

THE FRONTIER

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Armistice Over as Royalty Departs
The armistice which hushed "war talk," "neutrality and "war debts" while the King and Queen of Great Britain were here, is at an end. No sooner had the royal couple left town than members started discussing war debts, neutrality and foreign entanglements.

Third District Not Represented at Garden Party

Letters coming to the congressional office ask if we were invited to the English Garden Party. The answer is "NO." Another question is "How did the King and Queen look?" The answer to that is that the queen looked very pretty but not any prettier than most Nebraska girls. She appeared unaffected and used very little lipstick or paint, and had a smile for everybody. The King looked tired out, acted unassuming; talked very little; didn't stutter; and gossip from nearly everybody in the House who talked to the Royal couple, is that the King didn't like the hot Washington weather and was very glad the ordeal was over. The town was decorated with a lot of British flags which were taken down eight hours after the visitors departed; the town was filled with a million people who were up from daylight to dark lining every street and avenue the visitors passed through. The welcome was a real good American one and there was no disorder of any kind. Most everybody thought it was all right for them to visit us and there are many people who hope that this visit does not mean that we are obligated in any way.

To Retain Excise Tax on Oil

Farm district members ever watchful to protect their districts against importation of foreign competitive farm produce, are given credit for retention of the 3 cent excise tax on oil in the Filipino bill on which hearings are to be held soon. Many Filipino lobbyists are here. After a conference these Filipinos abandoned their hope to remove the excise tax during this year. Farm district members feel that this excise tax which is collected from American consumers and paid into the Philippine Treasury should in reality be paid into the Treasury of the United States. Filipinos had planned to change

the law and make it possible for the Filipinos to take this tax money and use it for the subsidization of coconut oil. They can only use it for general expenses of their government now.

Why Americans should pay the Filipinos an excise tax on their oil is hard to explain except that the Filipinos still consider themselves as subjects of the United States. After July 4, 1946, when they receive their complete independence, however, that picture will change and the subsidies now paid the sugar and oil kings of those islands may cease. That's why these Filipinos are here now. They want their complete independence but they also want free trade and some subsidies after 1946.

Suggest Need of Farm Relief
Telegrams come from Nebraska stating that due to short crops this year there will be a greater need for farm relief than ever before. These telegrams ask at least 175 million dollars for the Farm Security Administration. Among these telegrams is one from the head of the Nebraska Farmers Union.

Want 2 1/2 Billion WPA Appropriation

The convention of the "right-to-work" congress and the Workers Alliance which attracted about 2,500 delegates was one of the most orderly of the workers groups to be held here. Delegates who came here had plenty of opportunity to hear all kinds of speakers and prominent citizens. Among the delegates was Paul Wheeler of Norfolk. They held their meetings in government buildings and many of them were in the House and Senate galleries during the sessions of congress. Following these meetings the delegates urged appropriations of not less than \$2,250,000,000 for WPA. The relief bill is in the House this week at the same time a committee is investigating WPA. Just how much money the new relief bill is to carry depends on the action of the full committee and the success or failure of many prepared amendments to increase and to decrease the total amount in the bill.

States Criticized for "Hands Out" Attitude

The amendments to the Social Security act which took up most of the week's time in the House, were approved by the house with only two dissenting votes. The bill now goes to the Senate. The hearings conducted by the Ways and Means Committee preceding the report of this measure, began the first of last February.

The legislation increases the federal grants for old age assistance from \$15 to \$20 a month and also makes important increases for child welfare and vocational training. Members are told that many new amendments will be offered by senators and it will be some time before the completed Social Security bill comes to conference and is finally enacted into law. Throughout the debate, the various states of the union were criticized for failure to match federal funds for old age assistance. These criticisms came when amendments were offered to make the federal participation larger. Leading members of

the committee insisted that unless the status quo of a 50-50 matching program is continued, many states would shirk their duty to the needy. They felt it was unfair for the state governments to balance their own budgets and expect the Federal government to keep on spending more than it takes in. The entire debate indicated that the administration wants the various state governments to take more responsibility for spending money.

Vote Fund to Fight Hoppers

Members, particularly those from the prairie states have received a flood of letters and telegrams urging the appropriation of supplemental funds for use in the grasshopper control campaign. House and the Senate quickly responded by passing a special joint resolution appropriating an additional \$1,750,000 immediately available for expenditure.

THE NEBRASKA SCENE

By the Lowell Service

Lincoln — Pioneers in championing the unicameral system of legislation are exchanging views preparatory to outlining proposals for improving methods of law making. As to personnel, the membership of the last session scored an unusually high average. In 1940, it is believed, the sponsors will emphasize method, seek to inspire individual research and maintain a high average of ability of the candidates. There seems to be a belief that the legislative council is a creation of the extremely conservative. It is a bar to individual initiative and investigation, assert some legislators.

Undoubtedly the proponents of the unicameral will have some definite plan of improvement for the next session. Said one of the champions:

"Senator Norris did not take any part in the first unicameral setup, either in the 1935 session or in the organization of the first unicameral legislature. In letters to friends, he suggested that the members be permitted to work out the details. He did, however, suggest the elimination of the committee of the whole and reviewed the history of the United States senate in abolishing it."

In a letter to a unicameralite Senator Norris wrote: "I think some of the questions about the organization and rules, while seeming very important now, will as time progresses, settle themselves."

The attempts to restore the partisan tinge to the unicameral, like the chronic efforts to amend the primary laws, did not meet with firm support last winter. Party whips were manipulated without result at the beginning of the legislative session. When the party organizations met with failure, the lobbyists assailed the membership. The lobby prolonged the session and delayed action. However, the special advocates undoubtedly failed in exerting any marked influence on the members.

Col. John G. Maher, who died recently in Rome, took a prominent part in promoting the unicameral amendment. Col. Maher has a

long and brilliant record as a liberal in politics and as an advocate of reforms in government.

In the 1932 campaign he was national committeeman for the National Progressive League. Harold L. Ickes, Edith Abbott and hundreds of leading progressives were prominent in this movement, for independent political action.

Mr. Maher and George W. Kline discussed unicameral legislative ideas with Senator Norris in the summer of 1933. Senator Norris recorded his views in a series of brilliant letters which embody invaluable information on the science of government. Mr. Maher was chairman of the committee that outlined the plans for the circulation of the initiative petitions and the placing of the unicameral proposal on the ballot.

The political future of Governor Cochran continues to be a subject of considerable public discussion. An Omaha newspaper has been pressing the executive to make a statement on whether or not Cochran is to enter the race for the senatorial race against Senator Burke. Mr. Cochran has declined to make a comment.

Col. Frank Stech, journalistic aide-de-camp of the Cochran cohorts, has prepared a chart of the possible political honors that await the governor. According to Col. Stech, these are:

1. Cochran may run for vice-president under certain conditions, or
2. He may run for Congress in the First district, or
3. He may oppose Senator Burke for the United States Senate, or
4. He may seek a fourth term as governor.

"Mr. Cochran knows something about the psychological moment to make an announcement," said Mr. Stech. "He will have a statement ready at the proper time."

"Anything less than \$100,000 shows little trouble with snowdrifts," explained F. H. Klietsch, state highway maintenance engineer, when he handed in his report that \$67,325 was the cost of the removal of last winter's snow from Nebraska highways. In 1937, the cost was \$48,470.

J. A. Little, rate expert for the state railway commission, on behalf of Nebraska attended two Interstate Commerce Commission hearings last week. On Tuesday, he objected before the ICC examiner in Chicago to a rate of 80 cents per hundred on shipments of pineapple to Nebraska, while a rate of 70 cents per hundred is maintained from the west coast to Chicago. He urged that Nebraska rates be at least no higher than on the long haul. On Wednesday, Little appeared in Washington before the ICC in the case in which reduced rates on heating equipment were recently suspended because of protest from Wichita, Kas. shippers. The shipments were between Nebraska and two points in western trunk line territory.

Representing 13,824 weeks of compensable unemployment, checks for \$117,250 were issued during May by the state unemployment compensation division. This is less

than the amount paid in April by \$48,000. Of these checks, 1,182, for \$11,392, have gone to claimants outside of Nebraska, who had earned credits here. Both in number of claims and in amount of payments, Omaha was first of the 20 Nebraska offices, with 5,519 checks, amounting to \$47,097.

It cost less to draft bills during the recent legislative session than it has for 20 years, according to the report of George R. Mann, bill drafter and general counsel of the now defunct legislative reference bureau. The cost was \$2.57, as compared with \$2.90 in the past. Provision was made for this work by a legislative appropriation of \$4,652.

The new motor fuel division, recently created by the legislature in the state department of agriculture, has for its first Chief John A. Ainley of Scottsbluff, appointed by Governor Cochran last week. As an oil inspector in western Nebraska, Mr. Ainley has served the department for the last seven years. A traveling laboratory is to be used in connection with the new division work, the governor stated.

His final act being the issuance of a statement declaring his innocence, Walter H. Jurgensen, former lieutenant governor of Nebraska, entered the state penitentiary, June 12 to begin serving his two-to-five-year sentence on the charge of embezzlement for which he was convicted in March, 1938. The intervening time has been given to fruitless appeals which took the case as far as the United States supreme court.

Governor Cochran made final disposition of the four bills that remained on his desk last week by signing three and by sending one to the secretary of state to become a law on Sept. 8, without his signature. The one that he refused to sign was LB 350, the truck measure which includes a provision for lengthening trucks and semi-trailers from 35 to 42 feet. The governor objected to this provision from the standpoint of highway safety, and he recommended that the legislative council study this subject and make recommendations. The three bills signed were LB 120 which re-enacts the law outlawing certain unfair discriminatory business practices repealed by the 1937

unfair trades practice act; LB 202, which requires egg dealers to obtain an annual \$1 license as buyers and a \$1 permit as candlers; also that they dispose of their eggs within a reasonable time; and LB 206, which requires road construction contract bidders to qualify to highway department as to ability to fulfill terms.

Surveyors, reported to be acting

on behalf of the national defense setup, have collected information for the eight lane highway across the state. According to reports the surveyors entered the state south of Plattsmouth and proceeded westward, passing about a mile north of Seward. It is reported that the proposed highway avoids all large cities and towns. Some time ago a similar survey was made along the route of U. S. highway

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- R. H. Parker, administrator, will show anyone over these farms.
- If terms are desired, please talk to Administrator before the sale date.
- Also one quarter section of hay meadow land, all hay meadow, contains 160 acres. South east quarter section 13, township 32, range 12 is description.

For further particulars, see **R. H. PARKER, Administrator Zebb M. Warner Estate O'Neill, Nebraska**



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