

THE FRONTIER

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AROUND NORTHEAST NEBRASKA

(Continued from page 1.)

Created by the state was not sufficient to take care of all of the applicants. As an illustration, in Madison county there are 588 persons on the old age pension list. The county gets \$7,026 each month to pay these 588 persons an old age pension. This amounts to about \$13 per person. Applications by new people wanting to get on the pension rolls come in regularly and the counties can pay only what money they have and this is being distributed equally among the applicants. The new legislature will be faced with new appropriations for this pension.

Cases are continuing to come to light wherein drouth stricken farmers have sought emergency WPA employment and have been certified to work on projects so far removed from their homes as to involve an almost prohibitive amount of driving to and from work.

In addition to the inconvenience of so much daily travel, the men so employed are finding that it is costing them as much or more to operate their cars daily over that driving distance than they are able to earn at their jobs. It has been obvious that some cure of this condition is essential. One remedy, of course, is the provision of additional projects which can be authorized in the communities situated nearer to these WPA workers. Pending the time that the situation can be solved that way, the WPA has consented in the most outstanding cases to provide a grant for the farmer and his family, independent of the otherwise accompanying requirements of daily employment. This will tend to help those men who had complained of their working conditions until such a time as additional and suitable projects may be provided for them.

The district looks somewhat better than a few weeks ago. Fall pastures are almost assured in some localities but some farmers still report that their pastures are dry and rain and more rain is needed. Some of the fall sown grain is doing well but in spots is slow in coming up. Livestock can be found in the corn and grain fields. The additional pasture is helping with the feed supply and the demand for hay is not as heavy as it has been. However, farmers feel that after the first heavy snow the hay demand will be again prevailing.

Open season on political candidates. About four weeks more and the voters will give the answer to a lot of questions asked by the candidates now over the country.

St. Charles Parish, in Cuming county, is presided over by Rev.

Peter Grobbel. He has a great history of early Cuming county pioneers. Believe it or not, St. Charles is older than West Point.

William Clausen, who runs the taxi line in West Point, is a collector of automobile license plates. Probably he is the owner of more varied collections of these plates than any other collector. Auto plates from nearly every state in the union and the Canadian provinces decorate the walls of his office.

Old time baseball players have been asking what has become of Meadows Zacek and his brother, Casey Zacek. Meadows, who used to catch for the Western League, runs a blacksmith shop in West Point. He keeps his own box score of the world series for the baseball fans there. Casey is the operator in the Northwestern depot in the same town.

More than 300 people attended the meeting at Rief's Hall north and east of West Point Tuesday night. The forty-five piece Wisner high school band, which gave a concert, was given an unusual ovation by the gathering of farm folks from several counties.

KARL STEFAN.

THE NEBRASKA SCENE

by James R. Lowell

The time has come to stop, look and listen where politics are concerned. Sore spots are developing in the present campaign, and a number of persons are forgetting that it really doesn't make a lot of difference who gets elected.

The democratic party is at an advantage this year and is able to maintain a campaign at a comparatively high level, where, whereas the republicans are forced by necessity to resort to offensive measures that are inclined to get out of hand.

Last week's high spotlight of the political scene was Dwight Griswold's widely published suggestion that Dr. T. W. Bass, republican candidate for state treasurer, retire from the fracas. Griswold has an established reputation for good character and high ideals, but there is considerable dissent in republican party ranks as to the advisability and motive of his attack on Bass.

Some political observers say that Griswold is entirely sincere, but they also point out that the outbreak is ill-advised since Bass is admittedly better qualified for the office of state treasurer than his democratic opponent and, in addition, has an established reputation for personal integrity as cited by Griswold, despite the fact he was treasurer in the depression period of 1931-33, when private concerns were losing money right and left.

The courts also have taken pains to point out that Bass is absolved for any implication of moral turpitude in the more or less political affair that surrounds the case in which he was commanded by the supreme court to make good to the state a matter of \$2,969 for alleged excessive coupon clipping. There is no financial loss on Bass' shoulders as the bonding house with which he dealt is ordered by the court to repay him for this shortage. The facts are that if times had been good, Bass would have been put down on the records as Nebraska's best treasurer instead of being an object of litigation.

Doctor Bass has announced that he will remain in the running, and he has the backing of a good share

of the electorate, both democratic and republican. Albert N. Mathers, of Gering, who was a republican opponent of Congressman H. B. Coffey in the Fifth district two years ago, has refused to enter the campaign as an independent candidate for state treasurer.

The Douglas County Voters' League, which is the largest labor organization in the state, has endorsed a number of candidates, the majority of whom are democratic. President Roosevelt and Senator Norris were endorsed for re-election, as were Governor Cochran, Lieut. Governor Walter H. Jurgensen, Secretary of State Harry Swanson, and Commissioner of Public Lands and Buildings Leo N. Swanson.

Aside from Leo N. Swanson, the only other republican candidates endorsed were Dr. T. W. Bass for state treasurer; Richard O. Johnson for attorney general.

Issac B. Flint, evangelist of the Ceresco vicinity, is a new petition candidate for congress from the First district. He opposes Perry and Lucky (incumbent).

The Lowell services political survey shifts this week to the Fourth district, and finds the results largely democratic. Roosevelt looks good for re-election in this district, and Cochran because of his activity in the flood period, has a material advantage over Griswold.

Norris is a cinch in this district and Bob Simmons has no chance. Carpenter probably will run third. The most interesting contest in this district pertains to the supreme court. Judge Paine has represented this district very well but he has a peculiar set-up to go against. Judge Paine has represented his district for six years and has an admirable record, but he is the victim of circumstances and must wage a valiant general election fight whereas six months ago when he announced his candidacy he was without opposition. Judge Paine was not connected with the supreme court decision which validated the tri-county set-up and moreover he was alone in writing the dissenting opinion on the delinquent tax law. Those who wish to investigate will find that he had quite a lucid argument.

The fourth district seems inclined toward Cochran for governor while the presidential contest is rather close. Leo N. Swanson is considered a cinch for land commissioner, in view of the fact that he has cut the cost of operating the state capital as well as inaugurating a system for appraisal of state lands which will stand for many years. The congressional contest between Denning and Binderup is rather close with the incumbent gaining from his position and the opposition taking a number of votes anent his more or less conservative position.

Jurgensen the high man in democratic circles for vote getting will have no trouble in capturing the lieutenant governorship, whereas Swanson (D) is a prime factor over his youthful opponent from Omaha. Dr. Bass still ranks first for treasurer despite the fact that he has been subjected to undue publicity during the past week.

Dick Johnson remains the white hope of the republican party to place in the current fracas in the Fourth district. There is considerable opposition to Johnson's opponent because of the alleged fact that his opponent was largely instrumental in promoting youthful Bill Price, of Omaha, against Fred Ayres for state auditor during the primary.

One of the remarkable records made by an officer of the state house evolves upon the shoulders of Leo Swanson, state land commissioner. While it is not generally known, well over a million dollars worth of state lands is under the jurisdiction of the commissioner. During the winter of 1935 and 1936 occurred the coldest period in the history of the state.

At the starting of Swanson's administration, the charge for steam for heating the capitol building was 52 cents per thousand pounds. Swanson claimed this was an excessive rate. He immediately fought the price of steam and reduced it to the present rate of 40 cents per thousand pounds.

The former rate paid for electricity was two cents per kilowatt. Swanson forced the price down to one and one-half cents during the summer months and to one and one-third cents during the winter. The saving to the state on these two items will be approximately \$15,000.00 over a period of two years.

Quotations from the great and near-great concerning the campaign follow: Quote "Senator Barkley of Kentucky, democrat, "This is more than a campaign between two political parties, or two men running for the same office.

It is a fight to retain what we have gained in the past three and one-half years in restoring the American people to prosperity and control of their government."—Omaha.

W. C. Williams assistant United States attorney general: "President Roosevelt's re-election should have been unopposed in the light of the great humanitarian service he has rendered America."—Lincoln.

Bob Simons republican nominee for United States senator: "A large number of persons who voted the democratic ticket in 1932 now will vote for Landon. Their aim is reduced expenditures."

C. P. Taft, son of the former president: "There can be no economic planning without abandonment of the democratic principals of free enterprise and free speech." Dwight Griswold, republican nominee for governor: "The present state insurance problem in Nebraska needs cleaning up, even if it does step on republican toes as well as democratic."

In the near future county governments will be up against the necessity of rendering more service per tax dollar.

The Federation of County Taxpayers wants first of all workable budgets for all political subdivisions; operation on a cash basis; standardized and competitive purchasing assistance; standardized accounting systems that properly list items of income and expenditure; standardized auditing system that will show where revenue comes from and how it is spent.

The State Board of Educational Lands and Funds last week exonerated the state soldiers' relief committee of any wrong doing in connection with the recent charge of illegal diversion of funds.

Douglas quit the job to run for congressman in the First district but was unsuccessful. He objected to the curtailment of salary for his own daughter and attempted to make political capital out of his resignation.

It is one thing for Candidate Roosevelt to repudiate in scornful words the support of "Reds" and other subversive elements; it is quite another thing for President Roosevelt to have so manipulated the affairs of government and taken unto himself the wrongful powers which have had the effect of gathering beneath his banner the very elements whom he publicly scoffs in the way of good politician argument. Is it not possible that the President has gone so far with his experimentation and his latter-day crop of promises that he cannot dodge the implication that, willy-nilly, he does have the earnest and enthusiastic backing of those agencies whose operations are abhorrent to all good Americans.—Nebraska City News-Press.

WHOSE RECORDS?

High in the list of liberties cherished by the American people and fostered by the American way of government should be written, "freedom of the records."

Freedom of the records is a symbol of the American attitude toward government. The people are the boss. The man behind the mahogany desk in the courthouse or the national capitol works for them.

Two months ago the World-Herald received rumors of unethical goings-on in the works progress administration of Pottawattomi county. This newspaper undertook to investigate. It found that, contrary to American precedent, the WPA would not permit examination of its pay roll and other records.

Reluctant to believe that local WPA officials were carrying out the considered policy of the national government, the World-Herald wired and wrote higher officials, including Harry L. Hopkins.

It was finally told in almost so many words that WPA would not open its records to a newspaper or any private investigating agency.

Thus the chief spending agency of the new deal denied that the people have any proprietary interest in its activities. "You are not my boss," it said. "My records are not your records. I am independent, responsible only to myself."

A dictator, answering the same inquiry, would have been less courteous, more abrupt. But what he said would have meant the same thing.—Omaha World Herald.

It is our suggestion that those who are so enthusiastic about the New Deal, sing that old song about never missing the water until the well runs dry.

A Communist is a fellow who believes in saving up some on else's umbrella for a rainy day.

PROMISES and PERFORMANCE

Promise

NATIONAL DEBT

"I promise to you, my friends, that government . . . be made solvent and that the example be set by the President of the United States."—Franklin D. Roosevelt, Acceptance Speech, July 2, 1932.

"For three long years the Federal Government has been on the road toward bankruptcy . . .

"With the utmost seriousness I point out to the Congress the profound effect of this fact upon our national economy . . .

"Too often in recent history liberal governments have been wrecked on rocks of loose fiscal policy. We must avoid this danger."—Franklin D. Roosevelt, Message to Congress, March 10, 1933.

Performance

NATIONAL DEBT

Increase in gross debt of the United States during the Roosevelt administration:

March 4, 1933 \$20,937,000,000

June 30, 1936 33,779,000,000

Total \$12,842,000,000

Average annual increase \$3,862,000,000.

On June 30, 1936, the gross debt was \$33,779,000,000.

The total increase in debt from March 4, 1933, to June 30, 1936, was \$12,842,000,000.

In addition the United States Government has guaranteed the principal and interest of \$4,467,000,000 of securities issued by various governmental corporations.

(From Daily Statement of the United States Treasury.)

Farmer Explodes 'Scarcity' Theory

Proves Growers Got More for Grains in Years of Big Crops.

PLAINFIELD, ILL.—Farmers get as much or more for their grain in years of large crops than in the small-crop years.

This simple refutation of the entire "scarcity" theory of the Roosevelt administration was found in records of the Department of Agriculture Year Book by Homer B. Grommon, "dirt" farmer with 450 acres near here, and president of the Farmers' National Grain Dealers' association.

Mr. Grommon's conclusions are based on comparisons of the 13 largest crop years of the last 26 with the 13 smallest. Here is what he found: Average value of United States wheat crops in the years of plenty—1 billion 69 million dollars a year; in the years of scarcity (planned or not)—677 million.

Average corn crop value in years of plenty—2 billion 115 million; in years of scarcity—1 billion 737 million. Average oat crop in years of plenty—5 billion 575 million; in years of scarcity—5 billion 574 million.

Average prices received during the "big" years were: wheat, \$1.20 a bushel; corn, 75 cents, and oats, 43 cents. Averages in the "lean" crop years: wheat, \$1.01; corn, 74 cents, and oats, 43 cents. Even when the World War years are excluded entirely, the average wheat price was \$1.17 for big-crop years and 88 cents for little-crop years.

The following table shows the course of wheat prices over the last 26 years:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Production (million bu.), Farm Price (Per bu.). Rows include 1915, 1919, 1928, 1928, 1918, 1914, 1930, 1927, 1922, 1920, 1924, 1926, 1929.

Total 11,558 million bushels, Average 889 million bushels, Farm Price \$1.20.

Table with 3 columns: Year, Production (million bu.), Farm Price (Per bu.). Rows include 1921, 1923, 1913, 1932, 1912, 1909, 1925, 1916, 1910, 1917, 1911, 1933, 1934.

Total 8,082 million bushels, Average 668 million bushels, Farm Price \$1.01.

*Price per bushel received by producers. Prices for years 1919 through 1934 are as of Dec. 1 of each year. Prices for years 1919 through 1934 are weighted average prices for crop marketing season.

Large crops mean jobs in both the city and country, Mr. Grommon pointed out. The difference between average big-crop years and average small-crop years, including wheat, corn and oats is 26 million tons of grain, which would make 13 million two-ton loads for trucks. Thus a demand would be created for truck manufacturers, gasoline distributors and all the other operations of transportation, processing and manufacture. People would have more money to buy the farmer's products.

When prices are raised by an artificial or "planned" scarcity, there is no corresponding rise in the ability of the people as a whole to pay those prices. Hence, the system must fall down in time.

Roosevelt has no monopoly on human kindness.

\$2,500,000 of Taxpayers' Money 'Sunk' in Creek

EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.—"Vote Republican" says a sign forty feet long which spans the city-owned viaduct over Old Cahokia creek here. "Cahokia creek," the sign explains, "is still here—\$2,500,000 taxpayers' money is gone." That is the amount the PWA spent to divert the channel of the stream, which is an open sewer. Another sign on the viaduct says, "Smell it."

Hamilton Calls Roosevelt Hand on Communism

NEW YORK.—"President Roosevelt, in his first admittedly political speech, at Syracuse, immediately went on the defensive in an attempt to unlink his administration from Communism," John Hamilton, Republican National chairman, charged here.

"So, again I ask the question I have asked before," said Mr. Hamilton. "How long, Mr. Roosevelt, do you intend to affront the voters of America by retaining as one of your Presidential electors on the Democratic ballot in New York state a man who rendered financial aid to Communists in Spain so that they might continue to horrify the civilized world with their murders of clergymen and their pillaging of churches?"

"The Presidential elector I refer to, Mr. Roosevelt, is Mr. David Dubinsky, a former member of the Socialist Party. Mr. Dubinsky sent \$5,000 to Spanish Communists and boasted of raising \$78,000 more."

"How much longer do you need? Why are you delaying?"

No Future in New Deal, Landon Warning to Youth

TOPEKA, KAN.—"The present administration apparently believes that there is no future for this country," Gov. Alf M. Landon told the Young Republicans' national conference here. "It has accepted the idea that we have reached our peak—that ahead of us is a large standing army of unemployed; that, in consequence, the government must play a greater and greater part in managing the details of our daily lives instead of confining itself to the expanding field of regulation in the public interest."

"The Republican party, on the other hand, utterly rejects this philosophy. It believes that America still is on the upgrade, that we can eliminate unemployment, that the government should tighten the rules governing business, but should not attempt to manage business; that, in a word, America will once again be a nation where youth can be confident of its future," Gov. Landon declared.

Peek for Landon



CHICAGO.—Gov. Landon and the Republican party are with the farmers for "the fundamental principles for which they have been fighting for 15 years," George N. Peek, former AAA administrator and foreign trade adviser to President Roosevelt, declared here.

The New Deal is a black phantom to every man who saves.

The Worst Is Yet To Come

The Roosevelt campaign is presenting an alibi for extravagant spending by claiming that the income tax is the only tax that the federal government has levied upon its people and yet Landon talks about hidden taxes and indirect taxes just as Roosevelt did when he was a candidate against Hoover. This has caused the Republican committee to dig up the following list of taxes that are levied to pay for Roosevelt's reckless spending.

The bureau of internal revenue says that the government is now collecting the following levies:

- 1. The federal tax on individual incomes.
2. The federal tax on corporate incomes.
3. The federal tax on corporate surpluses.
4. The federal tax on beer.
5. The federal tax on liquor.
6. The federal tax on oleomargarine.
7. The federal tax on gasoline.
8. The federal tax on lubricating oil.
9. The federal tax on brewers' wort.
10. The federal tax on grape products.
11. The federal tax on matches.
12. The federal excise tax on employers.
13. The federal stamp tax on stocks and bonds.
14. The federal stamp tax on future sales of produce.
15. The federal stamp tax on foreign insurance policies.
16. The federal stamp tax on deeds of conveyance.
17. The federal excise tax on tires and inner tubes.
18. The federal excise tax on toilet preparations.
19. The federal excise tax on furs.
20. The federal excise tax on automobiles.
21. The federal excise tax on radio receiving sets.
22. The federal excise tax on mechanical refrigerators.
23. The federal excise tax on sporting goods.
24. The federal excise tax on firearms and shells.
25. The federal tax on mixed flour.
26. The federal tax on capital stock.
27. The federal tax on telephone, telegraph, radio and cable services.
28. The federal tax on oil transportation by pipeline.
29. The federal tax on safety deposit boxes.
30. The federal tax on electrical service.
31. The federal tax on gifts.
32. The federal tax on admission, dues and initiation fees.
33. The federal processing tax on certain oils.
34. The federal tax on estates.
35. The federal tax on playing cards.
36. The federal tax on cigars, cigarettes and other tobacco products.
37. The federal tax on narcotics.

In addition, the collection of the federal payroll tax will be started soon.

However, if we could stop with these taxes we would be settling our bill with the tax collector 50 cents on the dollar because this last year Roosevelt spent \$2 for every one that was collected in taxes and he borrowed the rest. Money borrowed is a debt that has to be paid some day or repudiated so the taxpayer really hasn't seen anything yet. After the election in November he is in for some more plucking or else government bonds will become too difficult to sell.—Marshalltown Times-Republican.

TAXES MORE THAN WAGES

What effect have taxes on the welfare of the workingman and the person who has saved a few dollars? An answer to that oft asked question is found in some statistics recently released by the National Association of Manufacturers.

A survey of 694 representative companies in the 25 leading industries produced the astounding fact that every time these enterprises pay out a dollar for wages they likewise pay out \$1.34 in taxes.

And every time they pay out a dollar in dividends, they pay \$1.42 in taxes.

In other words, if these companies were tax-free, they could more than double their wages and dividend payments.

No private industry can be tax-free—it costs money to pay for legitimate governmental functions. But when any unit of government unnecessarily expands its activities, the financial burden falls on every man who labors and every person who has saved. It hampers industry, delays progress and is a barrier to the employment of

(Continued on page 12, column 4.)

'WELL, CROP REDUCTION'S WHAT YOU WANTED, WASN'T IT?'



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