

THE FRONTIER

D. H. Cronin, Editor and Proprietor

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

By Frank P. Litschert

A great deal of discussion is now being had in the newspapers and among politicians, as to what subjects will form the issues in the 1934 and 1936 campaigns. All of the speculation is of course, more or less idle, as conditions are bound to change considerably within the next few years and this will vitally affect the political issues. There is one issue, however, which will be upon the country before the next election, in fact within the next few weeks, unless the signs go astray, and that is the issue of inflation. Unless all signs fail the problem will become acute when Congress meets the first of the year, providing of course, it is not settled in the meantime. One prominent news service is authority for the statement that inquiries reveal the fact that more than a majority of the members of Congress now look with some favor on the inflation idea, and that comparatively a small percentage of the members are willing to go on record as opposed. Quite a few of the statesmen, of course, are not yet ready to make any public statement of their position.

Already organizations are being formed in various parts of the country to oppose inflation. How successful they will be remains to be seen. One of the most convincing arguments to date against inflation was made recently by Dr. W. S. Landis, a prominent American business man, who recently returned from Europe and has studied the effects of inflation in the various European countries which have experienced it in the past. According to the New York newspapers, Dr. Landis in a recent address to employees of his company, expressed the opinion that there are some erroneous impressions abroad in America concerning inflation, and he added that monetary inflation, judging from the experiences of countries across the Atlantic, does not in the long run reduce debt, aid industry and boost the value of common stocks. These countries found, he said, that while the debts of governmental units and various enterprises were cut or cancelled by inflation, they had been forced to borrow additional sums to carry on because of the increased costs incident to inflation, and the interest cost of the new debts was greater than that of the old.

Dr. Landis said that he believed that in America the new debts made necessary by inflation would exceed those which might be wiped out by reduction or cancellation. A study of the course of 300 stocks in France during the period of inflation, the speaker declared, showed that at the end of the inflation period they had only reached one-half of their previous gold value, and this, on the average, only during the 1929 stock boom.

"Investment in common stocks is extremely hazardous in an inflation period," Dr. Landis is quoted as saying, "because of the tremendous mortality in business. This, in turn, is due to the shrinkage in the value of working capital, the added cost of operation, and the tendency to over-investing of securities."

Speaking of the effect of inflation on wages, Dr. Landis declared that in France, while the wages of working men seemed to be going up they were actually being cut in half, while in Germany the plight of the workers during the era of inflation was desperate. In addition, inflation in France and Germany cut the value of insurance companies bank deposits, trust funds, mortgages and bonds. Dr. Landis also pointed to the fact that inflation in the United States would greatly reduce the value of the securities which the various state governments require savings banks to invest in.

It is easy to see that inflation is not a quick and easy way of reducing or paying debts. Indeed it is apt to have the opposite effect on the total indebtedness, and to wipe out the savings of the thrifty, while at the same time bringing intolerable hardships to those who work for a salary or a daily wage.

Certainly, in handling inflation, now is the time to "stop, look and listen."

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Strangely enough, there's no economic subject the average citizen knows less about than money. He uses it daily, but the tokens with which he barter, aren't really money at all. Their only value lies in the credit of the government issuing them. Real money is seldom seen—it is gold and is jealously hoarded by treasuries.

As a result, the average citizen was pretty well puzzled when the U. S. Government announced that it had started a world gold buying campaign in an effort to raise commodity prices. He couldn't see the connection. As a matter of fact, the connection is simple enough if simply explained—it's very much like an auction. The more people you get to bid for an object, the more valuable it becomes. That's true of gold. When the United States went into the market there was another important bidder for the yellow metal, and its price rose accordingly. At the same time, the value of the dollar, which has a definite gold backing, declined, and commodity prices went up. Briefly described, the dollar has been cheapened, and it is worth less wheat, clothing or gasoline than it was a while ago.

At the moment, the world's free gold supply, is melted down, would amount to a ten-foot cube, worth about \$400,000,000. Since 1492, when Columbus discovered the new world, all the gold mined would amount to only a 40-foot cube and over half of that has vanished, either thru being sunk in ships, made into jewelry, or hoarded.

Most important foe of the U. S. gold policy is the British Empire. London is the world's largest gold market, and any buying campaign will naturally center there. Dollars are exchanged for pounds, in order to buy in the English market, thus increasing the international supply of American currency and increasing the demand for English currency. A more expensive pound must follow discouraging Britain's foreign trade. Matters are at a deadlock. It's going to be a monetary battle of the giants, with the two greatest financial powers of the world opposed.

Criticism of Administration policies, which was practically non-existent a few months ago, has been gradually appearing, becoming more widespread. There is a definite feeling of nervousness, mostly on the part of large-scale business men. Their theme song is "Individualism, Where Art Thou?" and the villain in the piece is the fact that the government is steadily assuming control over all phases of business, showing no signs that it will relax this policy.

These business men cheered the recovery plan recently presented by Gerard Swope, General Electric's able, far-sighted president. Briefly stated, the Swope Plan proposes the setting up of an organization very similar to the NRA with this essential difference—control would be in the hands of boards of business men instead of government officials. Not pleased by it at all were labor leaders who doubted that the boards of big corporation executives would protect workers.

President Roosevelt said of the Swope proposal that the present time is not propitious for a change in plan—that "the next few months are expected to bring forth hundreds of other plans." Then he issued a summary of the reports showing late achievements of the NRA, including: New employment for 2,000,000 people; increase in industrial outlets; a 20 per cent rise in hourly wages and 40 per cent drop in working hours. To his defense came distinguished Professor Edwin Seligman, saying that

the depression is actually ending; that for the first time in history recovery from the bottom is being speeded consciously and effectively; that there is no basis for fear of uncontrolled inflation; that we are in the midst of a social revolution within the framework of capitalism, which promises lasting benefits.

Another very important bone of contention is the securities act. Some of the Administration's best friends, as well as business executives, believe it needs overhauling, is not only preventing issuance of worthless securities, but securities, entirely legitimate and most essential to industry.

Prohibition repeal means the end of a number of the so-called "nuisance" taxes. These are: The 5 per cent tax paid by stockholders on dividends received; the one-tenth of one per cent tax paid by corporations on declared value of capital stock; the 5 per cent tax paid by corporations on income in excess of 12 and one-half per cent of declared value of capital stock. The one and one-half cent federal gas tax will be reduced to one cent. It's likely that other taxes, such as that on bank checks, will go.

Both the Federal Government and the states are looking forward to liquidation of tremendous sums of new revenue, are planning what to do with it. Principal danger is that there will be too many fingers in the flowing bowl, forcing the price of legal stuff to where the bootleggers will stay in business and undersell.

John L. Quig's office now is upstairs over the Meta Martin variety store; The O'Neill farm loan association office is on the second floor of the old Nebraska State bank building; Max Johnson, federal relief administrator for this vicinity, is officing in the supervisor's office upstairs in the courthouse.

The office of The Frontier, in case you wish to pay something on subscription, is right where it was before the big wind.

CHURCH NOTES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00—R. M. Sauer, superintendent.

Morning Worship 11:00—"Thanksgiving."

Young People's C. E. meeting 6:45—To be led by the pastor.

Evening Service 7:30—Miss Beryl Decker will give an impersonation of Judas Iscariot.

H. D. Johnson, Pastor.

M. E. CHURCH NOTES
Sunday School at 10:00 a. m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a. m.
Epworth League at 6:30 p. m.
A very cordial welcome awaits you at all these services.

There will be no evening service next Sunday. We are giving our folk an opportunity to hear Miss Decker's "Judas Iscariot" at the Presbyterian church.

F. J. Aucock, Pastor.

O'NEILL WAS GREAT MAIL ORDER TOWN

A few years ago O'Neill was on the Chicago mail order houses as the most fertile field for the "send-off" racket there was on earth. Before Boyd county boasted a railroad, a volume of catalog house business passed thru here that was large enough to choke Yukon pass.

Today a man bought a pair of low shoes here for \$2.49. He said he wore out a similar pair and it required a

year to do it. Racket, clothing, grocery and hardware stores here have made it folly to "send off" for anything. There are reliable and cheap stores of other lines here, too.

If you want anything from real estate to rivets, thread to threshing machines, buy it in O'Neill so the merchants may sell still lower when they can afford to do so.

From Burwell to the Niobrara river, and from Atkinson to Neligh is a huge territory naturally within the scope of merchants here, and printer's ink properly applied never failed to bring a profitable response.

Nebraska News Items

Members of the Stover Mink family, farmers, 10 miles southeast of Meadow Grove, and John Ashburn, who was temporarily there while surveying roads, must have felt like ending the earthly existence of a small dog in the home, which barked until those sleeping awoke and found a garage and two automobiles in flames. When the cause of the barking was known the dog was in no danger of a switch.

A few days ago as Tony Sorenson and Irwin and Wayne Mignery traveled toward Bartlett, in Wheeler county, for an instant they could not believe their eyes. It was moonlight, yet there was the head of some animal protruding from a blow-out, a strange head, so the automobile was halted and the animal flushed. It sailed along a highway line fence, the boys chasing in their car, and then it jumped a three-wire fence with ease, finally running across the road about 30 feet ahead of the machine.

The boys were electrified to behold a deer of large size and possessed of a very large set of antlers. Reports came from several sources to Bartlett a deer had been seen near that town and near Gritta Ridge vicinity.

Four miles north of Butte, Boyd county, skeletal remains of Indians possibly 1,000 years old, were unearthed and the jaws showed the people here at that time were capable of making bridge work for human teeth. The work was of stone and had been worked so they slipped over the fragments of roots so one could eat while wearing them, then remove them until another mealtime rolled around.

Part of a skull, arrowheads, scrapers and knives also were found there in what is believed to be graves. It is thought the dwellers there dug pits, plastered them, fired the plaster and used the holes for storage places and in some instances placed their dead there. The area is believed to have supported a large population away back when this country was really "new."

At Fullerton, the 11 year old daughter of John Gamet became seriously ill and the child was found to be suffering an attack of amoebic dysentery, the tropical sickness mysteriously appearing at Chicago recently where it killed 15 persons and made 100 ill. Hundreds of other cases were reported over the United States. The Gamet girl is in the Lutheran hospital at Sioux City and her physician reported her to be in a serious condition but likely would survive.

Unaita, the sick girl, had attended a county fair near Fullerton and there are fruit or other food which may have contained the deadly dysentery germs. Contaminated fruits and vegetables may cause the illness to spread, physicians believe.

SCARLET FEVER

To clear up much misinformation it seems necessary to publish some of the rules and regulations regarding the quarantine and control of the disease, Scarlet Fever.

1. The quarantine for any person who has been in contact with someone sick with scarlet fever is seven days.

2. The quarantine for people with the disease itself, is for a period of 21 days from the time the rash first appears and as much longer thereafter as is necessary to clear up all signs of the disease.

By quarantine of scarlet fever we mean that no one, other than a doctor or nurse, may go in and out of the house during the period of quarantine.

There has been much inquiry as to some serum or vaccine to prevent the disease. According to the latest reports from the Nebraska State Board of Health, there is no vaccine or no serum devised that will prevent the disease. Some work has been done on a serum to treat the disease, but inasmuch as some cases are short-lived, and some extend over a long period of time, it is difficult to say whether any results are obtained. The mere fact that a person has been "vaccinated" against the disease does not prevent his being quarantined shall he become exposed.

It is the duty of every person having the disease in their home to see to it that their neighbors are protected. If the above rules are followed, then the protection will be ample.

There are very few cases of the disease in this locality, but when there are a few, efforts of all kinds must be made to prevent the spread of this disease, which is one of the most deadly known to man.

W. F. FINLEY, M. D.,
City Physician.

WILLIAM THOMAS McELVAIN

William Thomas McElvain was born Sept. 6, 1852 to James and Nancy McElvain at Auburn, Ill., and passed away Monday, Nov. 6, 1933 at the ripe old age of 81 years and two months, at his home four miles south of O'Neill.

He was one of nine children, all of whom grew to maturity, except one brother, Charles, who died at the age of three years. Three other brothers passed away a few years ago. Three brothers are living: E. D., of Parker, S. D.; Howard, of Portland, Ore., and Robert, of Oakland, Calif. He also leaves one sister, Nellie Jensen, of Lincoln, Nebraska.

In 1871 he moved with his family to Bethany, Mo. After living with his parents there, he moved to Nebraska in 1879 and located near Brainard, where after a few years farming he was married to Miss Abbie Groves. They sold their farm and moved

to Brainard, where he built a lumber yard and elevator, residing there until 1898 when they moved to Adams, Nebr., continuing there, in the grain and lumber business.

In 1910 he moved with his family to Holt county, living near Ewing and at his present home.

To this couple six children were born: Olive, of Potter; Mabel, of Chambers; Calvin, of Fremont; Glen, who died in infancy, and Zada and Ralph, of O'Neill, who with his wife are left to mourn his departure. He also leaves eight granddaughters and two grandsons who bear his name, William McElvain.

During his life he had held long terms of office, as Justice of the Peace, county commissioner and assessor and at the time of his death, was the assessor of Grattan township.

He was a highly respected citizen, a good friend and neighbor, and a kind and loving husband and father. He will be missed by all who knew him.

He had been in failing health for the past two years, following a severe illness of influenza. Although being in pain, he had a cheerful disposition, and remarkable patience. He was conscious until the last and after talking with members of his family, passed away quietly and peacefully.

Funeral services were conducted at the Chambers Methodist church, Rev. Paul Sawtell conducting the services, and burial in the Chambers cemetery.

Pall bearers were: John Sullivan, Fred Vitt, John Shoemaker, Frank Petr, Frank Pribil, of O'Neill, and Ed. Porter, of Chambers. The I. O. O. F. had charge of committal services at the grave where he was laid to rest beside his brother Dick.

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Take our home here. Not so long ago I got John a Job - you know employers use us when they need help. - And little Mary was saved a lot of suffering that night she was sick 'cause I got the doctor in a hurry! We helped to save time, money, trips and inconvenience for all the family. - and good times? - We've arranged lots of them.

Right now - do you hear that ring? - that's Henry calling home by long distance. He can't be with us for Thanksgiving so he's telephoning to Mother and all the rest. - That's a good idea for you too - Visit by Long Distance with those missing from the family group. Rates are low!

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