—John C. Thomas \$1.00
- We Pay Postage on Orders of \$3.00 or More—Less Than that Amount, Add 10c per Record.

Special Bargains in Used Pianos. OAKFORD Music Co. 1807 Farnam, Omaha, Neb.



Drexel Boys' Shoes

SATURDAY is Boys' Day at Drexel's. Don't be satisfied with the "good enough" kind—get a real shoe—made to stand the hard wear that a live, healthy boy will give them.

STEEL SHOD SHOES

have been standing this sort of wear for more than 30 years. You'll find that one pair of these shoes will outwear two pairs of ordinary boys' shoes.

Boys' sizes, 1 to 5 1/2— \$4.50
Little Men's sizes, 10 to 13 1/2— \$4.00

DREXEL SHOE CO.

1419 Farnam Street
Mail Orders Solicited
Parcel Post Paid

Bee want ads are business getters.

SATURDAY—One Day Only

2,000 Men's Finest SILK NECKTIES



\$1.25 and \$1.50 Neckties

\$2 and \$2.50 Neckties

\$3 and \$4 Neckties

79c

\$1.19

\$1.95

Every tie included is all silk—Majority fashioned from imported silk.

This special purchase of fine silk neckwear was bought from a manufacturer willing to sell—at the price of the silk alone.

Eliminating the price of labor and overhead—the greatest part of neckwear cost.

YOU GET THE SAVINGS

\$3.50 to \$5.00—Men's Lined and Unlined Gloves and Mittens \$1.95

All Men's Outing Flannel Night Robes and Pajamas At 25% Discount

75c—Men's Jersey Fleece Lined Gloves and Mittens 25c

MEN'S SHOP

MAIN FLOOR

We suggest Neckties for every man on your Christmas List.

Eldredge Reynolds Formerly Benson & Thorne The Store of Specialty Shops

We suggest you select your Men's Gifts from a Man's Shop.



Saturday—the most important special purchase sale of

Girls' Beautiful Dresses

(In sizes 8 to 16 years)

Ever Held in Our Girls' Specialty Shop

at \$8.75 at \$13.50 at \$18.50

Made to Retail Up to \$19.50

Made to Retail Up to \$25

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Jerseys - Serges - Plaids - Satins - Checks - Taffetas

Showering

Plented Skirts—Moyen Age Styles—Scalloped Tunics—High Waisted Models—Short Sleeves—Belts—Leather Belts—Lace Collars

Cire Braid—Silk Embroidery—Wool Embroidery—Long Sleeves—Stitching—Gun Metal Buttons—Tailored Braid—Sashes

GIRLS' SHOP

Second Floor.

Eldredge Reynolds Co. Formerly Benson & Thorne The Store of Specialty Shops