

# THE FRONTIER

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## THE NEBRASKA SCENE

By the Lowell Service

Lincoln—Discouraged and downcast by the complaints of the old people of his district, State Senator John Callen of Odell came to Lincoln last week. He conferred with Governor Cochran. He left the gubernatorial presence unlightened and still more despondent.

Concerning the discussion with the governor, Senator Callen would make no statement.

"What I would like to do is find \$1,000,000 that could be used for old age assistance," he said, "and by that I mean a million without levying new taxes. I find that there has been a flat cut of \$6 a month on the old people. This is a terrible thing."

"Winter is coming. The expense of fuel must be added to the family budgets. Owing to the increase in inventories because of war scares, the prices of necessities will mount. There must be early and efficient relief."

"If," said the writer of this column, "twice one million dollars is located and uncovered, will you give serious consideration to a remedy?"  
"I certainly will," averred Senator Callen.

A two-million dollar mistake was made by the last legislature, and a million-dollar error by the legislature of 1937.

This staggering total is made up of items of waste and extravagance which have resulted from legislative endorsements of the last two budget messages of Governor Cochran. The solons let the governor's departments "get away with it." The senators should not have submitted to Mr. Cochran's demands.

Governor Cochran, in the recommendations for the state departments, has urged the appropriation of all cash funds and unexpended balances of these departments, "or as much of them as are needed." To these suggestions the legislature agreed. It should be noted that Chairman Brady of the ways and means committee protested, as did Senators Schultz and Callen. This action of the legislature confers on the state departments the powers of the legislature relating to the appropriation of money—authority that cannot be delegated. However, political pressure was sufficient to gain executive aims.

Of course, each department uses all the cash funds in sight. Costly furniture, equipment, and other forms of extravagance must be indulged in to consume the money. In the board of control, the highway department, the department of agriculture, the banking bureau and the insurance department, the cash items are heavy.

The items in the state university operations, in the normal schools, and miscellaneous departments run into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"This practice of allowing departments to legislate was condemned in my biennial report for 1935-36," said ex-State Auditor Ayres. "The legislature was urged to make specific appropriations for salaries and expenses of the various offices and turn the excess money for the general fund. My estimate is that the waste cannot be less than two millions. Note that this is just sheer extravagance and the branch of government at fault is the legislature for permitting expenditures contrary to the constitution."

"More money is frittered away now than at any time in the history of the state government. Many departments, such as the board of control and the highway departments, have boosted salaries until they are clear out of line with the constitutional state offices where the pay is fixed by statute. Two

million dollars is a low estimate for the cash poured down the state governmental rat-holes.

"In the auditor's office conditions are better than under the preceding administration."

The multiplication of bureaus, commissions, and departments and the abuse of "checking accounts" wastes another million each biennium, according to Mr. Ayres.

"The private checking account, such as was discovered in the national guard," he declared, "is clearly illegal and is a violation of all recognized accounting practices."

"All monies should be turned in to the general fund. All expenditures should be appropriated by the legislature. Each item should be audited, approved by the secretary of state, and the warrant signed and paid by the state treasurer."

"Strange as it may seem, Frank Arnold and the taxpayers' leagues will not consider state appropriations. These men seem bent on harrying weak school districts and county officials. Mr. Arnold will not take interest in multiplying state bureaus or commissions."

A special session of the legislature to seal the leaks in the state government and dismember portions of the state political machine would yield enough from the wasted and wildly dissipated funds to give the aged enough money to eke out an existence. No new taxes need be levied.

The attitude of state officials (after election) is always astounding when economy is to be considered. On the stump, thrift is the watchword. In office an apostle of economy gets the fishy eye.

During the last session of the legislature, a reporter asked State Auditor Johnson for information concerning the checking account of the former adjutant general, H. J. Paul.

Mr. Johnson was not enthusiastic in imparting the information. The inquirer was told that there were a number of such accounts in the capitol.

"It would be interesting for the legislature to know just what officials have checking accounts, and for what purpose," suggested the reporter.

Auditor Johnson agreed.  
"I will come in next Thursday, and perhaps you will have some information concerning these hidden bank accounts," said the newspaper man, retiring from the scene.

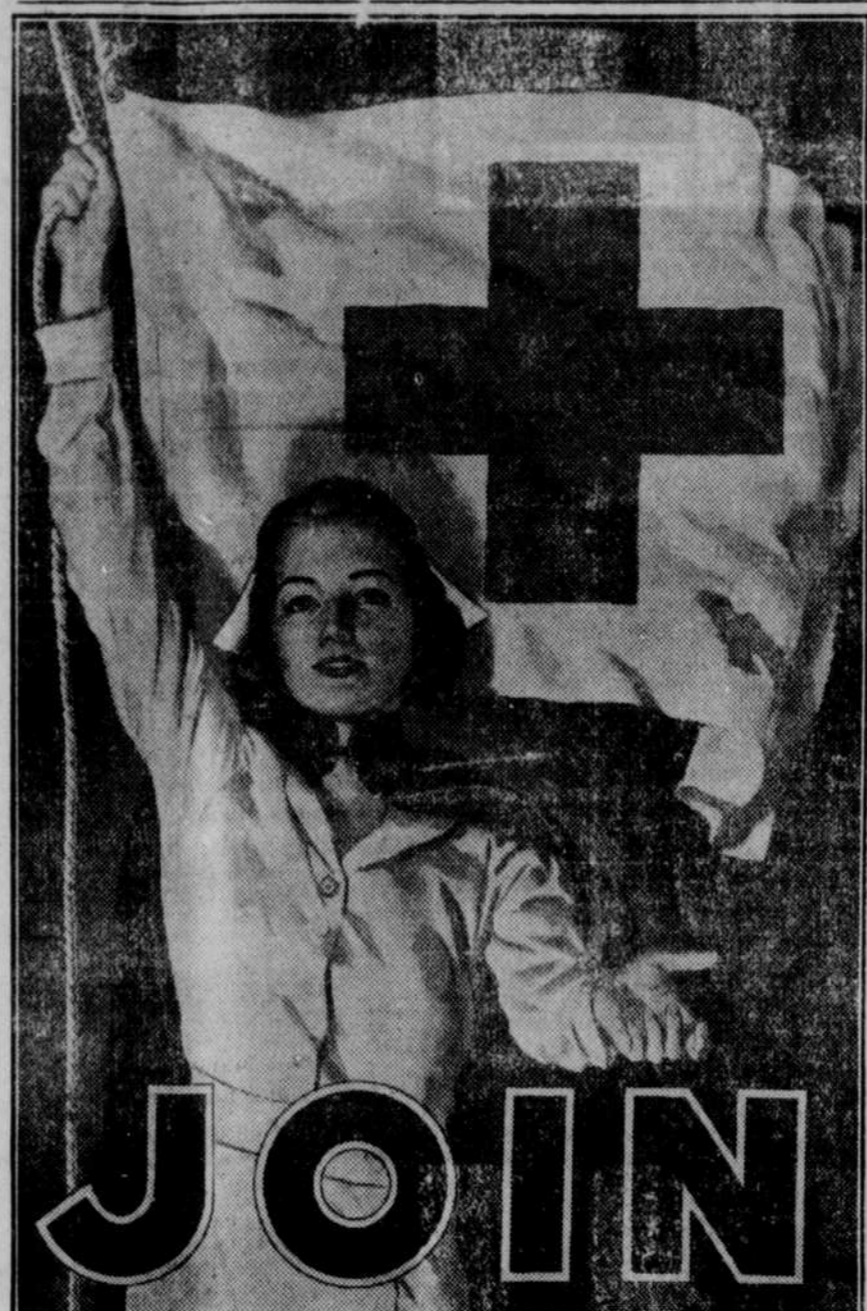
On the following Thursday Auditor Johnson had considered, favorably a claim of Lieutenant Governor Johnson for excess and additional pay for acting as governor in the absence of Mr. Cochran. He had forgotten all about the elusive checking accounts.

As stated exclusively in this column, the interpretation of the WPA act and the application of Public No. 479, passed by the congress in 1938 and extended by the last congress to June 30, 1941, may make possible the construction of some of the Republican valley projects. Also there is hope for the lower Platte river undertaking.

As a result of the deliberations of the senators and representatives in congress, the provisions of both these acts may be "liberalized." Owing to the pressure of educational problems on the state planning board, farmers in the irrigation districts cannot get the services of state employed engineers. An application has been made to the Nebraska congressional delegation for help to prepare the projects under the new acts, so that they may be submitted to Administrator Felton of the WPA. Projects totaling almost two millions will soon reach the administrator. Oswin Keifer of Bastwick and several others connected with the Republican valley districts have been urged to apply for funds. Modest beginnings under WPA will enable the best districts to secure the remainder of the funds under Public 479.

Assistant Secretary of War Louis Johnson has been catapulted out of the chairmanship of the national power defense committee, and Mr.

## KEEP YOUR RED CROSS READY



THIS striking painting of a Red Cross nurse keeping the symbol of mercy flying is the keynote of the 1939 appeal for membership in the American Red Cross. Faced with the need for strengthening daily Red Cross services in 3,700 Chapters, and with its chartered obligation to aid in some measure in meeting the distress of the men, women and children refugees in war-torn countries across the sea, the Red Cross asks every man and woman in the

relation to the appointment of a postmaster in Lincoln. Mr. Fenton was selected by ex-congressman H. C. Luckey and the choice of the incumbent, according to many partisans, had much to do with Mr. Luckey's accumulation of the "ex." Disorganization, decrease in air mail business, and the abandonment of Station A are some of the items causing outcry. A number of Lincoln democrats are expected to seek the appointment.

At the meeting of the educators held at the state capitol last week at the call of State Superintendent Charles W. Taylor to discuss improvements of the high school program which affects the lives of some 80,000 young Nebraskans, Dr. C. A. Fulmer of the state vocational department declared: "We need unity of effort. Our philosophy of education may not need revision, but it does perhaps need a new interpretation and emphasis upon our educational objectives. Now, our vision is somewhat blurred by war and economic depression. Our danger is that we may permit the distress of today to handicap the youth of tomorrow and the day after. We need some sort of a periscope that will enable us to look above the fog and the clouds and plan for the future. We have the youth, as fine as any in the world; Nebraska educators and citizens have brains as good as those in any other state, but, to use another figure of speech, we need to raise our sights a little."

The all day meeting held last week was one of a series of three to be held by the committee during the present school year. On the committee are representatives from the Uni. of Nebraska, state colleges, high schools, county superintendents, and the P. T. A. C. A. P. Jensen, secondary, educational specialist, of Washington, D. C., consultant to the group, was present.

Aged persons are eligible for state assistance grants, even though they are inmates of private institutions, according to a recent ruling of Neil C. Vandemoer, state assistance director. The amount of these grants will depend on whether the recipients have paid for their care; also on the financial resources of the institutions.

Plans are being made for placing a marker on the site of the surrender of a band of Pawnee Indians near Battle Creek in 1859 according to Dr. A. E. Sheldon, Supt. of Nebr. St. Historical society, who has been invited to attend a conference at Battle Creek with members of the Commercial club there.

Also in Washington was W. A. Schall, attorney for Omaha brewing interests. Judge Quigley announced that he meant to vacate the post of chairman of the democratic state central committee; Schall went to New York from Washington.

Quigley's announcement that Schall was to succeed him caused more uproar among democrats. According to precedent, the state committee should be called together and a selection made to fill the vacancy.

State Engineer Tilley has announced that the planning board means to delve into educational problems and "shape educational policy for the next ten years." Washington experts met with the board members in secret session. Reduction of rural, secondary and lightly attended high schools is the objective of one committee. There will be planning for buildings and investigation of other technical details.

Critics of the board claim that the schools of the state may be plunged into partisan politics; that the taxpayers' leagues and business interests in Omaha are eager to promote controversy so that there will not be any building program.

"I am well aware of the provisions of the constitution," said State Superintendent Taylor, "we are going along with the planning board to see just where the efforts of the members may lead. We are reserving our opinions." Mr. Taylor admitted that there had been discussion of a lowered birth rate and its ultimate effect on education in the state.

Meanwhile the water survey, entrusted to the state planning board, has been seriously delayed. The last WPA bill carries potential appropriations aggregating \$60,000,000 for irrigating ditches and systems. Administrator Dwight Felton has arranged for about two million dollars of irrigation work. There has been no assistance from the state planning board.

The Ak-Sar-Ben district could not secure any help, either from the state planning board or the state farm. At the earnest insistence of J. M. Sorensen, Fremont banker, aid from the state farm was promised for the detail survey of the big irrigation project planned north of the Platte river.

Pleas to E. E. Plack of Wahoo for co-operation in reviving the scheme for irrigation on the south side of the Platte river from Morse Bluffs to Valley have been unavailing. Kountze Bros. spent thousands of dollars in surveys for this project more than forty years ago. It is reported that the plans have been lost.

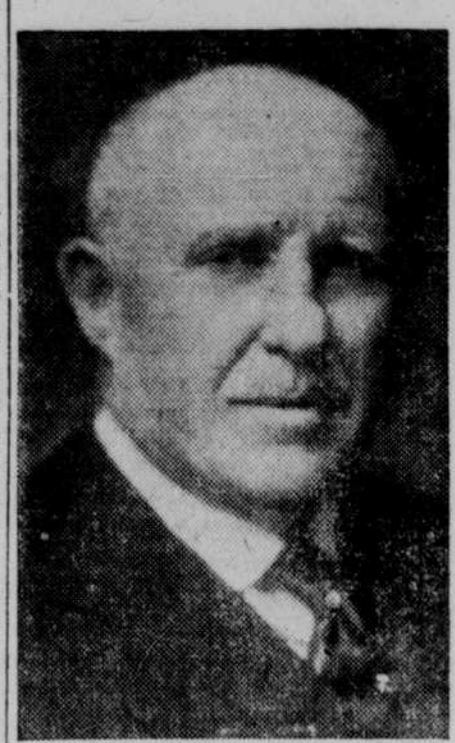
Overhead or "rainmaker" irrigation has been introduced at the state farm. Development of all the public power districts and the experimentation with pump irrigation, in the initial stages, was done at the expense of private individuals.

Confusion within the board of educational lands and funds may seriously interfere with expediting the assignment of school land leases for next year. It seems likely that there may be serious loss to the permanent school fund. Gurney B.

## Gottlieb Storz, Omaha Brewer, Dies at 87

Known for His Many Charities

Gottlieb Storz, president of Storz Brewing Co., died at his home in Omaha Tuesday morning at the age of 87. Mr. Storz' death came suddenly. He had been in excellent health and had been spending each day at his office, where he was active in the management of every branch of the business.



Mr. Storz was known throughout the mid-west, not only through his business activities, but also as a booster of all mid-west agriculture and industry. He was one of the business pioneers himself, having come to Omaha in 1876 to start his own brewery.

Mr. Storz was born in Bennington-am-Neckar, Germany, January 21, 1852. He was the third youngest of a family of 10 children. At the age of 14, after the death of his parents, Mr. Storz entered the brewing trade.

In 1872 he came to America. After two years in New York and two years in St. Louis he came to Omaha. His brewery there has been in continuous operation ever since.

His business was his greatest pleasure and he refused to retire. At 87 he was keen and alert, spending each day at his office. His employees remember him for his many gifts and kindly treatment.

Many mid-west charitable institutions will mourn the passing of Mr. Storz. In his quiet way he had been their financial benefactor for many years. A man of great kindness and great heart, he was said to have never turned any needy person away without help.

The Storz brewing business will be continued by three sons: Adolph, Arthur and Robert Storz, who have been associated in the management of the business for a number of years.

### METHODIST CHURCH

V. C. Wright, Minister.  
Sunday school at 10 a.m. H. B. Burch, Supt.  
Morning worship, 11 a.m. Special music by the choir and sermon by the pastor.  
Intermediate League, 6 p.m.  
Epworth League, 7 p.m.  
No evening service.  
The pastor will attend the Fall Retreat at Meadow Grove for the Norfolk district Thursday and Friday.

The Frontier would make an acceptable Christmas gift.

# Outlaw Grocery

Just West of New Deal Oil Co.

|  |  |               |
|--|--|---------------|
| <b>POTATOES</b>  | <b>APPLES, 5 varieties to pick from, bushel.....</b>                         | <b>65c</b>    |
| Fancy No. 1 Irish Cobblers or Red Triumph  |  |               |
| 100-lb. bag  |  | <b>1.35</b>   |
| 5-bag lots   |  | \$1.30        |
| 15 lbs.  |  | 23c           |
| <b>ORANGES,</b>  | <b>ONIONS,</b>   |               |
| good size, dozen.....  | 10-lb. mesh bags.....  | <b>19c</b>    |
| <b>9c</b>  | <b>SUGAR,</b>  |               |
| <b>FOLGER'S COFFEE</b>   | 100-lb. bags.....  | <b>5.60</b>   |
| 1-lb. cans   | <b>FIG BARS and GINGER SNAPS, lb.</b>  | <b>8 1/2c</b> |
| <b>24 1/2c</b>   | <b>MUSTARD,</b>  |               |
| <b>CORN, TOMATOES, STRING BEANS, HOMINY, RED BEANS, RED KIDNEY BEANS, No. 2 size</b> | Quart Jars   | <b>10c</b>    |
| 2 Cans   | <b>CORN FLAKES,</b>  |               |
| <b>15c</b>   | 3 large packages.....  | <b>19c</b>    |
| <b>PANCAKE FLOUR,</b>  | <b>O KAY WHEAT FLAKES</b>  |               |
| Blackbird, 3-lb. sacks   | 2 packages   | <b>11c</b>    |
| <b>10c</b>   | <b>VANILLA EXTRACT,</b>  |               |
| <b>TABLE SYRUP,</b>  | Large bottles  | <b>7c</b>     |
| 1-gallon cans  | 1 Cake Armour's Fancy Toilet Soap, 1c, with two 5c boxes of Toothpicks, 10c. |               |
| 1/2-gallon cans  | Total  | <b>11c</b>    |
| <b>45c</b>   |  |               |
|  |  |               |

## Armour's and Cudahy's Meats

### Fresh Fish and Oysters

|  |   |            |
|--|---|------------|
| <b>LARD, Armour's Star,</b>                          | <b>WHITING FISH,</b>                            |            |
| 1-lb. cartons  | large size, lb.                                 | <b>9c</b>  |
| 3 cartons  |   | 25c        |
| <b>PORK STEAK, cunt from good hams, lb.</b>          | <b>CATFISH, fancy dressed ready to fry, lb.</b> | <b>15c</b> |
| <b>15c</b>   | <b>OYSTERS, select pint</b>                     | <b>22c</b> |
| <b>BALING WIRE, 7 1/2-ft. 15 1/2 gauge bale ties</b> | <b>BACON SQUARES, lb.</b>                       | <b>9c</b>  |
| <b>1.15</b>  |   |            |

**We Always Sell For Less**

## We're Keeping Our Pledge . . . and Getting Results!

The beer industry in June, 1938, established its first self-regulatory program in Nebraska. It pledged assistance to the authorities with action designed to "clean up or close up" the small minority among beer retailers who flout the law.

Our records show we have investigated 1,200 outlets in most Nebraska counties. We have issued warnings when necessary, and sought revocation of the licenses of a stubborn few who resisted this legitimate industry's co-operation with the authorities and the public.

**Nebraska Brewers & Beer Distributors Committee**  
CHARLES E. SANDALL, State Director  
710 First National Bank Bldg. Lincoln, Nebr.

**GRIEVING over spent money is nowhere near as profitable as rejoicing over money banked**

## The O'NEILL NATIONAL BANK

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$140,000.00  
This Bank Carries No Indebtedness of Officers or Stockholders.

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

A letter from home, The Frontier.