

THE FRONTIER

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Price Supports Lower

Farmers and business people alike are wondering what the year of 1950 will have in store for agriculture, what to expect in the way of prices, income and production.

The January issue of the Successful Farming magazine gives some of the answers briefly. Farm crop production will decline in 1950, the magazine said. Government price supports will be lower for most field crops, eggs and possibly for hogs after March 31.

Market prices for most farm products will be near support levels the magazine believes. They also look for lower prices on some things the farmer buys, than was the case in 1949. Farm land prices are also expected to be somewhat lower this year.

Speaking of net farm income the article said, "net farm income is expected to be two and a half times the 1935-1939 figure in spite of an expected 10 per cent decline in cash receipts in 1950 as compared to 1949.

For the first time since the end of World War II, farmers will be required to comply with acreage allotments in order to get price supports for the principal field crops.

Acreage cuts in 1950 will apply to all the basic crops—wheat, corn, cotton, tobacco, rice and peanuts. Allotments are expected on a number of non-basic crops as well.

Average hog weights are expected to be unusually heavy in January, February and March, which is sure to put a discount on heavy hogs, according to the magazine.

If hog prices are at or near support levels later in 1950 or by 1951, many farmers will feed their hogs longer than normal, knowing the support level will rise. This will tend to increase the total production of pork and lard, depress the general price level for hogs later in the Winter and increase discounts for heavy hogs later in the season.

Consumer demand for potatoes continues to decline and consumption may be only a little more than 100 pounds per person in 1950, compared to 130 pounds 10 years ago. The national potato production allotment for 1950 is 335 million bushels, 50 million below the 1949 output and the smallest since 1936.

Great Game Has Begun

The political pot is brewing once more. Although the primary election still is more than six months away, there has been a parade of candidates to the Holt county courthouse filing for nomination for various county jobs. And, already, three have entered the race for the unicameral legislative seat from the Twenty-eighth district.

Most popular of all county offices—for some inexplicable reason — is that of sheriff. Races on both the Republican and Democratic tickets promise to be a wide-open free-for-all, judging from the number of candidates already in the field.

Early filings and early announcements of candidacies is a good indication. It is a sign that the democratic processes are still very much active at our local level; that county government jobs are still sought-after. These things usually bring about good government.

Meanwhile, at the state level, there is more political action and lots of political whisperings. Until Tuesday Gov. Val Peterson had not yet filed for the GOP nomination, but everyone was confident that he would.

Anyway, the great old American game has started and street corner politicking already is in evidence.

Lions Club Meets—

The Lions club met Wednesday, January 18. Five new members joined the club. They are: Virgil Laursen, A. W. Carroll, E. F. Adams, R. D. Landis and Matt Beha. Students of Ira George gave a musical program.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 1, at Slat's cafe.

Mrs. Carrie Borg and daughter, Marvel, were Sunday guests at the home of M. and Mrs. Harley Fox.



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Prairieland Talk —

'Those Whose Only Interest Is Salary Are Not Needed in State Legislature'

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

LINCOLN — The snow and ice of a year ago, the storms and beating elements, are happily absent this January now marching on to a close. The weather is fitful, one moment fanned by a soft wind, the next your blood congealed by an icy blast out of the Arctic Circle.



Romaine Saunders

An hour of sunbeams and then the shadows of gathering storm clouds only to float on into other celestial regions.

A year ago the Lincoln street department was at its witsend to move the snow, so far this 50th Winter of the century hardly enough for the kids to make a snow ball. Today the earth lies bare and brown under a driving wind coming off an iceberg.

The open Winter, lack of rain and snow, has demonstrated once again the folly and greed of men. The buffalo grass lands that produced as choice beef as ever went on the butcher block were plowed up and put into wheat. This has put millions of tons of wheat in storage that nobody knows what to do with and has brought about a shortage of cattle production. And now again this windy dry Winter out of denuded wheat fields clouds of dust are blown across the Nebraska panhandle.

The cowboy packing a pair of sixes and a yellow slicker across his horse back of the saddle hated the sight of a grain field that had taken over his

buffalo grass range. Nature and time proves his hatred was well founded.

Opinions differ as to the state of the wheat in Nebraska fields. The absence of snow and other conditions are responsible for the outbursts of the swivel chair farmers portraying unfavorable outlook for a crop the coming season. A 250-pound wheat farmer that has his roots in the soil down in a corner of Fillmore county informs this grass-bred compiler of various things that the Nebraska wheat fields are strictly o. k. He gives his reasons for so stating born out of a life time in the business out there on the land, not from any gatherings in schools of agricultural highbrows.

Uncle Sam has the largest payroll of any agency or group of agencies employing citizens, 22 billion dollars rolling from the federal bank account the past year to pay those upholding the dignity of the flag on land and sea, including patriots and the reds in civilian work— if their jobs can be dignified with so ancient and honorable term as work. One out of six citizens are on the federal payroll. Out of the earnings of six comes the cash to pay one in government service.

I learn Gov. Val Peterson contemplates buying a new suit of clothes. He was one of the first to get in on the hand-outs on the national service life insurance. Who will deny the governor a new suit for nearly four years' jeopardy in Uncle Sam's air force?

Malik and his red delegates walk out of the UN assembly and the White House declines to act in the coal mine shut down.

Some members of the legislature will not be candidates this year because of salary considerations. In other words their shining ability as statesmen is worth more money.

I think of the men in Holt county who served in the legislature because something needed to be done.

John Carten helped in the legislature of the long ago to get a 2-cent per mile passenger rate on railroads in Nebraska. Dr. J. P. Gilligan went to the legislature from O'Neill because he felt something should be done to preserve vital statistics and was instrumental in securing the law that provides a record of births and deaths. Frank Phillips left his band of sheep cut by Star to go to Lincoln and secured the passage of an act that did away with county division fights. Dennis Cronin left his business and took a seat in the legislature and put through a state aid measure for county bridges. Lloyd Gillespie closed his office and went to the legislature one session, where he secured a highway for Amelia. Frank Nelson left his ranch interests to become a member of the last legislature, where he was on his feet at times when I visited the chamber to oppose measures of extravagance.

Those whose only interest is the salary are not needed in the legislature.

The Chambers Bugle blew a blast in its issue of September 19, 1889, and told of Bill Eisele and Walt Wyant bagging a 5-year-old deer. The venison went on sale at a local store, no novelty treat those days nor game wardens to horn in.

In shaping the policies for the next congressional election Republicans should avoid the political hoey such as comes out of the White House to catch votes. The historical principles of even-handed justice and an open field for all in the game of root, hog or die, coupled with decided stand to curtail the wild spree of government spending will find favor with sensible voters everywhere.

The greatest business in the world is trouble. I picked up a publication in a barber shop and that was the first sentence that arrested my attention. After some reflection I had to admit the truth. Is there one from sounding sea to sounding sea, from pole to pole who escapes trouble?

That "man is born unto trouble as the sparks fly upward" has not yet been disproved. From the frightened cry of the new born babe to the troubled groan of the dying patriarch trouble dogs the steps of the race.

There are grease marked machinists for the troubled motorist to resort to, there are physicians to take care of the world's bellyache and dentists to soothe our troubled jaws, lawyers would have to fold up the statute books if nobody got into trouble, pastors would have dull lives if none of the flock needed ministry, Lake Success could fold up and a troubled world (Continued on page 7.)



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