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Geo. P. Bent Co., of Chicago

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NEBRASKA NEWS

State Railway Commission Completes Its First Report.

6 ELECTRIC STREET RAILWAYS.

Two Are Operating in Omaha and Four in Lincoln—Two Hundred and Eight Telephone Companies in Nebraska—At Date of Report, June 30, 1908, 54,338 Farms Had 'Phones. Over 125,000 Instruments Used.

Omaha, May 3.—The forthcoming report of the Nebraska state railway commission, the first since the organization of the body, will prove of decided interest because of the detailed information it will put before the public touching the various corporations now under the control of the commission. The year covered by the figures ended June 30, 1908.

This report, now in press, will show that there are six electric railways doing business in the state; two being credited to Omaha and four to Lincoln; passengers, carried year ending June 30, 1908, 51,182,242; capital stock, \$16,944,648; stockholders, 693; assets, \$28,957,175.60; and liabilities, \$28,977,890.82; miles of track operated, 186; gross earnings six companies, \$2,711,238.83; net income six companies, \$1,397,853.94.

Statistics of Telephones.
In Nebraska 208 telephone companies were doing business on June 30, 1908, the number being somewhat increased since then. Stockholders in the companies numbered 13,253 and there were 2,619 employees on the payrolls. Miles of wire, 61,549. Of subscribers living on farms there were 54,338, indicating that conversation between rural residents can be carried on from farm to farm with as much celerity and almost as generally as in the thickly populated city. Of city subscribers there were 30,917, or 17,421 less than the number taking telephone service on the farms of Nebraska. Of course, the larger number credited to farms cover a tremendous extent of territory. In all, there were 125,209 telephones installed at the date mentioned.

The fifty-two companies with the higher capitalization represented an investment of \$9,747,353 for construction and \$10,858,439 for plants, buildings, cash and all other assets, a total of \$20,605,792 as carried on the books of the companies.

The 156 companies with the smaller capitalization gave the book cost of construction as \$1,388,771.

Gross earnings for the year of the fifty-two larger companies amounted to \$2,401,896, while operating expenses were set down at \$1,798,427. Dividends on stock and interest was paid to the amount of \$483,219 by thirty-seven of the fifty-two larger companies.

GOVERNOR NAMES DELEGATES

Will Represent Nebraska at Four National Conventions.

Omaha, May 3.—Governor Shallenberger has appointed Dr. Roscoe Pound of Chicago and Dr. Samuel Avery, chancellor of the state university, delegates to the second national peace congress, which will be held in Chicago, May 3 and 5. The governor has appointed delegates to represent Nebraska at the third international conference on state and local taxation in Louisville, Sept. 21 to 24; the seventh national irrigation congress in Spokane, Aug. 9 to 14, and the national conference of charities and correction in Buffalo, June 9 to 16.

The delegates are as follows: Taxation conference—C. C. Craig of Kearney, W. S. Schriver of Omaha, H. A. Edwards of Grand Island; alternates, Shell Clark of Columbus, E. O. Bernicker of Seward, W. O. Downing of York.

National Irrigation Congress—W. S. Moreland of McCook, Grant L. Shumway of Scott's Bluff, A. M. Morrissey of Valentine, Charles Coffee of Chadron, D. Clem Deaver of Omaha, James D. McDonald of North Platte, Adna Dobson of Lincoln, Henry T. Clarke of Omaha, C. A. Edwards of Kearney, E. A. Cudaby of Omaha, H. O. Smith of Lexington, P. T. Francis of Crawford, M. B. Smith of Bridgeport, W. A. Sharpnack of Alma and J. G. Beeler of North Platte.

Charities and Correction—Miss Grace Abbott of Grand Island, Miss Lena Ward of Milford, A. W. Clark, Mrs. W. R. Adams of Omaha, Mrs. Harriet Heller of Omaha, Miss Ida V. Jonts of Omaha, Moky Bernstein of Omaha, Dr. C. E. Privy of Lincoln, John Davis of Lincoln, B. D. Hayward of Lincoln, L. Eaver of Lincoln, George E. Howard of Lincoln, Mrs. Anna Doyle of Lincoln, Joel A. Piper of Lincoln, Mrs. Mary R. Morgan of Alma, C. B. Manuel of Kearney, Miss Lydia McMahon of Geneva, Miss Lucille Evans of Lincoln, P. H. Matters of Omaha, A. D. Brandeis of Omaha.

Wolf Bounty Fund Exhausted.
Lincoln, May 3.—The last warrant for the payment of wolf bounty claims has been mailed out from the office of the auditor. The total amount of the warrants was \$29,992.50, leaving a balance of \$6.50. The next claim on the list was for \$7.50 and was filed by W. E. LeFever of Benkelman. The auditor has written Mr. LeFever that if he desires to accept \$6.50 and then put in a deficiency claim for \$1 he will send him the remainder of the \$30,000 appropriated by the late legislature.

ASSESSMENT BOARD MEETS

First Session of New Body Is Held in Lincoln.

Lincoln, May 4.—The state board of assessment met to begin the valuation of railroad property for taxation purposes. It is likely it will be a week or two before the board gets down to real work, as three of the members are new to the business and it will take some time for them to get onto the ropes.

The new members are Governor Shallenberger, Land Commissioner Cowles and Auditor Barton. Mr. Barton is now in Chicago looking after some insurance companies and was not here when the board organized.

The board re-elected Chris Schavland for its secretary and by virtue of his position the governor is ex-officio chairman.

Considerable interest attaches to its final action in the matter of the assessment of railroad property.

Wants Boys to Grow Corn.

In 6,858 school districts of Nebraska, 5,000 of which are in the "corn belt" of the state, Superintendent E. C. Bishop of the department of public instruction is looking for 50,000 boys to plant at least one ear of good corn and cultivate it with such care that it will be permitted to enter prize winning classes at the National Corn exposition in Omaha and the state contest in Lincoln. The state superintendent has mailed letters to all superintendents and principals in the state, as well as to the newspapers, urging co-operation with the schools to make all work educational; make all work enjoyable, and all work profitable by the combined action of hands and brains.

TO TEST GUARANTY LAW

Bankers Retain John L. Webster to Bring Action in Court.

Omaha, May 1.—That the bankers of Omaha and Nebraska are determined in their purpose to test the validity of the bank deposit guaranty law passed by the recent legislature was shown at a meeting held at the Rome hotel, which was attended by a number of the representative state and national bankers of the state.

Since the meeting held some weeks ago to consider the question the proposition has been thoroughly canvassed and a committee has been formed to arrange what is termed a friendly suit to carry the matter through the courts and the members of the committee were present at the meeting. The personnel of the committee is: C. F. McGrew of Omaha, J. W. Welpton of Ogalala, F. H. Claridge of Blair, E. E. Halstead of Ponca, George F. Sawyer of Western, George N. Seymour of Elgin, S. H. Burnham of Lincoln, Luther Drake of Omaha, A. L. Clark of Hastings and F. McGiverin of Fremont.

John L. Webster of Omaha has been retained by the committee as counsel.

A statement was given out at the close of the meeting to the effect that it was considered desirable that the validity of the law should be tested at the outset by a friendly suit.

MAN AND MONEY MISSING

Hastings Authorities Looking for Administrator of Horn Estate.

Hastings, Neb., May 3.—In the hope of finding J. H. McCarthy of Lincoln, the missing administrator in the Helen A. Horn estate, the authorities are seeking Miss Effie Moline, a Hastings girl, who recently has been known to have been in the company of McCarthy in Chicago. Miss Moline was expected here from Lincoln last week to join her brother and sister, but for some unknown reason she changed her plans and went through the city without getting off the train.

Entrusted in McCarthy's care as administrator of the Horn estate was a large sum of money, slightly more than \$10,000, and all of this is missing.

SOREY ACQUITTED OF MURDER

Pleads Self Defense in Trial at Bloomfield and Jury Takes His View.

Bloomfield, Neb., May 1.—Halum Sorey, who on Feb. 11 last stabbed and killed Mike Effie in Maxwell's billiard hall in Bloomfield, had his trial in the district court of Knox county. Sorey pleaded self defense.

The case went to the jury late in the afternoon and after being out less than half an hour returned a verdict of not guilty. Sorey, who had been out on bail since the preliminary hearing before Judge Barge, in February, was immediately released.

Smith Well Known in Crete.

Crete, Neb., May 1.—Porter Smith, the Northampton (Mass.) murderer and suicide, was well known to a number of Crete people, having former classmates who are now instructors in Doane college. He was a prominent fraternity man and as a representative of a Chicago shoe house had two customers here. He was in Crete early the present month visiting with his friend, Professor Carnes, athletic director of Doane college.

Earthquake in Brown County.

Norfolk, Neb., May 4.—According to advices just received here a distinct earthquake shock was felt in various portions of Brown county. No damage is reported. Brown county is sparsely settled except in the northern portion.

Auto Runs Over Boy.

Seward, Neb., May 3.—The little son of Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Truitt of Milford fell out of the family automobile and the back wheel of the machine ran over his chest, breaking several ribs and injuring his lungs.

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Yearlings, \$19 to \$23
2-year-old, \$24 to \$27
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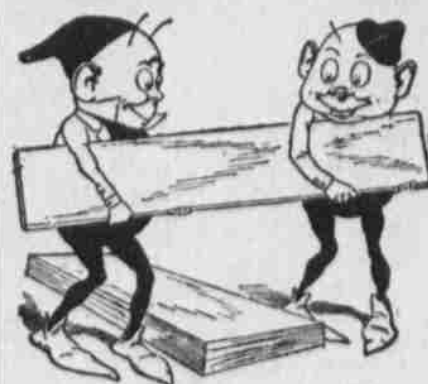
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