

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF
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THE ONLY DEMOCRATIC PAPER IN WEBSTER COUNTY

It will not be long now until the political pot will be again boiling. Political prophets are already making their predictions which are plentifully interspersed with ifs. The primaries will be held in April and April is not so far away but what the aspirant may begin to get his fences in order for the running. Here's hoping that the very best men in the state will toss their hats in the ring.

Weeds grow so fast that one can hardly turn around without seeing another crop coming on apace. However in order to keep the city looking trim this fourth crop needs to be cut just as much as the others. Big, thrifty growths of weeds may be seen in several parts of the city inviting some one to lay them low. Lead on, MacDuff, and — be him who first says—hold enough.

Lincoln Letter

Insurance Commissioner Eastham, although a new man in his department is showing himself no small collector, having in one day in the past week taken in \$2,380 from the foreign insurance companies doing business in Nebraska. This is a two per cent license tax on the business transacted in the state.

That the prices paid by different counties for bridge work vary vastly is shown by statistics being compiled by State Engineer Johnson. For instance, in Hall county the lowest bid on a bridge of a certain size was \$17.50 per lineal foot, while in Dixon county the lowest bid on the same kind of a bridge was \$37.69. Prior to the passage of the Smith uniform bridge plans law by the legislature of 1913, there was no way of making a comparison of the cost of bridges. Under the provisions of this law the cost must be reported to the state engineer, where the figures are available for inspection by any citizen of the state. That the law has improved conditions there is no question, but why there should be so great a difference in prices is not apparent on the surface. If more of the county commissioners of the state would avail themselves of the information that may now be obtained from the engineer's office it would doubtless result to the decided advantage of their counties in the matter of bridge contract letting.

That the state of Nebraska has not been securing what it should from leases on its common school lands, has been an open question for some time, and a few days since an expert made an examination of the matter and his report gives the following figures: There was 1,635,561 acres of Nebraska school land under lease November 30, 1914, according to the land commissioner's report and the rental on these lands for the biennium closing on the same date amounted to \$343,373. These lands are located in eighty-four counties and with a fair average value as returned by the various county assessors would show a valuation of more than \$13,000,000. At a 6 per cent rental this valuation would produce an income for the common school fund of more than four times the amount brought into the state treasury in the last biennium. As a sample of the rental on these leases we give the following figures gathered at random: Adams county, 80 acres 72; Cherry county, 610 acres, \$9.60; Gage county, 160 acres, \$104.40; Hitchcock Co., 380 acres \$48; Jefferson county, 120 acres, \$60; Lancaster county, 160 acres, \$115.30; Sheridan county, three sections, \$14; Webster county, 80 acres, \$20; Wheeler county, 160 acres, \$23.40; York county, 80 acres, \$7.86.

The present Board of Educational Lands and Funds, which is composed of Governor Morehead, Secretary of State Pool, Attorney General Reed, Treasurer Beckman and Land Commissioner Beckman, propose that in the future a much larger rental will be derived from these lands and have begun the work of revaluing them. As a sample in the line of revaluation, Secretary Pool and Commissioner Beckman, during a four day trip, made a short time ago, raised the valuation in two counties more than \$7,000.00. It is the intention of the present administration to see to it that the common school fund get all that is coming to it out of school land rentals.

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County Commissioners Transact Business

Red Cloud, Aug. 19, 1915

Webster County Board of Equalization met pursuant to adjournment. Members present: Paul Storey, Grant Shidler, W. G. Hoffman, T. J. Chaplin, J. O. Butler, Clerk J. J. Garber and Floyd McCall, Chairman of said board. In the matter of making levies for the year, 1915, it was moved and seconded that the following levies be made against all the real and personal property of said Webster County, Neb., viz:

4 mills on the dollar for special court house fund.
4 mills on the dollar for general fund.
3 mills on the dollar for road fund.
4 mills on the dollar for bridge fund.
As an emergency exists, 1 mill on the dollar emergency bridge fund.

The following levies were made for school and bond purposes as follows:

Table with 4 columns: No Mills, No Mills, No Mills, No Mills. Rows list various property owners and their respective millage rates.

On motion Board adjourned. August 26, 1915

Board of county commissioners met pursuant to call of county clerk. Members all present.

In the matter of the complaint of Sam Buzzard regarding ditch in Oak creek precinct, the matter was referred to the above board for investigation.

The following claims were audited and allowed, and the clerk authorized and instructed to draw warrants on their respective funds in payment of same:

COURT HOUSE SPECIAL FUND

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Rows include Rowles Co., Steel Fixture Co., City P & H Co., A. Sash and Door Co.

GENERAL FUND

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Rows include A. M. Auliz, R. H. Allen, Chas. Allen, Mary Abel, Geo. D. Barnard Co., Branchoft-Whitney Co., A. J. Boren, Louis Bangert, J. O. Butler, John & Frank Berg, E. J. Cox, W. C. Cox, Gertrude L. Coon, T. J. Chaplin, W. D. Edson, J. H. Ellinger, E. S. Fitz, H. H. Fetty, Jackson Fincher, Guide Rock Signal, Wm. Good, A. J. Grant, E. S. Garber, Hammond Stephens, A. C. Hosmer, O. D. Hedge, Fred Huppert, W. G. Hoffman, Chas. Jackson, Klapp & Bartlett Co., Klapp printing Co., J. P. Klapp, Sam Lindsey, R. B. Leggett, M. R. Lewis, Julia A. Lame, Miner Bros. Co., H. J. Maurer, J. Myers, Malone Avery Co., Edith McKeighan, A. B. McArthur, Carl McArthur, Floyd McCall, Geo. H. Overing, E. Peters, W. Patterson, A. D. Ranny, O. C. Teel, J. A. Tomlinson, Red Cloud Cemetery Ass'n., Remington Type Co., Dr. M. S. Reed, Anna B. Spanogle, John Sorenson, State Journal Co., School Dist. No. 61, Steel Fixture Co., Bert Sherman, Roy Settler, Otto Skjelver, Oliver Sutton, Adolph Sidlo, Joe Saladen, Geo. Smelser, Grant Shidler, Paul Storey, Underwood Typewriting Co., W. M. Welch Mfg. Co., E. H. Weber.

County Farm Fund

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Rows include Ed Amack, P. H. Bartholomew, A. E. Cox, Cowden Kaley Co., I. W. Cray Mer Co., J. C. Etherton, J. H. Funke, Koehler Twidale El Co., Dr. C. F. Kehler, R. B. Leggett, James Loy, C. R. Laird, P. Merten & Son, Miner Bros Co., Geo. Smelser.



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S. R. Florence Honored

We are advised that S. R. Florence of Red Cloud has been made a member of the Advisory Committee of the Nebraska Republican Publicity Association. The appointment was made by Hon. F. M. Currie of Brewster, president of that organization.

This Association was formed in Omaha in May, and will devote its whole energies to the promotion of republican measures. This Association has adopted a constitution which provides that its activities will not conflict in any way with the regular republican state and congressional committees, and will avoid discussions of candidates for office—its province being the spreading of republican doctrines, the advocacy of republican principles. Mr. Florence has been appointed to represent the Association in this county both because of his prominence and of his reputation for effective party work.—Com-Ad. The Chief extends congratulations to Mr. Florence. Were it not for his political faith, we know of no heights of which he is not capable of surmounting.

Nebraska's Growth As Live Stock Market

The growth of Nebraska as reflected by its great live stock market at Omaha reads like a "best seller" of fiction. Here's how it has grown within the memory of men yet young. In 1884 the receipts of live stock at South Omaha were such as to justify the belief in a great market in the future. Compare them with 1914, thirty years later: 1884—Cattle 88,903; hogs, 2,686; sheep 5,593; horses, 489. 1914—989,817; hogs, 2,258,620; sheep, 3,113,880; horses, 30,688.

During this thirty years the Omaha market has received and disposed of one hundred twenty million head of stock of all kinds. It has kept pace with the great territory for which it is the natural trade terminal, steadily passing its competitors until it is now the second largest live stock market in the world, being led only by Chicago. The ten big packing plants at South Omaha manufacture and ship over 52,000 cars of products every year, valued at over \$115,000,000. During this same period Nebraska has developed the largest creamery and butter business in the world at Omaha. From this industry nearly seven million dollars worth of finished products are sent to the world's market every year.

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