

## State Capitol News Public Will Remain in Dark on How Legislators Vote in Committee

LINCOLN—Roads moved back into the legislative spot light this week as two committees sent out bills to set up an advisory highway commission and to reenact the penny-a-gallon gas tax increase voted down in the 1950 referendum.

Because the Nebraska constitution requires certain state officers to live in Lincoln, sponsors of a full-time "board of directors" commission bill last week gave up on their attempts to create an executive commission and settled for the advisory group provided for in the measure sponsored by Sen. Karl Vogel of Omaha.

The gas tax bill, which would bring an estimated \$4½ million in state funds came out of the revenue committee with only one dissenting vote and was given a good chance of passage.

The proposal raises the state tax on gasoline from five to six cents a gallon. If it passes with the emergency clause, it will become effective upon signature by the governor and the highway department could take advantage of the heavy spring and summer travel in the state.

By the time the money is matched with federal funds, the prospective additional revenue is nearly \$10 million.

Lincoln position to the one in Washington except he feels he cannot afford to remain at the present salary.

A supreme court decision last week upped his pay to \$8,500 but that is still far short of the amount offered by the FCDA.

Secret—

The public will have to remain in the dark on how senators vote on bills being considered by legislative committees. That became evident last week when the lawmakers, by a vote of 23-18 turned down a motion to repudiate the "unwritten rule" against reporting individual votes in committee.

Some of the debate on the proposal raised even the hardened lobbyists, who ironically, are among the first to know how members vote in committee.

Diversion—

Thursday of next week, March 26, will be a big day in the legislature. That's the day Sen. Hugh Carson's public works committee will hold a public hearing on Sen. Richard Marvel's LB 311, the water diversion bill.

In past sessions, diversion bills have attracted huge throngs to the statehouse.

Proponents of diversion were claiming victory of a sort this week with the agreement between Tri-County and Mid-State on a water use compact.

Sen. Marvel hailed the event as "a step toward progress" but Sen. Joe Martin of Grand Island, the arch-enemy of diversion, said the Mid-State board had exposed itself to recall action by the voters.

Despite the compact, a dingo-battle was still in the making.

Plan—

A plan whereby the state could keep the services of State Engineer Harold Aitken was under consideration this week by Gov. Robert B. Crosby.

Aitken has tendered his resignation to accept a post as No. 1 assistant to former Gov. Val Peterson, now head of the federal civil defense administration.

The plan, suggested by Sen. Arthur Carmody of Trenton, chairman of the legislature's budget committee, is intended to pay Aitken a salary comparable to the one offered by the Washington post. Aitken now gets \$7,500 a year and he has been offered nearly twice that.

Carmody suggested that Aitken resign as state engineer and that somebody else be appointed to the job or that it be left vacant for a while. Then, the senator proposes, Aitken could assume the post of business manager and public relations director—a job especially created for him—at any salary Crosby cares to name.

Aitken is known to prefer his



**Veteran Merchant Dies**

John P. McManus, 62 (above), O'Neill clothier and member of a pioneer family, died unexpectedly on Monday, March 9. He had been in failing health several years and a heart attack proved fatal. Survivors include three brothers and three sisters.

## 10 Cage Letters Issued by Baker O'Neill High Crew Wins 19

Coach Paul Baker announced that the following O'Neill high basketball players would receive letters: Duane Booth, Gary Buckmaster, Bob Carroll, Larry Chace, Harold Dexter, Dave Eby, Jack Hollenbeck, George Kilcoin, Russel Miner and Warren Seger. The student managers for the Eagles this year were Fred Fetrow, Larry Fox and Lyle Fox. Elected honorary captain for the year was Jack Hollenbeck.

The O'Neill high Eagles stacked up a total of 19 wins compared to only four defeats. This makes a total of 1,193 points for the season for O'Neill with 914 for opponents, or an average of 52 points per game for O'Neill and 39 for the opponents. The two-year record for O'Neill shows 36 wins and only nine losses.

Coach Baker's kids were champs of the Holt county tournament held in O'Neill and defeated St. Joseph's of Atkinson in the finals, 49-45. In the North-Central Nebraska conference tournament held at Bassett, they claimed the championship by downing Ainsworth, 62-33, in the finals. At the class B district tournament held in O'Neill, the Blues were denied a ticket to the state tournament by Gordon, 41-43. The Broncos were ousted in the first round at the state carnival.

The total number of points scored by the individual performers during the season follows:

Gary Buckmaster	313
Dave Eby	206
Jack Hollenbeck	199
Larry Chace	198
Bob Carroll	157
George Kilcoin	61
Duane Booth	31
Warren Seger	14
Harold Dexter	11
Russel Miner	2
Clifford Closson	1

The percentage of field goals made by O'Neill was 32.4; for the opponents .264. Out of a total of 641 freethrows attempted by the Eagles, 389 were successfully executed for a percentage of 60.7. Their opponents had a total of 549 freethrow attempts, making 270 of them—a .489 clip.

Season's record:

O'Neill	Opponents
45	at St. Mary's 22
44	at Ainsworth 49
48	at Gothenburg 44
60	at Creighton 45
53	at Atkinson 30
64	at Neligh 44
64	at Spencer 17
53	at Ainsworth 37

Holt county tournament at O'Neill:

40	St. Joseph's 29
55	Chambers 36
35	St. Mary's 29
49	at Bassett 45

NCNC tournament at Bassett:

60	at Atkinson 41
62	Valentine (overtime) 40
62	Ainsworth 33
52	at Valentine 37
43	at Plainview 60
44	Burwell 31
57	at Albion 58
55	Bassett 49

Class B district tournament at O'Neill:

43	Valentine 36
82	Bassett 59
41	Gordon 43

Fire Victim Honored in 'Hope' Shower—

EWING—Miss Marion Sievers was the guest-of-honor at a party held Saturday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Jerard Spittler in Ewing. Friends and neighbors were invited guests who "showered" her with gifts to replace those in her hope chest, which was destroyed by fire when the Sievers' home recently was burned to the ground.

Miss Sievers, who is a teacher in the rural school near her ranch home, had been collecting articles for her hope chest for a period of time.

The afternoon was spent informally and the highlight of the party was the opening of the many gifts by the guest-of-honor.

The hostess served refreshments assisted by neighbors of the Sievers family.

Tune in "Voice of the Frontier," Mon., Wed., Sat., 9:45 a.m.

## Inman News

Ronnie Wolfe spent the weekend near Amelia visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Wolfe.

The Misses Luella Watson and Willa Marie Tische, who teach at Atkinson, spent the weekend visiting Miss Watson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Watson.

Harlan Morsbach, who is employed at Rapid City, S.D., came Tuesday, March 10, and spent the rest of the week in the home of his parents.

A group charivariated Mr. and Mrs. Don Lines at their home last Thursday evening.

Larry Sawyer of Stuart spent the weekend visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Sawyer.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Keyes of Valentine spent the weekend visiting in the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hansen, and family.

Harold Neilsen returned last Thursday from Gillette, Wyo., where he has been employed.

Tom Blake who recently returned from Korea spent Wednesday evening, March 11, and last Thursday visiting friends in Inman.

Harlan Morsbach, Raymond Luben and James W. Gallagher spent Wednesday, March 11, and last Thursday in Omaha where they took their preinduction physicals for the army.

The WSCSM at last Thursday at the Maxcy Memorial addition for a regular session. The program was in charge of Mrs. Wilbur Brown, who is secretary of missionary education and service. Mrs. Clarence Hansen led devotions.

Mr. and Mrs. Vern Wrede and son spent Monday in Battle Creek and Norfolk.

## Page News

A/2c and Mrs. Errol Held and son of Lowery AFB, Denver, Colo., arrived here Saturday to spend a two-weeks leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Held, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Johnson of O'Neill. On April 1 he will report in New Jersey from where he will be

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reimer and Elaine were guests Saturday evening at the Ewald Spahn home. The occasion was Doris Ann's 15th birthday anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Larson of Ewing spent Sunday afternoon at Henry Reimer's.

Mrs. Tom Lucas and Mrs. Henry Reimer attended a leaders' training meeting in Neligh on Wednesday, March 11. Forty-three ladies were present.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Tomjack and Mrs. Jewell took Vicky Ray to her home in Omaha Sunday. Mrs. Tomjack and Mrs. Jewell remained for a few days' visit at the Gene Ray and Ralph Beaudin homes.

Louis Reimer, jr., of O'Neill was a dinner guest Tuesday at Glenn Harpster's.

Mrs. Stanley Huffman and Becky spent Wednesday, March 11, in Ewing.

The tulips are up, ducks are plentiful and many have seen robins.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Larson spent Sunday evening at the H. Reimer home.

Honored on Anniversary—

A birthday party was held for Miss Kathleen Grothe Saturday in honor of her 12th birthday anniversary. Guests were Mrs. Herman Grothe and son, Duane. A lunch of ice cream, cup cakes and birthday cake was served.

The American Cancer society is seeking \$18,000,000 in its 1953 drive.

Returns from Korea

The Frank Hammons of Lynch motored to Grand Island Sunday, March 15, to meet their son, Marine Cpl. Duane R. Hammon (above), who had come from an 11-months' stay in Korea. He landed at San Francisco, Calif., Wednesday, March 11. He had served with the 11th regiment of the First marine division. He has received the Korean service and United Nations ribbons for his services. He came aboard the U.S. naval transport, General Collins, and will be assigned to a duty station in the United States after a 30-day furlough.

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Regals Honored in Farewell—

Neighbors gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Regal Friday, March 6, for a farewell party. Progressive pitch was played. Winners of high prizes were Mrs. William Mullen and Al Havranek, low prizes, Mrs. Joe Ramold and William Mullen. Lunch was served at a late hour.

The Regals are moving their home to O'Neill.

Visitors Here—

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Jackson and Marcia Lynn of Ainsworth visited Mr. and Mrs. Harold Calkins Sunday. Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Calkins are sisters.

At Kee Home—

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Livings and Jan of Sioux City spent the weekend in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Kee of Emmet.

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