

# THE FRONTIER

D. H. Cronin, Editor and Proprietor

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## SALARY PAYMENT MAKES OFFICERS FIRST CREDITORS

(Continued from page 1.)

were done, no question could, in our judgment arise.

"What we have said with regard to the general fund would, of course, be equally applicable to other funds, if there are any, from which any of the county employees may be paid.

"Finally, we are quite firmly of the opinion that the payment of the salaries to county officers and employees may not be used as a cloak to cover up transactions which are forbidden by statute. The statute forbids the issuance of warrants representing provable claims against the funds of the county in excess of a certain amount and this limitation must be observed."

The above statements must not, under any consideration, be interpreted as official from the Attorney General's office. We have discussed this matter with a number of Nebraska's leading attorneys and these gentlemen without an exception, have interpreted the law directly opposite from the above quotation.

We believe it is right and proper to suggest that the Attorney General's office must certainly understand that in view of the fact that 40 per cent to 50 per cent of the revenue of many counties is derived from other than General Property levies and to justify or alibi a procedure of this kind on the part of public officials to all intents and purposes practically annuls tax limitations so far as they apply to county affairs.

We believe our county officials should be paid their compensation promptly and we are also most emphatically of the opinion that if the business of the counties of the state of Nebraska is run as it should be, there will be no trouble in that regard and it is certainly logical to assume that our county officials might exercise greater care in the obligations incurred for the county if all bills and compensations were paid in the order as filed, as many attorneys have expressed the opinion that this was the real intent of the law.

## Recreation Association

Monday the Dramatic club started a study of the American stage and stage terminologies. From this study they hope to be able to present a really professional play. Next week in addition to a continuance of this weeks work the possibilities of working up and presenting a Puppet show will be discussed. A Puppet will be on display for a study of its construction and manner of operation. New members are Delta Gunn, Helene Suchy and Margaret Pruss.

The Art club because of its size has been divided and the grade school members will now meet from four to five o'clock Tuesday afternoon and those members in high school and older will meet at seven thirty Tuesday evening. New members are as follows: Jerome Gallagher, Norma Sheetz, Bill Gallagher, Lois Sterner, John Gallagher, Dwayne Cavanaugh, Clyde Warford, Junior Vorce, Venneta Chaney. This brings the enrollment to fifty-seven members.

Wednesday evening the Archery and Kite club had a demonstration by Mr. Ovington of Omaha, in the art of archery. All of his equipment is made by himself. He is an expert in shooting a bow and arrow and uses them instead of a gun in hunting. During the meeting he gave an exhibition of his skill and instruction to each of the members who took turns using his equipment. After the kite contest which will be held soon the club will start making bows.

At seven o'clock the members of the Boxing club, of grade school age, met in the gym and after a routine of exercises received instruction in shadow boxing. The last half hour was spent in individual bouts. At eight o'clock the older group met and in addition to exercises, they practiced catching

punches and shadow boxing. There were several good fast bouts the latter part of the meeting. A number of spectators attended the last meeting, among them was Mr. Gates of Omaha, and Mr. Champion and Mr. McCarthy of Norfolk. Anyone interested in watching the bouts is welcome. There is no admission charge.

The Handcraft club continued work that had been started on book ends. During the institute held last week many new ideas on making small articles were given. The construction of Puppets and work with paper mache was learned and offers unlimited opportunities for interesting meetings.

## LEGISLATURE STILL BATTLES OVER FIVE CENT GAS TAX BILL

(Continued from page 1.)

of difference. The truckers want only those who were operating trucks on April 1, 1936, to come under the regulation; the commission says that the date should be Jan. 1, 1937.

Before a crowd of prominent Nebraska educators which packed the senate lounge, the education committee of the legislature heard arguments on the teacher retirement bill, LB138. Miss Sarah T. Muir, president of the Nebraska State Teachers' association, presided and introduced the following speakers: Miss Esther Montgomery, president of the Lincoln Teachers' association, who made the introductory statement; Dr. Wildred Paine of the faculty of the Omaha Municipal University, who discussed the "Sociological Base of Retirement—What Will Retirement Do for Education?"; and Mrs. M. S. McDuffie of Norfolk. C. Ray Gates, superintendent of schools at Grand Island and W. J. Braham, superintendent of schools at North Platte, all of whom spoke on "The Need for Retirement in Nebraska."

Two-minute talks in favor of the bill were given by Miss Olivia Pound, dean of girls at the Lincoln high school; Mrs. W. Leroy Davis of the Lincoln League of Women Voters; H. M. Eaton of Omaha; Mrs. Percy Powell, president of the Nebraska P. T. A.; Miss E. Ruth Prytle, principal of the Bancroft school; W. A. Robbins of the Lincoln school board; Mrs. Grace C. Hyatt, state president of the Women's Educational club, and Dr. C. F. Dienst, deputy state superintendent. Galon Saylor, director of the N. S. T. A. department of research, and E. F. Estes, actuary of the Banker's Life Insurance company, discussed actuarial data, and C. A. Bowers, executive secretary of the N. S. T. A., gave the final rebuttal and summary. He also introduced school board members from Scottsbluff, North Platte, York, Fullerton, Wayne, Grand Island and other Nebraska towns. The committee as yet has taken no action on the bill.

Other bills which have been passed are LB126, which makes the maximum sentence for habitual criminals twenty years; LB82, which gives authority to library boards to sell property after sufficient notice of sale has been given; and LB122, by which a \$2 process charge for service on corporations in compensation court cases is removed.

The bill introduced by Lester Dunn to raise the salaries in the

offices of several registers of deeds, was gilled by a vote of 30 to 3. Charles Warner made the motion to kill, stating that he did not think this the time to raise salaries, and calling attention to the fact that county officers have had no salary cuts through the depression.

The government committee has approved three bills which are intended to make more clear the puzzling status of the office of state land commissioner, abolished by the voters, but continued by the supreme court. By these bills all duties of the office would be taken away and assigned to other officials. The governor is made the custodian of the capitol.

Public hearing was held Monday night, March 15, before the government committee on LB395, which would establish a permanent legislative council of ten legislators and the speakers to prepare a legislative program; also on LB394, which provides for annual legislative sessions, and alternative methods of calling special sessions; also on LB306, which would provide for appointment by the legislative reference bureau of a constitutional reviewer of all bills before the legislature. LB286 was discussed. It calls for the preservation by the State Historical society of all documents relating to former United States land offices in Nebraska.

For six hours, in a crowded senate chamber, the legislative labor committee listened to arguments for and against the constitutional child labor amendment, but as yet has not taken action. Nebraska is the only midwestern farm state that has not yet approved the amendment, Kansas being the latest state to ratify the proposal. The amendment will become effective if just eight more states ratify. A telegram was received from Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, urging ratification, and Mrs. Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania was among the many speakers in favor of the amendment.

The legislative judiciary committee held a wholesale execution of liquor bills and succeeded in killing fifteen measures providing for amendments to the 1935 Nebraska liquor law. One measure only escaped the judicial axe, and that was LB433, which permits taking appeals from the Nebraska liquor commission to the courts. It was advanced to the general file.

By a single vote the police merit system bill was advanced to third reading. Most of the opposition came from legislators from out in the state, who insisted that the matter is entirely one for the decision of Omaha voters. The clause requiring 15 years' service for the chief of police was stricken out on motion of William Diers of Gresham.

The agriculture committee has reported favorably on the bill to place more power on the state game, forestation and parks commission and to revise parts of the present game and fish laws, and the measure has been advanced to the general file. The bill was championed by Nebraska sportsmen and members of the Nebraska Izaak Walton league. Among its provisions, the commission would have power to fix open seasons on various kinds of game and fish.

A fund will be created from automobile license fees with which to reimburse hospitals which care for

indigent persons, injured in car accidents, if the legislature passes a bill sponsored by Dr. A. L. Miller of Kimball, and approved by the miscellaneous subjects committee and advanced to general file. The measure provides for the diversion into the fund of 19 cents from each automobile license fee.

Public power districts are not to be allowed to construct transmission lines diagonally across private property. The commerce committee has postponed indefinitely LB199, which would have permitted this.

Several bills transferring the duties of the abolished land commissioner to other departments will not become effective until January, 1939, if the legislature approves the decision of the committee on government. Since the Supreme Court has ruled that the state must pay the \$5,000 per year salary of the land commissioner for the next two years, the committee holds that he should do some work. In case a proposed constitutional amendment is adopted, the state superintendent of public instruction will take the land commissioner's place on the state board of educational lands and funds.

The legislature has passed and the governor has signed LB75, which permits peace officers to obtain search warrants to seek weapons used in the commission of a felony. The bill had its origin in the Otha Taylor murder case at Nebraska City, and it was introduced by Robert M. Armstrong of Auburn.

By a vote of 38-0, the legislature passed the bill requiring banks to build up a surplus equal to 20 per cent of the paid up stock before declaring dividends.

Hearings have been held before the revenue committee on LB22, which provides for the refunding to users of airplane fuel the amount of funds collected under the four-cent tax on gasoline not used by the aeronautics commission; also before the highway committee on LB411, which requires payment of the fifty-cent port of entry fees on gasoline to the state highway fund, instead of to the pure food and drug fund.

The state board of educational lands and funds may now invest up to \$150,000 in dormitory bonds of the University of Nebraska, or in student activity bonds of state normal schools, according to the provisions of LB37, which was passed with the emergency clause.

Another bill passed by a vote of 33 to 4 was LB 59, which increases the amount of sewer bonds municipalities may issue in one year from \$25,000 to \$50,000. This bill was particularly designed for the aid of the city of Columbus, where it was desired to build a storm sewer with federal aid. The former maximum of \$25,000 would not pay the city's share of the project. Now more money can be raised.

No action has yet been taken on the bill providing for the recall of county officials, but the government committee has reported favorably to the legislature on bills providing strict budgeting regulations for county expenditures and making provision for annual audits and standard accounting. Favorable action is looked for on LB250, which carries the proposed constitutional amendment permitting voters to change their form of government if they wish.

Governor Cochran signed three bills Friday. They were LB126, which makes twenty years the maximum sentence for habitual criminals; LB78, which requires banks to have a surplus equal to 20 per cent of the paid-up capital stock before declaring dividends; and LB79, which allows banks to pledge assets in lieu of bonds to accept federal fund deposits.

**EMPTYING THE GRAB-BAG**  
If you are an average person, government spent \$142 of your

money last year. If you are head of a family of four that means \$568 of your earnings went for taxes.

The total cost of government, according to the Commentator, was close to \$18,000,000,000 in 1936. That represents spending at the rate of almost \$1,500,000,000 a month; \$49,000,000 a day, Sundays and holidays included, and \$34,000 a minute.

These are staggering figures—and another comparison made by the Commentator is also staggering. In 1913, the national income was \$343 per capita, and the total government debt, Federal, state and local, was only about one-sixth as much, \$59.29.

In 1936, our national income was \$469 per capita—and total governmental debt \$422!

The American people are burdened with a debt of incalculable size. They are faced with taxes that can only be described by the word confiscatory. And still they permit the politicians to spend extravagantly—while they too often scramble for their part of the bounty like islanders for coins.

Is it possible that we will not awaken until the grab-bag is empty?

## Minutes of Meetings of the County Board

O'Neill, Nebraska, February 2, 1937, 1:00 P. M.

Holt County Board of Supervisors met as per adjournment. All members present. Meeting called to order by Chairman.

At this time, Board began the annual audit of County Officers and spent the afternoon in checking officers.

5:00 P. M. On motion, Board adjourned until February 3, 1937, 9:00 A. M.

J. C. STEIN, Chairman.  
John C. Gallagher, Clerk.

O'Neill, Nebraska, February 3, 1937, 9:00 A. M.

Holt County Board of Supervisors met as per adjournment. All members present. Meeting called to order by Chairman. Minutes of previous meeting were read and on motion were approved as read.

Board spent forenoon in making an inspection of the New Court House and Jail building.

12:00 noon. On motion, Board adjourned until 1:00 P. M.

J. C. STEIN, Chairman.  
John C. Gallagher, Clerk.

O'Neill, Nebraska, February 3, 1937, 1:00 P. M.

Holt County Board of Supervisors met as per adjournment. All members present. Meeting called to order by Chairman.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Matousek, that Peter Kiewit Son's Co., general contractors, on the new court house building, be requested to repaint with good grade of paint of a light color all the walls in the building which were prime coated through error of the subcontractor.

Carried.  
Motion by Sullivan, seconded by Carson that this Board appropriate \$2,800.00 for Road Dragging purposes for year 1937.

The Aye and Nay vote being asked for on this motion resulted as follows:

Aye:	Nay:
Matousek	Reimer
Carson	
Smith	
Sullivan	
Gibson	

As a result of the above vote the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Motion by Carson, seconded by Matousek that this Board appropriate \$28,000.00 for Road fund purposes for the year 1937.

Carried.

Board also spent some time in checking County Officers.

5:00 P. M. On motion, Board adjourned until February 4, 1937, 9:00 A. M.

J. C. STEIN, Chairman.  
John C. Gallagher, Clerk.

O'Neill, Nebraska, February 4, 1937, 9:00 A. M.

Holt County Board of Supervisors met as per adjournment. All members present except Stein. In absence of Chairman Stein, it was moved, seconded and carried that Ed J. Matousek act as temporary Chairman. Meeting called to order

by temporary Chairman. Minutes of previous meeting were read and on motion were approved as read.

Board spent forenoon in checking County Officers.

12:00 noon. On motion, Board adjourned until 1:00 P. M.

J. C. STEIN, Chairman.  
John C. Gallagher, Clerk.

O'Neill, Nebraska, February 4, 1937, 1:00 P. M.

Holt County Board of Supervisors met as per adjournment. All members present except Stein. Meeting called to order by temporary chairman.

5:00 P. M. On motion, Board adjourned until February 5, 1937, 9:00 A. M.

J. C. STEIN, Chairman.  
John C. Gallagher, Clerk.

12:00 noon. On motion, Board adjourned until 1:00 P. M.

J. C. STEIN, Chairman.  
John C. Gallagher, Clerk.

O'Neill, Nebraska, February 5, 1937, 1:00 P. M.

Holt County Board of Supervisors met as per adjournment. All members present except Stein. Meeting called to order by temporary chairman.

Mr. Latenser, the architect on the new court house and jail building met with the Board and discussed with the Board the progress made to date on the new building and also discussed the possible completion (Continued on page 5, column 6.)

**COMMUNITY PUBLIC SALE**  
DATE CHANGED TO  
**Saturday, March 20**  
Remember we will sell anything and everything regardless of what it is. If you have anything to sell bring it to this sale. No sale, no charge.  
Auctioneers:  
**JIM and GEORGE**  
Ed Murray, Clerk  
John L. Quig, Manager

**EASTER CANDIES and NOVELTIES**

BUTTER CREAM RABBITS and CHICKENS, per lb.	20c
EASTER CANDIES in Decorated Gift Boxes, per box	29c
BASKETS Filled With EASTER EGGS and RABBITS	10c, 15c and up according to size
EASTER TOYS and NOVELTIES—each	10c and 15c
ALUMINUM CAKE DECORATOR SET, Complete for	20c
EASTER BIRD EGGS	15c
Per pound	15c
CHOCOLATE CREAM EGGS	5c and 10c
Each	5c and 10c
LARGE COLORED EASTER EGGS, each	1c
APPROPRIATE EASTER CARDS With Envelopes	3 for 5c 2 for 5c and 5c each

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