THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

VOL. 50—NO. 155. Entered as Second-Class Matter May 28, 1906, at Omaha P. O. Under Act of March 3, 1879. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1920. By Mail (1 year), Inside 4th Zone, Daily and Sunday, $9; Daily Only, $5; Sunday, $4. Outside 4th Zone (1 year), Daily and Sunday, $16; Daily Only, $12; Sunday Only, $5. THREE CENTS

Omaha Mail Pilots Lead In Big Race

C. V. Pickup Heads List In Bee Contest for Best Total Mileage for 6 Months at More Than 80 Miles.

Three Prizes to Be Given

Omaha air mail pilots are leading in the $1,000 transcontinental flying contest being conducted by The Omaha Bee in conjunction with the New York Evening Post, Chicago Tribune, Salt Lake City Tribune and San Francisco Examiner.

Pilot C. V. Pickup, of the Omaha-Salt Lake division, heads the list of all competing pilots. Three prizes of $500, $300 and $200 each will be awarded by these newspapers to the three pilots making the best total mileage at not less than 80 miles an hour on their respective divisions between New York City and San Francisco for the first six months of this transcontinental air mail service.

80 Miles An Hour.

This transcontinental service was inaugurated the first part of September. The contest was opened September 8.

Pilot Pickup, who now holds first place, according to the standard issued officially by the Manufacturers' Aircraft association, which is backing the contest with the Aero Club of America, is credited with 52 trips on his division at more than 80 miles an hour, with a total mileage of 15,166 miles.

This covers the period from September 8 to November 30. Pilot Pickup joined the air mail service early in September making his maiden flight as one of the opening flights for the Omaha-Cheyenne division.

R. H. Cook, former pilot of the Omaha division, but now an army officer, is listed as second. He made 40 trips on the Omaha-Salt Lake division at a speed of more than 80 miles an hour, with a total mileage of 14,755 miles, before he resigned from the service.

Another Omaha pilot holds the third position. He is Pilot W. C. Hopson who came to this division from the Cleveland-New York division the first of October. He has made 50 trips on the Omaha-Chicago division at a speed of more than 80 miles an hour, and his mileage totals 13,905 miles.

Fourth place is nailed at present by another Omaha pilot, H. H Rowe who joined the air mail service here in July and is on the Omaha-Chicago division.

Forced to Land.

[illegible] has covered 13,276 miles at an average of more than 80 miles an hour in 47 trips.

Sixth in the list is Pilot J. P. Murray of the Omaha-Cheyenne division, who joined the service here from the New York-Cleveland division to assist in opening the mountain section.

Pilot Murray was forced to land in a snowstorm near Medicine Bow, 500 miles west of here, about a month ago, and walk to the nearest railroad station to get aid in repairing his plane to continue the flight.

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Millionaire Newsie Of Hammond Beaten And Robbed by Thugs

Hammond, Ind., Dec. 14.—Addie P. Fitzgerald, Hammond's "millionaire newsboy" was slugged, kidnapped, taken on a wild ride to Chicago, robbed of a diamond stickpin and $300 and thrown from the machine early today, he reported to the Hammond police.

Fitzgerald was returning home shortly after midnight when three robbers sprang at him near an alley. He resisted and says one of the band broke a revolver in slugging him.

When he recovered consciousness he was in an automobile, he says, and the bandits were searching his clothing as the machine sped toward $1,200, had already been taken. He managed to slip a $1,200 diamond ring into his shoe before the robbers could find it.

While driving along South Michigan avenue, he asserts, the bandits Chicago. His stickpin, valued at threw him out at an alley.

Borah Proposes Tripartite Disarmament Agreement

Washington, Dec. 14.—A resolution requesting the president to open negotiations with Great Britain and Japan for an agreement to reduce naval building programs 50 per cent for the next five years was introduced in the senate today by Senator Borah, republican, Idaho.

The resolution would declare it to be the opinion of congress that the United States would make a reduction if an agreement could be brought about, and asserted that the navies of Great Britain and Japan were the only ones of power sufficient to require American attention.

Hawaiian Rehabilitation Bill Subject of Attacks

Washington, D. C., Dec. 14.—Interests opposing the Hawaiian "rehabilitation bills," designed to provide homesteads for native Hawaiians from public lands, were heard by the senate territories committee. Judge A. G. M. Robertson of Honolulu, representing ranchmen leasing Hawaiian public lands, declared the pending bill, which already has been passed by the house, was class legislation and unconstitutional.

Most of the senate committee members expressed themselves as favoring the bill, which, it was said, received an overwhelming vote in the Hawaiian legislature and in the last election.

Lucky Dog Has $8,000 Left for Its Upkeep

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Perhaps you have heard of "the lucky dog." He lives in Chicago—in fact, he has been a resident for several years, it was learned today, when a bit of legal paper was filed in the probate court for his benefit.

The will of Mrs. Rose E. Porter provides that Rex, a pet poodle, shall be given all of the comforts of a home, including a daily bath, plenty of sauerkraut, and a Christmas tree every year. She left $8,000 in trust for the dog.

Mrs. Sarah E. Burr, 4909 Pensacola avenue is the technical beneficiary. She must take care of the poodle night and day and see that he will be provided for in the event of her death. She also must take care that his Christmas tree is lighted with Christmas candles and that his little red jacket for day time wear and his warm gray blankets for night are kept clean and neat.

Mrs. Porter left her half brother, Ruby F. Joblin of Cascade Locks, Ore., $5.

Letter of Dead Girl Introduced In Murder Trial

Judge Overrules Objection to Excluding Missive—Traveler's Check in Payment for Alleged Operation Shown.

Following two hours and half of legal arguments in district court yesterday afternoon as to the admissibility as evidence of a letter written by Ruth Ayer from Omaha, August 3, to her lover, Francis W. Alexander at Hayes Center, Neb., in which she declared her plans relative to placing herself under the care of Dr. Fields, Judge A. C. Troup allowed the letter to be admitted in its entirety. This letter had been offered as evidence at the morning session when attorneys for Dr. L. S. Fields, tried on the charge of murder by performing an illegal operation, objected and held out for an argument on this point of law.

"This letter is the best of evidence," Judge Troup said. It shows plainly that it was the last act of Ruth Ayer after she had decided to place her body in the care of this defendant. The words she underscored in the letter: "If you don't hear from me, find me," are proof of the mental strain she was under after she had made her decision. Fields became a co-conspirator to the cause when he made his agreements with her."

Admits Receiving Letter.

Following the arguments and the admission of the letter, Alexander was called to the stand and admitted having received the letter from Ruth. He admitted also that he had answered it and had sent her

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Sinn Fein Asks Time To Confer on Truce Plan of Lloyd George

London, Dec. 14.—Rev. Michael O'Flannigan, acting president of the Sinn Fein, has requested Premeier Lloyd George for time in which to consult with Eamonn de Valera and Arthur Griffith respecting the endeavors now being made to bring about a truce in Ireland.

Father O'Flannigan made this request in reply to a letter from the premier, in which Mr. Lloyd George, responding to the first proposal looking to a truce, said the British government did not lag behind any section of the Irish people in the desire that Ireland should enjoy the blessings of peace and prosperity and was prepared to offer facilities for a complete discussion of the situation.

British at Cable Case Hearing Return Home

Washington, Dec. 14.—The British delegates to the international communications conference have left for home. Their departure is expected to result in an indefinite recess by the delegates representing the United States, Japan, France and Italy.

The British delegates left late last night after the close of the plenary session. The reason assigned by them for their departure was understood to have been a desire to return home to spend the Christmas holiday, together with the expression of the conviction that a settlement of the difficulties which have arisen over the disposition of the former German cables was impossible without the return of the delegates of France and Japan to Paris and Tokio, respectively, to consult personally with their foreign offices.

Cardinals Summoned for Secret Consistory Soon

Rome, Dec. 14.—Official invitations to all cardinals to participate in a secret consistory, to be held Thursday morning, were dispatched today by Monsignor Carlo Respighi, pontifical prefect of ceremonies.

ARE YOU IN THE BEE MOVIE STAR CONTEST

See Page 12.

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Hearing on Electric Rate Reductions

Em[illegible] Testifies to Va[illegible] of Nebraska Power Company's Property Before City Council.

Raise Declared Urgent

The city council began yesterday afternoon to hear evidence offered by the Nebraska Power company in connection with an application for an increased schedule of electric light and power rates. The first session, which was adjourned at 4, was limited to a presentation of valuation figures by an expert. The hearing will be resumed this morning at 9:30.

J. A. C. Kennedy appeared as counsel for the company and W. C. Lambert, corporation counsel, for the city. Appearances in behalf of consumers were made as follows: F. A. Brogan for the Omaha Flour Mills company, Maney Milling company, Updike Milling company and Omaha Cold Storage company; R. B. Howell, for the Metropolitan Water board; C. S. Raibolt, Crowell Elevator company, Nebraska-Iowa Grain company, Miller Cereal Mill company and Nye, Schneider, Fowler company; C. E. Corey, Omaha Manufacturers' association; P. F. Peterson, Peterson & Pegau Baking Co.; A. W. Nollet, Omaha Hotel association; J. C. Martin, Omaha Steel works, and delegations of women for the Edward Rosewater, Benson and Central Park community centers.

Testifies to Valuation.

C. E. Bailey of the J. G. White Engineering corporation, New York City, was the only witness called. He identified a 140-page valuation exhibit and testified that a valuation and inventory of the company's properties and equipment, made under his direction, showed a total of $17,580,190, which valuation will be made the basis of evidence and arguments to follow in the progress of the hearing.

The total valuation as given by Mr. Bailey was divided into the following items: Land, $560,959; buildings and structures, $1,642,474; power plant electrical equipment, $1,607,300; boiler room equipment, $1,050,600; sub-station equipment, $236,850; transmission system, $631,678; distribution system, underground, $2,672,500; distribution system, overhead, $3,352,309; miscellaneous equipment, $83,300; office furniture and equipment, $40,110; materials and supplies, $280,720; working capital, $603,000; engineering and supervision, $459,900; law expense on construction, $75,000; preliminary expense, organization and administration, $307,000; construction on power house extension, $200,300; cost of securing capital, $966,280; cost of developing business, $1,421,800; expenditures for betterments and improvements, June 1 to November 30, 1920, $39,791; expenditures in process during December, 1920, 548,319.

Objects to Valuation Method.

Mr. Bailey explained that his valuation figures were based on prices current as of date of June 1, 1920, to which method of determination of values Corporation Counsel Lam-

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Two Chicago Store Holdups Bring Total To 22 in Four Days

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Chicago's red sweater bandit, with his gun still wrapped in a newspaper, varied his roundup of street holdups today by robbing two stores before 10 o'clock. The robberies brought his total to 22 since last Friday.

Fifty patrolmen and two automobile loads of detectives who have been chasing the bandit for six days were taken unawares, as heretofore he had not started operations until nearly noon. In both of the morning holdups he had a companion, who joined him yesterday afternoon.

Cash, checks and Liberty bonds totalling $13,000 were stolen last night by safe blowers who opened the safe in the offices of the Co-operative Society of America. Finger prints furnished the only clue.

Shortage of $40,000 Found In Funds of Oklahoma Bank

Muskogee, Okl., Dec. 14.—The First National bank of Morris, Okl., failed to open this morning. A notice on the door said the affairs of the bank are in the hands of the comptroller of the currency. The bank's capitalization is placed at $30,000.

A shortage of $40,000 has been found in the funds of the bank, according to L. A. Baglet of this city, vice president. He asserted B. DeLisle, cashier and manager, has assigned to the bank property valued at $75,000.

Mutilated Body of Woman Identified by Dentist

Los Angeles, Dec. 14.—The mutilated body of the nude woman found in a grove near here Sunday was identified as that of Mrs. Fay Sudow, a divorced woman, reputed to have been wealthy. The identification was made by a dentist who had done work for Mrs. Sudow. The body had been almost definitely identified by the woman's former husband, Jeff Sudow, and by two other persons.

Air Harbor Planned.

Peace River, Alberta, Dec. 14.—Work has been begun on an "air harbor" here, which will form the southern terminal to the proposed aerial transportation system into the McKenzie oil fields, it was announced today.

Screen School Stops; Student Boosts Check; He's In Hoosgow Now

He wanted to ride a prancing steed on the screen.

He joined Omaha's movie star school and paid $12.50 fees. His course ended and he saw his star falling.

His instructors refunded his fees.

The itch for the saddle persisted, and he decided to return to the range in New Mexico. But he hadn't enough lucre.

So he changed the name on a $12.50 check to John Westphal and added a flock of ciphers, thus, $30,000.

The cashier at Brandeis stores was dubious. She called a detective. And Henry Gabaldon, 1014 South Twenty-eighth street, is in the hoosgow now.

Decrease Shown In Total Value Of Farm Crops

Reduction in Prices Brings Actual Worth Below Last Year, Despite High Records in Several Grains.

By The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Shrinkage of values of the country's farm crops has placed their total worth this year at almost $5,000,000,000 less than last year, although the 1920 harvest was one of the most abundant in the nation's history, with half a dozen crops breaking records.

The important farm crops, which comprise about 90 per cent of the value of all farm crops, were valued this year at $9,148,519,000 by the Department of Agriculture in its final estimates.

Last year these crops were valued at $14,087,995,000. Acreage devoted to the important crops also decreased, the total being 351,062,409 this year, as compared with 356,162,112 last year.

"The extraordinary character of the harvest, which have proven to be among the most abundant in the country's history, notwithstanding beginnings about as unpromising as ever known, is emphasized by the December revisions of estimates," the department said in a statement commenting on today's report. "The final outcome of the 1920 wheat harvest, winter and spring combined, is now estimated at 789,878,000 bushels, compared with 934,265,000 bushels in 1919, this ebing an increase over the earlier estimates for 1920 of 39,230,000 bushels.

Winter Killings Light.

"The 1920 acreage abandoned from winter killing was less than expected and indicated by the very bad and unpromising conditions on May 1, and the increasingly favorable character of the later season permitted much wheat then considered hopeless to develop and come to harvest. The reports of increase over earlier expectations of winter

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Queen Alexandra Has Retired From Court Society Definitely

By FORBES W. FAIRBAIRN
Universal Service Staff Correspondent.

London, Dec. 14.—England's queen mother, Alexandra, most popular of all Europe's queens, has definitely retired from court society. Increasing deafness, which has become more and more pronounced during the present year, has made it impossible for her to hear any one now except members of her immediate family and old friends. Her 76th birthday, celebrated December 1, found her in good health, but leading a very quiet life at her town palace, Marlborough house, and Sandringham, her favorite country estate.

Since her illness a few months ago, Queen Alexander has rarely been seen at any of the court functions. She rises late in the day and is seldom seen before 1 o'clock in the afternoon. After lunch she usually drives in good weather, returning to tea at 6 o'clock. She dines as late as 9, and hardly ever goes to bed before 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning. Her favorite card game now is patience.

She still keeps up her interest in charities and is the most generous of givers—although the cost of the upkeep of Marlborough house and Sandringham has enormously increased. While her income has remained stationary it has made no difference to the extent of her giving and her name generally heads the list of social charities.

Nebraska Files Objection To Burlington Dividends

Washington, Dec. 14.—The state of Nebraska filed a brief with the interstate commerce commission today objecting to the proposal of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad that it be permitted to distribute $140,000,000 of its surplus in stock dividends and in bonds as a cash dividend.

Greeks Bound for Lucerne With Bombs Are Arrested

Paris, Dec. 14.—Two Greeks carrying passports for Lucerne and in possession of bombs have been arrested at Milan, says a dispatch to the Matin. It is believed in the Italian city, the dispatch says, the men had plotted to attempt to assassinate former King Constantine of Greece.

Sugar Falls Again.

New York, Dec. 14.—The American Sugar Refining Co. announced today another reduction of ¼ cent in the price of refined sugar to the basis of 8½ cents per pound for fine granulated. Quotations of other refiners, remaining unchanged, ranged from 8¼ to 8½ cents.

Helping Hands

Cruiser "Omaha" Is Christened by Louise White

Flag-Bedecked Warship Slips From Ways as Gate City Girl Baptizes Stern With Sparkling Liquid.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—Flag bedecked, the U. S. S. Omaha slid into the waters of Puget Sound Tuesday morning as Miss Louise Bushnell White of Omaha smashed the bottle of sparkling liquid on the grand scout cruiser's stern and the band played the national anthem. As the huge gray bulk dipped her nose into the waters she represented over two years of constant construction with another year's work still to be done before she finally becomes a completed fighting craft.

Miss White, dressed in long fur coat, her cheeks flushed to the color of the brilliantly red roses she carried, grasped the bottle suspneded by ribbons promptly at 8:45 and hurled it with all her might against the steel shell. While the bottle was in mid air, the vessel moved and as the shattering glass released the liquid of unknown content, Miss White proclaimed in an easily heard, sweet-toned voice, 'I Christen thee 'Omaha.'"

Honor Guest at Breakkfast.

Miss White was the honor guest at the breakfast immediately following the launching. She left this afternoon for Seattle where she and her mother, Mrs. Victor White, will entrain for Omaha.

"It has been perfectly splendid," Miss White said immediately after the launching. "This is both my first launching and my first christening party—of a war vessel I mean. I can never thank these glorious, hospitable westerners too deeply for the kindnesses which have been showered upon me. This is the finest country in the world, excepting Omaha.

"Two gold trays, suitably engraved, were presented to Miss White by the Todd Shipyards and Construction company, builder of the "Omaha."

To Be Equipped Later.

The "Omaha" was towed to the outfitting dock where her power plant will be installed and the interior and superstructure finished. The latter part of next year she will be taken to some United States navy yard where her armament will be installed. Then she will be ready to join the fleets of America's navy.

Mayor C. M. Riddell of Tacoma presented Miss White with a diamond-studded wrist watch, on behalf of the Todd company, at the breakfast.

Alschuler Resigns Job as Arbitrator In Packing Cases

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Federal Judge Samuel Alschuler yesterday asked representatives of the packing companies to arrange to have him relieved as federal arbiter of their disputes, the position to which he was appointed by President Wilson in 1917. Judge Alschuler said he did not have time to attend to his bench duties and settle packing company disputes, too.

Brokerage Firm Fails.

Philadelphia, Dec. 14.—Arnett & Co., a stock brokerage firm, with membership on the Philadelphia Stock exchange, made an assignment today. The failure is said to be relatively unimportant.

No Reprieve in Sight for Men Sentenced to Die

Cole and Grammar, Found Guilty of Woman's Murder, Face Death by Electric Chair in Two Days.

Lincoln, Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—With only two days intervening until the day set for the electrocution of Alson Cole and Allen Grammar, nothing has yet been done by the governor in the way of a respite for the men. The case stands in about the way it has stood since the hearing in Howard county Saturday, and with the exception of an application for a new hearing, no one appears to know very much about the case.

It is understood, however, that the matter may be put up to Judge Woodrough again by J. M. Priest, attorney for Cole, in an effort to get an order holding off the execution, providing the governor does not act. Priest claims that Judge Paine of the Howard county district court has not yet carried out the former order of Judge Woodrough for a new trial. He says that last Saturday Judge Paine denied him a new trial of the case and that until such trial is had, no execution can be made.

Attorney Moves for New Trial.

Grand Island, Neb., Dec. 14.—Anson B. Cole, condemned with Vincent Grammer to die in the electric chair at the penitentiary on Friday, is still a prisoner in the Howard county jail at St. Paul.

Attorney Priest of Lincoln, for Cole, has filed a motion for a new trial on the ground that the district court, in correcting the record as per the order of the federal court in only a nunc pro tunc entry without resentencing, failed to comply with the order of the federal judge, and that Cole is no longer under sentence, having been discharged therefrom by order of Federal Judge Woodrough.

At noon today Judge Paine had been advised of the filing of the motion at St. Paul this morning, but had not set a time for hearing the motion. It was indicated that this might be done late today.

Four Passengers Killed in Wreck of Big Airship

London, Dec. 14.—A large passenger airplane which was leaving for Paris with six passengers today fouled a tree, burst into flames and crashed to the ground. The pilot, a mechanic and two passengers are reported to have been killed and other passengers injured.

The four who lost their lives were pinned beneath the wreckage and burned to death, calling frantically for help, which it was impossible to give. Of the four passengers who escaped, two were slightly hurt, but the others were not injured. There were no Americans aboard the machine.

New Hampshire Employer of 13,600 Persons Shuts Down

Manchester, N. H., Dec. 14.—The Amoskeag Manufacturing Co. today announced a 10-day shutdown commencing December 22 and a wage reduction of 22½ per cent. The mills employ 13,500 persons.

Volcano Active.

Valdivia, Chile, Dec. 14.—The volcano Lanin, on the Argentine frontier, is reported to be in a state of eruption. The volcano is approximately 9,000 feet high.

Woman Appears Against First Mate in Court

Testifies at Trial of Former Husband Charged With Murder of Man She Married After Their Divorce.

Mrs. Ruth Mikesell took the stand yesterday in district court at Council Bluffs and testified against her former husband, James Harbour, who is on trial for the murder of George Mikesell, the man she married after her divorce from Harbour last January.

Mikesell was killed near Treynor, June 2, following a quarrel over pasture rent for a mare they had left at the farm of August Sierck, where Harbour was employed. Mr. and Mrs. Sierck and Harbour were jointly indicated for the murder of Mikesell.

The widow testified that her former husband was armed with a rifle, that Mrs. Sierck had a revolver and that Sierck had another rifle when the shooting occurred. All shot at her husband, who was unarmed, she told the jury.

The defense alleges that a bullet from a large caliber revolver in Mrs. Mikesell's hand caused the death of her husband, and not the smaller caliber guns used by the Siercks and Harbour. They also plead self-defense and claim that Mikesell himself fired the first shot in the battle.

Mr. and Mrs. Sierck, although jointly indicted with Harbour, will not be placed on trial until the next term of court.

Millionaire From Canada Found Dying In Galveston, Texas

Galveston, Tex., Dec. 14.—The body of a man found today near the property of the Mexican Petroleum company in this city was identified today as that of John Hammill, a millionaire and president of the Murphy-Gand, Ltd., of Ottawa, Ont., who disappeared from his home on November 11.

Identification was made through a poster photograph of Mr. Hammill at police headquarters and through a police telegram from Forth Worth.

When found the man was in a dying condition and death resulted while he was being taken to a hospital. There were no marks of violence on the body. An inquest will be held tomorrow.

Harding Made Life Member Of Marion Printers' Union

Marion, O., Dec. 14.—President-elect Warren G. Harding now is an honorary life member of the Marion Typographical union No. 675. He was voted to membership last night at a meeting of the local.

The Weather

Forecast.

Wednesday fair; not much change in temperature.

Hourly Temperature.

5 a. m.	37	1 p. m.	42
6 a. m.	38	2 p. m.	40
7 a. m.	38	3 p. m.	38
8 a. m.	38	4 p. m.	37
9 a. m.	37	5 p. m.	37
10 a. m.	40	6 p. m.	37
11 a. m.	42	7 p. m.	37
12 noon	42	8 p. m.	37

Shippers' Bulletin.

Protect shipments during the next 24 to 36 hours from temperatures as follows: North and east, 25 degrees; South, 30 degrees; west, 20 degrees.

Senators Score Coal Operators

Partial Report of Reconstruction Committee Presented Today Contains Many Startling Charges.

Drastic Measures Urged

By The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Sharp criticism of the national coal industry, with implied threat of drastic legislation by congress to meet alleged evils of profiteering and speculation, accompanied the partial report of the senate committee on production and reconstruction, submitted to the senate today. In general the report, which asked power to continue the investigation, suggested government activities to bring about co-operation under regulation in building construction, but its three republican members, Senators Calder of New York; Edge, New Jersey, and Kenyon, Iowa, supplemented their findings with additional statements, all of which agreed in asking special legislative attention to present methods of producing and distributing coal.

"These," Chairman Calder said, "must be corrected," while Senator Kenyon declared that "if the matter is to go on I, for one, harsh as the remedy might be, shall favor taking over the mines." Senator Edge expressed as his conclusion that "the coal industry cannot bring order out of the prevailing chaos and give even reasonable relief to the suffering people, so I am ready to modify somewhat, in this case, my opposition to government intrusion into private business and to advocate legitimate scrutiny."

Profiteering Is Disgrace.

"Coal profiteering, especially as it has followed the priority orders of the Interstate Commerce commission, has continued unchecked by the Department of Justice, and is a national disgrace," the committee said in its joint report. "Coal speculation has been permitted to monopolize the transportation facilities of the country.

"Our investigation into the coal situation has convinced us that the private interests are actually unable to prevent a continuance or repetition of the present deplorable situation and that it is the duty of the government to take such reasonable and practical steps as it may devise to remedy the evil."

Government administration of the production and distribution of coal, the committee said, "should be a last resort," but for the present it was recommended that operators, wholesalers, jobbers and retailers in the industry be required to file full and frequent reports with a federal agency."

Public Health in Danger.

The reports should be sufficient "to determine costs and profits, and the corporate interrelations or the communities of interests, if any, between companies producing and distributing coal."

In othtr fields, the committee said, "there exists a serious shortage of housing, not only in the great cities, but in the smaller cities as well, even in the far west and south," which it

(Turn to Page Four, Column One.)

Counterfeiters Are Captured After They Work for Two Years

Chicago, Dec. 14.—A gang of counterfeiters, said to have netted thousands during the last two years, has been broken up and three of the men have been arrested, government officials announced today. The arrests were made last Saturday by Capt. Thomas I. Porter, head of the secret service, but kept under cover pending a hunt for other members of the band.

The men in custody gave their names as Jake Kelly, alias James Sullivan; Jack Monkler and E. G. Carlson. Kelly is said to be the ring leader.

Search of the men's rooms revealed an outfit for changing $1 notes to $10. More than 50 of these notes have been detected by secret agents in the last month. A pocketful of numbers torn from $10 bills was found on one of the men.

An attempt to gain a recruit resulted in the gang's downfall. Last Saturday morning a stranger came to the federal building with a story about a man trying to induce him to pass bogus money. He said the man would be at Wilken's wine rooms that afternoon. The three men were captured there.

Alleged Deserter Has Been Identified as Swindler

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Identification of photographs of John A. Willers now on trial before a court-martial at Governor's Island, N. Y., charged with deserting from Company I, 48th infantry, as Raymond F. Ball, alleged Chicago swindler, was made today by W. S. Tipton, a banker, who had obtained a warrant charging Ball with defrauding the bank out of $439 in worthless checks, police say.

Sixty Permits to Shoot Buffalo at $200 a Head

Salt Lake City, Dec. 14.—Sixty permits to kill buffalo on Antelope island, in the Great Salt lake, at $200 per head have been granted, according to information to this effect wired to Arno B. Cammerer, acting director of the national park service in Washington, D. C., by Thomas Redmond, secretary of the Utah state live stock board.

Lima Strike Settled.

Lima, Peru, Dec. 14.—The dock strike which has tied up traffic of the harbor of Callao for some time past has been settled.