

Commission Hears Application for Phone Rate Boost

Only Few of Towns That Filed Protests Are Represented When Session Starts.

Lincoln, April 17.—(Special)—When the hearing on the application of the Northwestern Bell Telephone company for an increase in rates was called before the State Railway commission this morning only a few of the towns which had filed protests were represented. It was expected that a large number would show up before the hearing was concluded.

The hearing today was to inquire into the contracts and business relations of the Northwestern Bell Telephone and Telegraph company, the parent Bell corporation, and the Western Electric company, its manufacturing subsidiary.

W. C. Lambert, corporation counsel for the city of Omaha; C. E. Child of the Chamber of Commerce of Omaha, and Secretary Kuhn of the Omaha Grain exchange, were on hand, the largest increases being in Omaha. W. H. Young represented the Fremont Chamber of Commerce.

Opens With Explanation. The hearing opened with an explanatory statement by E. M. Morsman, Nebraska counsel for the Northwestern Bell. Appearing with him were General Counsel F. E. Randall, Attorney A. J. McBean, Vice President G. H. Pratt and General Commercial Superintendent Lloyd Wilson.

Relative to the agreement between the Northwestern Bell and the American Telephone and Telegraph company, under which the former pays the latter 4-1-2 per cent of its gross earnings in Nebraska and four other states, Mr. Morsman said, that in return the Northwestern gets these things:

1. Use of telephone instruments, which belong to the parent company, on a rental basis.
2. Right to use all American Telephone and Telegraph company patented apparatus and devices.
3. Full use of all standard methods and apparatus perfected by the American Telephone and Telegraph company through its experimental and research work.
4. Freedom from royalties, damages and litigation over patents.
5. Benefit of the parent company's organization in conducting research work.
6. Advice and assistance of all experts, engineers, legal advisors, and specialists employed by the American Telephone and Telegraph company.
7. Similar advice and assistance of financial experts.
8. Support, plans and advice in carrying on welfare work, compensation and sick and death benefits.
9. Right to extend all of the foregoing privileges and benefits to all contracting companies.

Western Electric Mentioned. As to the Western Electric, Mr. Morsman said that it acts as a purchasing agent for the Northwestern Bell and the latter buys its manufactured product at lower prices than they are sold to anyone outside the Bell system. He claimed that the branch Bell companies throughout the country cannot buy on the open market as advantageously as they can through the Western Electric.

E. F. Rhodes of New York, outside plant development engineer for the American Telephone and Telegraph company, was the first witness. His testimony dealt with the contract whereby the company collects 4-1-2 per cent of the gross earnings of the Northwestern Bell. E. V. Cox, supply contract auditor for the American Telephone and Telegraph company, was to be examined regarding the Western Electric contract with the Northwestern Bell.

The commission was informed by Attorney Morsman that the American Telephone and Telegraph company owns all of the stock of the Northwestern Bell and most of the stock of the Western Electric company. It also controls the patents used in the Bell plants throughout the country. The original license contract for Nebraska, he said, was signed in 1882 between individuals interested in the Nebraska Telephone company and the parent Bell concern. In 1906 the three Bell companies in Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota signed contracts similar to the one now in force.

One of Founders of Grand Island Dies

Grand Island, Neb., April 17.—(Special)—Grand Island still mourns the loss of another of its founders. Henry C. Jochnick, 86, one of the first white settlers in the region west of Columbus, has died. A daughter lives in New York and a son each in California and Colorado.

Jochnick was born in Germany, emigrated to America early in the 50s and was residing at Davenport, Ia., with his wife, when a colony was organized to settle in a new section of the Platte valley, with the hope, as then proclaimed, of founding the future capital of the United States. Jochnick was a member of this party and his wife was the only married woman in it.

Mrs. Hohn Thomssen, sr., then a Miss Stier, was the only other woman. Mrs. Thomssen and William Hage, sr., the former now 89 and the latter almost as old, are the only two remaining of that interdict colony.

Jochnick was assigned a tract of land under government grant and had resided upon it ever since. His wife died only a few years ago. Ten children were born to the family and there are many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Storm Puts City in Dark. Arnold, Neb., April 17.—(Special)—Arnold is without electric lights. High water, as a result of the storm, carried away a part of the dam at the power plant.

99, Yet He Does Day's Work in Carpenter Shop



William Everitt

Ninety-nine years old yesterday, but William Everitt, Twenty-second and Douglas streets, rose as soon as it was light, cleaned out the barn where he keeps the horse, then went off to do a day's work in his carpenter shop, 710 North Eighteenth street.

He is the oldest active tradesman in Omaha. By an interesting coincidence, yesterday was the birthday of Everitt's youngest son, Joseph W. Everitt, who is 24.

The two celebrated their birthdays yesterday at the son's home in Benson Acres. "Mother" Everitt, who is 66, baked a birthday cake on which she frosted the numerals, "99" and "24."

"I couldn't make a cake large enough to put on all the candles for 'Dad' alone," she said.

Before the birthday dinner, "Dad" attended Easter services in the First Christian church. Then he drove his old chaise out to Benson by himself.

"Steady habits," is the answer to how he came to live so long, "Dad" says. "Early to bed, early to rise, and plenty of work is my motto."

But he has no objection to the movies. "I go often myself. Why I'd ride to Council Bluffs to see Bill Hart. He's my favorite," he exclaimed with the vim of a boy.

Next June 4 will be 68 years that Everitt has lived in this country. He was born in England and has a sister two years older than he, living there.

"Come and see me next year when I'm 100," he sang out as the reporter left. "I'll still be here."

Man Injured in Crash; Car Driven by Woman Wrecked

Broken Bow, Neb., April 17.—(Special)—J. L. Tiff of Berwyn suffered several broken ribs and other injuries when the car he was driving was crashed into by another machine. Tiff's car was forced up a bank and into a telephone pole.

A coupe driven by Mrs. William Grimes of Callaway was struck by a passing auto and demolished. Mrs. Grimes escaped injury. The accident happened on the state highway near town.

Shirts of Gold for King. Srebrenice, April 17.—The Slovaks of the Banat district of Yugoslavia, in accordance with tradition, plan to present King Alexander with a shirt woven of pure gold and silver threads on the occasion of his marriage to Princess Maria of Rumania.

Call Cole "Attorney." Judge Leslie gave instructions to jurors against "outside influences" before adjournment last night. "Attorney" Cole, as the accused man is now being called, returned to his cell in the county jail.

Mr. Shotwell said he might call between 15 and 20 witnesses in the case.

Humboldt Boy Scalded. Table Rock, Neb., April 17.—(Special)—Donald, 4, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Ingalls of Humboldt, was badly scalded in running through the house he struck a pan containing boiling water, suffering severe burns on his face and neck.

Wet Snow at Beatrice. Beatrice, Neb., April 17.—(Special Telegram)—A wet snow fell in this section of the state following a light fall of rain and hail early Monday morning. The weather is cold and heating plants are in operation in Beatrice homes.

The Bee Leads Other Papers in Sport News

France May Turn Down Arms Pacts

Prospects for Ratification of Naval Treaty and Root Resolutions on Submarines and Poison Gas Fading.

By FLOYD GIBBONS. Copyright, 1922.

Paris, April 17.—It is becoming increasingly more evident that America cannot expect the French ratification of the naval pact and the Root resolutions on submarine warfare and poison gas. The reason for the French lack of interest is becoming more apparent every day. All the other proposed signatories to the pact will reap acknowledged advantages, but for France there appears to be no special benefit. It is recalled that "no consideration" is the motto of the French.

From the best informed circles in Paris one is informed that unless other inducements are offered, France will not ratify, although there need not be expected an immediate direct statement of its reticence. Premier Poincare, representing as he does the strong French nationalist blocks, has washed his hands already of the pact. He has transmitted the proposed treaty to the chamber of deputies, but the transmission was done without the endorsement of the present French administration. When it is recalled that the treaty is an instrument of the Briand government, which the present government defeated and ousted, this lack of support is hardly surprising and it is most likely that the treaty will spend many sleepless months jolting around through the endless channels of the French legislative maze and finally get lost entirely.

Diplomatically, the horizon is clear and M. Poincare's government cannot be embarrassed by demands from Washington for its action, because the present administration is truthfully representing that the matter, having been handed on to the legislative bodies for action, is clearly out of the prime minister's hands.

Also the French legislature has an excellent precedent for not ratifying in France, particularly in those cases where the American congress concerning the Versailles treaty.

French sentiment is fast growing against the pact and one may expect political expression of this sentiment any time soon, but outspoken opposition to the treaty will hardly be sounded for the present, when France is facing Germany's "won't pay" note on one hand and Russia's insisting on disarmament cry on the other, and is so fully taxed at Genoa to maintain all the support possible, particularly from the direction of the only other world nation not favoring the Genoa conference.

Cole's First Objection Is Sustained by Court

Mr. Shotwell said in his opening speech. The revolver with which the state alleges Cole shot Hahn and cast aside as he was about to be captured is also in the evidence.

Otto Lickert, veteran policeman who captured Cole a short time after the shooting, and who since has been promoted to a sergeant, waited during the afternoon to testify.

Cole originally told police he shot Hahn after the storekeeper attacked him following a dispute over a loan. The state will endeavor to show that Hahn was carrying coal to a stove in the center of his store when attacked by Cole, Shotwell said.

The list of jurors to hear the case follows: John E. Eggenberg, 1723 South Eighteenth street; Guy L. Smith, 3205 Harney street; George L. Harris, 4910 North Twenty-fifth street; Cyrus J. Bowman, 2325 Hickory street; Charles F. Mann, 2715 Brown street; Frank E. Hensman, 1902 South Forty-fifth street; P. G. Kolony, 2303 South Eleventh street; F. G. Ketchum, 3317 North Fourteenth avenue; William W. Kelly, 416 South Twenty-eighth street; Alonzo Farrar, Strehlow apartments; Henry C. Riley, 1810-1-2 Farnam street, and C. C. Frazell, 3524 North Twenty-eighth street.

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Missing State Highway Field Notebook Found

Returned to Tell. The governor said the committee is pressed for time, but would go into that later.

Epperson jumped to his feet. "I told the man who gave me the book I would not tell where I got it, providing no one accused me of stealing it," Epperson said.

At the first hearing of the road investigation committee four weeks ago, T. W. Hamilton, engineer employed by the state department, appeared and stated that while he was supervising work on Project No. 20 in Douglas county, he saw the contractor making excavations different from those called for in the field notebook.

Asked to produce the notebook, he said he had turned it over to Johnson's office. Johnson said he had not.

Johnson Accuses Hamilton. Johnson told the committee he learned that Hamilton had mailed it out of the state, and said that in order to recover the notebook he delegated a man who knew Hamilton, met him, told Hamilton he was "sore" at Johnson and secured from Hamilton the fact that Epperson & Marsh got the book.

Johnson also has charged that the cement trust, angered because he led a boycott on cement until the price fell, had, according to his information, put a man in their employ on Johnson's payroll to "get something" on him and he said he believed Hamilton's charge is the result.

Johnson admitted that in Clay county, which is governed by the old supervisor system, with seven men sitting on the board, there had been a seeming unending friction between the board and H. A. Sheets, county engineer, and state engineers. "I have sent six men to this job down here in an endeavor to find someone who could get along with some of the supervisors," Johnson said. "These men had no difficulty with any other county board."

Refutation of Costs Made. Epperson has spoken often of a county road constructed with a blade grader for \$137, against state roads built in the same way at nine times the cost. Johnson admitted the first work done by the county cost only \$137 a mile, but before it came up to standard specifications which the supervisors by contract agreed to bring it to, the road cost \$950 a mile.

Johnson also charged that when it came to the hills, difficult stretches the county was waiting for the state to supervise and build the roads. It was not disputed. Complaint of one supervisor was that state engineers constantly changed grade stakes on the road he worked on. Johnson denied original stakes were changed and explained stakes once put in had been replaced because work wasn't up to specifications. However, Johnson pointed out that eight miles of county contract work done by other supervisors had met specifications and were approved by the state.

Johnson declared that one county job failed to meet specifications for three years. So the state last summer put a gang of convicts on the road under competent supervision and specifications were complied with in four weeks.

Sidesteps Davis' Query. Attorney General Davis asked the board if it cared to discontinue the building of state and federal aid highways and return to the old county system. The board declined to go on record.

The supervisors failed to present a report to the committee showing how county road funds had been spent in the last five years. Johnson had a record of state expenditures in Clay county ready.

Certain supervisors stated that all county work was done under specifications used by the state for road workers. And they called in state engineers to approve it.

"Yes, we endeavored to comply with every request to co-operate and some engineering expenses charged against the county by our department to which objection is raised is the expense of our inspections at your request," Johnson said.

Concluding, Johnson read a letter written to Governor McKelvie by A. C. Epperson, a brother of Charles H. Epperson, highly recommending state and federal projects in Clay county.

"I might say in explanation that my brother hasn't been well for some time," Epperson replied.

The committee will go to Holdrege tomorrow for another open hearing.

Wyoming Governor Protests Oil Lease

Clayton, Wyo., April 17.—(Special Telegram)—Governor Robert D. Carey today entered a vigorous protest against proposals to lease Teapot Dome, near Salt Creek field, to Sinclair interests and allow oil to be piped to Omaha and other points east of Wyoming. In a telegram to A. B. Fall, secretary of the interior, the state executive said:

"Worship has reached me that the Department of the Interior has entered into or contemplates entering into agreement for drilling of naval reserve No. 3, known as Teapot Dome. On behalf of the state of Wyoming, I desire to protest against such agreement as I believe same is not to best interests of state in that it would cause overproduction of oil from this territory, which would seriously affect the oil industry. Overproduction means the state of

Wyoming will receive less income for its public schools and roads and it will reduce the income of the national reclamation fund in which this state has considerable interest. "I would respectfully request that no agreement be entered into until such time as hearing may be held, at which hearing representatives of both state and oil producers may be heard."

Board Seeks Alcohol Supply for State Normal Schools

Lincoln, Neb., April 17.—A resolution calling upon the internal revenue bureau to facilitate the procuring of permits that will authorize state normal schools to purchase alcohol for use in their laboratories, was passed by the state normal school board meeting here today.

The near exhaustion of the supply at two of the schools, obtained prior to prohibition and difficulty experienced by another school in obtaining alcohol since the law became effective, led to the adoption of the resolution, it was stated.

Union Pacific to Dismiss 40 Grand Island Shopmen

Grand Island, Neb., April 17.—(Special Telegram)—Forty men will again be dismissed temporarily from work at the Union Pacific shops, partly owing to the change in regulations causing engines to run through partly because of light business. It is declared by officers that the coal strike has nothing to do with the action.

Legion Auxiliary Formed

Leigh, Neb., April 17.—(Special)—A woman's auxiliary to the American Legion has been organized here with 20 charter members. Mrs. M. C. Phillips has been elected president, Mrs. Herman Hamel, secretary and Mrs. F. G. Marty, treasurer.

Daughter of Joffre Presented to Him by Mistake in Lincoln

Lincoln, April 17.—(Special)—Mayor Frank C. Zehrung told a good story today at his own expense. During the reception at the home of Miss May Pershing and Mrs. D. M. Butler, sisters of General Pershing, in honor of Marshal Joffre, some one whispered to the mayor to introduce a certain young woman. The mayor did not know the young woman mentioned but turned around and seeing a young woman at his elbow gallantly introduced her to the famous French military hero.

It was Joffre's own daughter. The young woman mentioned to Mayor Zehrung had left the room.

Thompson, Belden & Co.

Misses' Frocks
Appropriate for Many Occasions
\$25

Distinctiveness of design and quality of material have ever been foremost in Thompson, Belden fashions—and these dresses for Miss Sixteen to Twenty are no exception to that rule.

One lovely model is of green roshanara crepe combined with white—fashioned on straight, graceful lines and the loose jacket effect.

There are charming Dresden crepes in light colored patterns. They have close-fitting bodices and are becomingly trimmed with laces and ribbons.

There is also a blue baronet satin frock and some in navy taffeta—each for the low price of \$25.

Third Floor

The Emporium

Big After Easter Clean-Up

Starts Tuesday Morning

DRESSES \$13.75

1,121,045 Army Shirts for Sale

In One Lot
BY SEALED BID, CLOSING
12 O'Clock Noon (Eastern Time), April 27th
At Washington, D. C.

This large lot of O. D. Flannel Army Shirts, made up of 988,218 brand new and 132,830 reclaimed shirts, is packed in bales and upon sale will be delivered in c, b, cars or common carrier at point of storage. Bids will be received for the entire lot only and the Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part thereof.

Shirts Withdrawn From Auction

NOTE—These shirts include those withdrawn from sales previously advertised and are now re-offered in one lot, to be sold by sealed bid. This withdrawal includes the 675,000 shirts to have been offered by auction at Norfolk, Va., April 19th.

Terms of Sale

10% total deposit of total amount bid in form of cash, certified check or Liberty Bonds at face value must accompany the bid. Balance of bid and shipping instructions in Banker's Acceptance or irrevocable letters of credit payable in not to exceed 60 days from date of award. Inspection of shirts is invited, as failure to inspect will not be considered grounds for claim or adjustment.

Send for Proposal Blanks

Proposal Blanks containing all information relative to bidding will be sent upon application. Proposals will be signed by the bidder enclosed in sealed envelope and marked: "Proposal for Sale of Shirts to Be Opened at 12 Noon (Eastern Time), April 27th, 1922, in Room 1202, Munitions Building."

For proposal blanks and full information, write:
CHIEF SALES PROMOTION SECTION
Office Director of Sales
Room 2515 Munitions Building, Washington, D. C.

WAR DEPARTMENT

FAB ?

50,000 GIANT PEONY ROOTS

Sale Continues Balance of the Week
Until All Stock Is Sold

One and Two Eyes **10c** One and Two Eyes

OTHERS-- 3 to 5 Eyes, 15c; 6 to 10 Eyes, 25c

This is the most unusual opportunity ever offered to buy hardy peony roots. These are all big flower varieties—every shade—healthy roots.

1613 Howard Street **The Nebraska Seed Co.** Phone Douglas 1736