

THE FRONTIER . . . O'Neill, Nebr.

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It's Up to Us

(Guest Editorial from the Omaha Journal-Stockman)

Do the American people want better and more economical government? And, if so, are they willing to put in the time and effort it will take to get it? These are questions to be considered as the nation mulls over the series of reports being made by the Hoover Commission on the results of its studies with a view to re-organization and simplifying our government setup.

A great deal of painstaking research and farsighted thought has gone into these reports. Some of the instances which they describe of waste, overlapping functions and frustration have been aptly termed "shocking." But what will we do about it, we the taxpayers who foot the bills and suffer from the extravagance and inefficiency described?

Will we be spurred to demand that, as one editor puts it, "Politics be forgotten and this costly confusion ended"? Or will we settle quietly back in our chairs and trust someone else to do the job for us?

At best there isn't too much hope. Entrenched holders of offices and jobs are not going to see their bureaus and departments cut down or eliminated, their office staffs reduced and their own importance deflated, without a struggle. Nor are congressmen and senators going to risk the ire of these worthies unless the alternative is facing an even greater wrath from the folks back home—a wrath which might even sweep them out of office.

Members of the Hoover Commission have done their work and apparently have done it well. Their findings are not necessarily the "last word" but they form a basis for action. But will we get anything done? The answer to that last question is strictly up to us.

A Step Forward

Developments in recent weeks have brought about a plan to provide O'Neill's two principal thoroughfares with a modern "white way". The plan is being fostered by Consumers Public Power district and it can be applied in cities and towns that are receptive to the idea—or, in other words, are on the march.

Actually, O'Neill's new criss-crossing "white way" will cost the city but little and then indirectly. Payment for the new fixtures will come from revenue collected by Consumers from the city for street-lighting purposes.

The Frontier is pleased that Consumers Public Power district has devised an arrangement for adequate street lighting on the city's two most-travelled streets. The new lighting plan, which may require a year and one-half to be placed in action, represents a forward step in municipal improvement.

In the case of many municipal, county and even state governments, there seems to have been a void of a decade or more in the matter of improvements. Same can be said for segments of private enterprise. It has been easy to blame the late war and our unusual economy for not keeping pace.

Adequate street lighting on Douglas and Fourth streets has been in urgent need for many years. The present antiquated lighting system, designed for horse and buggy and Model T days, may have been responsible for loss of life and uncounted traffic accidents.

Besides, the new four-directional "white way" will provide a sight to behold.

The Frontier welcomes the step forward.

Your Help Is Needed

The annual American Red Cross membership and fund raising drive has begun in Holt county.

Fresh in the minds of most of us is the work of the Red Cross in our own tragedy of the past Winter. That organization came to the aid of distressed rural Holt county people in a heroic and never-to-be-forgotten way.

It shouldn't be necessary to have to conduct a solicitation at all in Holt county. Grateful citizens undoubtedly will respond in a generous way. One-half of all that is collected in Holt county remains with the Holt county chapter.

During the recent emergency here, over nine thousand dollars were spent by the Holt chapter alone and the national chapter spent some six thousand dollars.

In administering storm relief, as far as The Frontier knows, the American Red Cross opened its coffers for legitimate expense items. It did a remarkable and a most praiseworthy job.

Mrs. Guy Cole, of Emmet, is fund chairman for the 1949 drive. There will not be a rural solicitation this year because of bad road conditions. Let the American Red Cross know of your gratitude by sending your contribution to:

Mrs. Guy Cole, Chairman
Holt County ARC Fund Drive
Emmet, Neb.

Those two Burlington locomotives, which were derailed by the snow in December and were dormant for two months, will now have to go to work again.

A few years ago, we were worrying about dry weather and now we are worrying about too much moisture.

Abundant moisture in the soil should produce bumper crops of all kinds during the coming year.

The army bulldozers did a bully job in bucking the snow-drifts.

As usual, the Red Cross was on the job.

Not Very Impressive, Joe



Prairieland Talk —

Roy P. Eichelberger, Native Son, 'Put Democracy into Action As School Principal'

By ROMAIN SAUNDERS

LINCOLN—Roy P. Eichelberger, son of pioneer Holt county couple, born here on a homestead, died last week in Santa Barbara, Calif. Mr. Eichelberger attained to a prominent place in school work and his passing received more than a column attention by the Santa Barbara News-Press, and I am indebted to my sister-in-law, Miss Meals, for the full story taken from the News-Press. In view of the attainments of this Holt county native, I shall use liberally from the Santa Barbara paper's story:

"Roy P. Eichelberger, genial self-spoken educator who had unostentatiously, but effectively put democracy into action as principal of Santa Barbara junior high school, died early today at his home, 1762 Prospect Ave.

"In a brief but impressive assembly this morning, the students and faculty at his school, who had looked to him for guidance in practical and inspiring guidance in education, paid silent tribute to Mr. Eichelberger when announcement was made of his passing."

He had been connected with the Santa Barbara schools since 1827. He was born in Holt county in 1886. Some years later the family went to Idaho. He had degrees from three universities, one from Columbia in New York. He had connection with various organizations for worthwhile objects and worked in the United Nations organization as representative of the Lions club. Mr. Eichelberger was a member of the First Presbyterian church in the city where he lived. He is survived by his wife and four children.

When "civic pride" wants a building replaced with a new structure an engineer will be available to condemn the old house. The Lancaster county jail has been condemned. More than one gent who enjoyed its hospitality has been condemning it throughout the years.

The heavens declare the glory of God, exclaimed the psalmist. Man will discover that they can also declare His wrath. The serenity of the heavens is now said to be facing invasion by a satellite platform out beyond the earth's gravity, from which to

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be a division meeting at the rink this Thursday evening. Let everybody come out as important matters will be discussed. Come early. We hope the balmy mildness of that May evening, in conjunction with the interesting topics, stimulated the slothful divisionists and compelled them to attend unless they are conducted with closed doors."

Given Away—On Saturday, February 26, 1887, I will give to the person holding the lucky number, one of Dutton's celebrated Daisy washers, usually sold at \$15. Chances will be given from date, one on each and every one dollar's worth of goods purchased for cash at my store in Inman, Neb. Goods cheap as the cheapest.—L. T. Shanner. This inducement to spend a dollar appeared in the Inman Index February 18, 1887.

No sooner has the battle with snow subsided than the annual complaint comes out of the mud flats, intimating that sinister forces at the statehouse combine to hinder road improvement. If we have no Spring mud we have no Summer harvest. Anyway, it hurts nobody to stay at home a few days and get acquainted with the family.

Twice within the week two homes of aged Nebraskans have been entered by thugs and their little—all in cash—taken from them. Able-bodied men who can work have about reached the bottom of low-down conduct when they resort to robbing old men and women.

There is an adequate supply of the would-be and the near-great but none stand out in these ragged times as the real thing. Just as well—the commoners are the salt of the earth, preserving and adding flavor to life's worthwhile things.

Four months to a day since Winter's first blast brought the Arctic Circle to prairieland and we still await the arrival of "the morn in russet mantle clad" that ushers in balmy days and awakens nature to renewed life.

The great things promised by the 81st congress turn out to be mostly horseplay.

An American minister of a Protestant church had boarded a train in Dublin to go to an inland point and found himself in a compartment with a sister of a Catholic order. They fell into conversation and the minister remarked about the ill feeling existing between the North and South Ireland people. With a smile the sister said, "Yes, they hate each other for the love of God."

Southern patriots are as fiercely Baptist as they are Democrat. This group claims to have added more than 300,000 to their membership last year. And with the Baptists this means those who have reached mature years as no child among them is administered baptism.

The drunks at the steering wheel have a friend in the Nebraska legislature. Penalties have been reduced about a half by a large majority vote of our state's statesmen.

The bill to do away with the electric chair in Nebraska was rejected in committee, with word from its author that he will try to revive it on the floor of the legislature.

Regardless of the fate of the

bill before the legislature to do away with convention endorsements, what is there to hinder a political convention from inserting in the resolutions a statement reading something like this: John Doe for governor and Mary Roe for superintendent are the choice of delegates present at this convention. If political parties are to survive there must be conventions and if these gatherings have no bearing on the choice of party candidates they may as well pass out of political history.

The legislature raised the pay of some state officers \$2,500 the year and added \$60 to the sum those on old age assistance may be given in the course of a year.

A river called the Blue winds its way across Eastern Nebraska counties and, as you look into its dark muddy depths, you wonder why so named.

The fair employment practice act looked decidedly one-sided and was killed in committee. It originated with union labor interest in Omaha, who try to ingratiate the employer while demanding a free hand for the unions.

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