

City Council Proceedings

O'Neill, Nebraska
November 4th, 1941

Council met in regular session:
Present: Mayor Kersensbrock;
Councilmen, Arbutnot, Alfs, Phalin, Johnson, Wallace

Minutes of previous meetings read and approved:
City Treasurers statement for the month of October read and approved:

Upon motion the following bills were allowed:

On the General Fund

Lohaus Motor Co.	93.87
Seth Noble	3.53
Chas. Switzer	27.00
Porters Diamond Sta.	10.00
Consumers Pub. Power	233.71
W. S. Darley & Co.	3.48
Chester Calkins	100.00
Roy Lowrey	35.00
G. E. Miles	4.00
Elmer Neal	24.00
C. W. Porter	20.00

Air Port Fund

Jack Kersensbrock	39.60
R. E. Calvert	12.00
C. J. Butterfield	30.40

Park Lights

Consumers Pub. Power	14.40
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Water Fund

Consumers Pub. Power	11.00
C. W. Porter	10.00
The Texas Co.	7.78
Mattie Soukup	54.20
Ralph Scofield	24.30
Olson & Anderson	250.00
C. W. Porter Contg Fund	15.00
John Green	1.20
The Texas Co.	15.18
A. Toy	2.98
H. E. Coyne	30.05
O'Neill Fire Dept	117.00
Island Supply Co.	11.00
Frank Greiner	80.00
Bob Cook	51.00
John Meyers	40.00
Norman Gonderinger	30.00
Lindberg Petro. Co.	7.20
Bob Cook	45.00
Seth Noble	597.00
Jesse Scofield	100.00
C. J. Butterfield	6.80
E. W. Bell Tel. Co.	23.00
Jack Kersensbrock	12.00
A. Marcellus	5.00
Pittsburg Equitable	154.24
Manuel Haglin	9.60

Motion by Phalin, seconded by Johnson, that the city employ Olson and Anderson to put down a 10 inch well to a depth of 30 feet; this well to be developed, taking out all of the fine sand leaving the course gravel and to pump this well from 24 to 36 hours, at a cost of \$350.00. In case the City keeps the well the additional cost of the pipe and screen to be paid over and above the \$350.00. Motion carried:

Upon motion the Council adjourned subject to the call of the Mayor:
C. W. PORTER,
City Clerk



Commissioner Duane T. Swanson of the Nebraska State Railway Commission and H. Emerson Kokjer of the Nebraska Attorney General's office have been in Washington and appeared before the Interstate Commerce Commission in opposition to the proposed abandonment of service on the Hastings to Linwood branch line of the Northwestern. Mr. Kokjer is from Saunders county and while here he joined Harry Parmenter of Yutan in an investigation relating to appraisal of land in the area being taken for the bomb loading plant. They also joined the Nebraska delegation in appealing to the social congressional committee on National Defense Migration to extend its Nebraska inquiry to the problems of tenants who will have to yield possession of land in Saunders county.

Reports here are that eventually the government may acquire about 31,000 acres of land for the bomb loading plant in Saunders county. Members of the Nebraska delegation have been assured by the War Department's land acquisition division that they will undertake to avoid sore spots in making appraisals and complaints will receive consideration.

Harold Kramer, General Manager of the Loup River Public Power District, has been made secretary-manager of a national organization of public power organizations. On that account, he is now in Washington and will retain his office in Columbus but being in Washington for the time being enables him to be in closer touch with government agencies having to do with public power.

Former Governor Roy Cochran, now a Colonel in the army, has been in Walter Reed army hospital here for over three weeks. He had luncheon with several Nebraska friends last week. He is improved in health and after he has his tonsils removed, he plans to return to Omaha where he will be stationed.

Nebraskans that the congressional observers found in the field during the army maneuvers in the Carolinas included General Amos Thomas and Col. A. V. Allen of Omaha; Col. Theodore Buechler of Grand Island; Col. Thayer of Geneva and Col. Arthur Harris who was born in Norfolk. Gen. Johnson Hagood, once stationed in Nebraska and now retired, was among the observers. Nearly every officer on the general staff and every high officer of our army attended either the Louisiana or Carolina maneuvers to make ob-

servations and learn more about modern warfare.

Believe it or not food seemed the most important item in the army maneuvers. To regularly feed 300,000 men three times a day is a job which is being done in excellent manner by our army experts. These officers told visitors that the farmers who produce our food are among those who can be numbered among our "first line of defense."

Revolvers are going out of our army. Automatic and semi-automatic carbines will replace them. Only officers with the rank of major and above may carry revolvers in the days to come.

"Ham" operators, those youths who learned the meaning of dots and dashes and also something about building amateur radio sets, are part of our army during a war. In maneuvers these amateur "ham" operators provided the army with information which resulted in the capture of generals and their entire staffs.

Army "critiques" are meetings of officers where the problems of war are discussed. After each day's action, the officers get together and discuss the errors of the day's activities and make corrections and learn a lot of lessons. Generals in the Carolina maneuvers told observers that they had decided hereafter to have the non-commissioned officers attend these critiques. Many lessons from lessons the war in Europe have been learned and applied in our army.

Foreign military and air attaches by the score attend our army maneuvers. Only a few European military attaches are present. The Axis representatives are absent. Eiam, Turkey, China, Serbia and Poland are well represented. So is every country south of the Rio Grand. Gen. Lopez of Venezuela, once president of his country, is the Venezuelan observer.

Nebraska is an excellent place to lay the new temporary airports because it is more level than terrain here in the east. The army built an airport in ten days on the sand of South Carolina with steel matting. The runway is 150 feet wide and 3,000 feet long and the heaviest of transports and bombers land and take off there. It can be rolled up and carted away quickly. A lighter and less expensive material which may make it possible to build a runway in less time is being tested.

Uncle Sam now has air borne troops and a good parachute organization. These new troops did great work in the Carolinas. Air borne troops are those transported after the paratroops have cap-

tured the field.

Congressmen at the South and North Carolina maneuvers, after four days with the troops and after attending "critiques" with many army generals, feel that The United States is prepared to repel any sort of invasion of our own country but that the army does not have sufficient material for the job of hemisphere protection. Congressional observers at the Carolina maneuvers found that the First Army is very short of tanks and certain kind of guns. Also, that imitation machine guns had to be used because of the shortage. Production is stepping up and in a short time it is hoped that the required material will be available. The morale of the soldiers was found to be excellent although they complained about strikes in national defense industries.

Observation of the maneuvers disclosed that Uncle Sam has thirty-four divisions of 16,000 to 20,000 men, each. These divisions are not yet fully equipped. Germany has 300 divisions fully equipped. Russia has 175 divisions. A successful AEF, experts say, it would mean that we will have to have a four to one superiority over Germany. It will take a long time to accomplish that and, also, supply the immediate needs of the Allies.

Most of our soldiers will be given an opportunity to go home

for Christmas. The army officers are anxious that the boys go home and tell their folks what they have seen and what they are doing. They are anxious that these boys dress neatly and make a favorable impression at home. Holiday travel will be heavy.

Washington's Thanksgiving Day was very quiet. It seemed unreal and most people here said they would celebrate again on November 27. The army of foreign pilgrims which now help to congest Washington joined Americans in giving thanks for a good harvest of food. Turkeys sold for 39 cents a pound.

Rev. Nesbit Vincent, pastor of the Eastern Presbyterian church of Washington opened the House proceeding the other day with the daily noon prayer. He then got acquainted with members of the Nebraska delegation. Rev. Vincent is related to Marie and William Nesbit of Tekamah where he often visits.

Believe it or not, letters from home against non-essential non-defense expenditures are having effect. Members hear that the Budget Bureau is starting to impound some of the appropriations that were made for the current fiscal year. Among agencies affected are the CCC and NYA. The 1942 fiscal year will end next June 30. Hearing on appro-

riations for the fiscal year 1943 will begin in December. Hearing on additional defense appropriations running into billions of dollars have been in progress for several days. These are called supplemental appropriation bills.

Pressure for legislation by Congress against strikes in all defense industry has grown stronger as public sentiment has become manifest. Now bills have been introduced some of them drastic and others even more so. Many wonder why the President does not issue orders or demand new legislation but what to do and how to do it seems to bother the administration leaders. Labor is well-organized and militant. In the defense industries nearly all labor is unionized. The guarantees of Constitutional liberties are not easily gotten around by legislative action. As commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy the President probably has the greatest power to deal with strikes, but the exercise of that power is withheld apparently because a more difficult situation might develop. The same troubles arose during the first World War. Various expedients were resorted to, and the methods used and the results obtained have been carefully studied. The President with all his power and his determination to keep defense industries going, has many precedents to consider, including those of Britain and of France.

Among recent visitors in the Third District office were Charles E. Franlin of McGrew, Nebraska; Miss Loretta Griepentrog, now of D. C. former of Columbus; Miss Marie Carper, now of D. C., formerly of Wahoo; Jerry Knerb, of D. C., formerly of Ponca.

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