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**NEBRASKA NEWS**

**State Engineer Makes Tour of Inspection of Big Project.**

**FARMERS RAISING OBJECTIONS**

**Educational Officers Busy Inspecting State Schools—Mayor Harris of Alliance Will Escape Ouster Suit at State's Hands.**

Lincoln, April 30.—D. D. Price, state engineer, has returned from an inspection trip over the route of the proposed power projects in the vicinity of Columbus, embracing the Babcock and Koenig filings. No work has been done on either of them so far as power development is concerned, though on the Babcock project considerable ditch has been dug on the irrigation end of the scheme. This was done a number of years ago and has been in use, though the rainfall in that section has been great enough to prevent any large utilization of the water for this purpose. In one place where the ditch was originally dug for irrigation purposes, it is now being used as a drainage ditch to carry water off of low, swampy land.

One feature of this and all other power projects along the Platte river has developed which had not been contemplated. Farmers who are familiar with the vagaries of the Platte river are fearful that if the power ditches are dug, carrying the water over lands not within reach of the river, the stream will take a notion some time to abandon its old channel, and take to the power ditch. Engineers, however, scout the idea, as they say the lesser fall in the ditch, except at the point of discharge at the dams, will be so much less than that of the river that the current will have a tendency to change its channel and that diversion dams, for use during low and medium stages, will be necessary to get water into the ditches. These dams will not be high enough to affect the flow during high water.

**Harris Escapes Ouster Suit.**

Attorney General Martin has decided not to commence ouster proceedings against Mayor Harris of Alliance as requested to do by the governor. The governor made the request on the strength of a petition signed by members of the Box Butte county grand jury. The decision not to commence action was reached when it was ascertained that Mr. Harris' term as mayor expired by limitation on May 7 and it would not be possible to get any action on the petition before that time. It is intimated, however, that the governor's instructions have had the desired effect, which was to induce Harris not to run for re-election.

The cases of Albert D. Welpton and Lawrence H. Daft, bankers of Greenwood, charged with embezzlement, will not be tried at the May term of the federal court. Accountant John L. Proctor, one of the main witnesses of the government, is now in Alaska and cannot reach Lincoln in time for that term of court.

**Hilyard Resigns; Teeter Named.**

Commandant Hilyard of the soldiers' and sailors' home at Millard sent in his resignation to Governor Aldrich and the latter announced the appointment of Joseph Teeter of Lincoln to the place.

In his letter of resignation Commandant Hilyard thanks the governor for his "misplaced confidence." It has been rumored for some time that the resignation was to be forthcoming, owing to friction at the home, which resulted a few weeks ago in the resignation of the engineer, the matron, who was the wife of the engineer, and the expulsion of several of the inmates.

**Inspecting State Schools.**

Assistant State Superintendent Elliott has gone to Peru to inspect the normal school. Superintendent Deltzell has a busy time ahead of him in May. On the 3d he will go to Emporia, Kan., where he is one of the judges in the interstate debate of the normal schools. May 10 he goes to Arlington to attend a meeting of teachers and on the following day a similar meeting at Cowles. Then comes a series of graduating exercises as follows: St. Paul, May 15; Gresham, May 16; Orchard, May 17; Waco, May 22; Franklin, May 23; Greenwood, May 24. May 25 he goes to Fremont to attend the eighth graduation of the Dodge county rural schools.

**Ross Runs a Great Race.**

Charles Ross, the Lexington liveryman, who has the unique distinction of running for president on both the Republican and Democratic tickets, received 1,225 votes in the sixty-four counties which have reported to the office of the secretary of state. Of these 386 were cast by Republicans and 839 by Democrats. His high vote on both tickets was in Saline county, where he received 17 as a Republican and 103 as a Democrat. At the ratio he has maintained up to date it appears likely he will reach a grand total of 1,500 when the returns are all in.

**New Board Member.**

Governor Aldrich announces the appointment of A. L. Caviness, now a member of the board of examiners, as a member of the state normal board, taking the place of B. L. Shelhorn, whose term expires in May. No appointment has been announced to succeed Caviness as a member of the examining board.

**BARTON FIGHTS RAISE**

**Insurance Commissioners Give Indorsement to Mobile Bill.**

Auditor Barton has just returned to Lincoln from Chicago, where he attended a meeting of the executive committee of the Association of State Insurance Commissioners. Among other important business transacted was the indorsement of the Mobile bill, affecting rates of fraternal life insurance. All the members present, with the exception of Mr. Barton, voted in favor of it. This bill fixes rates which are said to be the basis of the rates recently adopted by the Modern Woodmen, which action has caused such a commotion in the order. The committee, in a fight led by Auditor Barton, refused to permit former commissioners to participate in the meetings of the association. Barton's objection was that the major portion of the former commissioners were now in the employ of insurance companies. Committees were appointed to draft bills which are to be submitted to the various legislatures with the idea of obtaining uniform legislation on important subjects. One of them was a bill regulating the issuance and sale of capital stock in insurance and other corporations, with the blue sky law of Kansas taken as a model. Another bill is intended to prevent the practice of writing overhead insurance, or in other words writing insurance by companies not authorized to transact business in the state where the insured property is located.

**SPANISH VETERANS ELECT**

**H. B. Havens of Omaha Chosen Department Commander.**

The fifth annual reunion of the Nebraska Spanish War Veterans closed at Beatrice with a banquet. The speakers were Governor Aldrich, General John C. Hartigan, Captain P. James Cosgrave, Major Julian Penn of the regular army, Captain Allen G. Fisher and Adjutant General Phelps.

At the business session these officers were elected: Department commander, H. B. Havens, Omaha; senior vice commander, A. H. Hollingsworth, Beatrice; junior vice commander, L. M. Lafferty, Council Bluffs; department inspector general, H. D. Corneau, Omaha; surgeon, Dr. C. P. Fall, Beatrice; judge advocate, A. G. Fisher, Chadron; chaplain, Rev. Charles Melville, Beatrice; marshal, Guy M. Brown, Lincoln.

Following the election the officers were installed by General J. H. Culver of Millard. The place for holding the next reunion was left to the council of administration.

**STATE BRINGS SUIT**

**Court Proceedings Instituted at Beatrice to Get Shortage.**

Beatrice, Neb., April 30.—Suits were instituted in the district court by Attorney General Martin against Dr. G. L. Roe, former superintendent of the feeble minded institute here, to collect \$1,378.27, alleged to be due the state. Dr. Roe's bondsmen, the American Bonding company, is also made a party to the suit. T. E. Stewart, bookkeeper at the institute under Dr. Roe, was arrested soon after Dr. Thomas, the present superintendent, was appointed, on the charge of misappropriating the sum in question. After a trial lasting a week he was acquitted by a jury in the district court.

The suit brought by the state is to recover the full amount of the alleged shortage—\$1,378.27—with interest at 7 per cent from Jan. 26, 1911.

**More Expense Accounts.**

A number of candidates filed expense accounts, among them all the candidates for governor. R. L. Metcalfe tops the list of expenditures, but is well within the limit prescribed by law. He says he expended \$615.93, while the legal limit is \$650. Jesse Newton, Republican, expended \$236.16, Governor Aldrich \$10, the filing fee, and Nathan Wilson, Prohibition, the same. W. E. Selick, Republican for congress in the First district, expended \$494.88, which, according to the vote cast for congress two years ago, is \$14.88 above the limit, but if the total number of voters in the district at the 1910 election is taken as the basis, it is under the limit.

**Alleged Horse Thief Arrested at Seward**

Seward, Neb., April 30.—A farm laborer who gave the name of James Thompson was arrested here on a charge of stealing a team of horses from Howard Dickinson, a farmer who lives near Bee, for whom he had been working. He had arranged to sell the animals to a traveling horse buyer, and was on the way to a livery barn when they were recognized by a neighbor of Dickinson, who notified the sheriff. Thompson was arrested, pleaded guilty and was bound over to the district court.

**Agreement on Valuation.**

The valuation department of the railway commission and the Burlington people have reached a point where they are agreed, or will be able to stipulate all their differences except on land values, to be submitted to the commission. The differences on cost of transportation of material and several other matters is one of the methods of computation and will be up to the commission to decide and not a question of evidence.

**Jury Unable to Agree.**

After deliberating two days the federal court jury in the case of the government against Andy Snyder and George Dolson for conspiracy to defraud the government out of a section of land in Loup county and for conspiracy to suborn perjury was discharged, having been unable to agree.

**GERMINATION SEED CORN TEST**

**Best Method to Insure a Good Stand of Corn.**

**SIMPLE HOME MADE TESTER.**

**A Barrel of Seed Ears Will Plant Ten Acres of Corn.**

By T. A. Kieselbach, Department of Experimental Agronomy.

Have you ever had a poor stand of corn? If so, you are aware of the decreased yield as a result. If not, it is to your advantage to avoid it. A poor stand may be due either to adverse growing condition or to planting injured seed corn. You cannot afford to plant corn without knowing how much of it will grow. The best way to investigate this is with the germination test.

First examine carefully several grains from each ear by cutting or biting in such a way as to expose the tip of the germ. Discard all ears having discolored or shrunken germs, because this indicates weakened vitality. For further testing in the germination box, use only those ears with a bright waxy germ. It would be a waste of time and work to test the vitality of ears which are likely to be unsound.

Remove three grains from different parts of each of two hundred ears selected at random after the apparently unsound ears have been thrown out. Mix these grains together and germinate them in a simple test box, as follows: Upon a layer of sawdust, sand or soil place a cloth and scatter the grains on this. Cover this with an



**SEED TESTING OUTFIT COMPLETE**

other cloth and an inch of sawdust, sand or soil on top. Wet down thoroughly and place in a warm room with a temperature of 70 or 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Never let it get cold; keep moist. In five or six days the corn should be well sprouted. If 540 of the 600 grains, or 90 per cent, have strong sprouts, the corn will be safe to plant without further testing. If less than 85 or 90 per cent are strong, the weak ears should be discarded by testing each ear separately, as follows:

For convenience, test a hundred or some multiple of a hundred ears at a time. Arrange all the ears of one test in order, on the floor or on shelves, giving each a number. Or better still, make a simple rack for 100 ears, full view of which is seen in illustration. On both sides of a square frame made of 2x4's, stretch smooth wires every three inches in opposite directions. The ears are then held in place in the squares made by the crossing wires. Instead of the wires, lath may be nailed horizontally on both sides of the frame, with projecting nails every two and one-half inches in the lath to hold the ears in place.

Into the bottom of a shallow germination box about thirty inches square place a two-inch layer of sawdust, sand or soil. Cover this with a white cloth marked in two and one-half inch squares, leaving a margin of two inches around the outside. Remove six grains with a knife from different parts of each ear and place in the square of the germination box corresponding in number with the ear.

Cover with a cloth and place a layer of sawdust, sand or soil on the cloth. Keep moist and in a warm room.

In five or six days the sound corn should be well sprouted. Uncover and note all ears which were dead or weak. Remove all ears from the rack which show weakness in the germination box.

Place all the sound ears in some well ventilated place, away from mice, on shelves as seen in the illustration.

To sum up: Discard all ears which from physical appearance seem unsound. Make a general preliminary germination test. If the average of your corn germinates 90 per cent, it is safe to plant. If less than 85 per cent is strong, an individual ear test should follow. Any kind of rough lumber can be used for making such a home-made tester. By making a large rack and several boxes, a large number of ears may be tested at one time. Convenient testers can be bought on the market.

Caution. If the same germination box is used repeatedly, it may become sour and the corn may mold. If corn gets moldy, the tester should be well washed and scalded before starting a new test.

**NOTICE**

To Jennie McMillan, Mr. McMillan her husband, whose true name is unknown, and to all other the unknown heirs-at-law and devisees of Anna Miller, deceased, defendants:

You and each of you will take notice that on the 8th day of April, 1912, Nathan Broadhurst and Samuel Swinbank, as plaintiffs, filed their petition in the District Court in and for Box Butte county, Nebraska, against you as defendants, the object and prayer of which are to have an accounting of the moneys expended by plaintiffs and their grantors for the taxes and assessments made and levied upon lots numbered three and four, and the south half of the northwest quarter of section two, in township twenty-eight, north, range fifty-one, west of the sixth principal meridian, in Box Butte county, Nebraska, in and to which the plaintiffs allege ownership of an undivided four-fifths interest, and in and to which it is alleged the defendants own an undivided one-fifth interest, and that sufficient of said land be sold to pay the amount so found due to the plaintiffs, and that the remainder be partitioned and the plaintiffs' portion be set apart to them, if it can be done without manifest injury; if not, then that the whole of said premises be sold according to law and that the costs and expenses of this action and the amount so found due the plaintiffs be first paid, and partition be made as provided by law.

You are required to answer said petition on or before the 20th day of May, 1912.

NATHAN BROADHURST and SAMUEL SWINBANK, by J. E. Porter, Attorney for Plaintiffs.

**NOTICE TO NON-RESIDENT DEFENDANTS**

To Frank A. Massie, Annie E. Massie, Cordel Colvin and Emma Colvin, non-resident defendants:

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 4th day of April, A. D., 1912, the Equitable Land Company, as plaintiff, filed in the district court of Box Butte county, Nebraska, its petition against you as defendants, impleaded with Ora E. Phillips, J. Lawrence Bowman and Jane Bowman, his wife, true Christian name unknown, your co-defendants, the object and prayer of which is to have an accounting of the amount due upon a certain promissory note and mortgage deed, made, executed and delivered to the said plaintiff by the said defendant, Ora E. Phillips, on the 23rd day of May, 1911, for the sum of \$400.00 with interest upon the following described premises and real estate, situate in said county, to-wit: the southeast quarter of section thirteen (13) in township twenty-six (26) north, range fifty-two (52) west, in said county; to have the same adjudged to be a valid and subsisting first lien upon said mortgaged premises; to have said lands sold in the manner required by law, by or under the direction of the sheriff of said county, for the payment and satisfaction of the amount found due, together with the costs of suit and costs of sale, and for general relief.

And you are further notified to answer said petition in the clerk's office of said court by the 20th day of May, A. D., 1912.

ALBERT W. CRITES, Attorney for Plaintiff.

1st publication April 11th, 1912. 18-4t-152.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Dr. C. E. Slagle, who has been with me the past five years as assistant, is no longer in my employ. All bills for work done by him prior to Feb. 1st, 1912, are payable direct to me. H. H. BELLWOOD, M. D. 1139-14-4f

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