

PAGE NEWS

Clifford Graves and Bill O'Brien spent from Wednesday evening, November 26, until Sunday afternoon, November 30, with their families at Page. They are both employed at the Mead defense plant.

Mrs. Ana Thompson spent the

November 29-30 weekend at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Sterner. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hibbs and daughter, Lillian, of O'Neill were Sunday, November 30, guests at the Sterner home.

Mrs. E. A. Chichester returned home Thursday, November 27, from Hadar. She had gone there the first of the week to attend the funeral of her sister-in-law.

State Capitol News

Highway Discussion to Dominate Spotlight in Legislative Session

LINCOLN—Highways will hog the spotlight for a good share of the 1953 legislature. Amidst evidence of mounting pressure to re-enact the penny-a-gallon increase in gas taxes and to re-instate higher registration fees, a Lincoln senator last week said he plans to offer bills early in the session which will provide for a ton-mile levy on heavy trucks and buses and for a new division of the nickel-a-gallon state gas tax.

Currently, the state highway department gets two and a half cents of each nickel; the counties get 2.35 cents, of which a penny goes for graveling rural mail routes (Schroeder Law) and cities and villages get .15 of a cent.

Howard Britt, the Lincoln senator-elect, proposes that the highway department take a penny from the counties' share.

The counties would thus have 1.35 cents of which only a half cent would go to the Schroeder fund. The amount for cities and villages would remain unchanged.

Obviously, such a plan won't be popular with the counties. But Britt says, "The present practice is to assign to the counties approximately one-half of the gas tax receipts although probably less than one-fourth of these receipts come from traffic on these roads. The re-allocation measure will bring this into line. It will put the secondary roads on a loan-a-self-help basis."

Gloom—State Engineer Harold Aitken last week painted a gloomy picture of highway finance in Nebraska. He told Tax Commissioner Phillip K. Johnson, during hearings on Aitken's 1953-55 budget request that even if the 1949 revenue measures are re-enacted, all the defects in the public highway system won't be corrected in 20 years.

To bring Nebraska's roads to "tolerable condition" by 1953 would require spending at the rate of \$28,750,000 a year, he testified. If Nebraskans want to eliminate the defects found in a 1948 survey and still not remedied, and wanted to do the job in ten years, Aitken said, they would have to spend \$49,354,000 a year, well over twice the present rate. Currently, the department has something like \$18,220,000 to spend.

Aitken complained that he is requested to present his budget request on the basis of current revenues whereas other departments which are not supported by special taxes, submit theirs on the basis of need. He said he thinks that the governor in preparing a budget recommendation, should consider the element of need.

Aide—Governor-Elect Robert B. Crosby has made first appointment: Max Denney of Fairbury to be administrative assistant to the governor. Denney is the former Jefferson county attorney who handled Crosby's outstate campaign.

The new governor said it had been difficult to get Denney to take the job and he was hurrying to announce it "so that Mr. Denney will have no chance to change his mind."

Statehouse gossip was that Denney had been offered his choice of the aide's post or the insurance commissioner's job.

Impact—The Nebraska supreme court this week has under advisement

Dr. Edw. J. Norwood, O.D. Optometrist, from Crawford, Nebraska, will be in O'Neill on DECEMBER 19 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. At the Hotel Golden Eyes Scientifically Examined. Glasses Properly Fitted

ARRIVING FROM KOREA

Mrs. Joe Kubik received word from her son, Tom Kubik, EN, that he will arrive in the U. S. about December 16 from Korea where he has been for the past eight months. Seaman Kubik enlisted in 1947 and served 18 months. He was called back to duty in March, 1952.

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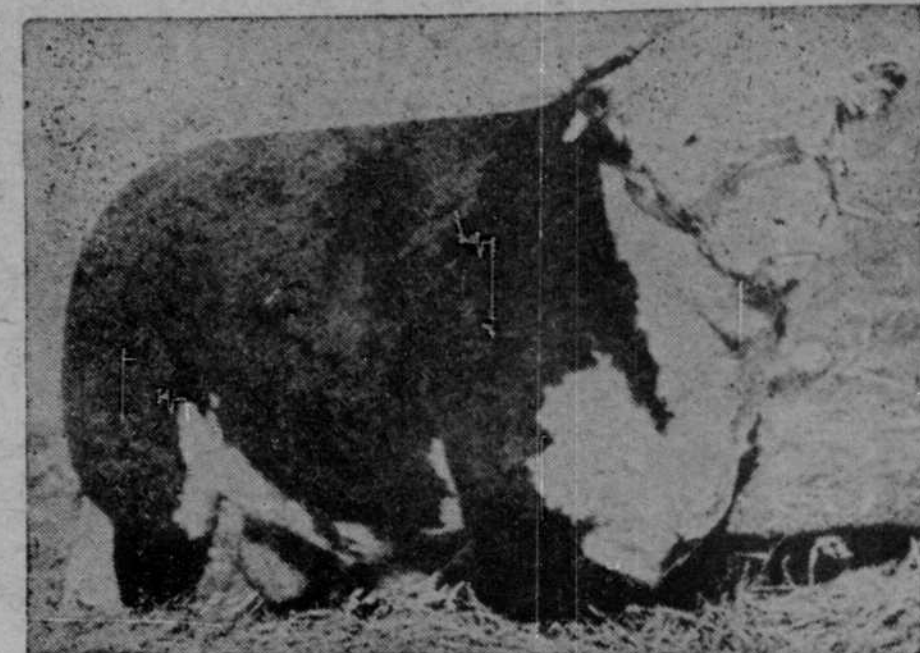
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THURSDAY, DEC. 11th

At About 3:00 O'Clock

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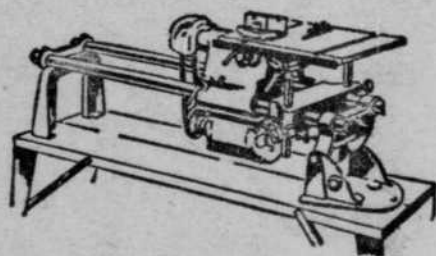
If you're one of those folks who's learning the advantages of our special checking account, your check-book enables you to pay by mail, to carry funds without risk of loss or theft, to keep an accurate account of expenses through check stubs, and get a receipt for every purchase in the form of a cancelled check. If you still run the risk and inconvenience of paying by cash, we urge you to come in and get details on a checking account today!

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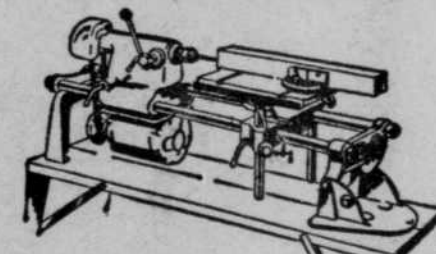
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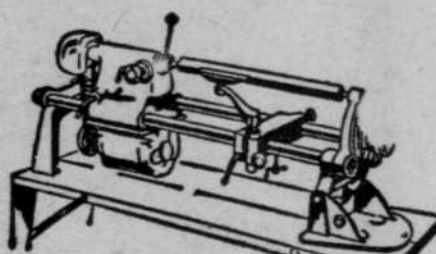
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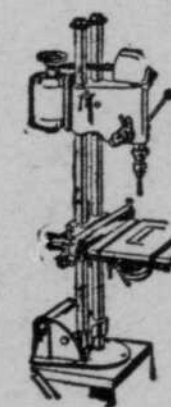
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