

Legal Notices

State Capitol News

Liquor Commission 'Honesty' Drive

By MELVIN PAUL
The Frontier's Statehouse Correspondent

LINCOLN—While Gov. Robert Crosby has been conducting his "Operation Honesty" campaign to get full property tax returns, his state liquor commission this week continued an honesty campaign of its own among liquor dealers.

The commission's campaign is aimed at the few dealers who don't follow the law completely. But it differs from "Operation Honesty" in that it has teeth in it.

It started when the commission discovered that some dealers were blithely disregarding laws and commission rules on credit. The law is that a liquor wholesaler can't extend credit for more than 30 days to a retailer.

The legislature passed the law to keep any retailer from going far into debt he became dependent on the wholesaler.

It was also to keep the wholesaler from giving any retailer a hidden subsidy by extending him credit which neither side would ever expect to be paid off.

The commission hired a private auditing firm to check into this matter. Imagine its surprise when it learned that 150 firms in Lincoln and outstate had broken the law. Some had broken it again and again. An audit of Omaha firms was also ordered.

Although this will mean a lot of hearings, the commission is citing these firms. Indications are that pleas will be that nobody had been paying any attention to the law and so those cited shouldn't be penalized. But the commission attorneys will insist that the laws were on the books and should have been obeyed.

Another area the commission's audit has entered concerns stockholders of liquor firms. Here the legislature passed laws designed to keep any wholesale firm or any of its employees from owning stock in a retail firm. That was so a wholesaler wouldn't directly or by subterfuge get any retail outlets. The legislature was to keep the two areas completely separate.

Alleged Tie-ups—But the audit turned up some interesting evidence concerning a liquor firm at Fremont and another at Nebraska City. During the commission hearings following citing of the firms, testimony developed that a James Sutton of Omaha had a controlling in-

terest in the Fremont firm and his wife in the Nebraska City firm.

Sutton, it turned out, has been a salesman the past 19 years for the largest wholesale firm in Nebraska. And the stock in the Nebraska City firm had been bought in 1946 and held in the maiden name of his wife. They have been married 20 years, commission officials explained.

The licenses of both firms were revoked.

Considerable interest has centered around the commission's campaign. Commission officials have said that in the past they have been advised that it was all right to investigate sales to minors and closing hours and similar infractions of the law. It was estimated it might be different if the toes of "the big boys" were trod upon.

But the campaign continues for at least two reasons. One is that the commission seems solidly agreed on this matter. The other is that Governor Crosby has given his support to the entire effort.

Commission Chairman Tal Conrad has told reporters several times that continued public support will be necessary.

Business Returns—In talking about "Operation Honesty" Governor Crosby continually says he doesn't mean to imply that businessmen are the only ones who should search their souls when they make tax returns next year. He said that farmers and householders also have fallen down on the job in some cases.

When a look is taken at the figures, it is relatively easy to see why the burden of taxation was thrown on real estate this year.

For instance, the governor had a spot check made of 25 towns scattered over the state. This showed that there was a 28 percent average decrease in the amount of dollars which came from taxes on business inventories in those towns.

It might be argued that this is because the 50 percent law has been applied. But Crosby counters this with the statement: "Spot checks we have made thus far lead me to conclude that less than half the taxable business inventory property was turned in by Nebraska businessmen this year."

For instance, in Aurora the taxes on business inventories amounted to \$29,844 last year. This year they will be \$14,829 or half as much. That amount was thrown on to real estate, including homes.

Here are the percentages of decrease in dollars from this one class of property in the 25 towns listed by Crosby: Aurora, 50; Beatrice, 31; Blair, 27; Columbus, 16; David City, 13; Fairbury, 20; Falls City, 47; Fremont, 10; Hastings, 37; Hebron, 8; Holdrege, 36; Imperial, 31; Minden, 38; Nebraska City, 12; Norfolk, 24; Oakland, 47; Plattsmouth, 44; Seward,

15; Sidney, 20; South Sioux City, 23; Superior, 8; Sutton, 32; Tecumseh, 23; West Point, 32.

Crosby remarked, "This is the whole point of Operation Honesty. We must get other classes of property up in line with real estate. And that means individuals will have to make honest returns."

Solution Found—A sigh of relief could be heard all over the statehouse when it was determined that no special session of the legislature would be necessary on the highway laws "muddle."

The attorney-general ruled that federal "reimbursement" money could be used to maintain the 1,915 miles of road about which the question had arisen. Since this runs into the millions of dollars, it settled the question without any trouble.

Oddly enough, this was just another step to an earlier opinion which had thrown everything into a quandary. The attorney-general's office had ruled that a change in the wording of the highway laws by the 1953 legislature meant that gasoline tax and motor vehicle registration fee funds couldn't be used on non-statutory highways. That is, unless a highway had been put on the system by the legislature, it didn't count.

But some of the most important stretches of highway in Nebraska were in the 20 percent that the legislature hadn't placed on the system. They had been added through the years because federal aid had been used in their construction.

Failing to keep these in shape would have been unthinkable. That's why there had been considerable speculation that a special session would be necessary to straighten things out.

But the solution was found in federal "reimbursement" money. Under the present system the state first builds the highways and pays all the bills. Then it sends a voucher to the federal government for one half the amount. This comes in the form of a "reimbursement" to "pay back" the state funds.

Crosby explained the theory behind allowing their use. "Take two men who decide to buy a cow together. Suppose one uses his own money to pay for the animal. Then the other fellow later reimburses him for his half. That doesn't mean that the first fellow has to use that reimbursement money to buy more cows. He can spend it on whatever he wants. That same theory applies here."

'Slick Tricks' Lesson Heard—The Scott club met at the hall Tuesday evening, December 1, at 8 o'clock with nine members and two visitors present. Meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Frank MacDonald. The flag salute was given each member. For roll call, members told "What We Were Most Thankful For." Minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Mrs. Charles Gifford. The Christmas party and dinner were planned for Sunday, December 13, at the Scott hall. Mrs. Albert Carson and Mrs. Lett Lubber gave the lesson on "Slick Tricks."

Sandwiches, cake, coffee and tea were served at closing.—By Mary E. Lubber, news reporter.

Soldier Gets 7-Day Rest in Japan—CLEARWATER—Army Pfc. Lavern G. Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Martin, route 2, Clearwater, recently spent a seven-day rest and recuperation leave in Kobe, Japan.

Normally stationed in Korea with the 76th engineer construction battalion's company A, Johnson stayed at one of Japan's best resort hotels and enjoyed many luxuries unobtainable on the war torn peninsula.

The Clearwater soldier is a construction foreman with his unit.

Wagons, tricycles, bicycles, sleds, dolls, etc. Use our lay away plan.—Scovie's Western Auto, O'Neill.

Mrs. Albina Milacek Pieces Comforter

LYNCH—A regular meeting of the Carroll & Binkerd unit 228 of the American Legion auxiliary was held Friday evening at 8 o'clock at the home of Mrs. R. E. Kriz. Eleven members answered roll call.

The gold star chairman, Mrs. R. E. Kriz, reported a birthday card was sent to Mrs. Winifred Binkerd.

The coin cards should be returned at the January meeting.

A card of acknowledgement of the doll and clothing which were sent to the gift shop, was received.

A motion was made to send five dollars to the little red schoolhouse fund. This fund is to give help to any veteran's child who is eligible and will need aid to secure his education.

Mrs. Albina Milacek, piece a comforter top, which the auxiliary members plan to tie at the January meeting. Mrs. Louie Christensen volunteered to make the lining for the back. The comforter will be sent to some needy veteran's family.

The auxiliary has been asked to aid the bloodmobile which contemplates coming to Boyd county.

The January meeting will be on Friday, January 8.

Lunch was served by Mrs. Kriz and Mrs. G. L. Mulhair.

Other Lynch News

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nicolaus of Naper accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Martin Jehorek to Creighton on Wednesday, December 9, where they attended an oil dealers' banquet held there.

Harold, Joe, jr., and Dwight Micanek were business visitors in Omaha Sunday and Monday, December 6 and 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Alford Davy of Oakland are here visiting at the parental Glenn Davy home.

Ted Christensen of O'Neill spent the weekend at the parental Lewie Christensen home.

Fred Nagel of Lincoln spent Tuesday and Wednesday, December 8 and 9, at the Martin Jehorek home. They hunted deer.

Mr. and Mrs. Myron Hodges left last week to go to Florida to spend the winter at the home of their son, Elver, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Barnes left last Thursday for Powder where they attended the funeral of the former's cousin on Friday afternoon.

Joseph Boska and son, James, and daughter, Clara, of Tabor, S.D., visited the former's brother, Tom Boska, and sister, Mrs. Frank Prokop, sr., north of Spencer, also another sister, Mrs. Josephine Boska, northwest of Lynch.

The Catholic Altar society met with Mrs. Martin Jehorek Wednesday afternoon, December 9, with Mrs. Hannah Streit and Mrs. Anton Wasatko as co-hostesses. In the absence of the president, Mrs. Don Allen presided at the meeting. She also led in an opening and closing prayer. A social hour was enjoyed following the business meeting. The January meeting will be held with Mrs. Lewie Christensen and Mrs. Ray Counts and Mrs. Mel Lueken will be co-hostesses.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Connick and family have moved into the J. Loukota apartments. They moved here from Niobrara. Mr. Connick is the new section foreman on the C&NW railroad.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mulhair and Patsy Mulhair returned home Friday from a several days' stay in Omaha.

Mrs. Don Allen and Mrs. Albert Kalkowski visited with Mrs. Wayne Cash Friday evening.

Mrs. Gladys Davis of Riverton, Wyo., is visiting her sisters, Mrs. Guy Barnes and Mrs. Charles Bare, and families. She plans to return home this week.

The Altar society of the Assumption BVM church held a regular December meeting with Mrs. Martin Jehorek hostess and Mrs. Anton Wasatko and Mrs. Hannah Streit as co-hostesses. In the absence of the president,

Mrs. Don Allen presided at the meeting. She also led in an opening and closing prayer. After the business meeting, games were played during the social hour. Mrs. Martin Jehorek, Mrs. Jake Birmeier and Mrs. Frank Weeder won prizes. The January meeting will be held at the Lewie Christensen home and Mrs. Mel Lueken and Mrs. Ray Counts will be co-hostesses.

Mrs. Ray Long and Mrs. Willard Landholm and daughter visited at the Floyd Long home in O'Neill Monday, December 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Pickering of Dorsey visited at the John Pinkerman home Sunday.

Mrs. Hannah Streit is staying at the Charles Courtney home while they are taking a trip south.

The annual Farmers Union stockholders' meeting was held at Lynch Wednesday, December 9. Edward Carson, Frank Matejcek and Frank Fisher were re-elected to the board of directors.

Mrs. William Alford and Mrs. Kenneth McEwen were Spencer visitors Tuesday, December 8.

Mrs. Grace Edson spent last Thursday and Friday visiting in Creighton.

Stanley Greene of the navy is here on a 30-day furlough with his parents and other relatives.

When You & I Were Young . . .

Negro Sergeant Posts Notices Here

Need Enlistments at Ft. Niobrara

50 Years Ago

Mrs. S. J. Weekes departed for Omaha to spend the Christmas season with her parents. . . Martin Bazelman had business in Atkinson recently. . . J. C. Harish has been at Omaha and Lincoln for several days. . . A sergeant from the colored regiment at Ft. Niobrara was in town posting notices that a recruiting officer from the fort would be in town to enlist men who might want to go into the army from this vicinity.

20 Years Ago

Miss Violet Anderson and Robert Lamb, both of this city, were married December 5. . . The warehouse of Tom Salem of Amelia was robbed. Several hundred dollars' worth of merchandise was taken. . . While sawing wood, Clarence Hicks got his right hand in the saw, badly cut.

Ainsworth Monument Works

Ainsworth, Nebraska Display on Highway 20

Dr. Fisher, Dentist

In the Bishop Block—Nortolk Office Phone: 610 Res. Phone: 2842

ting his fingers. . . Creamery butter retailed at 15 cents a pound here. . . James W. Rooney spent a week in Lincoln getting full information for the farmers regarding the corn-hog reduction plan of the federal government. . . Joe Mann was named county CWA chairman. . . The railroad has been forced to reduce rates in order to compete with the automobiles and busses.

10 Years Ago

The O'Neill livestock sale barn is closed temporarily on account of loss of help. . . Ambrose Rohde has resigned as manager of Council Oak to be succeeded by Harold Bauman. . . William Van-Dover died in a hospital after an illness of about four years. . . John R. Osenbaugh was selected as an honor graduate at the hospital corps school, U.S. naval hospital, San Diego, Calif., and was promoted to the rating of hospital apprentice first-class. . . Pvt. Paul Kubitschek left for Ft. Logan, Colo., after a short visit here with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. F. J. Kubitschek. . . Marvin Richter and Betty Brady were married December 24. . . Joe Bartos has been promoted to the rank of corporal and is stationed at Camp Houston, Tex.

One Year Ago

Pfc. Frank Soukup expects to leave Okinawa during the Christmas week for the return trip home. . . Duane Pinnit suffered a multiple fracture of the left leg in a one-car crash two miles from Lynch. . . S/Sgt. John M. Moler arrived in O'Neill to spend a 30-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Moler. . . A rabid cat attacked four persons: Mr. and Mrs. Bob Summerer and their 17-month-old daughter, also a neighbor, Paul

Hubel. The victims are under medical treatment and observation after being bitten. . . Word was received that Pvt. Dean Van Every had reached Japan and is stationed on the northernmost island.

Venetian blinds, prompt delivery, made to measure, metal or wood, all colors.—J. M. McDonald's.

MILLER THEATER

Atkinson

Fri.-Sat. Dec. 18-19

Border Saddle-mates

also

Valley of Head Hunters

Sun.-Mon.-Tues. Dec. 20-21-22

DREAM WIFE

Wed.-Thurs. Dec. 23-24

DESERT LEGION

CRAWLER TRACTORS

- 1952 Int. TD 9 wide gauge Angle Arrow Dozer, like new \$5,750
1949 Int. TD 9 Angle Dozer \$3,750
RD 7 Cat Angle Dozer \$2,850
1950 Int. TD 6 Front End Loader \$2,650
1949 HG Cletrac \$800
1949 HG Cletrac, with Horn Loader \$750
1952 Harris 4-Wheel Drive \$2,850
NEW HD 5 Allis-Chalmers Angle Dozer

KEELEY IMPL. CO.

Valentine, Nebr.

Santa Claus COMING TO TOWN!



O'NEILL PUBLIC SCHOOL

SATURDAY, DEC. 19—2 P.M.

SANTA WANTS TO SEE YOU!

ONCE MORE the Jolly Ol' Fellow has sent word that he'll be in O'Neill on Saturday . . . so, kiddies, don't disappoint him! He'll have some goodies for the youngsters and he'll want to talk to as many of his little friends as possible.

MEETING PLACE will be the same as last year and the year before — the O'Neill Public School. Santa's helpers will be on hand to assist.

We Take This Opportunity to Extend Best Holiday Wishes on Behalf of Every Member of Our Organization

Chamber of Commerce

G. C. DeBACKER, President LAURENCE HAYNES, Secretary
— O'NEILL —

.. DANCE ..

AT O'NEILL

American Legion Auditorium & BALLROOM

ALICE & HER ORCHESTRA

Saturday, December 19th

Admission: Adults 75c; Students 50c

A sleigh full of good wishes, a pack full of joy and many stockings jammed with Yuletide cheer!



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ANNOUNCING Men's Night . . . AT . . .

Apparel Shop

Monday Evening, December 21st

From 6 until 9 O'clock Will Be for Men Only!

Your purchases will be beautifully Gift Wrapped and you will be given every assistance to make your Christmas Shopping a pleasure.

Check the lists below for HER needs:

- * COATS * SUITS * DRESSES * SWEATERS * SCARFS
* SKIRTS * BLOUSES * LINGERIE * ROBES * HANDKERCHIEFS
* PURSES * GLOVES * JEWELRY * HOSIERY