

REVIEWS CASE WUPPER'S BANK

State's Chief Examiner Schallenberger Finds All Former Reports Correct

Lincoln, Neb.—(Special)—Upon his return from an investigation of the Beemer State bank, Chief Schallenberger of the state department of trade and commerce expressed the belief that an exact account had been obtained of the escape of Paul Wupper, president of the institution, which failed for nearly \$1,000,000. Wupper disappeared in September, 1928, after a deficit of \$800,000 had been discovered by state examiners.

After the failure of the bank it was rumored that the state department of trade and commerce had given notice to a bank in Omaha holding some Wupper papers that the Beemer bank was unsound and that this enabled the Omaha institution to substitute good paper for its holdings, but an investigation shows that the original paper held by the Omaha bank was good to the extent of nearly 100 per cent and that no preference was shown.

It was testified at the investigation that Wupper came to Lincoln after discovery by examiners that his account with an Omaha bank was overdrawn more than \$60,000 and that the bank was short about \$200,000 in its own accounts. These facts were not brought to light in a previous audit because of Wupper's clever forgeries, but Examiner Sorenson found suspicious notes and checks at other banks in that section and notified Secretary Bliss of the department who ordered another investigation at once. Wupper protested another audit on the ground that it would arouse suspicion among the depositors, but neither Secretary Bliss nor Governor McMullen would withdraw the order.

Wupper appeared before the governor, accompanied by two friends from Omaha, Val Peter and John Mattes, who insisted that it was impossible that a man of Wupper's standing could do wrong. Bliss decided to swear out a warrant for Wupper's arrest because of the overdraft at Omaha, but it was necessary for the warrant to be sworn out in Cuming county and then turned over to the sheriff who could make the arrest through officers here.

The Cuming county attorney was arguing a case in supreme court at the time and when taken to the department of trade and commerce he insisted that such an upright citizen could not be guilty. It took an hour to convince him, after which he communicated with his office at West Point, the warrant was sworn out and handed to the sheriff. In the meantime Wupper and his friends went to Omaha, having gained nothing here, and he slipped away in the evening, neither of the friends knowing of his departure, and no one has heard of him since.

G. D. Meyer, former vice president of the institution at Beemer, had sold his store in Beemer and deposited the \$30,000 in the bank, all of which he lost along with \$5,000 capital stock, Wupper converting them to his own possession. Meyer, a man past middle age, has moved to Scribner where he now is working for a salary. He had planned retirement when he sold his store in Beemer.

J. S. Severa, former cashier of the bank, and A. H. Lallman, assistant cashier, are now serving terms in the state penitentiary for defalcations in the bank.

Wupper's forgeries were so clever that some of the owners of the signatures could not tell the difference until after a check was made and they found they never had signed certain notes.

HEAVY LOSS IN FARM FIRE NEAR HARTINGTON

Hartington, Neb.—(Special)—Five of unknown origin destroyed several farm buildings and thousands of bushels of grain on the J. Janssen farm southwest of here in an early morning blaze. The buildings consumed by flames were a corn crib, granary, chicken house containing a large number of chickens, 1,000 bushels corn, 1,500 bushels of oats, some barley, some farm machinery and a new auto. The Coleridge fire department and the neighbors were called out to fight the flames and succeeded in saving the residence. The destroyed buildings and contents carried some insurance.

OLD INDIAN VILLAGE FOUND NEAR FULLERTON

Lincoln, Neb.—(UP)—E. E. Blackman, of Lincoln, curator of the Nebraska state historical society, reports discovering traces of a historic Pawnee Indian village near Fullerton, where he went on a recent research expedition. The village, he said, supposedly had been burned by the Sioux, old enemies of the Pawnee, about 1840.

FIRST OF NEW WHEAT CROP ON THE MARKET

Gordon, Neb.—(Special)—The first of the new wheat crop arrived on the local market Thursday from the 1,600-acre field of E. M. White, near Batesland, S. D. The work is being done by combine and the wheat graded No. 3, owing to the extremely dry weather.

PUSHING WORK

Hartington, Neb.—(Special)—The Omaha Bridge and Construction company has turned loose an army of men, several caterpillar tractors, rotary scrapers and trucks on the streets here getting them ready for graveling and asphalt. The streets are being plowed by powerful machines and the rotary scrapers are carrying the soil to other streets and alleys, building them up to proper grade. The business district streets are being covered six inches below the surface and will be refilled with gravel and given a coat of asphalt.

MEMBERS OF 4-H CLUBS CAMPED AT CRYSTAL LAKE

Walthill, Neb.—(Special)—More than 150 4-H club members from northeastern Nebraska attended the 4-H club encampment held at the Y. M. C. A. camp at Crystal Lake. Five counties—Dakota, Wayne, Dixon, Burt and Thurston—were represented. Half of the enrollment at the camp was from Thurston county.

Dwight Reid, of Rosalie, was selected by the campers as the best 4-H camper and Wilma Hatchett of Winnebago was selected as the best girl camper. Second honor for the boys also went to a Thurston county lad, Elwin Fuller of Walthill. Second honor for girls was given to Holien Garey of Gurt county. Francis Elkin of Rosalie won high honors in livestock judging.

BANKER FACES OTHER CHARGES

North Bend, Neb., Man Arrested Saturday—Recently Freed of One Count

Premont, Neb.—(Special)—New charges of reporting bills payable in excess of capital stock and of furnishing false reports on value of land held by the bank were filed Saturday against T. J. Kastle, North Bend banker.

Kastle was acquitted a few weeks ago of a charge of receiving deposits while aware his bank was insolvent.

Kastle furnished bond of \$5,000 before Justice Comer Heine late Saturday.

NEBRASKA HIT BY NEW RATES

Expert of Rail Commission Says East Given Big Advantage

Lincoln, Neb.—(UP)—The recent decision of the interstate commerce commission with reference to class rates strikes a body blow at Nebraska and manufacturing interests, in the opinion of U. G. Powell, rate expert of the Nebraska railway commission.

Because of the way the new scale is constructed, a retailer in Nebraska can buy direct from an eastern jobber located as far back as Indiana at a lower price, transportation cost considered, than he could buy from a Nebraska dealer, Powell believes. This will particularly aid the chains with which Nebraska jobbers have been waging conflict for business.

"Under the system of interstate class rates now in effect in this state, the rates on a shipment from a point of origin in Central Freight association territory, represented by cities located in Nebraska, is, generally speaking, made up on the sum of the rates from the point of origin to the Mississippi river plus the rates from the Missouri to the Nebraska destination," Powell explained. "The official classification governs from Indiana to the Mississippi to the Nebraska destination."

"Under the recent decision, the rate will be made under a mileage scale of rates from the Indiana point of origin to the Nebraska destination, the mileage to be figured by the shortest route over which the traffic can be transported without a change of lading. The western classification will govern on the through shipment."

"The present adjustment of class rates has had the effect of establishing jobbing and manufacturing industries at Missouri river crossings and other interior Nebraska cities. Under the present method of establishing the rates, and the use of certain commodity rates, the transportation charge was in many instances less when jobbed or manufactured at a Missouri river city rather than from a point located in Indiana. The new plan of making rates will reverse this situation. This is due entirely to the scales of rates established by the interstate commerce commission decision, largely because the scale of rates from the Indiana point of origin to the Nebraska destination is on a lower basis than the rates that will apply from the Nebraska jobbing or manufacturing point to the Nebraska destination."

ONE FARMER TO GIVE UP WHEAT GROWING

Falls City, Neb.—(UP)—Although "not influenced by Legge's appeal," Robert Hart, farmer residing near here, has decided that good Nebraska land is far too expensive to waste in the raising of unprofitable wheat crops.

Next year, Hart says, an 80-acre field, which this season yielded 1,600 bushels of wheat, will go into alfalfa and corn. Growing wheat is too expensive, he declared.

"Farmers in this section should devote their efforts to raising corn, alfalfa, cattle and hogs," Hart said. "It is a much better way to make a living."

WHEAT FIELD NEAR DECATUR HAS BIG YIELD

Decatur, Neb.—One hundred acres of wheat being threshed on N. M. Farren's farm, southeast of Decatur is yielding 30 bushel to an acre.

The wheat is being hauled to Onawa, Ia., where an elevator has contracted to pay 72 cents a bushel. Four cents a bushel is charged by truck haulers to cross the Missouri by ferry at Decatur.

This yield is higher than most wheat in this vicinity, although the general yield is good.

SEEKS EVASION FRANCHISE TAX

Power Company at Spencer, Neb., Appeals to Supreme Court

Lincoln, Neb.—(Special)—A written argument has been filed in supreme court in support of the appeal of the Northern Nebraska Power company, of Spencer, from a decision of the district court of Holt county that the company is subject to a franchise tax the state board of equalization and assessment imposed upon it.

The company pays regular taxes on a \$240,000 valuation on its hydroelectric plant, half of which is in Boyd county and the other half in Holt county, on the Niobrara river.

The Holt county board was notified by the state tax commissioner that the company had been assessed at \$20,000 on its franchise for 1929, the tax being \$324. The tax was paid under protest and the company sued for refund under the claim that it is not a common carrier and therefore is not subject to a franchise tax. It says that another company buys and distributes all the current it generates, and that it is in no sense a common carrier and cannot be taxed on a franchise right to transmit electric energy.

It is the contention of the company that the franchise taxable under the statute is not the right to exercise corporate functions, but to use public property in connection with the maintenance and conduct of its business; that it is not subject to taxation when not using the right to make such use of public property, and that since it has been assessed without notice the tax is void. It also says that it enjoys no special privileges, does not serve the public and has no special grant for its business.

COUNTY LOSES SUIT AGAINST TRUCK OWNER

Atkinson, Neb.—(Special)—After two years of court fights, Charles W. Peterson, Holt county rancher, was victorious in an automobile license case prosecuted by Holt county. Peterson was tried in two courts and convicted of violating the law in purchasing an automobile truck license outside the county in which he lived. Last week District Judge Robert R. Dickson notified Peterson's attorney that he had dismissed the case and all costs would be paid by the county. Peterson had determined to carry the case to the supreme court.

In 1928, after some difficulties with the Holt county treasurer, Peterson purchased a license for his farm truck in Rock county. The county board of supervisors prosecuted him for violation of the automobile registration law.

Peterson at the time said, "I did not go to Rock county to get my license until I had tried for over four months to get a license in Holt county. The county treasurer refused to issue me a license until I had met certain arbitrary requirements which he saw fit to demand, and it was only after I had been ordered out of his office that I saw I would have to go to some other county for a license if I got one at all."

PARKED THEIR BABE IN WRONG AUTOMOBILE

Coleridge, Neb.—(Special)—A baby not belonging to their family was found sleeping in their automobile by Mr. and Mrs. Chris Hansen after they had finished shopping in the evening. The Hansen's car was parked beside Ben Rath's new car of the same make and the Rath children parked their baby brother, less than three weeks old, in what they thought was their own car, when he became sleepy. The Hansens, finding the child, hurriedly drove downtown, fearing a kidnapping charge. Meantime a posse was in progress of organization to hunt the Rath child. He was still sleeping when restored to his parents.

TWIN BROTHERS ARE NOW 81 YEARS OLD

Omaha, Neb.—Seafarers at 13 years old, John and Charles Wilton, 81-year-old twins, who have included almost all the principal ports of the world in their travels, are holding their semi-annual reunion at the home of John's daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Hosmer, in Omaha.

Their appearances are practically identical, and their tastes are the same, except when it comes to smoking. Charles smokes, but John, after using tobacco 63 years, abandoned the habit three years ago.

Born in Oldenburg, Germany, they left home together to follow the sea when they were only 13 years old. Charles was a seaman for 12 years, but John, after an around-the-world cruise, four years later settled on the coast of Australia.

In 1872 they met in New York City. Charles to go to Milwaukee, Wis., where he served for 27 years as a member of the fire department, and John, after three years of traveling about the United States, to settle in 1875 on a farm at Monticello, Ia. Later John moved to LeMars, Ia., and came to live with his daughter a year ago.

DROUGHT DECREASED YIELD OF WHEAT

Elgin, Neb.—(UP)—What might have been the heaviest yield of wheat on record in this vicinity was found on a field of 29 acres recently threshed on the Ed Swarc farm, south of Elgin. The yield was 22 bushels, or a trifle more than 40 bushels to the acre. The wheat was quite badly shriveled, owing to the extreme hot, dry weather while ripening. With favorable weather for ripening, it is thought it would have yielded 50 bushels per acre.

LIBRARIAN AT PIERCE HAS HAND INJURED

Pierce, Neb.—(Special)—Mrs. F. A. Andrew, public librarian here, had one hand badly injured Tuesday, when it was drawn into a power clothes wringer.

HOGS FEED IN OLD CEMETERY

Norfolk People Plan to Reclaim Plot Where Pioneers Rest

Norfolk, Neb.—(Special)—Norfolk's first cemetery, where more than 100 pioneers are buried, has been turned into a hog lot. Tomb stones are toppled over, stones are rooted up and people who lay flowers on the graves of their departed relatives have to keep watch over the graves so the hogs do not eat up the floral tributes.

This condition was reported to County Attorney Hedley Kelsey and the Rotary club and an investigation is being made in an effort to get the cemetery back into the hands of the relatives of pioneers who want the ground for the purpose of making it a beauty spot.

Gene Huse, head of the Norfolk park board, has taken the matter up with the Norfolk Rotary club and other local organizations. County Attorney Kelsey stated that the ground was originally part of the Kidder homestead and in some way was diverted to the present owners of the land. The owners are willing to sell it to the local people who wish to keep alive the memory of the men and women who were the first residents of Norfolk.

According to the information secured by County Attorney Kelsey, the land—about five acres—was set aside by the late Rev. James Kidder, the first Congregational minister here for a cemetery, but it was not properly conveyed.

The oldest grave in the cemetery is that of Mrs. Ferdinand Pasewalk who died in 1867. She was the wife of one of the pioneers who led a caravan of Wisconsin pioneers to Nebraska in that year. They came overland in covered wagons hauled by oxen and built log houses and sod shanties. When Mrs. Pasewalk became ill that year two men drove a wagon to Omaha for a doctor, but the doctor arrived too late.

PLAN TO KEEP STREAMS OPEN

Nebraska Game Board to Proceed Against Power Companies

Lincoln, Neb.—(Special)—At a meeting of the state game commission it was decided to take legal action against two power companies because of complaints against them that intermittent operation of the power dams results in the loss of fish. Complaints have come to the commission from Emerson and Spencer, the former located on the Cedar river and the latter on the Niobrara, that the companies are not living up to their agreement to keep the power wheels in continuous operation. Permits granted owners of dams by the department of public works give priority rights to agriculture and public use of waterways over public utilities. The cultivation of fish being classed under agriculture, the commission has instructed the attorney general to take steps to insure continuous flow of water.

The dates were set for the pheasant season, October 23 to November 2, and the commission expressed the hope of including 25 or more counties in the open classification. Hunters are to be allowed four males and one female bird in the daily bag this year, the rule being changed to keep hunters from leaving in the field hen pheasants they have killed accidentally, and because in some places the hens are increasing in number too rapidly.

A tract of 300 acres in Cherry county on Willow Lake was purchased by the commission at an approximate cost of \$8 an acre, the lake being considered good for bass. Two hundred acres of Turcott or Club lake is to be bought at \$10 an acre, the tract lying between Alliance and Bridgeport, 300 acres on Lake Champion are to be bought at \$100 an acre to enable the public to fish for bullheads, crappies and bass. Sand Beach lake in the sand hill county is to be filled and stocked. This lies 25 miles north of Whitman in Cherry county.

A contract may be awarded the Walton Gun club to take water from the Missouri river into Lake Quinebaugh in Burt county, which is threatening to go dry. The commission is willing to spend \$2,000 for the project and the awarding of the contract depends upon whether or not Burt county farmers are willing to put up \$500 toward the cost.

BIG MAGNET REMOVES METAL FROM HIGHWAYS

Wrentham, Neb.—(Special)—The magnetic nail picker, the only one in Nebraska, passed through here, on the state highway, picking up metal injurious to automobile tires.

On its way here from Pierce, the machine picked up 130 pounds of metal. The trip was continued to the Meridian highway bridge at Yankton. A second machine has been purchased by the state and will be put in operation as soon as it is received.

HOLDING GIRL FOR BAD CHECK

Said to Have Been Induced to Act by Two Men Who Are Being Sought

Columbus, Neb.—(Special)—Emma Betz, 19 years old, of St. Helena, Neb., is held here in connection with the cashing of a forged check at a local drugstore for \$16.53. The girl's first told officials she was Mrs. Viola Anderson, 22 years old, recently separated from her husband at Chadron. The whole truth about her was not learned until she was taken back to St. Helena by Columbus officials to attend the funeral of her father.

The girl is still held here, although no complaint has been sworn out against her. Meantime a search is being conducted for Jack A. Lynch, 23 years old, formerly of Yankton, S. D., and Laverne Bortles or Bartles, both said to have served in the Nebraska prison.

Miss Betz' oldest sister, married about five years, is said to have abandoned her husband and two children for the company of Lynch. The sister is now supposed to be held at Clearwater, Minn., on a charge of passing a bogus check.

Lynch is supposed to have told the girl of her sister's plight and to have persuaded her to help him raise money to make the sister's checks good.

One of the cars used by the two men, seized here, had a Pierce county license plate which was stolen from a car belonging to Jacob Wehrich, of McLean. A registration certificate made out to A. M. Kuhl, of Emerson, was found in the car. It was stolen from Kuhl at Osmond July 4.

GOV. WEAVER IS MILKING CHAMP

Nebraska Executive Defeats Representative Bowering in Contest

Merriman, Neb.—(Special)—Representative Arthur Bowering claimed the milking record of northwest Nebraska until Governor Weaver, who was on his way to the Yellowstone park last week, stopped at the Bowering ranch over night and challenged the legislator to a milking match.

The governor won in a walk, as he finished milking the second cow before the representative had milked one.

However, Bowering has appealed the decision to the National Milking association claiming he was fouled when the cow he was milking hit him in the eyes with her tail.

SEEK TO REVIVE CASE AGAINST SHERIFF JENSEN

Lincoln, Neb.—(Special)—A motion has been filed in supreme court for a rehearing in the case where Fred Kelly and Robert G. Fuhrman, Thurston county taxpayers, sought to oust Sheriff Iler C. Jensen from office on charges of willful neglect of duty, maladministration and embezzlement. It was charged that Jensen had collected taxes on distress warrants at various times and had not accounted for them properly and within a reasonable length of time, having used them as his own private funds. Jensen defended on the ground that he had accounted for all funds within the time required by law. The district court found in his favor and the decision was affirmed by the supreme court without a written opinion.

Kelly and Fuhrman claim that because the case is of such importance and the decision so erroneous a rehearing should be granted. The appellants claim that in a case of public interest where conduct of public officials in the handling of public funds is concerned, a written opinion is imperative; that the court erred in holding there was no error in the record and the evidence in the case supports and justifies the action of the district court in dismissal of the case at the close of the plaintiffs' evidence. They also charge that there was an effort on the part of county officials to have the matter hushed up to keep the facts from becoming public, two of the original plaintiffs being induced to withdraw. Kelly refused to withdraw the charges and was later joined by Fuhrman, who claims there was a conspiracy to defeat justice.

TWO THRESHING OUTFITS AND GRAIN BURN

Elgin, Neb.—Two threshing outfits, 20 acres of wheat and one load of bundles were destroyed in two fires several miles apart.

On a farm belonging to Mrs. Joe Stoltz one outfit was destroyed as well as the load of bundles, when a back firing truck set fire to chaff around the machine. The outfit belonged to Stoltz brothers and no insurance was carried.

Another back firing truck is thought to have caused the second fire, which burned a rig owned by Joseph Ray on a farm 12 miles northwest of here. Twenty acres of wheat also went up in smoke.

BURIED TOGETHER AS WAS THEIR LIFELONG WISH

Omaha, Neb.—(UP)—The lifelong wish of sisters to be buried together after death was fulfilled Tuesday when Mrs. Amelia Belle Wilson, 61 years old, of Omaha, who died Friday, and Mrs. Nancy Matthews, 65, of Sheridan, Wyo., who died eight hours later, were buried in West Lawn cemetery. The sisters had been almost inseparable and though Mrs. Matthews moved west 13 years ago, they visited at each other's home frequently.

TILES BRIEF UPHOLDING STERILIZING LAW

Lincoln, Neb.—(Special)—A brief court by Assistant Attorney General Kyle in support of a judgment handed down in Gage county that has been submitted in supreme court, to submit to an operation for sterilization before he is paroled from the state institution for feeble minded at Beatrice.

CHANGE VALUES N. E. NEBRASKA

State Assessment Board Says Assessments Are Not Equitable

Lincoln, Neb.—The state board of taxation has notified representatives of 22 counties to appear, Monday, July 28, at 10 a. m., to show cause why increases and decreases of assessments should not be made.

It is the decision of the board that a just and equitable assessment could not be made without increasing and decreasing the valuations of farm lands and improvements.

A decrease was reported in Boyd county from \$41.46 an acre to \$28.71 and the board proposes to raise this 10 per cent. A similar situation exists in Knox county. Burt county proposed increase is 8 per cent; Dixon, 15 per cent; Dodge, 5 per cent.

CUSTER COUNTY PIONEER DEAD AT LINCOLN

Lincoln, Neb.—(Special)—Andrew Jackson Knepper, former state senator and Custer county pioneer, is dead at his home here, following an illness of several months. Mr. Knepper was born in Pennsylvania in 1842. He moved with his parents to Marion county, Iowa, in 1869, where he married Mary E. Jackson, in 1870. He brought his wife to Nebraska in 1871 and settled on a homestead where the town of Arcadia now stands. He is survived by his wife, four sons and three daughters.

TRUCK LINES TO HAVE OWN CLEARING HOUSE

Hastings, Neb.—(UP)—Operators of truck lines out of Hastings are preparing to establish a truck shipment clearing house, which they believe will simplify problems of obtaining vehicles, loading and shipping.

The plan provides for registration of trucks at a central station, probably the Chamber of Commerce, where also shippers would register their need of trucks for shipments.

President Bowman of the Chamber of Commerce announced the appointment of a committee composed of W. M. Dutton, Jr., E. C. Cushing, and Harold B. Cushing, to study the problems involved and report at the next meeting of the chamber board of directors, on August 4. It is expected that definite action will be taken following this meeting.

The proposed method of registration at one central point would obviate any unnecessary delay in securing prompt delivery of shipments, and the quicker securing of transportation for goods, truck owners report. Often, it is said, the plan of registration would save one whole day in the moving of consignments.

SAYS TRUCKING BUSINESS APPROACHING CRISIS

Norfolk, Neb.—W. D. Hefflin of Cresco, Neb., president of the Nebraska Motor Transport association, is quoted in the July issue of the Nebraska Motor Transport Review as stating that "it is the consensus of opinion among Nebraska truck operators that the trucking industry in this state is approaching a crisis, and that the climax will be reached during the next session of our state legislature."

"There are several things which must be remedied, if possible, before the next legislature session," said Mr. Hefflin. "The first, and most important, is to gain the approval of the public. This feeling which has grown against us is not without some justification, and can be overcome only by an improvement in the actual operation of our trucks."

"If every driver would be courteous to the motoring public—keep on his own side of the highway and not drive at an excessive speed—it would be but a short time until we would have public opinion back of us and fighting for us instead of against us."

"There must also be improvement in the relationship between the members of the trucking industry. It is high time that we realize that we must stop bickering among ourselves and offer a united front to those who, through ignorance or misinformation, do not know the position we occupy in the field of transportation."

"If we are to place our business on a solid foundation, it is necessary that we show a profit on our investment. Prof. C. W. Smith of the University of Nebraska agricultural college has offered to make a study of the costs of operations in our business, if we will co-operate."

"There are but a few of the things which should be ironed out before we go before our legislature next winter and request some progressive, constructive and regulatory legislation for the trucking industry in this state."

THEY TAKE 200 YOUNG CHICKENS FROM ONE FARM

St. Edward, Neb.—(Special)—Two hundred chickens were stolen from Glenn Romk's flock of barred rocks one evening recently. The flock was carefully culled and only the largest birds were taken.

This is the second loss of the Romks this year. Soon after they came here last March from Fullerton, 50 old hens were stolen from them. After this experience, they named their chickens. They will receive a fair price for each of those stolen.