

Legislators Favor Board, Gas Tax, Survey Shows

Candidates Approve Extensive Building Program, Directors of Highway Association Told.

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee. Columbus, Neb., Sept. 12.—That the gasoline tax for Nebraska and the creation of a state highway commission has only met with opposition by 6 or 7 per cent of the candidates for the state legislature interviewed was the declaration made today by P. H. Clement, Lincoln legislative secretary for the Nebraska Good Roads association whose officers and board of directors met here today. Mr. Clement declared that the suggested program of the Good Roads association, to cover a period of six years and to include the paving of 500 miles of state road at \$28,000 a mile, the graveling of 3,000 miles of road at \$3,000 a mile and the grading of 2,100 miles of road at \$3,500 a mile along with the construction of bridges and culverts on state roads at a total cost of \$5,000,000 making a total cost of road improvement for the next six years of \$41,650,000 was met with the approval of legislative candidates.

Traffic Increasing.

Mr. Clement said that 50 Nebraska towns during the past two weeks have taken a census of local, county, visiting county and out of state cars and reports from 36 of the towns indicate a 23 per cent increase in automobile traffic over two years ago, while in some places out of state cars passing through Nebraska showed an increase of 83 per cent.

Frank H. Beels, field secretary for the Nebraska Good Roads association since March 15, declared today that he had visited 23 towns in Nebraska in an effort to interest them in the program of the association and declared that it was useless to touch on towns of less than 600 people because of their apathy toward road progress in general.

"In some of the towns there has been a hearty response," he said. "In others the interest has been nominal. Civic organizations in many sections of the state during the past year have been suffering from lack of life. It makes it hard to put the program across."

Publicity Campaign.

Beels suggested the organization of a publicity campaign for the association declaring that the work was not getting enough notice in the Omaha and Lincoln papers except from a few towns where there were press correspondents. He favors the division of the highway association into two sections, the first to embrace Lincoln and Omaha and the second the rest of the towns in the state. The state convention of the Nebraska Good Roads association will be held in Hastings October 3, directors announced at the close of today's meeting.

Test of Surfacing to Be Made on Blue Grass Road

Glenwood, Ia., Sept. 12.—Mills county supervisors have authorized the highway commission to lay two miles of experimental road surfacing on the Blue Grass road east of Glenwood. A convenient detour has been arranged, and within two weeks the work will be started, and, weather permitting, will be finished within a month.

AT THE THEATERS

Wives can learn a great deal about keeping hubby at home nights when they see "Lovey Mine" the modern musical farce of matrimonial mishaps starting at the Empress today. The new Empress players in entering the second week of their long stay here have already made themselves favorites. The company both in numbers and talent is the best musical comedy organization that the Empress has thus far presented.

Mulroy, McNeese and Ridge, whirlwind dance artists on rollers at the Orpheum this week are a trio of clever entertainers. Mulroy executes a buck and wing dance that is wonderful. Another feature of the act is a double waltz clog. Old-timers who know this dance understand the necessity of keeping perfect time in tapping. This phenomenal team never misses a tap and are always in perfect time with the rhythm of music. Basking in the rays of the footlights for one consecutive week only will have been the experience of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Pauley after their two final appearances at the Gayety today in conjunction with "Runnin' Wild," for on Monday morning 23-year-old Lloyd will go back to his job as common laborer for the Omaha Street Railway company and his 64-year-old bride will again take up the never-ending duties of housekeeping in their little furnished room at 2018 Howard street.

"Fast Steppers" is next week's attraction at the Gayety theater starting Sunday matinee with the usual daily matinees. This is a new offering on the Columbia Circuit and is sponsored by Ed E. Daley, whose "Runnin' Wild" closes its engagement tonight. Far afield went Daley in peopling his new Columbia Burlesque attraction. Into the ranks of big time vaudeville he went for Ollie DeBrow and Princess Mysteria, The Human radio. Musical comedy was combed until he emerged with Grace Wallace and Jules Howard while the cabarets yielded Jimmie Van, Harry Evanson and Mae Dix, the twain of featured players, have already won local burlesque-buyers through their cleverness in previous entertainments.

EPIDEMIC TAKES TOLL OF 2,630

By Associated Press. Tokio, Sept. 12.—The meningitis epidemic now sweeping Japan has resulted in 2,630 deaths out of a total of 4,878 cases reported, according to government reports made public today, which place the death rate at 54 per cent. The epidemic is subsiding, the report shows.

J. W. Davis Urges Ample National Defense on Sea

Must Not Think Only in Terms of Land Armaments, He Says; Praises General Pershing.

Chayenne, Wyo., Sept. 12.—Adequate national defense, particularly on the sea, was urged here tonight by John W. Davis, the democratic presidential candidate, in an address dealing in part with Defense Day. America cannot throw away the sword when other scabbards are not empty, Mr. Davis said, adding that "reasonable provision for the national defense is one of the first duties of the state."

With equal emphasis he urged that America work for the peace of the world, declaring the duty and interest of the country alike demanded "exertion in the cause of peace no less courageous than valor in the time of war."

Calling attention that this day had been one for taking stock of a portion of the national defense, Mr. Davis told his audience that the United States would make a mistake if it thought in terms only of land armaments, that the defense of the country lies first of all upon the sea. Assailing the administration for permitting American naval strength to fall below the five-five-three ratio provided by the Washington arms conference treaty, Mr. Davis called attention also to the fact that the position of the United States with respect to light cruisers, submarines and air-planes carriers is "still more disadvantageous."

Hits at Arms Meet.

The democratic nominee said that when the arms conference ended the public gathered the impression that equality in naval equipment between Great Britain and America was assured and American superiority over Japan at the ratio of 5 and 3 was fixed for the next 10 years. He added that he did not charge that this was the result of any intentional misrepresentations, but that the country was entitled to know that the conference dealt in no way with "modern cruisers, with submarines, or the auxiliaries of the fleet."

"We must not let praise for the good intent that lay behind the Washington conference," he said, "blind us to the partial and inadequate character of its scope and results."

Praising General Pershing's services, the democratic nominee said the general should "be made to know that he carries with him the respect, the admiration and gratitude of his countrymen in his retirement."

"We make use of this anniversary," Mr. Davis said, "to take stock of a portion of our national defense. We are inspecting our military equipment and calling up for review those who constitute our regular and our citizen army. We cannot throw away the sword when other scabbards are not empty, and reasonable provision for the national defense is one of the first duties of the state. For in a world where human passions rage, it is the mere counsel of prudence in time of peace to prepare for war. Yet we are not a militaristic people. Let us hope we never will become so."

Prepare for Peace.

"We will make poor use of this day and the lessons that it teaches if we think only in terms of national defense and preparedness for war. It is more important far that we should prepare for peace. This generation of man has had its lesson surely concerning war and the countless evils that follow in its train. It knows the draft it makes on human lives and human happiness and the burdens that it leaves on the shoulders of men and women around the world. It knows also what vast and unnamed horrors lie hidden in the future if war should come again. Surely we have as much vision, of effort and

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of courage to contribute to the prevention of war as to its successful conduct when it comes.

"Make no mistake—war cannot be prevented by the good will of any single power, no matter how just or how generous. It cannot, as we have seen, be warded off by a fleet, however large. Neither can it be destroyed merely by outlawing certain of its implements or lessening martial equipment. It can be banished from the life of nations only by concerted effort. The duty and the interest of America alike demand exertion in the cause of peace no less courageous than valor in time of war."

K. OF C. VOCATION COURSES TO OPEN

The Knights of Columbus vocational schools of Omaha will begin their sixth year of activity Friday, September 26. The schools are carrying on the policy initiated during the war which is expressed in the slogan, "Everybody welcome, everything free." No religious test is required for admission to the school nor are religious services conducted. Anyone who served in the war in the army, navy or marine corps and can show an honorable discharge, is entitled to take any course offered by the school without charge.

The schools are conducted in three units. The auto school has shops and classrooms on the ground floor of the Industrial building at Seventh and Webster streets. The school of stenography is located on the second floor of the Arthur building. Classes are taught by Mrs. Mary Hinchev and Miss Jo Garvey. The other classes are conducted at Creighton university. The courses and instructors are: Accounting, William McCormick; bookkeeping, Miss Marie Mackin; commercial law, Amos Henely; mechanical drawing, Robert Galt; public speaking, L. D. Kavanaugh, and salesmanship, George Stocking.

Cambridge—Southwest Nebraska association of independent telephone men held its annual meeting. A feature was a banquet at the Keith restaurant.

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