

MOLINE'S SECTION OF THE ARGUS

CONTRACTS GIVEN ON TWO BIG JOBS

Board of Local Improvements Holds Special Session to Consider Bids.

COST TO CITY \$215,949.80

F. C. Brooks of Jackson, Mich., Secures Watermain Contract—Dunnigan & Masters Successful.

At a special meeting of the board of local improvements held late yesterday afternoon the contracts for the east end sewer and water systems, the two big jobs in Moline this summer, were awarded to the lowest bidders. F. C. Brooks of Jackson, Mich., secured the contract for the laying of the watermain, his bid being \$92,630.70, while Dunnigan & Masters of Shenandoah, Iowa, landed the sewer construction contract, which includes installation of the Inhoff tanks and treatment beds at the foot of Thirty-eighth street, their bid being \$121,119.10. The total cost of the treatment plant is figured

in this amount at \$7,573.85. The contract for the installation of motors and pumps to be used in connection with the treatment plant will not be awarded until next Friday. There are two bidders for this contract. Yeomen Brothers of Chicago, who ask \$2,200, and the American Well works of Aurora, Ill., whose bid is \$2,576.

Seven Bids for Contracts.
There were seven bids entered for the watermain contract, as follows: Public Service company, Omaha, Neb.; Dunnigan & Masters, Shenandoah, Iowa; E. R. Harding, Racine, Wis.; Gray-Robinson Construction company, Manitowoc, Wis.; Moline Heating and Construction company; F. C. Brooks, Jackson, Mich.; Dearborn Construction company, Waterloo, Iowa.

Work Will Cost \$215,949.80.
The total cost of the extensive east end improvements, including the motor contract at the figure of Yeomen Brothers, lowest bidders, amounts to \$215,949.80. Almost one year and a half has been spent by the city commissioners and other officials in preliminary arrangements before the contracts could be finally awarded. The estimate made by City Engineer Payton when the work was contemplated is remarkably near the total cost as represented by contractors' figures, being but \$415.10 less than the work will actually cost.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON WORKS FOR SANE FOURTH

Commissioner C. V. Johnson has issued a call to the members of the Sane Fourth association of this city for a meeting tomorrow morning in the city council rooms at the municipal building to consider this year's Fourth of July celebration. The association was established last year with the purpose of bringing about a sane Fourth and eliminating to as great an extent as possible the accidents which usually occur on Independence day. Last year the association was so successful in this work that the plan has been adopted to effect a permanent organization, membership being open to any citizen.

Retail Clerks Meet.
Retail Clerk's union No. 216, held an interesting meeting last night, the resignation of Charles Ydeen as recording secretary being accepted, as he has engaged in business for himself. Robert Kollman was named by the members to succeed Mr. Ydeen in office, and Arthur Pears was elected as a representative to attend the state meeting in Joliet, July 8.

BICYCLE THIEVES BUSY IN MOLINE

Three Thefts Reported to Police and Horse and Buggy Are Also Stolen.

Three bicycle thefts and one horse and buggy theft have been reported to the local police within the past 24 hours. The first report was made by Alex Ferguson of this city, who said that his machine was taken from in front of the Family theatre yesterday. The police traced the wheel as far as Sam Grier's second hand store in Rock Island where the thief was caught while trying to sell it. Albert Cresswell, aged 15, of Moline, was the thief and his case will come up before the county judge for a hearing.

The next theft was reported by August DeClerk, Jr., who said his bicycle was stolen from the porch of a house at 128 Sixteenth avenue. The third report came from Charles Wagner whose wheel was taken while standing against the curb on Fourteenth street near Fourth avenue.

The theft of a horse and buggy from the carnival grounds near Thirty-seventh street, was reported to the police by C. Temple of this city, who had rented the outfit from the Viager livery stable. He tied the horse at the grounds while he went to the carnival, and upon returning it was gone. The police succeeded in locating the stolen outfit at about 2 o'clock this morning in Rock Island, but the thief or thieves had gone.

PROMISE BETTER STREET LIGHTING

Two Carloads of Material Arrive and Plans Are Under Way to Start Work.

Two carloads of material to be directly applied in the plan for better street lighting facilities in Moline, have arrived here. Superintendent Fred W. Reimers of the Peoples' Power company, gives promise that the work of changing the entire street lighting system will be under way by June. Every arc light in the city is to be replaced by a new magnetite arc of the single globe type, the most efficient street light ever invented.

The new street lights were guaranteed the city in the negotiations which resulted during the winter in the new 10 year contract between the city and the utilities company. The equipment which has arrived here comes from the plant of the General Electric company at Schenectady, N. Y., and includes about one-half of the lamps and one-half of the regulators. Two or more carloads are on the way and are expected daily.

Candidates Are Initiated.
A social session planned by the members of the Noble lodge, No. 288, of the Order of Vasa, was postponed last night, as a class of 10 candidates was presented for initiation into the order. The charter closes June 1, and the lodge is expecting a large number of candidates at the next session.

Degree Staff Finishes Work.
Manufacturers' lodge, No. 485, I. O. O. F., held a meeting last night and conferred the third degree on a class of five candidates, thus completing the degree work for the season. The team will now take a rest during the summer.

Kennedy Quits Iowa College.
Ames, Iowa, May 13.—Professor W. J. Kennedy, director of the extension department of the Iowa State college, yesterday made plans to enter a manufacturing concern after complying with the demand of President Pearson for his resignation. Professor R. K. Bliss, head of the animal husbandry department of the Nebraska State university, probably will be asked to succeed Professor Kennedy.

WILL TESTIFY IN NEW HAVEN PROBE



William Rockefeller and George F. Baker.

Washington, May 13.—The most important of recent developments in the New Haven inquiry by the interstate commerce commission is the subpoenaing of the leading directors of the railroad—the men who are primarily responsible for the semi-bankrupt condition of the once wealthy New England line. The directors who have been subpoenaed and who will testify this week are William Rockefeller, George F. Baker, Lewis Cass Ledyard and George McCulloch Miller. These men, all prominent in the "Who's Who" in the millionaire class, are to be asked to explain why they permitted the expenditures of vast sums of money belonging to the stockholders for unprofitable tolls, steamships, the promotion of political ambitions, the passage or defeat of legislative measures, as well as sums given to lobbyists and others who rendered questionable service in return for the amounts paid them.

While the commission is preparing for the quizzing of these directors the comptroller of the currency is contemplating some action against the National City bank of New York city for violations of the federal banking laws in connection with the transactions of the mysterious Billard company, which has already been shown to have been really a subsidiary to the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad company.

John L. Billard, the Connecticut coal dealer, who brought the Billard company into existence, and sprung into the limelight over night as the purchaser of the Boston & Maine railroad, testified that he had borrowed \$11,000,000 from the National City bank, depositing 109,800 shares of Boston & Maine stock as security. He obtained this stock from the New Haven at \$125 a share and by devious manipulation sold it back to the same company for \$150, making a profit of \$2,742,000.

The point in Mr. Billard's testimony that interested the comptroller of the currency is that if Mr. Billard's testimony is true, the National City bank is guilty of violating section 5,200 of the national bank law, which provides:

"The total liabilities to any association of any person or of any company, corporation or firm for money borrowed, including the liabilities of the several members thereof, shall not exceed one-tenth part of the amount of capital stock of such association actually paid in and unimpaired, and one-tenth part of its unimpaired surplus fund; Provided, however, that the total of such liability shall in no event exceed 30 per centum of the capital stock of the association. But the discount of bills of exchange drawn in good faith against actual existing values and the discount of commercial or business paper actually owned by the person negotiating the same shall not be considered as money borrowed."

In 1909, the date of the \$11,000,000 transaction between John L. Billard and the National City bank, the capital stock of the National City bank of New York was \$25,000,000 and its surplus \$25,000,000. These facts are set forth in the sworn statement of the officers of the bank to the controller of the currency.

Under the law, the bank was limited to loaning any one person \$5,000,000, or 10 per cent of its capital and surplus. Beyond admitting that he has requested the interstate commerce commission to turn over the check for \$11,000,000 which figured in the Billard-National City bank transaction, Controller of the Currency John Skelton Williams will not discuss the matter. The National City is one of the richest and most powerful banks in

CLEVER FORGER ESCAPES POLICE

William Horton Works Successful Ruse and Gets Away With \$50 Cash.

IMITATION IS PERFECT

Local Officials Unable to Trace Culpit Who Is Thought to Go From Town to Town.

Local police today gave out the information that William Horton, one of the cleverest forgers in the country, has just completed two days' work in this city and made a successful getaway with something like \$50 of Moline merchants' money. It was at first thought that local talent was at work and the police hoped to bring their chase to a successful culmination, but today it became apparent that Horton was no amateur and that he had escaped from the city with but small hope for his capture.

It seems that Horton blew into Moline a few days ago supposedly as a traveling salesman and registered at a local hotel. He first procured from local banks a number of blank checks.

Secures Old Checks.

The success of Horton's work was due to the fact that he secured, in some unaccountable manner, an old check drawn by James Pearson of the Moline Cement Products company. The company stamps all checks issued with the date they are drawn, with a serial number, the name of the company and with an impressed statement that the check is not good for more than a certain sum. In this way it is made impossible for anyone to raise the face value of a check. The stamping is done with a red inked stamp.

The forger used the name of William Horton but this is probably one of his many aliases, and he made a stamp exactly similar to that used by the company. He then forged the name of James Pearson to the check, made it out for \$16.50, stamped on a serial number and the date, and concluded by stamping in exactly the same place the company always places it, the words, "Not Over Twenty Dollars—Moline Cement Products company." The stamp was an exact and perfect imitation of that used by the company, and Horton drew out a number of checks for a similar amount and in a similar manner.

Easily Cashed Here.

The forger had no trouble in cashing the checks here, almost all of the merchants in the city being familiar with Captain Pearson's signature. They were accepted without question and the money turned over to Horton. He cashed each one in a different place.

When the checks were taken to the bank, however, it was there discovered that there was a slight flaw in the signature, inasmuch as Captain Pearson writes his letters closer together than was the case with the forged name. The captain was immediately notified and the clever forgery thus detected.

When the police came to look for Horton, however, he had left the city and no trace of him has yet been found.

OFFICERS ELECTED BY EPWORTH LEAGUE

The Epworth league of the Swedish Methodist church held its annual meeting last night in the church parlors, and the following officers were elected:

- President—Carl Erickson.
- First vice president—Oscar Anderson.
- Second vice president—Mabel Blomberg.
- Third vice president—Jennie Carlson.
- Fourth vice president—Harold Nelson.
- Secretary—Anna Lofgren.
- Treasurer—Esther Nyquist.
- Correspondent—Anna Lofgren.
- Organist—Mildred Nelson.
- Librarians—Victor Erickson and Andrew Cederlund.

MAY SELECT MOLINE FOR THE NEXT STATE MEETING

It is probable that Moline will be selected by the Knights of Columbus for the Illinois state convention in 1915, according to word received from Quincy, Ill., where Henry T. Moss and Robert W. Rank, delegates from the local lodge, are now attending the 1914 state meeting. In the event of this city being selected for this convention assistance would be rendered by the Rock Island lodge. The Iowa state convention might be held in Davenport at the same time.

Seasons in Quincy were held yesterday and will continue through today, some 300 delegates being in attendance. The national convention will be held in St. Paul next August.

Optium Conference is Called.
The Hague, Netherlands, May 13.—A third international conference on the optimum question has been called here for June 15.

Flowers for Porch boxes and hanging Baskets, 6 for 25c

FAMOUS FOR COATS AND SUITS

Potted Flowers in Bloom, 6 for 25c



THE BIG STORE ON THE BROADWALK

Four Days' Choice-of-House Sale of Coats and Suits, None Reserved, Any Garment

Two Garments for the Price of One. **HALF PRICE** Original Tickets On Every Garment.

No inflated prices—tickets are not altered in any way—pick out your garment, pay half the former price—A hundred Suits and nearly two hundred Coats to select from for the next four days.



This is the Way the Coats and Suits Will Sell:

Any \$10.00 Coat in the store...\$5.00	Any \$10.00 Suit in the store...\$5.00
Any \$15.00 Coat in the store...\$7.50	Any \$15.00 Suit in the store...\$7.50
Any \$20.00 Coat in the store...\$10.00	Any \$20.00 Suit in the store...\$10.00
Any \$25.00 Coat in the store...\$12.50	Any \$25.00 Suit in the store...\$12.50
Any \$30.00 Coat in the store...\$15.00	Any \$30.00 Suit in the store...\$15.00

Any Dress in the Store 25% DISCOUNT

Your unrestricted choice of scores of beautiful dresses, all new this season—every color—every fabric—every style.

End-of-the-Season Half Price Sale of Coats and Suits

Any Skirt in the Store 25% DISCOUNT

Hundreds of skirts—the newest models, bought for the spring season—every new idea in colorings and fabrics.

Main Floor Demonstration and Sale of the Famous "Wear-Ever" High Grade Aluminum

The Milk Test Featured Tomorrow in the Demonstration of "Wear-Ever" Aluminum

A pint of milk will be placed in a sauce pan and allowed to boil down to one-quarter of pint without stirring—the milk will not be scorched.

Silverware Cleaned in Aluminum Utensils Without the Aid of Powders

Another true test of the famous "Wear-Ever" showing the merit and economy in buying the right kind.

Replace Utensils That Wear Out With Utensils that "Wear-Ever"



MEXICAN RED CROSS NURSES ON THE JOB



Red Cross nurse in Vera Cruz home.

Mexican Red Cross nurses are on the job in Vera Cruz. This picture was taken during the attack by American forces on the city. It shows the interior of a home which had been struck by one of the five-inch shells thrown by the U. S. cruiser Chester. A Red Cross nurse is seen aiding the occupant of the house, who had fainted when the shell pierced her home.