

**THE FRONTIER**

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**AROUND NORTHEAST NEBRASKA**

**With Your Congressman**  
Atkinson had an unusually large crowd at their Free Day last week. Business men were kept busy all day long making bun sandwiches which were given away to all visitors. Atkinson is one of the lively cities in the district and business men there are hopeful that some day new improvements will be made in that enterprising community.

People from every part of Boone county co-operated in making their fair successful and it bids again to be one of the leading county fairs of the state, a record which it had for years. On Thursday afternoon it was estimated that 10,000 people attended the fair and that same evening at least 15,000 people were on the grounds. Osborne Patterson, a pioneer of Boone county who attended the first fair fifty-two years ago and at that time won a seven dollar premium and turned it back for the second annual fair, was present last week. Among the other pioneers were Frank Mansfield, Bert Mansfield, Maricle Bros., and Ed Woodworth, who has been in charge of the baby show every year. He was in charge of one hundred babies this year which was the real attraction of the fair.

Letters are coming in now from farm loan associations indicating that many of the borrowers will be unable to pay the principal and the interest on their loans in the next twelve months, due to the drought. Many foreclosures are pending and delinquencies are increasing rapidly. In the closing session of the last Congress, an amendment was passed to extend the 3 1/2 percent emergency interest rate to June 30, 1937 and providing that after that date the rate would revert to the original contract rate which in most cases will amount to 5%, 5 1/2% and even 5 3/4%. The farm group in Congress is determined that the lower interest rate must be extended as long as these emergencies exist, and this perhaps will be one of the first pieces of legislation to be taken up in the first session of the 75th Congress.

The Athletic Club, which in reality is the Community Club of Osmond, Nebr., gave their annual Colt Show on Sept. 22. One of the largest crowds that ever attended the Osmond celebration was present at this year's event. People in Osmond missed the late Colonel Welch, who for forty years was the Marshal of the Day for the parade. Nearly 600 school children were represented in the parade. The Colt Show attracted unusual attention.

Mrs. Moore, who is eighty-six years old and blind, met many of her old friends in the crowd which packed the beautiful Osmond park. Some pieces of winter wheat are coming up in fine shape in Dodge county, and also in Merrick and Nance counties. On Wednesday, Sept. 23, a terrific wind was blowing on the way from Fremont to Scribner and it was accompanied by considerable dust. Only the rain of recent days kept the dust from blowing. More rain is needed for the winter grain.

Some of the farmers are predicting an early frost—others predict a late frost. Those who say we will not have a frost for some time say that is because the cockleburrs are not yet ripe. They believe the frost will not come until these cockleburrs ripen. However, the tumbleweed is beginning to blow over the roads, and fall weather is general over the Third Congressional District. Farmers are beginning to plan for the winter supply of meat.

Everbearing strawberries are said to be sweeter this year than they were last year. Some of these berries grown on the Glatfelter ranch in Merrick county are among the prize winners in the district this year. People who drive between Fullerton and Central City are pointing with pride to a field of corn on the west side of the highway which is said to yield 45 bushels to the acre. This is one of the most unusual fields in the district because generally speaking, there is no corn to speak of in our district.

Up in the Devil's Nest, north of Bloomfield, Alfred Hahn will harvest 1,000 bushels of corn. Farmers agree that whatever corn there is will make unusually fine seed. The consensus of opinion among farmers the district over is that they would be in fairly good shape, notwithstanding the drought, and the loss of the corn crop, would it not be for the high taxes and indebtedness. Of course, the farmer with a hundred head of hogs on hand and no feed would be a heavy loser. But if he did not owe money, and if he did not have to pay a tremendous high interest rate, he could get thru. Interest and taxes are what is hitting the farmer today according to this discussion among many farmers.

Many of the sales pavilions are doing a fairly good business. On Thursday and Friday nights the roads are well filled with trucks loaded with livestock for the following day's sales. The managers of the pavilions state that while many farmers are selling off livestock to balance their feed supply, the recent moisture has resulted in more spirited buying and selling. At some of the sales pavilions hay is being sold for from eighty to eighty-five cents per bale to those holding stock at the pavillion until sale is made.

One farmer who has lost his crop in the drought has undertaken to keep together a flock of 250 laying hens. Unless he received some assistance, he would be forced to sell the flock, which, until another crop can be raised, appeared to be the source of living for himself and family of four. He applied to the resettlement administration for an emergency loan with which to buy feed for the hens. He has been told that the Resettlement Administration deems it inadvisable for him to make any large investment in the flock of hens and that he will be better off to sell the flock down to not over three dozen of the best pullets.

**KARL STEFAN.**

**THE NEBRASKA SCENE**

by James R. Lowell

The month of October brings to the foreground the problems of government finance in Nebraska, both state and county, and as budgets are being tentatively lined up, ideas on increasing efficiency are cropping up.

State Auditor Fred C. Ayres has been studying the accounting system of the state for several years. In his forthcoming biennial report he will recommend modification of the system so that the state auditor will be in fact what the law now provides for, "the general accountant of the state and keeper of all public account books." Contracts of the state, and its debt, revenue and fiscal affairs not required by law would be assigned to some other office.

Ayres says he will ask for such changes as will permit a thorough examination of all state offices and county treasurers and, possibly, all county offices. Cities will not be included.

"The state auditor now has one state accountant and two examiners of county treasurers," says Ayres. "He has a fund of \$10,000 for the biennium to pay out for this work. I think a thorough examination of the state treasury, for instance, would be a good thing for the state, the treasurers and their bondsmen.

"The last legislature appropriated \$10,000 as a special fund for an examination of the treasury farther back than 1927, he further states. "It cost the state \$7,500 for an examination for a period of four years. The auditor can make an examination of the state treasury yearly for \$500. There never had been an examination of the state treasury before, and years ago it was not even conceded that the state auditor had authority to inquire into the state treasury and all other state offices and institutions."

Ayres says that whatever recommendations he makes he will ask that the cost of the examination of county and state offices and institutions shall be paid for out of the funds of the various offices examined.

The state auditor's office will have the same amount of money available during the next biennium as it had for the current one, if Ayres recommendations are followed. They are: Salaries and wages, \$28,000; maintenance, \$10,000; auditing county treasurers and county offices, \$10,000.

Biennial budget requests also have been filed with the state tax commissioner by Treasurer George E. Hall, Land Commissioner Leo N. Swanson and Secretary of State Harry R. Swanson.

Hall, who retires from office in January after serving the maximum two consecutive terms, asks that salaries and wages for the office be increased from \$14,000 to \$16,000 and general maintenance be raised from \$3,500 to \$4,000 for the biennium.

The land commissioner requests an increase from \$70,000 to \$80,000 in wages of capitol employees. He suggests a \$10,000 contingency fund, none of which can be used for wages, be cut to \$5,000.

The secretary of state wants his \$11,450 fund for salary and wages increased so that he can pay his corporation clerk \$175 instead of \$150 a month.

The secretary's office maintenance fund allowed him two years ago was \$5,000. It was not enough pay for printing in pamphlet form the vote cast at the last statewide primary election, and Swanson asks that the next legislature allow his office \$1,500 additional for election expenses.

Swanson asks for no other changes in appropriations. The last legislature made the secretary of state real estate commissioner to license real estate brokers. All fees collected annually were appropriated to maintenance and operation of the office of real estate commissioner.

The big 5th district will go for Landon for president, and probably will give Dwight Griswold a majority for governor, according to a recent survey made by the Lowell Service.

The senatorial race is a tough one to figure out, but with both Simmons (R) and Carpenter (D) rating high in the 5th district, it appears the petition candidate, Senator Norris, will take enough democratic votes away from Carpenter to give Simmons the lead.

**PROMISES and PERFORMANCE**

Promise

Gold Clause

"The businessmen of the country were told in blunt language in Des Moines, Iowa (by President Hoover), how close an escape the country had some months ago from going off the gold standard. This has been clearly shown since was a libel on the credit of the United States. . . . Senator Glass made a devastating challenge that no responsible government would have sold to the country securities payable in gold if it knew the promise, yes, the covenant, to pay interest and principal in gold of specified weight and fineness per dollar embodied in these securities was as dubious as the President of the United States claims it was. . . ."—Franklin D. Roosevelt, Brooklyn, November 4, 1932.

Performance

Gold Clause

"The notes will be dated May 2, 1933 . . . the principal and interest of the notes will be payable in United States Gold Coin of the present standard of value."—(Printed on face of \$500,000,000 Government securities offered April 24, 1933)

Forty-two days later, June 5, 1933, President Roosevelt signed a joint resolution of Congress abrogating the Gold Clause in all existing and future public and private contracts.

In rendering its decision, Supreme Court, Feb. 18, 1935, said:

"The United States are as much bound by their contracts as are individuals. If they repudiate their obligations, it is as much repudiation, with all the wrong and reproach that term implies, as it would be if the repudiator had been a state or a municipality or a citizen."

Congressman Harry Coffee (D) and Cullen Wright (R) are running a neck-and-neck race for congressman. While Coffee received about 5,000 more votes than Wright in the primary, the prognosticators say there has been a sizeable swing to the republican ranks in the past few months.

Other candidates are picked to win in the 5th as follows: Jurgensen (D) for lieutenant governor; Harry Swanson (D) for secretary of state; Marsh (R) for state auditor; Leo Swanson (R) for land commissioner; Bass (R) for treasurer; Johnson (R) for attorney general; and Good (D) for railway commissioner.

In the first district, E. B. Perry, republican opponent of H. C. Luckey for congressman, is building up votes on a "common sense" platform which is making a hit in the republican 1st district. Mr. Perry declares that Nebraska will not escape its share of payment of the national debt created by the new deal because eastern corporations will include their taxes in the price the farmer pays for what he buys.

Another candidate for congressman in the 2nd district is U. S. Renne of Ft. Calhoun, who filed by petition. He has long been a leader in farm holiday and taxpayer's league activities, and is trying to get the endorsement of the Union party.

The political tempo is reaching a high pitch as October comes in. Self-styled Jeffersonian democrats, those who are going to vote for Landon, have come more definitely into the political scene. A national organizer is due to arrive in Nebraska soon. William Ritchie, Jr., Omaha lawyer, has been asked to head the organization. He pledged support to Landon when the latter visited Omaha recently.

The Nebraska Roosevelt all-party agriculture committee also decided to step at a faster pace, and is organizing a unit in each of the state's 93 counties. Public meetings will be held "to tell farm-

ers and merchants the truth about the smoke screen that is being spread to deceive them about the true conditions." F. L. Robinson of Kearney is state chairman of the group.

Subdivisions of the state of Nebraska have reduced their bonded debts \$11,068,035 in the past two years, according to figures compiled in the auditor's office. This does not include an item of \$6,578,000 of the bonded debt of the Omaha metropolitan utilities district, for the reason that the district has a sinking fund of \$4,084,131 to pay off bonds and is paying them off as they fall due.

Including the district debt makes a reduction of \$4,490,035 in the debt of the state's subdivisions in the past two years. This debt in 1934 was \$93,095,800 and has been reduced to \$82,027,765, not including the metropolitan utilities district debt. Nearly half of the bonded indebtedness is in Omaha and Douglas county.

The increasing practice of birth control is held responsible for a large drop in Nebraska's birth rate. In 1920, the Nebraska rate was 23.7. Now it is 17.1 and has declined almost to the point reached in some European countries where the population has been stabilized as to numbers.

An interesting sidelight is the fact that the birth rate is 50 percent higher among families supported totally on relief than among other groups. The estimated cost to the community of delivering and caring for every baby born to a relief family is \$40. To this amount must be added many dollars for care by the community in succeeding years.

The only way to realize the University of Nebraska's building program is to persuade the state legislature to make a small definite levy over a period of six or ten years, according to Chancellor E. A. Burnett.

In pointing out the need for new buildings, Burnett says the 40-year-old library is not fireproof and is only about one-fourth the necessary size. He mentions the decapitation of the university hall as materially reducing the school's housing capacity. The electrical engineering building was erected 36 years ago, he says, altho "since then a whole new science has been developed."

The chancellor also expressed hope funds will be provided to keep the best qualified teachers at Nebraska.

World war veterans in Nebraska have cashed approximately \$11,300,000 of adjusted compensation certificates thus far.

In June, the first week's total was \$6,352,200 at Omaha and \$635,450 at Lincoln. Payments have been made only at Omaha since August 15, and have been dwindling rapidly since then, says Postmaster Harley G. Moorhead, of

Omaha. Thirty-eight prisoners at the state penitentiary have received bonus bonds, but the number of prisoners entitled to the bonus is estimated at about 100.

Several inmates, it is understood, have paid over their bonus bonds to attorneys in advance, but have not been successful in getting their freedom.

A short time ago the state par-

(Continued on page 8, column 2.)

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Pumpkin Pie is again in season. Serve pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream for Sunday dinner. "Morning Light" is a "dry pack" pumpkin and makes the finest pies. Large No. 2 1/2 can for only 9c during this sale.

**Sandwich Cookies**

Dainty Chocolate and Vanilla Sandwich Cookies with a Vanilla Creme Filler. Deliciously good with ice cream or gelatine dessert. For the week end a special price of 2 lbs. for 25c.

**Council Oak Peaches**

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KELLOGG'S KAFFEE HAG, pound . . . 39c

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