

### Farmers Told of Passing of "Little Red School House"

#### Big Boys and Girls Leave Country Schools After Eighth Grade, Humboldt Man Laments.

Passing of the little red school house, where country lads and lassies received kindergarten and high school education in the same room, was bewailed by J. O. Shroyer of Humboldt, Neb., who spoke at the morning session of the Nebraska Farmers' congress at the Hotel Rome.

"When my children complained to me that all the big boys and girls went away to school after the eighth grade I knew there was no use in arguing with them," said Mr. Shroyer. "It had become fashionable for the big boys and girls to get out of the rural school, and I knew there was no use in combating fashion."

#### Go Away.

"When the children reach the age of 13 or 14 in rural districts they either quit school entirely or go away to school. I believe normal schools and universities are partly responsible for this condition."

Mr. Shroyer emphasized the dangers of sending young children away from home to school. He also criticized the tendency toward too many "frills" in the city schools.

"We don't need gymnasiums in the country schools," he declared. "Our boys get plenty of exercise feeding hogs. When I see the modern high school girls in our Nebraska cities with their low-cut, high-cut party dresses I know something is wrong."

#### Describes Sod School.

"Silk stockings on 14-year-old girls isn't going to help them with their studies."

Mr. Shroyer told of difficulties of district consolidation of schools. He declared there was still much to be accomplished in the way of education in Nebraska, and described a tumbled-down, one-room school house without flooring and with only one window which he had recently seen in Kimball county as a condition still typical in many parts of the state.

#### Chancellor Samuel Avery of the University of Nebraska, told of the Nebraska congress Nebraska needed more county agents and declared the university was doing everything possible to develop the "agricultural spirit."

#### Realize Danger.

"We realize the danger of taking the young country boy or girl away from home to educate them either at the university or normal school, or at the county seat high schools," he said.

Dean Burnett of the State College of Agriculture also spoke, asserting the principal obstacles to the consolidation of rural districts came from local opposition.

"There is no doubt the consolidated school serves the community better than the one-room school," he said, "and it is only necessary to show residents in a community this to make them for the plan."

#### In Closer Contact.

Dean Burnett told delegates the agriculture college was doing what it could to work out a system with the farmer whereby the producer and consumer are in closer contact, thus giving the producer more profit and the consumer more for his money.

He defended the practical value of work accomplished by the College of Agriculture, declaring that a large percentage of the students either return to the farms or engage in work for the advancement of agriculture in some form.

### Cole Denied New Trial And Docket Is Clear

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for contempt of court. As a result of Judge Woodrough's refusal to grant a new trial, Cole's only chance to escape execution now lies with the supreme court of Nebraska and Governor McKelvie.

An appeal from the proceedings held at St. Paul last Saturday was prepared by Priest yesterday. It was filed late yesterday by him with the supreme court. "In the meanwhile all preparations for the execution tomorrow of the two convicted men have been made. Inability to secure the services of an executioner for today will result in the granting of another reprieve to the two condemned men some time today by Governor McKelvie. It is altogether probable that the reprieve will be for one week."

#### Wire to Woodrough.

Following the hearing at St. Paul last Saturday, at which Judge Paine failed to rescind Cole, but instead remanded him to the custody of the warden of the penitentiary, there to be dealt with according to law, Priest sent the following telegram to Judge Woodrough at Bismarck, N. Dak., where he is engaged in court work:

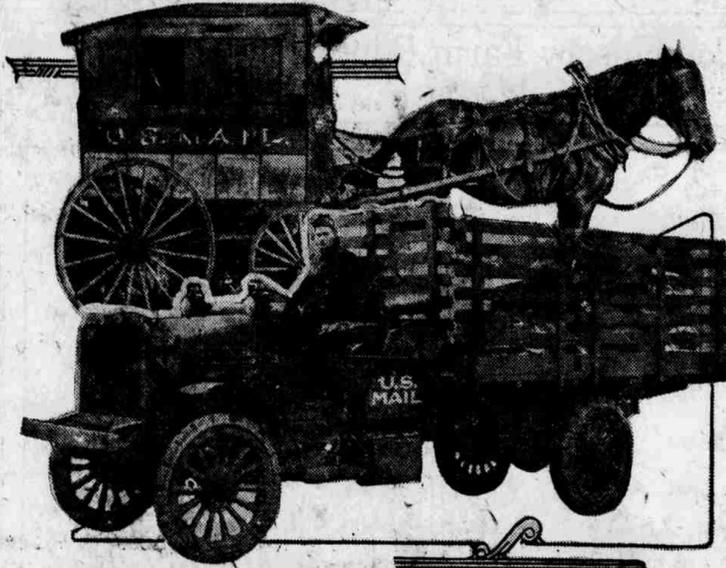
"At a hearing held in St. Paul in the matter of Alton B. Cole Judge Paine refused to give Cole a hearing. He made a new pronouncement saying 'In my own mind at the trial in 1918 I determined that Cole was guilty from the evidence, and will now so hold.' He refused to do anything else and ordered Cole sent back to the penitentiary to be dealt with according to law."

"I am preparing papers citing Governor McKelvie, for contempt of court, for violation of your order of October 12 and a motion asking you to modify the decree as entered in the Cole case and asking for the discharge of Cole because of the proceedings held at St. Paul last Saturday."

The reply of Judge Woodrough received by Priest yesterday in which he literally "washes his hands of the case" follows:

"The action of Judge Paine as described in your telegram was not contempt of my order in the Cole case. If you claim his action erroneous must appeal to state courts. Will not hear any application for contempt proceedings under the circumstances described."

### Mail Trucks Crowding Out Old Dobbin



Old Dobbin will soon be crowded from the mail service. Here is the first parcel post mail truck to be put into service in Omaha—and Old Dobbin with his out-of-date cart.

And as fast as the others arrive, horse-drawn carts and street cars will be relegated to the dump.

### Launch Probe of Bootlegging in Valley County

#### Over 100 Witnesses Subpoenaed and Perjury Charges Will Be Filed, County Attorney Says.

Ord., Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special Telegram.)—A countywide investigation of liquor and gambling violations in Valley county was begun here when County Attorney Hardbrook opened an inquiry in the presence of Judge Gundmanson.

Ten witnesses were examined and the inquiry will continue until the 100 witnesses subpoenaed have been examined.

The first witness called was C. E. Gano, who goes to trial next Monday for being intoxicated and with having liquor in his possession illegally. He testified that he had several times bought and sold liquor, that he had drunk it and saw it drunk and that he had made it. In his preliminary hearing Monday he pleaded not guilty to the charges preferred against him.

Frank Kusek as one of the men whom he had bought liquor. Other witnesses testified that they had seen intoxicated persons drink during the past year but most of them were evasive in their answers. The prosecution stopped the examination of Walt Bate and proffered charges against him.

The inquiry into the outgrowth of alleged bootlegging and gambling which it is said has been running wild here. Charges have been made that there is wide-open gambling in various places in the city and that the authorities have been lax.

The county attorney says when the inquiry is completed he will file charges of perjury against all persons who testified at the inquiry contrary to other direct evidence, which he has in his possession.

Two state laws enforcement officers are in the city gathering evidence on liquor and gambling matters. It is very guarded due to the fact that the identity of these officers is "unconformably" to other direct evidence, which he has in his possession.

#### Land Commissioner Urges Increase in Appraisal

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—Land Commissioner Dan Swanson, who has returned from an appraisal trip of the board of public lands, a total increase of \$12,055 in lands in Custer and adjoining counties, most of which is in Custer, over the appraisal made by county commissioners.

Holders of these sale contracts are anxious to complete the purchase of this land before the new constitution goes into effect the first of the new year when all lands will be sold at public auction instead of by the present method of appraisal. Under the present law no land can be sold for less than \$7.00 an acre, but under the new constitution there is no limit either way.

#### Debating Team Selected By Academy at Hebron

Hebron, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—The Hebron academy held two debates at Theodora hall. Dorothy Thiener, Walter Oehringner and Herman Cairz were selected to represent the academy in the Nebraska State Debating league next spring. An alternate team is made up of Herman Meyer, Amanda Pohlmann and Adella Prange. The Hebron academy will debate with the aFibury high school in Hebron shortly after the first of the year.

#### Orange Colored Train.

After 5 minutes after 6 o'clock every evening there starts from the Union station at Omaha, an orange-colored train of the finest equipment known to railroad travel, including an observation club car, standard sleeping cars with drawing rooms and compartments, dining car and coaches.

This is the "OMAHA-CHICAGO LIMITED" via the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, which arrives in Chicago at 8:05 a. m. the next morning.

Tickets: Consolidated Ticket Office or Union Station, Omaha. W. E. BOOK, Gen. Agt. Pass Dept. Telephone Douglas 4481. 407 South 15th St.

### Power Co. Starving, New York Expert Says

(Continued From Page One.)

proper depreciation reserve allowances, charges to operation and charges to plant cost.

#### Reports Discussed.

Mayor Smith observed that in the Henderson report approximately \$350,000 was charged off by the company from 1903 to 1919 on account of obsolescent property, whereas, in another showing, the witness contended that during the first nine months of this year the income should have been sufficient to have provided for a depreciation reserve of at least \$486,000. This opened a wide field of discussion. Mr. Henderson explained that a utility plant is gradually being used up in the public service and that operating efficiency is of first consideration in the public mind. He insisted that adequate provision should be made for depreciation and that the public should bear this expense while the plant is being used. The witness added that the amounts charged off in previous years should not be a criterion for present conditions, because the plant has been steadily growing larger and more valuable. Changes in expensive electrical apparatus, he said, add to these expenses.

#### Mayor Becomes Aggressive.

"About 5 per cent a year for depreciation is the best experience we have and this is generally accepted as fair," Mr. Henderson testified.

Mayor Smith became somewhat aggressive in his examination of Mr. Henderson, whereupon Attorney Kennedy, for the company, interposed by saying:

"I will ask the mayor to suspend his judgment and censure criticisms until we shall have presented our entire case."

"Out of the fullness of the heart I did speak rather harshly," replied the mayor.

#### "Bare Bones" Cost.

The city officials have learned much about "bare bones" cost, through the intricate and interesting testimony of Mr. Henderson, who gave this illustration: He showed from his reports that the company expended for operating and other expenses \$9,981,022, from 1911 to 1919. He told the council that his examination of the company's books disclosed that in adding certain amounts of new construction to capital account, only the "bare bones cost" was considered. He found it necessary, according to his process of arriving at a total plant cost, to add in \$1,187,268 to capital account, although this amount represented items which had been charged to operating expenses. Becoming more explicit, he said that a certain per cent of all engineering and other expenses of the company should properly go into the construction cost and hence into capital or plant account.

"Then you have changed their system of accounting, have you Mr. Henderson?" asked the mayor.

Testifies to Valuation.

"I have merely given a correct translation of what their books show."

The fact that certain items were placed in wrong accounts, did not deter me from placing them where they belonged," Mr. Henderson replied. His purpose in appearing before the city council is to establish the cost of the plant, which he testified was \$12,083,892, on November 30, 1920, and he reminded the commissioners that this was not intended to present a valuation of the plant at that date. Another expert testified that the valuation, based on prices last June, has more than \$17,000,000.

The testimony yesterday afternoon showed that the company expended \$6,500,000 in piecemeal construction work between 1903 and 1919 and that this was charged to operating expenses.

Another showing was that the company paid \$1,563,192 in taxes from 1903 to 1920.

During his examination Mr. Henderson testified that last September the company did not earn enough to provide for renewals and replacements.

### Victim of Aged Man Or Vamp Question to Be Decided by Jury

Cheyenne, Wyo., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—Whether Anna (Goldie) Sanderson, 77 or 72, was the victim of John Wright, 55, attorney and rancher of Bissett, Neb., and Newcastle, Wyo., or Wright was selected to be the victim of Anna is before a jury in federal court in the trial of Wright on a Mann act charge.

Miss Sanderson testified Wright took her, an unsophisticated girl of 17, from Newcastle to Crawford, Neb., attacked her in a hotel and later took her to Lusk, Wyo.

Mrs. Della Wilson, Oswego, Wyo., after testifying that Wright and Miss Wilson had stayed at her hotel at Osage as husband and wife, testified that the girl had told her that she was not 17 but 22, that she was a widow and the mother of a 2-year-old child.

Mrs. Wilson testified that a man named Lyons told her that he and Miss Sanderson were engaged in a conspiracy to blackmail Wright for \$5,000. Mrs. Wilson admitted that she did not warn Wright but had waited to see how things turned out, that she did not object to Wright being "gyped" by "Goldie" if the latter could get away with it unscathed but that she had not proposed to stand by and see him "framed" by Lyons.

### Geneva Man Convicted of Assault Released on Bond

Geneva, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—Walter Christianity, convicted of criminal assault and sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary, was released on \$10,000 bond, signed by his father and two cousins, pending an appeal to the supreme court. He has been in jail since November 19.

Lighting Fixtures—Granden Electric Co., formerly Burgess-Granden Co.—Adv.

### Four New States Are Admitted as League Members

#### Bulgaria Is Granted Membership While Armenia's Application Is Turned Down Completely.

Geneva, Dec. 16.—(By The Associated Press.)—Four new nations were made members of the league of nations by the assembly of the league here today. They were Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Finland and Luxembourg. France and Australia abstained from voting when the admission of Bulgaria was before the assembly for decision.

France abstained from voting on the question of admitting Bulgaria to the league. Rene Viviani, head of the French delegation, declared it had no objection to Bulgaria as a member, but preferred not to vote in view of the incompleteness of the information given it regarding Bulgaria's fitness.

Thirty-five states voted affirmatively when the balloting took place and Australia joined France in not recording its vote.

#### Costa Rica Favored.

The question of admitting Costa Rica was the next on the day's agenda. Dr. Nansen of Norway explained that the only doubt in his mind was whether Costa Rica was not too small a country, but, in view of the membership of its neighbor, Panama, he decided Costa Rica could not be excluded on that score.

Debate was expected when the report relative to the admission of Baltic and Caucasian states was to be considered. N. W. Rowell of Canada gave notice to the committee that Canada, as a Pacific ocean power, took a special interest in the Russian question. He declared that question had been raised in its entirety by the proposed relations between the league and the states carved out of the former Russian empire.

Although the Baltic states had the full sympathy of Canada, he asserted, the situation in Russia might change and the league might find itself faced by a new government claiming access to the sea, in which eventuality the league would incur grave responsibility.

#### Will Take Up Budget.

It was planned, if the assembly finished the election of new members soon enough, to take up the league budget and pass appropriations for the coming year, which have been somewhat criticised at committee meetings with regard to salaries of men connected with the secretariat.

The committee reported unfavorably on the applications of Armenia, Estonia, Latvia and Georgia. It failed to recommend the admission of Armenia because authority over the entire territory of that nation was not being exercised by the government. The hope was expressed that Armenia might be admitted at an early date.

It was pointed out that Armenia was a signatory of the treaty of Sevres, the Turkish peace treaty, and the question was raised whether the ratification of that treaty, when it was accomplished, would not make her automatically a member of the league.

The decision of the assembly for the present, however, was against the admission of Armenia, Canada, Switzerland, Sweden, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Portugal and Salvador voted for her admission but the votes of 21 other states were recorded against her. Persia and Poland abstained from voting. The assembly passed a resolution presented by Delegate Rowell of Canada expressing the hope that President Wilson's efforts would result in the saving of Armenia and the establishment of a stable government so that she might be admitted to the league in the not far distant future.

The New Zealand Parliament has appropriated nearly \$4,000,000 to be devoted to building homes for the working classes in different parts of the dominion.

Her-Grand Turkish Baths, 15th and Howard Sts., new management. Concession Bros.—Adv.

"Nature is in earnest when she makes a woman."—HOLMES

# THE best is none too good for her

Thompson, Belden & Co.

## THOMPSON-BELDEN & COMPANY

### Black Silk HOSIERY

Pure thread black silk McCallum hose, very sheer and fine, with garter tops and double soles to make for service.

And black silk hose, gauze weight, with Pointex heels, are very new and fashionable.

Two styles that are favored for gifts.

Center Aisle—Main Floor.

### Bags and Purses

Velvet bags in taupe, brown, navy and black are so cleverly fashioned that they are unusual as well as attractive.

The fine leather goods include back-strap purses, bag shapes, canteen boxes and the Cordova line of fine hand-tooled bags.

Most complete showings for Christmas.

Notions—Main Floor.

### Three Specials in TOILETRIES for Christmas Gifts

Very good perfumes, regularly 75c; Friday, 50c a bottle.

75c toilet water Friday for 50c a bottle.

Ivory hair receivers and powder boxes, special Friday, 29c each.

Main Floor.

### Black Bloomers 98c and \$1.49

Black sateen bloomers in ten, twelve and fourteen-year sizes, \$2.25, and \$2.50 values are offered Friday for 98c and \$1.49.

Second Floor.

### Ideal Gloves for Wintertime

Washable leather gloves, a single clasp style in brown and field mouse with contrasting embroideries, are \$5.50.

A strap wrist gauntlet that is finding great favor both for its quality and style has a contrasting cuff and embroideries and is priced \$9.75 a pair.

If you are not sure of color or size the purchase of a Gift Certificate is wise.

### A Shop of Most Attractive Gift Things

The art department is displaying wrought iron candlesticks, polychrome ware, colorful pottery, fine brass and any number of dainty things for Millady's boudoir.

For Men—Good looking brass ink wells with a cigar lighter attached, compact sets of chips and a deck of cards in a leather case and various other originalities are offered in this section.

Second Floor.

### —for a Man A Robe

A bath robe or lounging robe of Terry cloth, wool or silk in one of our many new styles will please him.

### Gloves

Of buckskin, capstock, lightweight kid, silk, fabric or wool, are to be had in any shade.

### Mufflers

Wool, silk or knitted silk ones in very fine shades, plain or striped and figured. Heather shades as well.

The Men's Shop—to the Left As You Enter.

## Saxophones for Xmas—

"I'll say we got 'em"

New C. Melody—Silver plated, gold bell, pearl keys, complete with fine case, music rack, shoulder strap, two reeds. Nothing better at any price than the beautiful standard Saxophone. Net price complete, \$186 including war tax.

We also have the same Saxophone as described above, except it is in the brass finish, at \$138

Other fine silver-plated Saxophones \$140 as low as

1807 Farnam St., Omaha. **OAKFORD Music Co.** 1807 Farnam St., Omaha.

You can't confine the Christmas spirit to one day. The feeling of kindness, unselfishness and love will outlast the holiday season. Music at Christmas time prolongs the spirit of good cheer. With one of Bowen's Grafonolas under the Christmas tree, there is not only a wonderful treat in store for the whole family on Christmas day, but throughout the entire year.

We have all styles to choose from, and in our record department you will find what is best and latest.

And, as usual, you make your own terms.

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