

THE FRONTIER

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Economic Highlights

The great drive for November votes is beginning—and both major parties are throwing themselves into the job of getting them with more force than they have shown for many years.

The Republicans, who have been dominant for the last year and a half, are emerging. Definite, reasoned opposition to the Roosevelt program is springing up. In a recent magazine article Senator Dickinson, who proposed Herbert Hoover at the convention which nominated him, made these definite criticisms of the present administration: That the Democratic party has been leading us toward a dictatorship; that its rate of expenditure of public funds, if continued, will result in national bankruptcy; that it is destroying individualism and private initiative; that a return to Republican principles is essential to the preservation of the constitutional government and our ancient traditions. Mr. Dickinson's points are generally in complete accord with those of Chairman Fletcher of the Republican Central Committee.

The Democratic party is not taking criticism "lying down." For example: Recently only two cabinet officers—Hull of the State Department and Perkins of the Labor Department—were in Washington. The rest of them were about the country, making speeches and looking things over. Important officials, such as the sub-cabinet members, were likewise in far places, and it would have been hard to find a state not visited by some Administration official. Gist of the talks made by these men is that the New Deal, for the most part, has been successful; that we are in the middle of the stream now and that changing horses would spell ruin; that if Mr. Roosevelt is permitted to carry on his policies, with full Congressional support, for two years more, he will succeed in bringing prosperity back.

The ordinary voter is obviously in a difficult position when it comes to making up his mind. He has no means of knowing how much recovery has actually been achieved—almost all the reports he receives are prejudiced in favor of one party or another. He is aware that neither party is above doctoring the facts to prove a point; that when election time rolls 'round, political considerations are paramount.

Most forecasts lead to the belief that the Administration has lost considerable ground, but that it will still maintain control of both houses of the Congress. Main reason for that is Mr. Roosevelt's personal popularity—it is thought that millions of people who are fundamentally opposed to his policies will vote for him and for Democratic candidates because of his personal magnetism. It is a fact that sheer personality is one of the greatest assets any public man can have—and the November elections will show how potent Mr. Roosevelt's is.

A major issue of the time is state of government finances. The tax problem, which has always been with us, has grown amazingly during the last few years. Depression, which increased the need for relief expenditures of one kind and another, intensified it.

Latest forecasts point to a steady rise in government spending during the current fiscal year. When the last fiscal year came to an end on July 31, the deficit amounted to \$4,000,000,000. It is said that government fiscal officers anticipate that expenses for the current year will amount to about \$10,000,000,000. On the basis of estimated income, that means that we will have a federal deficit of around \$6,000,000,000 when this fiscal year comes to a close.

One of the things that has thrown Administration figuring out of line is the drought. A total of \$525,000,000 is now available for relief, but many believe that it is not sufficient. It is felt that the government will have to appropriate still more money to help drought sufferers, and some are of the opinion that at least \$800,000,000 will be necessary.

The German situation has passed out of the headlines for the moment—but

it will be wise to keep watch on it. Austria is struggling with civil war—Italy has troops ready to go into battle on short notice—and the problem that Central Europe presents grows constantly more important to the peace of the world.

All European eyes are turned on Hitler, the iron-handed dictator. He recently made a speech in which he advocated international peace and understanding—but other governments still want to be shown. They know that Germany is embittered, that the Treaty of Versailles still rankles, and they are preparing for any eventuality.

Nebraska's Political Sower

By James R. Lowell

Warden W. T. Fenton who came to the Nebraska penitentiary 21 years ago and was the country's oldest warden in point of service, has resigned because of his health. He is succeeded by Deputy Dan Kavanaugh. Broken by ill health, Fenton will go to live with one of his children.

The 81 weekly newspaper editors participating in the straw vote conducted by the Lowell Service at Lincoln, are entitled to a front seat in the school of political prognosticators. In their predictions as to which candidates would be nominated in the primary election for major offices, the editors were mistaken in only one instance.

Defeat of the veteran Congressman Shallenberger, of Alma, by C. G. Binderup, former state legislator from Minden for the democratic nomination in the 4th district was the only upset of the straw poll, altho the editors did not foresee Congressman Burke's decisive victory over Governor Bryan in the democratic contest for United States senator. They predicted a fairly even race altho Burke was given a large personal choice majority over Bryan.

Non-political: State Superintendent—Charles W. Taylor (incumbent), Lincoln, and John A. Jimerson, Auburn. Supreme Court Justice—2nd district, L. B. Day (incumbent), Omaha; 4th district, James A. Brunt, Fairbury and E. E. Good (incumbent), Wahoo; 6th district, Edward F. Carter, Gering, and James L. Twell, Sidney.

The total vote cast was approximately 375,000, while the highest number ever registered in any previous contest (primary) was 295,000 in 1930. About 200,000 of the primary votes cast this year were democratic, this being the largest democratic vote ever registered in a Nebraska primary election.

Lieutenant Governor Jurgensen, running for nomination for the office he now holds, polled the most votes of any candidate having opposition. He got nearly 130,000 votes, or more than three times as many as his successful republican opponent and nearly four times as many as his democratic contestant.

The walloping given Governor Bryan by Congressman Burke for the democratic senatorial nomination was the chief upset of the election. Burke polled nearly 117,000 votes compared to slightly more than 50,000 for Bryan.

Judge J. C. Quigley, of Valentine, who directed Burke's campaign hailed the latter's decisive victory as the "reputation of Bryan by the rural district" and the "end of factionalism in the democratic party in Nebraska."

A number of friends of Bryan, however, said that Bryan forces might bolt Burke's standard and support an independent candidate. Senator W. H. Thompson, of Grand Island, who was appointed by the governor to fill out the late Senator Howell's term, was mentioned as a probably independent candidate, but he sent word to the contrary. Congressman Terry Carpenter, of Scottsbluff, who ran second to State Engineer Cochran in the democratic gubernatorial contest, is said to be willing to serve as independent in the race for congress.

Another prospective bolt, more probable than that of the Bryan sympathizers from the Burke standard, is that of the progressive republicans of the Norris school who will swing to Burke rather than support the republican nominee, Bob Simmons, who has been entirely opposed to Roosevelt policies.

The selection of R. L. Cochran as the democratic standard bearer, and Dwight Griswold, republican, brings two close personal friends together for the contest for governor. Both are graduates of the state university, they are fraternity brothers, and have been good friends for years. Both are of Scotch ancestry and some of their friends are suggesting that they save campaign expenses by stumping the state in the same car.

Youth will be served in the forthcoming general election, but not Nebraska's womanhood. Simmons, Burke, Griswold and Cochran, the men in the key positions of the election all are World War veterans. Women candidates fared badly at the hands of the voters. The four women trying for the U. S. house of representatives, the one trying for the governorship and the two after the office of state superintendent, all were defeated.

Two new federal plans for speeding up business recovery—the federal housing program and the farm credit act—have been introduced to Nebraska in the past few weeks, and while the housing program is receiving considerable publicity, many farmers are unaware of the benefits to be derived from the FCA, according to reports coming in at the state house.

John Aldrich, Lincoln business man who has been one of the leaders in helping to assemble the machinery of the new deal in Nebraska, outlines briefly for readers of this paper just what the FCA is and what it will do.

There are four branches of the farm credit administration in this territory. First is the federal land bank which carries \$200,000,000 for immediate loans to save farms from foreclosure. The top loan is \$5,000 and a second mortgage is taken.

Second is the intermediate credit corporation which carries the paper of the other three institutions, including cattle loans, loans on co-operatives, feed, seed, etc. Such paper is rediscounted by ICC.

Under the influence of the new deal, the scope of the federal land bank has been broadened so that farms under foreclosure may still be redeemed. Conciliation commissions have been set up, and State Tax Commissioner Smith is chairman for the state. There has been some complaint of politics interfering with the functioning of this commission, but Mr. Aldrich believes it will be perfected soon.

Back of this foreclosure relief is the Frasier-Limpke bill. Under this act, when the creditor demands his "full pound of flesh" on a mortgage that was made when land prices were higher, the debtor can ask for an appraisal of the land based on prevailing prices and then take six years to pay off the mortgage at a low rate of interest.

Third is the production credit corporation which is formed after the pattern of the federal land bank. A group of men is called together in a given locality, a board of directors is elected and a secretary put in charge of the office.

The first step is to take over all of the regional loans of the agricultural credit corporation (liquidating the regional ACC). Growers and producers are invited to come into the local PCC group and are given easy loans according to the authority of the act. Appropriate amounts of money per head per month are loaned to buy forage and grain, also seed for next year's crops.

Under this act, there is no necessity for any farmer to become discouraged and quit this fall. No security is required on a PCC loan.

The fourth branch of the FCA is the bank for co-operatives, but no explanation of this is needed as it pertains to only a small proportion of the people of Nebraska, and those to whom it does pertain are acquainted with it. Loans for such enterprises as co-operative creamers come under this branch.

GIST OF THE CAPITOL NEWS: State Tax Commissioner Smith announces that assessment rolls show more corn in Nebraska April 1 this year but much less wheat than in the two preceding years. Corn listed for taxation totaled 77,751,449 bushels, valued at \$20,720,551, compared with 68,100,393 bushels valued at \$9,002,760 the year before. Only 7,152,854 bushels of wheat were listed this year, valued at \$4,445,854, while a year ago there were 8,989,275 bushels valued at \$2,600,842.

Hogs in Nebraska April 1 numbered 2,346,013 and were valued for assessment at \$8,108,344. A year ago

there were 1,908,728 swine valued at \$7,253,257.

Mules this year numbered 67,863 and were valued at \$3,554,048, as against 75,737 and \$3,302,696 a year ago. Sheep and goats numbered 306,488 with a value of \$1,043,786, compared with 295,148 and \$627,550 the preceding year. Scottsbluff county had the most sheep and goats while Dawson county was second.

Poultry was valued at \$2,345,027 this year and \$2,627,888 in 1933. Bees were valued at \$60,770 compared with \$53,309 last year. Bees have died in large numbers this summer, however, because of the drouth. Dogs were valued at \$1,262,675 this year and \$1,172,590 a year ago.

Federal Cattle Buying Director Gramlich has suggested to federal authorities that loans of \$1 a ton be made on ensilage which has a prospective value this winter of \$5 a ton. Such a program would induce farmers to preserve all available forage, Gramlich believes. Federal authorities also are considering establishing a price for corn forage.

Headquarters for the 1,000 by 100-mile three-belt will be located in Lincoln, with Fred W. Morrell, native Nebraskan, in charge. State divisional offices will be established in the capitols of Nebraska, the Dakotas, Kansas and Texas.

Recent developments in the employment-relief front in Nebraska include the leasing of the abandoned Morton-Gregson packing plant at Nebraska City by the federal government for \$1 a year. Sheep killing operations will be carried on there to provide mutton for families on relief. An 87-acre tract near Fairbury has been purchased for subsistence homesteading such as was recently inaugurated near Kearney.

Prospects are bright for actual excavation to start on the Sutherland reservoir with opening of bids on the project at North Platte last week. The low bid received was \$711,329 which was \$300,000 below the official estimate. The successful bidder is required to start work on the reservoir within 10 days after approval of the contract. Time allowed for completion is 15 months. Work is underway and the South Omaha bridge and \$506,000 of the \$1,650,00 total has already been turned over to the bridge commission by the PWA.

Excavation Shows Holt County Was Once The Home of Many Indians

By J. B. O'Sullivan

(Continued from last week.)

Gazing back on Indian history without any too much to work on, it looks like the Indians were patient, long suffering, standing almost anything like men and women who are used to hardships are supposed to do, but when they figured that too much of anything was too much, it was time for enemies to seek shelter.

The case of the Poncas of near where Niobrara City now stands, indicates how the Indians suffered at the

AN APPRECIATION

I wish to express to the people of Holt county my appreciation for the fine support you gave me in the recent Primary election. I shall make every effort to merit your confidence in me, and trust that I may again have your support in the General Election in November.

LUELLA A. PARKER, County Superintendent.

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hands of whites, who as a figure of speech came to them with a bible in one hand and a rifle in the other, and told the Indian how he should live. He also, by the way, told as best he could, how the Indian should die.

The first known of the Ponca, or Ponka, tribe was when the whites found them at a point where Boyd and Knox counties touch, and then they had a piece of country that was ideal for their purposes. The woods were heavy, mostly hardwoods, there are steams of clear, sparkling and cold water, buffalo grass on the high ground suitable for ponies and everything just like a visualized day-dream.

Not more than 1,000 Poncas composed the nation and the people were extra good looking, they were gracious and exhibited friendship to the whites, in fact we never had to make actual war on the Ponca. Their language was a sort of blend between the Omaha and Sioux languages and they often married into the Omaha nation. They never did get along with the Sioux and were continually fighting over ponies or gardens or boundaries.

They were very religious, had interesting traditions and knew of no other place they had called home. They did have a faint tradition of their ancestors having landed there after a long pull up the Missouri river.

The white boys saw the fine layout and started to edge in on their land and they gradually became bolder and

actually occupied Ponca land. This government made what has been called a treaty, and this stipulated the Ponca get off all their land but that lying between the Ponca creek and the Niobrara river. The whites then had the good land and the Poncas what was left. To make matters worse, the Sioux, ever watching for a chance to sink knives in enemies, harassed the Ponca at every turn.

But the Ponca were not afraid. Did not the treaty stipulate they were to be guarded by the minions of the great government of the whites? It was so. And the government also agreed to pay the Poncas some money annually, erect school buildings for them and even homes. The Poncas, or Puncas, as they originally were called, apparently were the favored children of the earth.

(Continued on page 4, column 5.)

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