

U. S. Maintains Air Leadership

Good Performances Offset Decreased Production and Contraction of Industry.

LONG FLIGHTS SUCCESSFUL

Clear Federal Policy to Aid Progress of Commercial Flying Is Still Lacking—Year's Feats Are Recorded.

New York.—America has successfully maintained her leadership in the navigation of the air, so far as heavier than air craft are concerned, despite the lack of aerial laws, landing fields and other such handicaps, according to a review of the year 1920, issued by the Manufacturers' Aircraft Association. The review says:

"Decreased production and a general contraction in the aeronautical industry generally is offset by the more encouraging records of performance made in American aviation this year. While the last twelve months have not brought the carefully outlined policy of federal jurisdiction required to assure steady and economical progress in commercial aviation, they have witnessed many remarkable achievements by American pilots in American machines."

Year's Performances.

Then follows a long, detailed list of performances, among them the following:

Commander A. C. Read, hero of the transatlantic flight in the NC-4, commanded the same flying boat on a noteworthy expedition from Rockaway, L. I., down the Atlantic coast, along the gulf coast and up the Mississippi river to Cairo, Ill. When the NC-4 returned to Rockaway January 27 last it had flown 7,740 nautical miles. Three of the four Packard Liberty engines had operated without trouble during the 118 hours in the air, the fourth more than eighty-two hours. Along the Mississippi the motors were run on commercial gasoline picked up from point to point en route. Read reported that the greatest difficulty encountered was lack of proper maps.

"Compared to long-flight attempts conducted by European governments the American ventures were particularly successful. No less than four expeditions attempted to fly the 5,206 miles from Cairo to Capetown, South Africa. Colonel P. Van Rynveld and Major C. J. O. Brand finally completed their flight on March 20, 1920, in a DH-9 plane sent up by the government of the Union of South Africa after their Vickers-Vimy machine had crashed. They had set out from Cairo February 10. None of the machines that started reached Capetown.

"Different success attended the Alaskan flying expedition of the United States Army Air service. Four Gallaudet remodeled DH-4-B planes, each powered with a single Liberty motor, and each carrying two persons flew from Mitchel Field, L. I., to Nome, Alaska, and return in 112 hours flying time, a total distance of 9,000 miles, without a motor missing fire or other accident serious enough to delay the party. Rain and fog caused most of the difficulty in flying over country not even charted on the maps. Operation of Air Mail Service.

"The Air Mail in 1920 operating between New York and Washington, New York, Cleveland, Chicago, Omaha, Salt Lake City and San Francisco, transported approximately one hundred million letters at ordinary postage rates. The system was extended in 1920 from Chicago to San Francisco, from Key West, Fla., to Havana, Cuba, and from Seattle, Wash., to Victoria, B. C. About thirty-five air mail planes are in the air each day flying

14-Year Tests of Plant Life

Reveal That Wild Flora Do Not Always Grow in Most Congenial Habitat.

ENVIRONMENT IS CHANGED

Flowers Taken From Mountain Tops Grow Much More Luxuriantly and Produce More Leaves, Flowers and Fruit at Sea Level.

Chicago.—At a lecture given before an assemblage of geographers and biologists representing several societies, Dr. D. T. MacDougal, director of the Botanical research department of the Carnegie Institution at Washington, described the results of a series of experiments extending over fourteen years and embracing 139 species of plants, the experiments tending to show that the wild plant is not always found in the environment most suited to it.

"A great many people think this," said Dr. MacDougal, "but it has been found to be absolutely false."

Grow More Luxuriantly.

With stations established at four different altitudes, 8,000 feet, 5,200 feet, 2,300 feet and at sea level, plants have been transferred from one place to another, and the results of the cul-

tural experiments of fourteen years have now been compiled.

In these experiments plants from the mountain tops, some from a height of close to one and one-half miles above sea level, were found to grow much more luxuriantly, producing more leaves, flowers and fruits at sea level than they had in their native habitat. These plants were not cultivated, protected or fostered in any way in their new situations. Once placed, they were to all intents and purposes wild flowers and had to fight their own battles and take chances as before.

One hundred and thirty-nine plants were used in these experiments, embracing forms of such wide divergence as grasses, wild lilies and oak and walnut trees, as well as cacti and other unusual plants.

"While a plant may thrive well in its new situation," said Dr. MacDougal, "it will sometimes display a behavior quite at variance with that by which it is ordinarily known. Thus the common witchhazel, which is known to bloom in the vicinity of New York when the frosts come, when taken to the equitable climate of the Pacific coast reverts to the normal or summer-blooming habit. Other species show flower forms, fruits and leaves notably different from those previously displayed by them.

"Aquatic plants of the cress family were made to grow in soil on the mountain tops, where the roots formed small radishes, like their relatives. The radish is a cress. In other words, these plants came back to the ancestral habit of forming a radish.

EXECUTE 4 FOR FLOUR THEFTS

Polish Soldiers Found Guilty of Stealing Nine Sacks From Army Are Shot.

Cracow, Poland. — Four soldiers found guilty of having stolen nine sacks of American flour from army supplies were shot recently.

The executions were carried out under a law passed by the diet last year, making it a capital offense to steal from the army. A fifth soldier, also court-martialed, in connection with the flour theft, was sentenced to prison, as it was shown that he had taken a minor part in the affair.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

SCORES OF EVENTS COVERED

Paving projects were rejected at a mass meeting at Randolph by a vote of 75 to 14.

The Omaha public library contains 157,849 books. Last year the circulation was 530,103.

Material to complete the paving at Pierce has arrived and work will begin as soon as weather permits.

Mrs. Elizabeth Herndon of Madison died last week following an illness of more than twenty-five years.

Hearing on over 100 parole cases will be held by the new pardon board at the state prison February 8.

A number of schools in Gage county are closed on account of the smallpox and scarlet fever epidemics.

The contractors putting up the new quarter million dollar hotel at McCook think it will be finished this year.

Miss Frances Sedlacek was killed at Crete when she was struck by a train while crossing the railroad track.

Forty-four head of Duroc hogs were sold at a sale at Clay Center recently at prices ranging from \$60 to \$250 each.

E. M. Welling of Crawford, Neb., has discovered coal in Nebraska, according to a letter to the secretary of state.

Seven business houses at Greenwood were burglarized Sunday night. Authorities have so far found no clue to the burglars.

The farm home of Roy Garwood, near Alliance, was completely destroyed by fire starting from an overheated kitchen stove.

The annual convention and exposition of the Nebraska Retail Hardware Association will be held in Omaha February 1-4.

The state Poultry show just closed at Holdrege is said to have been one of the most successful exhibits ever held by the association.

The Rev. W. W. Eyster of Crete, oldest living college graduate in the United States, celebrated his ninety-ninth birthday last week.

Five hundred life insurance men of Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota are expected in Omaha February 15 for an annual congress of agents.

E. R. Danielson of Osceola was elected secretary of the Nebraska board of agriculture for the fifth time at the meeting of the board at Lincoln.

William Kaufman, an Alliance youth, is in a serious condition at a local hospital as the result of alcoholic poisoning due to partaking of home brew.

Norfolk was chosen as the place for the 1921 meeting of the Nebraska Volunteer Firemen's association at the close of the convention at York last week.

Nebraska leads every other state in the union in the number of automobiles in proportion to population. In this state there is one automobile to every 5.9 persons.

An oil company has been formed by capitalists at Deshler, and has leased 3,000 acres of land in Thayer county, expecting to incorporate with a capital stock of \$1,000,000.

Dr. E. J. Stewart of Lincoln has been elected athletic director and head coach of Clemson agricultural and mechanical college at Clemson, South Carolina.

City commissioners have decided to submit a proposal for a \$500,000 bond issue to the voters of Lincoln at the April elections for the construction of a municipal gas plant.

Dr. Harold Gifford, who left Omaha December 5, for South America to engage in laboratory work of tropical research, has reached British Guiana and begun his work.

An underground room beneath a large oats pile, with all the accessories of a fair sized distillery was found by county officials while searching the farm of George Muller near Fremont.

John F. Ball and six sons, near Chester, have just completed husking 12,000 bushels of corn and made the remarkable record of handling this big crop by hand, without scooping a single bushel of it.

Arthur J. Lynch, foreman at the Fremont light plant, was held up and robbed by two masked men as he was returning home from work about 10:30. The bandits emptied his pockets of money and valuables amounting to over \$75.

Considerable grain is being moved on the Beatrice market just now. One milling firm is handling over 500 bushels a day.

Pete Lopez pleaded guilty to the slaying of Jonas Sanchez, another Mexican at McCook a few weeks ago, and was sentenced by Judge Eldridge to thirty years in the penitentiary.

Raymond Bureleigh, aged 17, the "youngest Yank" of the world war, was married at Lincoln last week to Miss Caroline Buffum of that city. The bride is 18 years old. The young couple had been acquainted but two weeks.

Mrs. Naomi Criss, who homesteaded near Loup City in 1875, and who has been living there ever since, died last week.

The Nebraska interscholastic meet will be held on the University athletic field May 14, according to plans announced by Director of Athletics Fred W. Luehring, and Superintendent Brooks.

Fifteen cars of grain and hay a day is the average outgoing freight at Cozad. A railway official states that Cozad is the only town along the route that has kept up its usual good business record.

Cozad's new lighting system is being rushed to a finish.

The Nebraska Lumber Dealers association will hold its annual convention in Omaha, Feb. 9-11.

Burglars made an effort to enter the Farmers' Union store at Union by breaking open both the front and rear doors.

The new \$2,000,000 Commerce High school at Omaha, it is claimed, will be one of the most complete institutions of its class in this country.

Six hundred twenty-seven delegates, a new record for the state firemen's convention, attended the banquet and closing session of that body at York.

The John Adrian general merchandise store at Hansen, was robbed of 70 cents and goods valued at \$150. The postoffice in the store was robbed of \$4.00.

The Kiwanis district convention, composed of clubs in Iowa and in Nebraska, will hold its semi-annual convention in Omaha sometime in March. Over 300 persons are expected.

A drive is being made in Johnson county in an effort to get the total membership of the county farm bureau to one thousand. Men from the state bureau are in charge of the drive.

Creighton, a town of 1,800, has an 8 o'clock curfew law, and boys and girls under 18 must be accompanied by a chaperone at dances, moving picture shows and the skating rink.

A lone youthful bandit, armed, lined up twenty-five guests at an Omaha hotel, compelled them to give up their money—\$19 in all—and escaped after forcing all into a vacant room.

Asa Hepperly of Norfolk led the student judging contest of the Western Livestock show at Denver last week. He is a member of the University of Nebraska college of agriculture.

N. T. Harmon, new state probation officer, and Walter Schroeder, his assistant, have begun their official duties and have fitted up a temporary office on the fourth floor of the state capitol.

A sixty-piece band, members of which are between the ages of 7 and 15, has been organized at Fairbury under the direction of Professor Dathole, conductor of the Military band at that place.

At a special election in Tecumseh for bonds, amounting to \$25,000, for extension of water mains and installation of a purifying plant to use Nemaha drainage ditch water, the bonds carried by a large majority.

Mrs. Elmdra Thomas of Nebraska City, a resident of the state for nearly sixty years, and at one time the only white woman living on the overland trail from Kearney to Denver, died of heart trouble last week.

The Bankers' Automobile Insurance company of Lincoln, having been turned over to the state department of trade and commerce by a district court order is now in charge of W. E. Burklely as special agent of the department.

The development of eight cows with a yearly average of 903 pounds of butter each places the dairy herd at the university farm among the best herds in the United States and at the top of the list of agricultural experiment station herds.

County attorneys of Nebraska, meeting at Lincoln to recommend legislation, honored the only woman member in attendance, Mrs. Grace Ballard of Washington county, by making her president of the state association for the ensuing year.

Pending legislation, the bureau of markets, and the advisability of establishing departments of research, will be the chief topics of discussion at the meeting of the state farm bureau federations of the midwest group at Lincoln this week.

Mrs. C. F. Williams, living near Kimball, was the victim of a peculiar accident recently, when a kettle of soap she was making exploded throwing the boiling hot liquid over her face, neck and arms and scalding her in a very painful manner.

The winter short courses for practical farmers opened at the university school of agriculture Monday, January 24. The courses are open to all men 18 years old and are especially designed for farmers who wish to study during the slack period of the winter.

Nebraska's state fair in 1920 set a high mark according to the statement of Secretary E. R. Danielson. A total of \$388,115.48 was received by the state fair board, \$144,758 of which was realized from the sale of tickets during the fair, \$183,261.28 from miscellaneous sources and \$37,856.92 from concessions. A state appropriation added \$2,000 more.

Kearney is probably as well protected as any city in Nebraska by a vigilance committee of twenty-five which is working in conjunction with the police and under direction of that department. This committee is composed of members of the fire department.

The Nebraska college of agriculture carried off the lion's share of the prizes at the national western livestock show at Denver. It won three championships on cattle, three championships on hogs, ten first prizes and four second prizes on hogs, and a large number of minor placings.

J. N. Pleissinger, an extensive feeder of Polk, brought a three-load string of Whiteface steers to the South Omaha market last week, which sold at \$9.50. The price was not only the top by 25c per hundred, but the highest price that was paid any time within the week.

Crystal Elmira, a school mistress near the village of Miller, was found by the roadside near the school with her clothing in flames and parts of her body burned to a crisp. Her condition was such she could not explain the cause of the fire. Physicians who were summoned say she cannot recover.

BUDGET SUBMITTED

GOVERNOR PRESENTS TO LEGISLATURE ESTIMATE OF STATE'S NEEDS FOR NEXT TWO YEARS

DELIVERS SPECIAL MESSAGE

Almost Twenty-Seven Million Dollars Asked for Defraying State Government Expenses During Coming Biennium

Lincoln.—In a special message to the Nebraska legislature, delivered in person at a joint convention, Governor McKelvie said he wanted appropriations sheared down to the limits of revenue; that necessary purposes shall be taken care of without imposing unbearable tax burdens, and that the creation of new activities should be avoided.

The amount to be raised by taxation, as he gave it, is \$16,218,000 for general purposes and \$2,295,000 for construction of the new state capitol, based on a valuation of \$765,000,000. This will be supplemented by federal funds, cash fund receipts, and revenue from other sources.

Mr. McKelvie takes strong ground against the practice of incurring deficiencies. He would make it a felony for any spending agency of the state to spend more than the legislature appropriates for its use.

He urges economy and efficiency, and suggests that tax burdens have grown to such proportions that wide discontent exists among the people because of them. At the same time, he declares real economy to consist in the money appropriated, rather than getting the maximum of benefits from it merely holding down appropriations.

Budget Calls for Increase

Conceding that the budget calls for an increase of \$4,364,840 in the appropriations this year, Governor McKelvie says this amounts to only 17 cents on each \$100 of assessed valuation.

As new sources of state revenue, Mr. McKelvie proposes taxing inheritances, registration of mortgages and a higher occupation tax on corporations doing business in the state. License fees and other special charges could also be increased, he says, in preference to raising property taxes.

The budget was prepared by Finance Secretary Bross, and it is the first complete budget ever submitted to a Nebraska legislature.

Mr. McKelvie advises that one appropriation bill be drawn and passed to include everything except the salaries of constitutional and statutory officers so that the legislature may know the total amount of appropriations while it is considering this bill.

Calls for \$26,845,207

Appropriations in the gross sum of \$26,845,207, representing an increase of \$3,709,484 over actual expenditures for the biennium ending March 31 next, are suggested by Governor McKelvie in the budget.

Besides the \$21,368,000 to be realized for state purposes from taxes and fees for the general fund, the budget shows there will be available in two years to come \$5,476,787 of other income from so-called "cash funds" in institutions and departments and from federal aid to highways, education and agriculture.

Classified Departmental Needs

The appropriation estimates for all purposes for the next two years is as follows:

Legislative—Total amount, \$182,800; decrease of \$96,498, because of unusual expense the past biennium for constitutional convention and two extra sessions of the legislature.

Judiciary—Total amount, \$786,700; increase, \$374,307.

Executive offices—Total amount, \$706,590; increase, \$222,633.

Code departments—Total amount, \$5,147,183; increase, \$672,627.

Military department—Total amount, \$163,880; increase, \$105,351.

Capitol commission and other boards and commissions—Total amount, \$2,863,550; increase, \$2,463,169. (The actual increase is only about \$800,000, as the accumulated capitol building fund remains on hand from the old biennium and was not included in its expenditures.)

Educational—Total amount, \$5,904,079; increase, \$900,649.

Charitable and penal institutions—Total amount, \$3,596,140; increase, \$646,423.

Sundry activities—Total amount, \$71,497; increase, \$581,257.

Classified as to character of outlay, the expenses for two years are as follows: Salaries, \$8,266,000; supplies, \$3,818,000; lands and buildings, \$4,397,000; miscellaneous expense \$2,170,000; fixed charges, \$1,225,000; repairs for upkeep, \$504,000; public investments, \$5,424,000; equipment, \$605,000; revolving funds, \$422,000. Total, \$26,845,000.

For the new board of pardons, a total appropriation of \$26,250 is asked, and for the tax commissioner's office, \$45,000.

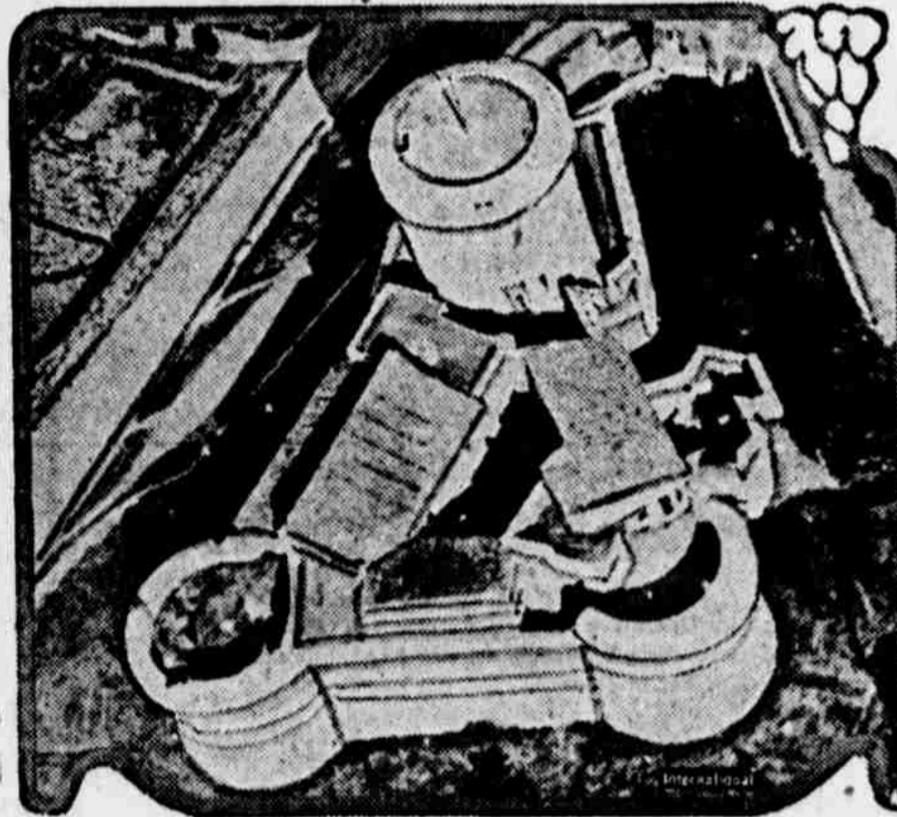
The legislature will also have to appropriate \$343,208 for deficiencies, excess over appropriations. The one big item is the board of control, \$258,000, and the next largest, vocational education, \$45,000.

New expenditures include: Child welfare requests, \$358,760; printing statutes, \$50,000; oil and gas development, \$15,000 each, and \$5,000 for coal.

Estimates Pruned \$3,000,000

Before submitting the budget, Governor McKelvie eliminated about \$3,000,000 from requests filed with Finance Secretary Bross. Most of this sum was deducted from university and normal school estimates, and from certain activities in the code departments.

Old Castle of Ostia From the Air



A castle built in the middle ages at Ostia, near Rome, as seen from the air. Of unusual design and architecture, the pile is one of the sights of Ostia, the Brighton of the ancient Romans.

MERRY SEX WAR ON

Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Throes of Controversy.

Plate Printers' Union Charges That There Are Too Many "Trifling Girls" in the Bureau.

Washington.—A merry sex war is in progress in Uncle Sam's money factory.

The war started when the Plate Printers' union in the bureau of engraving and printing made formal charges that there were too many "trifling girls" in the bureau and that they were retarding the efficiency and the amount of production of paper money. In their charges the plate printers intimated that too much time was spent by girls employed in the bureau in administering "little dabs of paint and powder." In fact it was intimated that the plate print-

ers objected to "flappers" being employed in the bureau.

The plate printers let themselves in for trouble.

Federal Employees' Union No. 105, embracing the women employees of the bureau, at an indignation meeting, condemned the attitude of the plate printers, denied their charges and deplored their giving publicity to what they alleged to be a misstatement of facts.

Miss Gertrude McNally, secretary of the union, declared that the records of the examining division showed that the greatest percentage of spoilage of printers' work is for "sly-wipes," "lifts" and "breaks," which spoilage could in no way be attributed to the assistants.

"Plate printers are paid by the piece rate and in many instances the presses are speeded up for production at the expense of the quality of the work," Miss McNally stated.

It is predicted that the charges of

Three Meals Means Wife Does 2-Mile Walk Daily

Montgomery, Ala.—Preparation of meals for an average family means a two-mile daily kitchen marathon for the housewife, according to statistics compiled for the conference of vocational workers of the south, in session here. A pedometer attached to students in the kitchen of the model home at Livingston school showed this measurement for the stove-sink-and-pantry route covered during the period from bacon and eggs to dinner and dessert.

The Plate Printers' union will result in considerable friction in the future between the printers and their assistants, since if inefficiency does exist the responsibility for the same has been placed by one side on the other.