

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION NOTES

Lincoln.—It is generally believed in convention circles that the new constitution will contain an amendment dealing with libraries under control of the state. A committee of librarians from outside of Nebraska has been called into the state to make a survey of the libraries under control of the state, with a view to recommending a constitutional provision. It is hinted that there is a possibility that the visiting survey committee may recommend the taking of the present state library from the capitol and consolidating it with one supported by the state at the university. State Librarian Lindsay in charge of the library at the capitol proposes to make a fight to retain the library now housed in the capitol.

Wilson of Dawes submitted an amendment which would change the time of election of governor and other executive officials and legislative members to the odd-numbered years, and hold legislative sessions in the even numbered, extending the term of those officials elected in 1922 one year. This would abandon the present biennial election, and call for an election each year. Other state officials, including judges, university regents, railway commissioners, congressmen, senators and county officials would be elected in even years. Initiative or referendum propositions would then be submitted at the election any year.

Henry Lehman of Hitchcock presented to the convention a proposal whose provisions have been misquoted. The proposal does not prohibit the exemption of agricultural, horticultural or cemetery association property from taxation, but permits the legislature as at present to pass laws exempting such property. The real object of the proposal is to prohibit the taxation of property used exclusively for school and religious purposes. The present constitution says the legislature may exempt such property from taxation. Mr. Lehman's proposal says church and school property "shall" be exempt from taxation.

John Lee Webster of Omaha, president of the constitutional convention of 1875, addressed members of the present constitutional convention last Thursday and was given a most cordial greeting. He made a plea for a constitution which would not be unduly restrictive, but at the same time declared a need for abiding by standards of true representative government, so distinguished from socialistic tendencies, and for an independent and free judiciary.

Under a proposal offered by Fred A. Nye of Buffalo, the governor's pardon power would be limited. The amendment proposes that the governor be allowed to issue pardons, reprieves, commutations, paroles and furloughs, providing the judge of the district court in the county in which the applicant was convicted shall recommend clemency after holding a public hearing and taking evidence.

Two proposals affecting the time of legislative sessions and the pay of members have been offered by Delegate Svoboda of Howard county. One advances the date for the convening of the legislature from the first week in January to the third Tuesday in November, following the election. The other raises the pay from \$600 per session to \$10 per day for not more than 100 days, or \$1,000 in all.

John Wittse of Richardson submitted two proposals last week, one for the recall of public officials except judges, the legislature to provide the legal machinery, and another which would require the payment of all fines and licenses to counties or, to cities and villages instead of to the school funds of the district in which the fines or licenses are imposed.

The committee on education has decided to recommend to the convention the rejection of all proposals relating to compulsory education or the teaching of foreign languages in public schools, deeming sufficient the supreme court's recent ruling that the present legislature had ample power.

Considerable merriment was manifested among convention members when a proposal submitted by Norman of Douglas county, providing for the removal of the state capitol to Omaha, was read. So far as is known the amendment has very little backing.

Proposal 215 introduced by Delegate J. G. Beeler of Lincoln county would deny the rights of aliens to acquire land in Nebraska either by title or lease. If adopted it would not divest these aliens now holding such rights.

President Weaver of the convention is said to be trying to devise a plan to refer all proposals for the election of public officials by districts to one committee.

Among the amendments submitted in the convention is one by Delegate Rankin of Kearney, one of the few ministers in the convention, which provides that "technicalities shall not be permitted unreasonably to delay process of trials, nor defeat the ends of justice, and no attorney shall undertake to cause the miscarriage or defeat of justice by use of his knowledge of and skill in the practice of law to clear the guilty." Members did not take the proposal seriously when it was read.

A NEW World's Record

Was set at Cambridge, Neb., this week when 60 head of pure bred Hereford Cattle sold at public auction at an average price of \$4,024 per head.

One Bull Selling for \$22,000

HEREFORDS

Are the Leading Beef Cattle of the World



You can increase your cattle profits hundreds or thousands of dollars every year with a pure bred Hereford sire at the head of your grade herd, or better still with a few pure bred cows in the herd as well.

On Monday Jan. 19, 1920

the fine Herd of pure bred Herefords of Benda Bros., Shelby, Nebraska, will be sold at Public Auction, at

COLUMBUS, - NEBRASKA

In this sale there will be

26 Cows, 20 Open Heifers and
14 Bulls



all of the very best breeding known to the Hereford world, and they will sell at prices within easy reach of any cattle raiser. Here is your opportunity to buy foundation stock for a pure bred herd at a price within your reach. These cattle are as good as any Herefords in Nebraska. Plan to attend this sale and get better acquainted with these great beef cattle. Don't forget the date and place, Columbus, Nebr., January 19.

For Illustrated Catalogue Address

C. B. BENDER, Sale Manager, Callaway, Nebraska