

THE NEBRASKA SCENE

By the Lowell Service

Lincoln — Pioneer advocates of the unicameral legislature are making a careful study of the personnel and the results attained in the present session. They will check with their conclusions concerning the 1937 session. So far, the friends of the one-house system maintain that the plan has not yet been put into effect as projected by its originators.

The true unicameral places responsibility directly on the members, holds several short sessions, and functions after the manner of a board of directors. There is no inner ring; no hidden machinery.

In the fall of 1934, the bicameralites were astounded at the sweeping victory for the Norris amendment. Immediately they set out to preserve as many features of the two-house legislature as possibly could be retained.

Senator Norris declined to make any suggestions. The legislature of 1935 was strongly against the unicameral. A great many of the members elected to the bicameral had opposed the amendment during the campaign. Committees in both the house and senate were hostile, the house committee particularly so. The latter committee set up a bill which retained nearly all the two-house features. This measure passed the house and was defeated in the senate. During the closing hours of the 1935 session, a conference committee scrambled a hasty setup. The re-districting plan satisfied no one. With positive leadership lacking in 1937, the committee of the whole was retained and the legislative council created. The partisan elements of the state government also exerted an influence which unicameral advocates eyed with misgivings.

So far, efforts to elect on a partisan ballot and increase the number of members have been rejected. At the close of the present session, it is believed that a campaign will be made to improve the unicameral and change it to conform to the ideal of its proponents.

A study of the personnel of the present session is proposed with special attention to those who sponsored self-serving and special legislation. A tabulation is being made showing those most amenable to the blandishments of the lobby.

As to the mechanics of legislation, it is contended that the present system is entirely too cumbersome. The critics urge that red tape be snipped, that the speaker and others speed up the work and that lobbying be proscribed. Instead of one long session, it is suggested that several short ones be held during the biennium to meet the demands of changing conditions.

The legislature has killed LB 17, a bill to cut automobile towing charges from \$10.00 to \$5.00. Advocates of the measure argued that Nebraska was losing out on the towing business. Also slaughtered was LB 183, to increase dental examination fees from \$25 to \$50. The solons approved a bill to abolish the University of Nebraska serum plant.

Two of the major complaints against the governor and the legislature arise from delays in enacting a suitable old age assistance plan and in clearing up the atmosphere which surrounds the insurance department.

The governor maintains that the federal assistance authorities want a setup controlled by some state body such as the board of control. The legislature insists that the county boards have something to say concerning personnel. Weeks have been spent in sparring. The recent visit of Miss Jane Hoey of the federal assistance bureau led to conferences with the legislators. In the meantime checks for the old people are help up.

Definite reforms are promised by Chairman A. L. Miller of the committee investigating the insurance department. Legislation has been outlined but it is indefinite in form.

According to advices from New York, eastern holding companies that control private power concerns in Nebraska have endorsed

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Bass Anglers Anxious For Fishing Weather

Several of our local anglers are getting anxious. The open season for bass fishing closes on May 1, and several of our local lovers of the piscatorial sport are lamenting the fact that they have not had an opportunity to indulge in their favorite pastime. We predict that before the first of the month that Herb Hammond, Mike Horriskey, Pat Donohoe and a few others will be heading for the Cherry county lakes to try their luck.

HOLT COUNTY 4-H CLUBS TO ATTEND ANNUAL MEET

Holt County will be well represented at the annual 4-H Club Week at the Nebraska college of agriculture in Lincoln, May 29 to June 2.

From here will go Carol Summer, Ewing, Burlington trip winner and Roy Forbes, Amelia, Crete Mills trip winner.

More than 300 of Nebraska's outstanding farm boys and girls in 4-H club work and leaders will be on the agricultural college campus for the week which is one of the highlights of the entire year's activities. Plans already are well along for entertaining the youths while they are on the campus.

Throughout the week, the 4-H club members and local leaders will enjoy educational and recreational sessions. Several outstanding educators are scheduled to address them at general convocations. There will be several banquets, picnics, and the annual trip to Omaha. In addition the 4-H clubbers and leaders will spend some time each day in group discussion talking over problems in which they are vitally interested.

Forest Service Starts Spring Planting

The Forest Service has started the planting of 350 miles of shelterbelts in the Neligh District this Spring. The District includes Holt, Antelope, Boone, Nance, and Nemick counties, also parts of Knox and Wheeler.

The 350 men employed include practically all WPA workers available in the area. The men plant by a unique method developed by the branch of the Forest Service, and attain surprising speed and proficiency. Many of the planters average over 1,000 trees a day, and considerable rivalry exists between some of the fastest crews. Special training and thorough inspection by supervisory personnel assures that each tree is planted correctly, and excellent survival is attained without watering or other special care.

430,000 evergreens and over three million other trees will be planted in the District by May 10. These would make a single row of trees 8 feet apart from New York to San Francisco and a row from Canada to the Gulf with enough left over for four rows across Nebraska. Under the shelterbelt program, the Government furnishes and plants the trees, and builds a fence to exclude livestock; and the farmer furnishes the fence material, prepares the ground for planting and cultivates the trees.

Erickson Fined Here For Traffic Violation

Oscar Erickson, of Merriman, was arrested on complaint of Patrolman Lawrence Russell, who alleged that on April 5, 1939, he was operating a car on the highways in this county without the proper license plates. On April 12 he pled guilty and was fined \$10.00 and costs of \$3.10.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to take this way to thank the many friends who so kindly helped to lift our great burden of sorrow by their comforting words, their help, and beautiful flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmet Crabb and Donna.
Mr. and Mrs. Dorance Crabb
Mr. and Mrs. Verle Crabb.

STEFAN SAYS ALL RELIEF AGENCIES TO UNDERGO RIGOROUS INVESTIGATION

Graft, Rackets and High Cost of Administration Must Be Eliminated; Relief Agencies May Continue for Another Generation.

Apparently congress has finished with emergency relief appropriations for the fiscal year, 1939. The second supplemental relief appropriation since Congress convened in January has now passed both the House and the Senate. It is in the amount of \$100,000,000. The preceding supplemental appropriation amounted to \$725,000,000. Thus, since January, 1939, \$825,000,000 has been appropriated to supplement the regularly passed appropriation to finance relief activities through June 30, 1939. The regular relief appropriation and the two supplemental appropriations to provide funds for expenditure for emergency relief purposes during the period extending from July 1, 1938, through June 30, 1939, aggregates in excess of \$2,200,000,000. Aggregate appropriations for WPA since its inception are about six billion dollars. It is contemplated that a new appropriation in an initial amount of between one and one half and two billion dollars will need to be made for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1939.

The House of Representatives has authorized and directed its Committee on Appropriations to make an investigation of emergency relief administration. Persistent charges of rackets, politics and maladministration of relief funds produced the investigation.

One of the many charges aired on the floor of the House, is that in New York City, WPA has been paying skilled wages at the rate of \$2.00 per hour and that hundreds of these high wage scale WPA workers were allowed to continue assignments that paid them \$200 and \$250 per month, while thousands of other skilled workmen could get no assignment at all.

Another charge made on the floor is that the President appointed a commission to have charge of all government exhibits at the New York World's Fair and the commission has about completed its building and most government agencies, with the exception of WPA, have cooperated in the arrangement of exhibits. The charge of one member of the commission is that big space was reserved for WPA but only recently the commission learned that WPA is starting the construction of a \$300,000 building and will run its own exhibit. The commission told Congress that it had a building for WPA and its exhibits and that the \$300,000 and the money that will be spent for running the exhibit could easily be transferred to people who need jobs.

There are rampant charges of graft in Ohio, Pennsylvania and New Mexico.

Charge followed charge until both parties in the House demanded an investigation. Many know that investigations of this type produce a disappointingly small amount of good, yet those who believe that the relief question will be with us for many years, feel that the investigation of the various complaints against the administration may tighten the efficiency of the system and increase respect for the intent of Congress. That intent is that needy unemployed men and women be given jobs of some kind until they can relocate themselves in regular private employment.

Most of the membership of the Appropriations Committee are well aware of the fact that Congress has not been voting enough money to give a job to all of the unemployed persons in our nation. The real reason that the committee sponsored \$725,000,000 instead of the \$875,000,000 for supplemental relief recently was that they wanted more information from the new WPA boss, Colonel Harrington. This Army officer came back to the committee and about convinced members that the \$725,000,000 was near exhaustion and that an additional \$150,000,000 was needed to run the business of relief until July 1, 1939. The \$100,000,000 figure in the bill was a

compromise with the ultra-conservative members who demanded that the sum be cut to \$50,000,000 with resultant forceful elimination of unnecessarily expensive administration. Some members told their colleagues they were going to vote for the extra \$100,000,000 because they felt that the WPA chiefs had laid off the poorest paid and most needy men and women, first, in order to force Congress to accept the larger figure. The hearings disclosed that administration costs are too high and that though prevailing scales of wages met little objection, it seemed neither necessary nor right for one class of workers in one state to get \$250 per month from WPA when men like those in Nebraska could get but \$40 to \$50 per month. The prevailing wage idea came about when union chiefs felt that if prevailing wages were not paid, it would result in lowering wages of all classes of labor in private industry.

Already there are many demands for change in the WPA set-up and for the merging of some of its work with the PWA. One recommendation is that all emergency relief money be expended by a single agency and that regular accounting be made to Congress. Regular accounting has, heretofore, not been made. The principal demand from all sides is that the expenditure of emergency relief funds be so safeguarded as to eliminate existing abuses and to increase the net share of the appropriation that actually reaches the people in need of relief.

Even members from New York with somewhat radical tendencies admit that if orderly distribution of relief is ever to come, discrimination must be eliminated. One of these members who is close to the real radical groups admits that politicians must discontinue the exploitation of human misery and cut out the utilization of relief funds in local petty graft. Members who would otherwise vote enough money to put every idle man and woman to work, vigorously oppose the alleged pull and rackets that inevitably are to be found in the expenditure of any large sums of public money.

A majority of the House membership is not opposed to voting some federal funds for relief. Most of the conservatives feel that the states must assume an increasing share of the responsibility in the job of giving relief to needy people. There is a growing sentiment in the House that private business can take up much of the slack in unemployment if given the opportunity, but these advocates admit that private business cannot take up all of the slack no matter how much help private business gets from the Federal treasury and elsewhere. Nobody in the House today will admit that expenditures for relief should be cut off immediately and that the Federal government should stop all relief assistance. The building of the new forty thousand ton battleships at a cost of about seventy million dollars, each, has taught members to realize that the profits in the building of these expensive battle boats go to private industry and while such building of armaments means much for idle men and, at the same time, helps in national defense, they realize that with all the millions of subsidy for merchant marine; with all of the millions of loans to private industry, less than half of the unemployment load can be eliminated.

These beliefs have been confirmed by not only experts on relief but by many private business experts. A private report which is a supplement to the printed report on the investigation of relief in the city of Washington, indicates that by reorganization of the relief set-up here, about a million dollars can be saved annually. This private report states that duplication, favoritism, rackets and petty graft

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Elite Cafe Opened Here Last Saturday Afternoon

The Elite Cafe was opened to the public last Saturday afternoon, in time for the evening meal. Mrs. Sirek, the proprietor, says that she was more than satisfied with the large number of people they served there on their opening day, over 200 people being served for dinner and for lunch later in the evening. The restaurant is neat and attractive and promises to be an inviting place for those dining out.

TESTING LAW IS REPEALED BY LEGISLATURE

Last week the legislature repealed the compulsory automobile testing law by the passage of LB No. 3 by a vote of 38 to 4. With the repeal of this law many of the municipalities of the state are left with white elephants on their hands as many of the cities installed testing apparatus and buildings to house them at a cost of from \$5,000 to \$10,000. The people of this city who favored the installation of a testing station by the city here about eight months ago can now see that the opposition to the plan was not using hot wind in their opposition.

The Weather

We have had all kinds of weather the past week. Last Saturday it rained nearly all day a slow steady drizzle that extended into Sunday and gave us .70 hundredths of an inch of moisture. The rain came down so easily that it all went into the ground and will be of immense benefit to the small grain that has been planted, to winter wheat and rye and to pastures.

Monday it snowed nearly all day. It was very wet and melted almost as fast as it fell. While it was not cold for a time it gave the appearance of an old time blizzard. The precipitation in the snowfall amounted to .41 hundredths of an inch, which gave us 1.11 inches of moisture the past week. We had a nice little rain this morning and at this time 10:30 it is still cloudy and looks as if we would have more rain during the day. Following is the weather report for each day for the past week:

	H	L	M
April 13	59	32	
April 14	66	41	
April 15	63	39	.63
April 16	45	39	.07
April 17	45	31	.41
April 18	52	30	
April 19	70	28	
April precipitation,	1.28	inches.	
Total precipitation since January 1, 1939,	3.60	inches.	

Failure to Spend \$1.00 Nets Fine of \$4.10

W. B. Herring, of Ainsworth, was before the county court on complaint of Patrolman Russell who alleged that he was driving a car on the highways of this county on April 8 without first having procured a drivers license. He appeared on April 13 and was fined \$1.00 and costs, or a total of \$4.10.

O'Neill Woman's Club

The O'Neill Woman's Club met Wednesday afternoon, April 19th, at their club rooms.

The following officers were elected for 1939-1940: Mrs. J. D. Osenbaugh, president; Mrs. Martin Penister, vice-president; Mrs. Bennett Gillispie, secretary; Mrs. C. E. Lundgren, treasurer; Mrs. Harold Lindberg, auditor; Mrs. George Miles, custodian.

The following program was given:

Solo, "Brown Bird Singing" and "Little Boy Blue," by Lois Jean Robertson, accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Pete Todson.

Book Review — "Joseph and His Brothers" and "Young Joseph," by Thomas Mann, by Mrs. Arthur Cowperthwaite. This was a very fine review.

Mr. and Mrs. George Coleman drove to Norfolk Saturday on business.

CENTER UNION TO CELEBRATE 34TH ANNIVERSARY

The 34th anniversary of the Center Union Sunday School will be celebrated in special week-end services. The first service will be Friday evening, April 28. Services at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon and 8 in the evening. All day services on Sunday. Special speakers and basket dinner at noon.

All are invited to share these services.

C. J. Gatz Attends Storz Convention at Omaha

Mrs. Mary McLeod and C. J. Gatz left Sunday morning for Omaha. Mrs. McLeod was returning to her home after spending the past two months here visiting at the homes of her daughters, Mrs. C. J. Gatz and Mrs. Henry Lohaus, and Mr. Gatz went to attend a convention of Storz distributors, which meeting was to be held last Monday at the Fontenelle hotel. Sales and advertising plans for the coming year will be discussed at this meeting. Mr. Gatz returned home Tuesday evening.

20TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IS CELEBRATED

Sunday, April 16th a large crowd of relatives gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. For a Knight in honor of their 20th wedding anniversary.

About 1:00 p.m. a very delicious dinner was served after which the gifts were shown. They received a number of nice pieces of china and cooking utensils. The afternoon was spent visiting and taking pictures. In the evening a large crowd of their friends and neighbors gathered for a card party, there were four tables of cards and at midnight lunch was served and the prizes awarded. High score prize was won by Harold Krugman and Max Grenier.

WE APPOLIGIZE; THE LAMBS WERE TRIPLETS; NOT TWINS

Fay Puckett, one of The Frontier's old-time readers living northeast of this city, writes to inform us that we got his lamb story sadly muddled last week. So, to keep history straight, we reprint the story as Mr. Puckett says it should be:

"Your paper said four pair of twins that should have been four sets of triplets. It isn't uncommon for a sheep to have twins, triplets are uncommon, and four sets out of a band of fourteen ewes, is more than uncommon, and for eleven of the twelve lambs to live and run with their mother is still more uncommon, and that is because a ewe can only set the table for two lambs, or only two lambs can suck at the same time, the third one must wait for the second table, and unless the mother ewe is giving lots of milk and more than the first two lambs to get to the table wants there won't be anything left and it becomes a case of the 'survival of the fittest' and the hungry lamb will be kept pushed away from the table until he weakens and dies.

"To date, eleven lambs out of twelve in four sets of triplets live and run around with their mother ewe. Altogether, we have twenty-five lambs from thirteen ewes."

We are afraid that if Mr. Wallace hears of this occurrence that he will order the ewes killed off, as they are increasing the sheep supply too fast. He believes that a scarcity of everything is the way to end the depression.

Work Progressing On New School Building

Work on the new school building has been going on for the past two weeks. The placing of the footings are about completed and work will probably start in earnest on the building within the next week.

Brown-McDonald Store Gets New Assistant Manager

Vincent Schoberg, who has been employed by the Johnson Drug Co. in this city for the past year, has accepted a position as assistant manager of the Brown - McDonald store in this city and will enter upon his new duties on Monday, April 24th. Jack Grady, who was formerly employed by the Golden Rule Store, resigned to take a new position offered him in Denver, Colo.

EASTER CANTATA GIVEN AT SPENCER LAST SUNDAY

The Methodist choir of O'Neill went to Spencer last Sunday evening and presented their Easter Cantata to a large and attentive audience at the M. E. Church. Mrs. Lawrence Russell is now leader of this splendid choir. She held the audience spell bound as she sang the beautiful soprano solo in this cantata. She has a wonderful voice that appeals to all who hear her sing. Mrs. Harold Lindburg sang the alto solo which required a voice with wide range in order to reach both high and low tones. She sang it in a very beautiful manner. Charles Yarnell, who is going right to the top in voice culture, sang the bass solo in this cantata and deserves to be complimented very highly on the splendid way he presented this fine solo. Donald Bowen also showed fine quality in the tenor solo parts he took and has been urged to develop his talent as a singer. The Methodist choir offers rare opportunity to the young man or lady who desires to develop as well as display their talents in singing and invites anyone who would like to do so, to join them.

Nebraska Accident Survey

Accidents Have Sharp Decrease — Accidents for the week ending April 8, 1939 showed a sharp decrease as to the total from three hundred thirty to two hundred fifty-six. The list of injuries or deaths showed a corresponding drop going from two hundred sixty-four for the week ending April 1, 1939 to one hundred ninety-nine for this period. Deaths, however, stepped up to sixteen from nine in the previous record. The children's situation is little better with three children reported killed and thirty-three injured.

Automobile Mishaps Show Drop

Among the categories, Motor Vehicle mishaps showed the largest decrease going from one hundred fourteen accidents to eighty-one and from one hundred twenty-eight casualties to sixty-six. A salesman was fatally injured in a collision west of Paxton and an Omaha man died of injuries sustained in an automobile-street-car crash. A woman sustained a disability when she lost control of her car south of Hastings. Two persons, a man and his wife, were disabled when blinding lights on a truck forced them to drive off the highway.

During the year 1938 blinding lights on automobiles caused twenty-nine accidents in which fifty-six were injured and one was disabled. This last week, two persons were disabled from that cause. It is only because of luck and very careful driving that there are no more casualties resulting from these accidents. Cars are equipped with light adjusters to be used when approaching other cars, but it can be said truthfully that only three drivers out of five extend that courtesy. Good driving ability and mechanical efficiency in cars are two very important requisites but the courtesy of the road is also just as important and often sadly neglected with dire consequences.

Out of thirty-seven collisions this period thirty persons were injured while four pedestrians were struck by cars and injured. Skidding, tire blowouts, and losing control of automobiles each accounted for five injuries while hitting an obstruction, blinding lights, a railroad crossing mishap, and a car-bicycle collision, (Continued on page 4)