

ASSESSMENT BEING RAISED

Reports from the Various Counties Indicate a Considerable Increase.

NORTHWESTERN TO ASK FOR REDUCTION

William Holden, Fourteen-Year Convict from Platte County, Makes Attempt to Escape from Penitentiary.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, April 27.—(Special.)—Attorney General Norris Brown said today that reports received by him from various sections of the state indicated that the total assessable valuation would be greatly increased. County assessors and county attorneys are doing their level best to get all property on the assessment rolls, according to Brown, and he believes that the net result of their efforts will be to show a remarkable increase in the state's total valuation.

Likely to Tax Collateral. It is the holding of the department that under the terms of the law the owner of collateral must pay taxes on the amount in excess of the loan secured by it. Hitherto there has been no formal ruling with regard to this matter, and it is said that in most instances assessors have overlooked such collateral, assessing the notes secured thereby. This ruling is expected to greatly increase the taxable property.

Tax Cases to Take Time.

Norris Brown is preparing to appear in the federal court at Omaha, Monday, to argue against the exceptions filed by the Burlington. The Union Pacific case is in readiness and testimony will be taken some time next week it is believed. The railways favor the appointment of a commissioner with authority to rule on the admissibility of the evidence offered, but it is believed that the state desires to leave that to the court when the mass of evidence is submitted during the trial of the cases. The method of procedure in securing this testimony was outlined by the county attorneys in their recent meeting at the statehouse. The work of securing this testimony will consume much time and it is now believed that the cases will not be ready for trial until fall. To save expense the counsel for the state and the railways, together with the person before whom the evidence is to be taken will go to the various counties.

May Seek Lower Assessment.

Ben White, secretary of the Northwestern, accompanied by Tax Commissioners Crandon and Whitney of that system, called on Governor Mickey and other members of the Board of Equalization and Assessment today. White said that his road is taxed too high, since it is only a feeder. He stated that its Nebraska earnings during the past year have been barely 1 per cent on the Nebraska investment, after allowing for the payment of interest on the old Fremont & Elkhorn Valley company's bonds. He said that the assessment of the road has increased 78 per cent over that for 1903, but that under the operation of the new revenue law fixing the assessment ratio at one-fifth, many of the counties through which the line passes have decreased in valuation, making the levy larger and making the increase in the tax burden much more than 78 per cent. He said that the Nebraska taxes paid by the company had increased \$55,000 under last year's assessment.

Desperate Criminal Seeks Escape.

William Holden, the Platte county bank robber who was sentenced to the penitentiary for a fourteen-year term several months ago, made an attempt to escape Tuesday night. Late this afternoon he was found in his hiding place in the drying kiln in which the broom manufacturer prepares the handles for use. Since he disappeared he has been secreted in a pile of handles in this room awaiting a chance to scale the walls with the aid of a 100-foot rope, which he had constructed from broom twine. With several boxes of sardines and some bread and several jars

of water he had managed to remain in hiding.

As soon as the man's escape from his cell had been discovered, the warden made a most thorough search of the institution, and finally through the broom factory. Iron rods were thrust through the piles of broom handles in which the refugee was secreted, but for some reason the man's presence was not discovered. A guard was stationed in the room to listen, and he stayed there for four hours, until he was half baked, and he had not heard a sound of any thing human. The man had told his fellow prisoners that he had been sentenced several times to various prisons, but had never yet served a full term, always managing to make good his escape.

Spring Foot Ball Practice.

Spring foot ball practice will begin Monday at the campus, under the direction of Assistant Coach Westover and Captain Charles Borg. Twenty or thirty men are expected to take part in the practice. A sportswear has offered a prize cup for the best punter. This work will be carried on for several weeks in the hope of preparing the men for the games of the fall. The Michigan game comes early in the season and the Nebraska players want to be in the best possible shape. Punt, tackle, quick start and other preliminary stunts will occupy their attention. Ex-Captain Benedict, who may not be back next year, will assist in the training.

Official Has Close Call.

Will Phillips, the clerk of the district court, had a narrow escape from death while hunting snipe with several local sportsmen on the morning of April 27. He was charged with shot at his head by a bird on the opposite side of a knoll from a fellow sportsman, who attempted to get a bird before it was flushed. Several shots penetrated the scalp, but they were removed and the official is able to attend to his duties.

Red Light on Move Again.

Rev. S. Z. Matten has issued another edict to the effect that the red-light houses must be removed from Ninth street, which was not included in the mayor's recent proclamation regulating such matters. The minister, who led in the recent crusade, claims that Ninth street is in the uptown district and must be cleared. He says the police have refused to act, but he says that he will appeal to the citizens to force them to act.

Pay Little Attention to Story.

The prison officials pay little attention to the story that opium is being smuggled into the penitentiary by a syndicate. A recently released convict, named Johns, told the police a sensational story of smuggling yesterday, and it was claimed that the matter would be called to the attention of the governor, but so far no action has been taken. The governor said that he knew nothing of the matter.

Short on Washwomen.

The begonia of Russians to the best fields of Colorado, Nebraska and Michigan has caused much trouble for the farmers who have been wont to secure their handresses from among that group. The rates, which have customarily been 15 cents an hour, have been advanced to 20 cents, and it is a difficult matter to secure women at that rate. The women prefer to go to the best fields with their families, where they make the same wages.

Court at Osceola.

OSCEOLA, Neb., April 27.—(Special.)—The second session of the April term of the district court of Polk county closed last evening. Among the notable cases was the State of Nebraska against John and Louis Bayne, that has been hanging fire since last October. The case was dismissed as to Louis. John pleaded guilty to assault and the judge sentenced him to forty days in jail. In the case of Maggie Talbot against the Modern Woodmen of America, the defense set up that the member had engaged in one of the prohibited businesses, viz: brakeman on the railroad. They accepted the assessment of the railroad, while they knew that Talbot was a brakeman. The trial was to the court, Judge Evans. The amount of insurance was \$3,000, and judgment was in favor of the plaintiff, with interest, amounting to \$3,953.

Important Real Estate Deal.

FREMONT, Neb., April 27.—(Special.)—A land deal of considerable interest was closed up here yesterday by which the Fremont Stock Yards and Land company purchased the Valley Land company adjoining this city on the southeast. The amount is about eighty-five acres and the purchase price \$45,000. The Great Northern survey crosses this tract, and it is thought that the land will undoubtedly increase rapidly in value and the purchase is supposed to have been made with the expectation that the road will be built. There is already much inquiry as to the value of lots in the southeast part of the city and owners have advanced their prices.

Northwestern Not Building.

NORFOLK, Neb., April 27.—(Special.)—The story sent out from Fremont to the effect that the Northwestern railroad considers the building of the shortline from Sioux City to Ashland as an invasion of its territory, and that a line would be probably built from Hooper to the Omaha road, making a shortline from Sioux City to Lincoln, was denied here today by Division Superintendent C. H. Reynolds and General Superintendent C. C. Hughes, and was declared to be absolutely without foundation. "It is pure newspaper gossip," said Mr. Reynolds, when asked about the report. "There is no plan whatever to that effect, and no truth to the statement that the Northwestern recants the new road."

Right-of-Way for Interurbans.

ASHLAND, Neb., April 27.—(Special.)—Right-of-Way Agents I. L. Lyman and W. G. Johnson of Lincoln, for the Omaha, Lincoln & Beatrice Railroad company, have been interviewing Ashland people this week and securing options. The interurbans were concerned in negotiating the course of Salt creek at this point by diverting the channel near the Burlington's Schuyler line and running it south of Day Street park and on a parallel line, so as to afford bet-

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Guests of Commercial Club.

The association accepted the invitation of the Commercial club to be the guests of the latter for the evening. The grain men generally accepted the invitation and were treated to all the good things in the Commercial club's kitchen. The provisions made for the entertainment of the grain men were the lecture by Robert Lee Dunn, the war photographer and correspondent, on the Russian-Japanese war. The lecture included stereoscopic pictures of many unique and interesting scenes of the war.

News of Nebraska.

District Court at Chadron.

CHADRON, Neb., April 27.—(Special.)—District Court of De Witt county is now in session, Hon. J. J. Harrington of O'Neill presiding. The larger part of the criminal cases have been dismissed, either because they were so old or the state's witnesses were gone or, as in the case of all the attorney J. E. Porter, and the judge, they were brought out of petty spite and would probably result only in costs to the county. The only case tried so far is that against Black Horse, an Indian, for assault, the victim being another Indian. The case, in fact, most everyone now prefers to work in the soil. There has been at least calculation \$300 acre put into alfalfa in this county this spring.

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FREMONT—Edward G. Wetnold of Seward and Paul G. Gardner of Fremont were married this evening at the residence of the bride's father, J. A. Garner, in Chickering town.

TABLE ROCK—The eighty-sixth anniversary of the establishment of American Old Fellowship was observed here last night by the Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and members of the encampment of this place.

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SHELTON—The members of the Shelton Commercial club took place last evening and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The members of the club and invited guests met in their club rooms at 8 o'clock and enjoyed an hour of sociality. The members of the club are preparing to hold a social in the Commercial hotel, where an elegant lunch was served, lasting until 11:30 when cigars were passed and speeches made. President M. A. Hostetter acted as toastmaster.

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LAST SURVIVOR OF WAR 612



Mr. Hiram Cronk, of Ava, N. Y., Who Was Mentioned in General Orders of Bravery at the Battle of Sacket's Harbor, States that He is Kept Strong and well by Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey.

"Thanks to Duffy's I Am Able to Be Out Every Day and Take Quite Extended Tramps in the Severest Weather."

On being interviewed, Mr. Cronk said: "For many years Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey has been my only medicine. I take a desert spoonful of the tonic three times a day with my meals, and when I go to bed. Although we have severe weather here I live, I am able to be out every day, and I take quite extended tramps. I am very thankful to 'Duffy's' for it gives me a good appetite and keeps me strong and well in my old age."

Mr. Cronk is famous the country over for being the sole survivor of the War of 1812. He served in the 157th Regiment Volunteers; fought with distinction throughout the War of 1812 and at the battle of Sacket's Harbor was mentioned in general orders for bravery. The United States Congress raised his pension from \$12 to \$25 a month and last year the New York Aldermen voted to give a public funeral whenever he may die. Mrs. Sarah A. Rowley, his daughter, writes that in spite of the fact that the grand old man, 74 years old, he is kept in mind and rugged in health, thanks to Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey.

Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey

For nearly a half century Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey has been prescribed by doctors, and used exclusively in over 2,000 leading hospitals, as the greatest tonic-stimulant known to medicine. It is the only positive preventive and cure of consumption, pneumonia, grip, sore throat, bronchitis, coughs, colds, malaria, low fevers, dyspepsia, indigestion, constipation, and all ailments of the blood, nerves and heart's action, and tones up the whole system. Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey is a promoter of health and long life. It makes the old young and the young strong. Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey is recognized by the Government as a medicine.

CAUTION—When buying Duffy's from your druggist or grocer insist on receiving the genuine. You'll recognize the "Old Chemist" on the label. Do not accept harmful substitutes sold by unscrupulous dealers for profit only. Duffy's is the only safe, helpful, pure malt whiskey. Price \$1.00. If your dealer can't supply you, write direct to Duffy's Malt Whiskey Co., Rochester, N. Y.

OMAHA ON AN EVEN FOOTING

Gate City Gets a Chance Along with Chicago Hereafter.

NEW POLICY IN MAKING INDIAN PURCHASES

Commissioner Leupp Will Add Freight to Cost of Delivery and Thus Determine Which Offer is Best for Government.

GOING TO RAILWAY CONGRESS

Omaha Men Will Attend the International Gathering at Washington.

BACK'S ATTACK ON ENGINEER

Spirited Rejoinder to the First Ward Councilman's Outbreak.

STANDARD OIL THE DEFENDANT

Two Damage Suits Brought in the Circuit Court of the United States for Nebraska.

BROTHER-IN-LAW GETS PROPERTY

Court Sustains Will of Man Who Committed Suicide.

SCHUYLER—A locally celebrated case was terminated here today by the jury decision that Charles A. Sherman was sane and of sound testamentary capacity when he willed the bulk of his property to his brother-in-law, J. M. Simmons, a short time before he committed suicide.

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