

**THE FRONTIER**

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**THE NEBRASKA SCENE**

(Continued from page 1.)  
of the flourishing businesses of the state during the next few years. Projects range from setting up hundreds of miles power lines radiating from the Sutherland and Columbus plants to small county jobs.

Just recently a loan was authorized for \$275,000 to the Burt county rural power district; \$101,000 grant to the McCook public power district; bids have been called for 354 miles of transmission lines to be constructed by the Lancaster county rural public power district in the western half of the county; the Eastern Nebraska public power district will advertise soon for bids on construction of 300 miles of lines in Saunders, Otoe and Cass counties, this being the second of eight projects contemplated by the district. Already in Nemaha, Johnson, Richardson and Otoe counties a \$375,000 job is underway and 375 miles of transmission lines are to be set up.

Out west in the Gering valley a rural electrification project is nearing completion and will be one of the first in the state to start operation. It is the smallest of three in the North Platte valley, comprising only 37 miles of line. The Mitchell valley project, first to be approved in Nebraska, has 163 miles of line, and the Chimney Rock project has more miles of lines to be built than the other two combined.

By this time next year it is anticipated that thousands of Nebraska farmers, representing every section of the state, will be lighting their houses and barns with electricity, cooking, ironing, washing and churning with electricity; pumping water and grinding feed with electricity; and hooking up radios and electric fans to wall sockets.

The customary post mortem of the election reveals that 15 Nebraska counties gave Governor Landon a majority as against only 2 for Hoover four years ago. The republican counties are Antelope, Arthur, Brown, Franklin, Furnas, Garfield, Hamilton, Hooker, Keya Paha, Loup, McPherson, Otoe, Rock, Valley and York.

Eight years ago when Al Smith and Hoover were the presidential candidates only eight counties were democratic—Sherman, Howard, Platte, Colfax, Butler, Saline, Stanton, Cuming, Thurston, Dakota and Cedar. Incidentally, Lancaster was one of the two counties to give Hoover a majority in 1932, went democratic this year for the first time since 1916.

Senator Norris turned out to be the featured performer of the 1936 "show." When he won re-election it was the first time in Nebraska's history that a petition candidate ever was victorious in a state-wide contest.

Governor Cochran did a little history making too, receiving 80,000 more votes than Griswold, thereby getting the largest majority ever given a Nebraska governor. On the other hand, Griswold received the largest vote ever given a defeated candidate for governor.

When the official count is in, it is estimated that the total vote will be over 600,000 another record for Nebraska. The candidate to receive

the largest majority was Secretary of State Harry Swanson who was re-elected with 106,000 votes over his adversary. Roosevelt had a majority of about 100,000.

In educational circles over the state considerable disappointment was manifested in the defeat of Mrs. Arthur L. Smith, running for regent of the university. Mrs. Smith was so well qualified for this non-salaried job that it was believed she would make the grade, despite the fact no woman has ever been able to land the position in this state.

The Lowell Service was 66 and two-thirds per cent correct in its predictions on the election. Out of 15 candidates picked to win, 10 came thru.

All was not rejoicing in the Cochran camp after the governor was re-elected. His small son, Rob Roy, was a bit downcast, his complaint being that "a kid can't have any fun when his dad is governor."

Leo Swanson, commissioner of public lands and buildings, whose pleasure at being the only republican elected to a state house office was alloyed by having the people vote at the same time to abolish his office, isn't going to give up without a fight. Incidentally, this was the first time that Nebraska has ever voted to abolish a constitutional office, and some reliable legal sources give the opinion that Swanson still may hold the office for the two-year term to which he was just elected.

Attorney General Wright says that Swanson now has no office or salary, as statutory provisions for the land commissioner's office were based directly upon the constitu-

tional provision and were repealed automatically when the amendment was approved. However, it is generally conceded around the state house that Swanson can at least finish his present term.

The amendment does not say when it goes into effect, nor does the constitution say when such amendments become effective. A law suit probably will be necessary to settle the matter.

Talk is heard around the capitol that the governor will declare the land commissioner's office abolished effective immediately after the election board sends in the official canvass of votes and a 10-day grace period thereafter has elapsed. The board will refuse to issue a certificate of election to Swanson it is said.

Another rumor has it that State Treasurer Hall, who retires from that office at the end of this term, like Dicken's Mr. Barkus "is willin'," to move across the hall and take over the appointive job of land commissioner if Governor Cochran likewise is "Willin'."

There is one advantage in being a defeated candidate. You don't have to try to make good on your pre-election promises. But, come to think of it, some of the successful ones don't either.

It was said in the old days that the sins of the parent were visited on the children. But they now pile their debts on the youngsters as well as their other trespasses.

**FEED THE BIRDS CAMPAIGN**

The State Department of Game and Forestation is sponsoring a campaign to solicit funds from sportsmen and those interested in

the preservation of wild life in the state. Last winter a great many pheasants and other game birds perished due to lack of sufficient food owing to the severity of the winter and heavy snowfall. Badges are being sold for twenty-five cents each and the proceeds used for the purchase and distribution of feed for these game birds during the coming winter. This is a worthy cause and should receive the support of this community. Those desiring to help may purchase the badges from the following business firms: O'Neill Food Center, Golden Hotel, Gamble Store, Putnam's Implement store, Holt County Independent.

**THE PAY-ROLL TAX AND OLD AGE INSURANCE**

Many of the great issues of 1936 were basically unaffected by the outcome of the election, and will be among the great issues of 1937 and succeeding years. One of those issues is provided by the social security bill passed by the last congress. That bill came in for a great deal of discussion in the closing week of the late campaign, with Republican spokesmen denouncing it in almost every particular, and the Democrats defending it. It is very possible that no piece of major legislation enacted by the last Congress is more widely misunderstood than this bill. It is

certain that proposals to amend the bill will appear in the next Congress and will have the support of many members of both parties. A number of unprejudiced observers,

tho they may endorse the principle of the bill and its general purposes, feel that it was hastily drawn, is unworkable in some phases, con-

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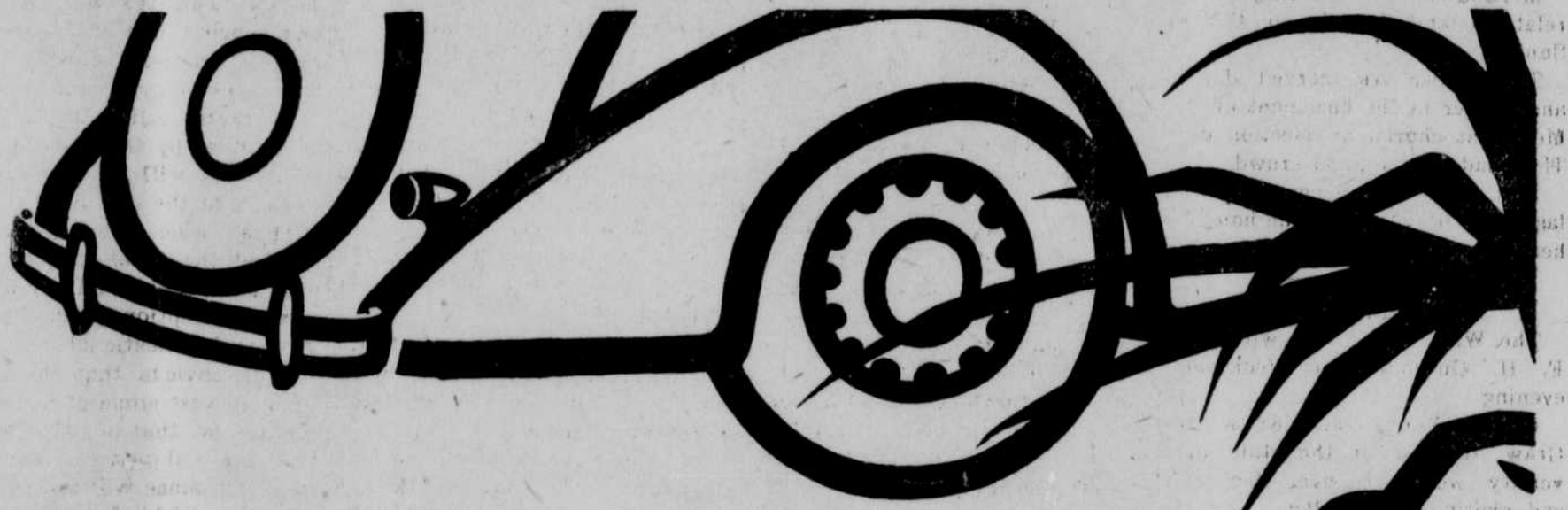
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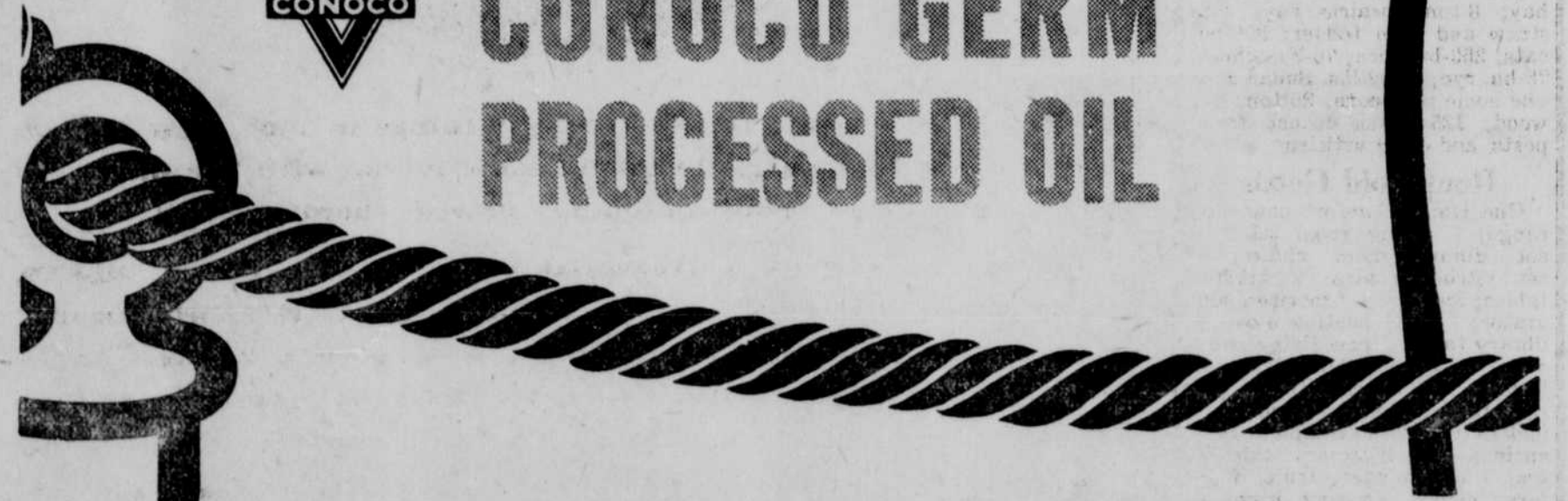
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