

# HIS SYMPATHY WITH BANKERS

## Secretary of Guaranty Fund Board Voices Belief Nebraska Law Unjust

Lincoln, Neb., (UP)—Van E. Peterson, secretary of the guaranty fund commission sympathizes with the state bankers in their attempt to evade payment of special guaranty fund assessment, it was learned today.

Peterson made public a letter he had written to A. L. Schantz, Omaha banker and leader of a movement to obtain an injunction preventing the secretary of the department of trade and commerce collecting a special guaranty fund assessment.

It was emphasized in the letter that Peterson spoke from the standpoint of an individual rather than an officer of the guaranty fund commission. The commission recently adopted a ruling that only Clarence G. Bliss, secretary of the department of trade and commerce, should be allowed to voice the attitude of the commission on a matter for publication.

Peterson's letter said he long had recognized "the injustice of our guaranty fund law as towards the state bankers themselves. It is very evident," he continued, "that the bankers cannot continue to pay the enormous losses which have accumulated or the depositors in failed banks ever expect to receive their money in full unless some decided changes are made."

The letter said that when Peterson entered this office in 1923 he had been informed that the guaranty fund was broke. "I can now only too plainly see that this statement was more or less correct," he declared.

Peterson criticized the practice of frequent changes in the office of the secretary of the department of trade and commerce and concluded his letter by saying he was confident the guaranty fund commission can be made to function advantageously and "it is time the people as well as the executive and legislative branches of our state give some practical and businesslike attention to the situation which confronts them."

## SOIL CONDITIONS IN NEBRASKA ARE IDEAL

Lincoln, Neb., (UP)—Soil conditions in all parts of the state was generally good as farmers entered the winter season, according to a report issued today by the state and federal bureau of agriculture statistics. November snow and rains made the supply of soil moisture sufficient for present needs in almost every county in Nebraska.

Winter wheat, 30 per cent. of which was seeded after October 15, was in good condition and its condition was reported at 93 per cent. of normal. Total acreage seeded to wheat was 89 per cent. as great as that seeded last year. The greatest reduction in acreage was made in the central Platte valley, and the least reduction was shown in the west and northwest where 98 per cent. as much ground was seeded as in 1927.

On November 16, 40 per cent. of the corn had already been snapped or husked as compared to 34 per cent. at that time last year, the report said. Noticeable more corn was picked in the northeast and central portions but less in the east central portions than at this time last year. The weighted price per bushel was reported as 71 cents as compared to 61 cents last year.

Of the total corn crop, the report classed 27.5 per cent. as of poor quality due to immaturity, drought damage, and in few localities frost. This is much higher than year's figure when 12 per cent. of the crop was listed as poor quality.

## HE ASSETS AMENDMENT WAS LEGALLY ADVERTISED

Lincoln, Neb., (UP)—The constitutional amendment passed at the last election was legally presented to the voters, Secretary of State Frank Marshall said today. His statement was made after articles had appeared in newspapers that questioned whether the amendment had been properly advertised before the election.

The amendment, which carried by a large majority, provided for removal of control of the state school for the blind at Nebraska City and the state school for the deaf at Omaha, from the state board of control to the regents of the state university.

There had been little pre-election mention of the amendment except from members of the board of regents, who objected to the addition of responsibilities. It came as a surprise when the amendment passed and it was suggested then that the proposal had not been fully understood by voters.

The question of improper publication was raised but was stoutly denied by Marshall today, who said a formal statement will be issued showing incongruities in the laws covering the matter but proving it followed the correct course in advertising the amendment.

## REWARD PAID FOR ARREST OF CHICKEN THIEVES

Slayton, Minn., (Special)—The Murray County Protective association, an organization of farmers to defend themselves against robbery, paid out \$500 reward to persons furnishing evidence for the conviction of three chicken thieves. The reward was divided among a hired man, the man for whom he worked, a merchant at Chandler and the sheriff. The evidence patched up led to the confession of one of three young men to the stealing of the chickens.

## DELAY HEARING OF FORMER BANKER AT PIERRE, NEB.

Pierre, Neb., (Special)—The preliminary hearing of Frank Pilger, former Pierre banker, before County Judge J. B. McDonald, which was to be held here Tuesday was continued until December 1. Pilger was arrested November 5 on the charge of embezzling money from the estate of the late George Vinson of which he was the executor.

## WOMAN TRIED RIVER PLUNGE

### Railroad Workers Prevented Jump Into Missouri—Conceals Her Identity

Omaha, Neb., (UP)—A woman, about 37 years old, who attempted to jump from Union Pacific bridge into the Missouri river, is held at county hospital but all efforts to establish her identity have proved unavailing. The woman, clad only in pajamas, was seen on the bridge by railroad workers who turned her over to police. She refuses to talk to anyone.

## THEIR AFFAIRS BADLY TANGLED

### Woman Admits Knowing of Legal Wife—Pair Have Two Children

Wayne, Neb., (Special)—A common law marriage was the subject of a hearing in the Wayne county court here yesterday when Claude W. Clark was charged with being the father of two little children by Hilda Matson, 23 years old, who says she was forced to leave her home about two months ago, and that Clark is legally married to another woman.

The woman, who said her name is Tilda Matson, testified that she is unmarried and that her two children, Jerry and Betty, 1 and 3 years old, are also the children of Clark, with whom she has been living for several years.

In the cross examination she admitted that she knew Clark was married when she began living with him, but charged that she was led to believe he would obtain a divorce from his legal wife and marry her. She also admitted that she knew he had made an effort to obtain a divorce, but had been unable to do so.

The defendant was bound over to district court and ordered held until a satisfactory bond for \$1,000 should be given, which he was unable to secure and was placed under arrest.

## MANY HOMESTEADS ARE STILL OPEN TO ENTRY

Alliance, Neb., (Special)—Many homesteads in western Nebraska are open to entry by the first qualified entrant, previous entries having been cancelled by the government as entrants failed to prove up within the five-year limit. A recent order for cancellation of 23 was received by Judge Hewett of the government land office, from the land office at Washington. One of the tracts now open is in Box Butte county, about 15 miles straight west of Alliance. Most of the homestead land is in Cherry county. Morrill county has three tracts thrown open by this order.

## CLEMENCY SHOWN TWO NEBRASKA CONVICTS

Lincoln, Neb., (UP)—The board of pardons and paroles has deferred action on the commutation petition of Charles L. Egbert, charged with manslaughter, it was announced today.

Riley Smith, who was sentenced from Saunders county in 1923 for bank robbery was given a commutation of a 20-year sentence and was released. His case had attracted wide attention. The commutation was granted when friends of Smith and members of the jury that convicted him came to his support. Smith was found guilty of participating in the \$1,700 robbery of the Farmers State bank of Ithica.

Rowland Shafer and Dave Hukil of Burt county again were denied leniency from their 6 to 15 year sentence for beating and robbing two aged men.

Samuel Stone, one of five diamond robbers of Omaha convicted of murdering an Omaha policeman, also received a commutation of sentence, and was released. He was serving a 20-year term and was the last of the five bandits to be released by the board.

## WILD DOGS FOUND AT MASON CITY, NEB.

Mason City, Neb., (Special)—A den of wild dogs was discovered in his pasture here, by W. T. Radford. With the assistance of his hired man and neighbors it was dug into and two young dogs were captured. The den was in a bank on a hillside.

## GOVERNOR-ELECT BUSY PROMOTING RIVER WORK

Omaha, Neb., (UP)—Governor-elect Arthur J. Weaver, Falls City, will lead the Nebraska delegation to the convention of the Mississippi Valley association at St. Louis, November 26 and 27, and demand that work of improving the upper Missouri river for navigation purposes here in a special car, Saturday.

Weaver also will attend the convention of the National Rivers and Harbors congress at Washington, December 5 and 6.

## HINTS NORRIS TO RUN AGAIN

### Newspaper in Senator's Home Town Gives Intimation in Recent Editorial

McCook, Neb., (UP)—The opinion of Washington correspondent that Senator George W. Norris will run for senator again, was reproduced editorially in a recent issue of the McCook Gazette. McCook is the home of Norris, who gained great publicity when he bolted the Hoover-Curtis ticket in the recent campaign to support Smith and Robinson.

Although the editorial denies the responsibility of predicting another campaign for the senator, it did point out that Norris' health is better than it was a year ago and said that "the veteran insurgent is likely to avenge some sore spots that came from points outside of McCook during the late campaign."

It continues, "of course Norris still entertains the desire to be elected governor of Nebraska to show the people what a modern, progressive state government looks like, but a governor's chair at best would never offer him as great a vantage point from which to thrust jobs at the power trust as Senate seat."

## SON WINS IN ESTATE TANGLE

### Knox County Case Ended After Extensive Airing in Courts

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—The supreme court has ended the extensive litigation connected with the settling up of the Ruden estate in Knox county, by affirming the action of the district court, which decided in favor of Charles Ruden, a son, to whom the mother and father had deeded the land under an agreement that he should pay them \$400 a year and pay \$4,200 to a sister as her share.

After the death of the father the mother went to live with the son, and the administrator of the estate, claimed he had failed to make the annual payments, while he said there should be considered the expense of keeping his mother, not in the original agreement.

## WAYNE HIGH SCHOOL TO HAVE DEBATE TEAM

Wayne, Neb., (Special)—The Wayne high school debate work has been commenced for the 1928-1929 season. The subject for debate is: "The English cabinet form of government is preferable to the presidential form of the United States."

The championship debate has been advanced this year and will be held at the University of Nebraska, at Lincoln, in April.

## CROFTON FARMERS NEARLY DONE CORN PICKING

Crofton, Neb., (Special)—Many farmers in this neighborhood have completed their corn picking and it is expected all of the corn will be out of the fields before Thanksgiving, if the weather continues favorable. Many transient pickers and a few local men have gone into Iowa for further work.

## CHILDREN SHARE EQUALLY IN CATHERINE NASH ESTATE

Omaha, Neb., (UP)—Four children will share equally the estate of the late Mrs. Catherine E. Nash, her will filed for probate here yesterday, disclosed. The fortune of the late E. W. Nash, capitalist, was estimated at \$200,000. At one time it was believed to aggregate \$10,000,000. Attorneys explained the discrepancy by saying Mrs. Nash during her life time had turned all but a small amount over to her children, keeping only enough to insure her of a comfortable livelihood. It was impossible to ascertain how much remained of the Nash fortune because of this.

## MUST PAY NOTE HE GAVE FOR BANK NOTE

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—Hans Rasmussen, Antelope county farmer, will have to pay the \$3,500 note that he signed to pay for stock in the Farmers State bank of Brunswick, which later went into a receiver's hands. He said that the value of the investment had been misrepresented to him, and he won in the lower court.

The supreme court says that evidence established that his son was bookkeeper, and that it was proposed to make him cashier if Rasmussen would buy the stock of a man who had refused to pay the 100 per cent. assessment on it.

The son did become cashier, but the burden of bad paper was too heavy for the bank to carry.

The father said that he was told he would never have to buy the note, as the profits of the reorganized bank would wipe it out in time.

The court finds that under the circumstances he is liable.

## OFFER REWARD FOR WORD ABOUT MISSING FARMER

Wilbur, Neb., (Special)—Relatives of Frank Kuka, Jr., who disappeared from his farm near Pleasant Hill are offering a reward of \$100 for information as to his whereabouts. He is 21 years old, and weighs 165 pounds. He had been in poor health and had been threatening to leave or commit suicide. He has been living alone on his farm. He has about 1,800 bushels of corn in the field and about 1,000 bushels of wheat.

## FUNERAL SATURDAY FOR REAL OMAHA PIONEER

Omaha, Neb., (UP)—Funeral services for John Rush, 83 years old, Irish patriot and former banker and school teacher, will be held here Saturday morning. Rush died Thursday following a heart attack. He and Mrs. Rush celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last March. He was the father of 14 children, nine of whom survive him. Rush, assistant principal of a Dublin school at the age of 14 years, fled to this country in the 60's to escape persecution. After teaching schools in Cincinnati and St. Louis he came to Omaha in 1866. He was elected to various county offices here and in 1898 was auditor of the trans-Mississippi exposition. From 1891 to 1895 he was president of the Nebraska Savings and Exchange bank, later becoming a national bank examiner. The comptroller of the currency refused to accept his resignation in 1917 and he was placed on the "call list" of bank examiners for life.

## WOMAN HURT BY FRENZIED COW

### Beast Inflicts Serious Injuries When Maddened at Loss of Calf

Fremont, Neb., (Special)—A young cow, frenzied by the fact that her calf had been taken away, attacked Mrs. Frank Bahner in the barnyard of the Bahner home near Nickerson.

Mrs. Bahner was severely injured, as she was rolled and trampled. Her husband found her in an unconscious condition when he returned from work and as he attempted to remove the body from the ground, the cow attacked him. He succeeded in driving it away with a pitchfork.

Mrs. Bahner was brought to the Richmond hospital in Fremont. Physicians say she will recover. She suffered a fractured rib and a fractured collarbone, and many severe bruises.

## PNEUMONIA DEVELOPS IN SCHOOLS AT CROFTON

Crofton, Neb., (Special)—Three Crofton school children are ill with pneumonia and a number of others are victims of flu, tonsillitis and kindred troubles.

## CONVICTED BANKER IN APPEAL TO HIGH COURT

Lincoln, Neb., (UP)—Len J. Davis, former vice president of the Citizens State bank at Geneva, appealed to the supreme court today from a conviction of embezzlement charges. He recently was sentenced to from 5 to 10 years in the penitentiary and fined.

## SIoux CITY-CHADRON BUS OWNER WANTS MORE RIGHTS

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—The state railway commission sat in the role of arbitrator in a dispute between two rival bus line operators in northwestern Nebraska. Mrs. Ida Bartunek, an energetic woman who began with a bus line from Grand Island to Bartlett, which later she extended to other points and who now operates three or four such lines has been running busses from Sioux City through O'Neill and Ainsworth to Chadron. At the time she made her first application for authority to operate between the two terminals, opposition was offered by the commission by Fred Lowrey, who runs a line between O'Neill and Ainsworth. He said there was not enough business for two, and that as he was first in the field he should be protected.

An agreement was reached by the terms of which Mrs. Bartunek agreed not to do any local business between O'Neill and Ainsworth. Now she finds that this is necessary, not only from a revenue standpoint, but because there are passengers who want to go beyond O'Neill to Sioux City and elsewhere where she gives local service, but who cannot be served by her line because she does not do local service.

The commission has repeatedly held that the legislature has never given it authority to regulate the number of bus lines serving any territory, and that the most that it can do, where parallel routes are followed, is to stagger the schedules so that the service is increased and so to conflict in times of arrival and departure occur.

## SCORPION IS FOUND IN BUNCH OF BANANAS

St. Edward, Neb., (Special)—A scorpion three inches long crawled out of a bunch of bananas at the Hasselbalch store here. Employees scraped it into a bottle for safekeeping. Tarantulas and other spiders had formerly been found here in bananas, but this was the first scorpion.

## CORN PICKING IS NEARLY COMPLETED AT CARROLL

Carroll, Neb., (Special)—If the weather continues favorable, all the corn in this country will practically be gathered by next week. The quality is very good but yield is considerable lighter than usual. Corn picking machines were almost useless this year owing to the great number of ears blowing off the stalks.

## SCHALLER WOMEN HOLD CHICKEN DINNER SALE

Schaller, Ia., (Special)—The women of the Methodist Aid society held their annual chicken dinner and harvest sale in the basement of the church, Thursday. It netted the society \$150.

## FALL FESTIVAL TO BE HELD AT CLEGHORN, NOV 23

Cleghorn, Ia., (Special)—An elaborate fall festival sponsored by the music organization of the Cleghorn Consolidated school will take place Friday evening November 23, in the school building.

## BANKERS FIGHT AN ASSESSMENT

### Nebraska Guaranty Law Provision at Stake in Movement

Omaha, Neb., (UP)—One hundred Nebraska state banks have joined to fight the extra assessment to be levied against them by the state department of trade and commerce for the state bank guaranty fund.

The fight will be made against extra assessment of one fourth of 1 per cent. of total deposits, A. L. Schantz, president of the State bank of Omaha, who together with Dan V. Stephens of Fremont and William Seelenfreund of Lincoln, sent a letter to 800 state bankers advising them of what action was contemplated, said.

No objection is made to the regular assessment of one tenth of 1 per cent. due January 1, he added.

"We will make no effort to have the law repealed," Schantz said.

The special assessment was made necessary by the increased number of bank failures. Every state bank will be invited to join in injunction proceedings.

## WEAVER TAKES HIS OWN TIME

### Governor-Elect of Nebraska Keeps Office Seekers on Uneasy Seats

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—Governor-elect Weaver has given no indications of what he proposes to do about appointments, much to the disappointment of a large number of applicants. Mr. Weaver is committed to a readjustment of the system of government in so far as it relates to the code departments, which are entirely under his jurisdiction. He believes that the governor should be relieved of the charge of part of these departments, because they embrace so large a part of the administration of affairs, and will ask the legislature to take possibly two and maybe three of them and give them to as many different executive state officers who are not too busy to operate them along with their other work. He believes the governor should be responsible for the highway department and the banking departments at least, and that this is big enough job for anybody.

Until he can get agreement with the legislature on this proposal it is quite likely the six code departments will remain as now, with the same men in charge. Ordinarily these departments employ about 500 persons, but recently the highway maintainers in all countries have been added to the state employment list, swelling it to around 1,500.

## GROSS NEGLIGENCE OF HIS FAMILY IS CHARGED

Hemingford, Neb., (Special)—When neighbors complained that E. J. Stark was neglecting his family, to loaf in town or play pool, the sheriff made a trip to the farm, which is 18 miles west of here and found the mother and four children living in a chicken coop. The house is unheated, practically unfurnished and the family in poor circumstances.

The mother was poorly clad, the children barefooted and had scarcely enough clothing to cover them. There is a baby of six months, and the oldest is 6 years. All were blue from cold and exposure. There was no food in the house and all were hungry.

The father was not at home and the sheriff gave orders that he was to be arrested when found. He came to town that night and was seized. He was taken to Alliance where a charge of neglect was made against him. Meanwhile the county is caring for his wife and children.

## SEEKING DIVORCES AFTER 25 YEARS MARRIED LIFE

Madison, Neb., (Special)—Two divorce suits filed in district court here in the past week are of couples married more than 25 years. The first is that of Gustave Becker, of Norfolk, who married more than 30 years ago, at West Point, now asks a decree. He says his wife is mean and has a surly disposition. She has criticized and belittled him he claims and on one occasion she threw a butcher knife at him. They have three children, 21, 19 and 18 years old.

The second case is that of Mrs. Rosa Hash against Ellis Hash. They were married in Virginia in 1901. She charges that he called her vile names and has been extremely cruel. They have three children, 22, 17 and 14 years old.

## FIREMAN BADLY INJURED WHILE SPEEDING TO FIRE

Lincoln, Neb., (UP)—When a taxicab struck a speeding fire truck here last night, Fireman Vern C. Barney was seriously injured and his condition still is critical. Both of his legs and one arm were broken.

## OMAHA MAN FOUND MURDERED IN HIS BED

Omaha, Neb., (UP)—Police are without clues as to the murderer of J. W. Blackman, 74 years old, pioneer Omaha express man, found dead at his home Sunday. Blackman's skull had been crushed evidently as he lay asleep.

Blackman's desk had been rifled and \$150 in cash taken, according to a son. In the base burner used for heating the cottage was found part of an electric flashlight and a charred glove, evidently placed there by Blackman's assailant.

## GOVERNOR-ELECT OF NEBRASKA 55 YEARS OLD

Falls City, Neb., (UP)—Governor-elect Arthur J. Weaver celebrated his fifty fifth birthday yesterday, spending the afternoon in Lincoln with his two daughters who are attending the university. Weaver was born November 18, 1873, in Falls City. His parents were Nebraska pioneers.

## GUARANTY LAW TO BE FOUGHT

### Group of Nebraska Bankers Prepare to Resist Extra Assessments

Omaha, Neb., (UP)—Opposition to the state bank guaranty fund law is expected to be out in the open sometime before the first of the year, it was learned here today following action Saturday of 100 state bankers in announcing that they will seek an injunction to prevent the state department of trade and commerce from collecting an extra assessment made necessary by the increasing number of state bank failures.

Just how far state bankers will go in their fight is a mystery. Shortly before the annual convention of the State Bankers association in October, a caucus of state bankers was secretly held. Complete plans have been kept secret, but word leaked out that a fight could be expected.

A. L. Schantz, president of the State Bank of Omaha, told the United Press that legality of the law will not be questioned and no effort will be made to have it repealed. From other sources, however, it was learned that many state bank owners favor repeal of the law.

The first legal battle will be over proposed extra assessment of 1/4 of 1 per cent. of total deposits. The department has no right to levy extra assessments, the 100 bankers leading the fight against it, believe. According to Schantz, there will be no fight over regular assessment of 1/10 of 1 per cent., due on January 1.

Schantz admitted if only the regular assessment is paid, depositors of failed banks would be forced to wait several years for their money.

A letter signed by Schantz, Dan V. Stephens of Fremont and William Seelenfreund of Lincoln, urged each of the 800 state banks in the state to join in the effort to defeat the extra assessment. The injunction suit, if successful, would save state bankers \$1,300,000 a year, the latter stated.

Application for the injunction is expected to be filed by attorneys for the protesting bankers.

## SCARLET FEVER EPIDEMIC CAUSES SEVERAL DEATHS

North Platte, Neb., (UP)—An epidemic of scarlet fever has caused the death of several infants here and left scores of homes quarantined. Adults as well as children have been victims of the disease.

## ACCIDENTAL SHOT MAY MAKE CHILD BLIND

Falls City, Neb., (UP)—Merle Morrison, 11 years old, will lose the sight of one eye and possibly both eyes as the result of an accidental shot which sent a bullet into his left temple today. His brother, Woodrow, 15 years old, was attempting to extricate a bullet from a 22-caliber gun when it was discharged, injuring the younger lad. He is in a critical condition in a local hospital.

## EDITORS WARNED ABOUT CALIFORNIA PROPAGANDA

Omaha, Neb., (UP)—The Nebraska Press association has sent warnings to its 500 members against propaganda emanating evidently from California real estate agents, which has been printed in weekly newspapers throughout the Middle West. Similar action was taken by the Iowa Press association.

These letters, which apparently all come from the same anonymous source boost California and take exception to letters appearing in midwestern newspapers which do not glorify that state.

The propaganda campaign was discovered by E. W. Edvardson, head of the publicity department of Omaha Chamber of Commerce. Edvardson became suspicious because of the almost identical wording of letters received by editors. When two identical letters, signed by the same person, were received by one Iowa paper published near Omaha, he became convinced that a concerted campaign had been uncovered. The letters purported to be signed by former residents of the towns to which they were sent.

## WINGETT AGAIN HEADS THURSTON FARM BUREAU

Walthill, Neb., (Special)—L. C. Wingett of Walthill was re-elected president, F. T. Gulian was re-elected vice president and A. J. McKeegan was re-elected secretary of the Thurston County Farm Bureau at the annual meeting held here.

Dinner was served to about 110 people. Speakers on the program included N. W. Gaines, of the college of agriculture; E. A. Tyler of the Nebraska Farm Bureau federation, and Mrs. H. L. Keefe, of Walthill, representing the American Red Cross.

## UNIVERSITY BAND TO GO WITH FOOTBALL TEAM

Lincoln, Neb., (UP)—A two-weeks' drive by university students to raise funds to "send the band to the Army game," has been successful. Approximately 50 members of the band and several hundred rooters will make the trip to West Point with the team.

The West Point special, leaving Lincoln tomorrow afternoon, will be made up of 13 cars. One car has been reserved for the team, one for the band and 11 for fans.