

# CHERRY COUNTY MAN REPLIES TO STATE ENGINEER

## COMMISSIONER BOWRING ISSUES AN OPEN LETTER.

### Claims He Was Steam-Rolled at the Convention, and That Johnson Knew It.

Arthur Bowring of Valentine, Cherry county commissioner who made an attack on State Engineer George E. Johnson at the recent state meeting of commissioners and clerks, has issued an open letter to the head of the state highway department, in which he makes a scorching reply to Johnson's statement that he was "cowardly" in not making his charges against Johnson at the convention to answer them. Mr. Johnson recently answered all of his charges and paid his respects to Mr. Bowring in most uncomplimentary terms.

"Not having at my disposal the highway fund," Mr. Bowring declares, "it will be impossible for me to send to each newspaper in the state a copy of my answer. He waxes humorous over Mr. Johnson's proposal to investigate the work of the department as a whole, rather than any individual project. He charges that the estimated cost of project No. 66, under discussion, was \$227,505.55, with guard rails included and that the actual cost, without the rails, for the 24.6 miles was \$373,648.74, an amount \$145,143.51 over the estimate, \$121,173 over the lowest bid and \$68,836 over the highest bid submitted. Johnson, it is charged, personally let the contract, without the knowledge of any member of the board.

Mr. Bowring accompanies his open letter with various references and communications from Mr. Johnson and others, and gives the impression that he knows exactly what he is talking about.

The Cherry county man's letter, in part, follows:

Steam-Rolled at Convention.

"VALENTINE, Jan. 23.—George E. Johnson, Lincoln, Nebraska.—Dear Sir: In your letter to the newspapers of the state of Nebraska, you state that I was unfair and cowardly in my talk before the county commissioners and supervisors convention in Omaha last month, because I did not talk during your attendance at that meeting.

"Personally, I did not know you were leaving the city and did not care. You might ask Mr. Prah of Pierce, Neb., county commissioner from Pierce county and in attendance at the convention, why I did not get the floor in time to allow you to hear my remarks. Mr. Prah can tell you all about how your friends steam-rolled me. Now, honestly, Mr. Johnson, didn't you know all about it?

"You state you answered my criticisms in person and I would like to know where and when. We had a visit with you in the room of the Castle hotel on Wednesday, Mr. Green, Mr. Boyer and myself, but at no time did you answer our questions. The only answer we received, was that you would discharge the project engineer if that would be any satisfaction, and that remark you made three times. We told you that was not what we wanted, what we wanted to know was where the Cherry county fund had been expended and that we felt you were the responsible party and not the project engineer, as you had let the contract and therefore should be willing to shoulder the responsibility.

Bowring's Questions Unanswered.

"Yes, I asked you a few questions after your talk at the convention, and was just starting to open up good and string, when the chairman walked over, shook hands with you, and bid you good day. Thereby leaving me without a chance to ask any more questions. The next day I did not inquire whether your department was represented or not, and didn't care, as I only stated facts, as you well know.

"On April 10, 1920 the chairman of the Cherry county board and yourself in Lincoln, rejected all the bids for earthwork on project No. 66 in our county and then you personally, without the knowledge of any member of the board, on April 14, 1920, let the contract for this road to Mr. Peterson and that contract has cost the Cherry county fund \$373,648.84 and in answer to the letter of our county clerk, dated May 5, 1920, asking for information about this project, you answered as follows:

"In answer to your letter of May 5, a short time ago I was over project No. 66 with Mr. Peterson of Edward Peterson company, of Omaha, and signed up a contract with him to take the work over at the estimated cost, which is approximately \$107,000 below the contractor's bid. We agreed to furnish two small tractors and some small equipment for which we figure the rent would be \$5,000, making a cost to the state and Cherry county \$102,000 below the lowest bid received.

"When Mr. Roberts was in Lincoln, I promised him to either do this work at the estimated cost or secure the services of some competent contractor to take care of same. Mr. Peterson is starting the work at this time, has practically all his equipment shipped and he has guaranteed this department that the work will be completed this season. Yours truly,

"G. E. JOHNSON, Secy."

Cost Away Over Estimate.

"The estimated cost of this project No. 66 was \$227,505.55 with guard rails included, and the actual cost, without guard rails, is \$373,648.84 making the 24.6 miles of road cost us \$145,143.51 over the estimate, as figured by your office, and \$121,173.58 over the lowest bid rejected and \$68,836.84 over the highest bid rejected. I have often wondered what induced you to reject all of these bids and let the contract to parties who never had a bid in, and cost our fund several

thousand more dollars. Why didn't you give the bonafide bidders a chance to take the contract at the same terms you gave the present contractor? They had spent their time and money getting ready to put in a bid and you certainly ignored them.

"Can you give a good reason why you didn't have the contractor haul the surfacing from the nearest point to the road and not cost us around \$10,000 overhaul at 85c per yard mile? There was the same material at station No. 146 that was hauled from station No. 200, and thereby save several thousand dollars and your attention was called to that fact and so was the project engineer. Money, it appears had no consideration in this matter.

"You have allowed force account in the amount of \$251.72 for grubbing and removing fence. That account was presented to the county board and was refused, but I notice that it was allowed by the highway department without any question.

"Can you tell me why Cherry county is not allowed 50 per cent of the cost of the Berry bridge, as agreed with the board by your division engineer?

"Mr. Black, division engineer, was notified of the date of the letting and requested to be present and the contract was let according to plans and specifications, submitted by the state highway department. The board went ahead and erected the bridge on those terms and about the time the bridge was completed, the road contractor or his employees, blew the bridge up with our own TNT and after repairing the bridge at the expense of the contractor, we still cannot get 50 per cent of the cost price, as agreed, because sand in the abutments didn't pass inspection, so they tell us. But we have the approval of the bridge by the state engineer of this project.

"There isn't a great deal the matter with the bridge, only the following: south abutment bad, a batter of 6 inches, now has an overhang of 5 inches. Second panel, top strut, lower flange, out of line 6 inches. Two top laterals on second panel, bent, out of line. Lower lateral on 4 panel, out of line. Lower rock when blast went off. Both gusset plates on shoe end of lower lateral, south end, buckled. Lower cord, east side, south end, bent, out of line 4 inches. South east better post spring about 1 1/2 inches. Intermediate post, west side, 3 panel, from north out of line.

"These are a few of the things that are the trouble with the Berry bridge but the project engineer told us that to get the road contractor's money returned, he would approve the bridge as it now stands, but would not do so unless we refused to settle without his approval.

Asks a Few Questions.

Can you tell me why you charge Cherry county, individually, 20c per pound for TNT when your report shows that it only cost you around 10c per pound, laid down in Valentine?

"These are a few of the questions that we are asking you and that you have never answered, although you claim you did. Notice also that you are asking an investigation of the state as a whole and not individual projects? Who did you say was the culprit? If they are open and above board, why are afraid of individual projects? Why did you say was the coward?

"You are trying to treat this matter as personal, when it is a business proposition, and we feel that we, as taxpayers of the state of Nebraska, are entitled to know how this fund was spent and where. You as a public official should answer these questions and give us the facts. You claim that this road in Cherry county was built so economically, why is it so high above the estimate?

"Please hurry up the profile and final estimate on this road, giving the yardage in each station as you promised. Am thinking it will be interesting information.

"As I do not happen to have the highway fund at my disposal it will be impossible for me to send each newspaper in the state a copy of my answer.

"Awaiting the complete report, I am yours for better roads, when we get value received for the money expended.

"ARTHUR BOWRING,  
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners, Cherry county.

**Wanted—100-lb. stock pigs. O'Bannon & Neuwanger. 18tf**

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# PATE DISCUSSES SMITH-TOWNER EDUCATION BILL

## ADDRESSES THE SCOTTISH RITE MASONS WEDNESDAY EVE.

### Head of Alliance Schools Gives Arguments in Favor of Proposed Legislation.

W. R. Pate, superintendent of the Alliance schools, spoke before the Scottish Rite Masons at a meeting at the Masonic Temple Wednesday evening, his subject being the Smith-Towner education bill. Mr. Pate is strongly in favor of the bill, which includes the following features: Appropriations of \$7,500,000 for removal of illiteracy; \$7,500,000 for Americanization; \$20,000,000 for physical education; \$15,000,000 for preparation of war school teachers; \$50,000,000 for equalizing educational opportunities of states and the establishing of a department of education with the head a member of the cabinet.

In regard to the first point, Mr. Pate showed that there are in the United States 5,500,000 persons over ten years of age who cannot read or write any language and 3,500,000 more who cannot speak, read or write English. Over one-fourth of the draft during the war were illiterate. He also stated that over one-half of industrial accidents were due to illiteracy. Illiteracy is decreasing faster in the south although the per cent is about the same.

Night schools will be established for adults and day schools for children among the foreign population if this bill passes. This is absolutely necessary for the Americanization of this element of our population.

Mr. Pate proved that physical education is necessary, as one of every three persons is unfit for military service.

In showing that the appropriation for preparing school teachers is necessary, he said that there were 3,000,000 teachers in the United States who had had no training and that there are thousands of schools closed now because of lack of teachers. The money would be used in establishing teachers' training schools. The training of teachers is a natural problem, as teachers move from state to state.

That equalization of educational opportunities is necessary is shown by the fact that in one state the total wealth is \$14,000 per child while in another it is only \$2,000 per child.

Mr. Pate also stated that every influential nation in the world but the United States has a minister of education.

The plan for carrying out the provisions of this bill is for the national government to duplicate any amount of money appropriated by the states. Mr. Pate showed that while \$763,000,000 is spent yearly for education, \$800,000,000 is spent for cigarettes and \$1,000,000,000 for candy, \$2,600,000,000 is spent yearly on war.

In closing, Mr. Pate mentioned that President Harding, Physician General Charles E. Sawyer, Walter F. Brown, republican national committeeman for the reorganization of executive departments, the general federation of women's clubs, the national congress of mothers and parent-teacher associations, the national society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the league of woman voters, the American library association and the American federation of labor are supporting the measure.

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# STAR-HERALD AT SCOTTS-BLUFF IS ON WARPATH

(Continued from Page 1.)

for some time, or at least for a sufficient time to cause the authorities to become suspicious and a trap was set one night last week.

A Blow at Clean Athletics.

"There is no particular interest in this matter, save in the fact that three of the young men are members of the Alliance basket ball team, and even after the discovery of the filching of the examination papers were allowed to play against Gering last Friday night.

"It can hardly be possible that after such an occurrence the Alliance authorities intend to allow these young men to continue through the season as members of an association team, but if they are allowed to do so, the town of Alliance will have given clear athletics in the schools one of the worst blows that could have been possible. It is a very natural conclusion that these young men were not up in their studies, otherwise three would have been no inducement to steal the examination questions. If a school not only condones the failure of making proper credits in order to be a member of an athletic team by a student but allows such student to continue as a player on such team after an admission of burglary all faith on the part of other teams of the association that they are playing against clean competition is completely shattered.

**THE SPINAL COLUMN**  
THE SAFE, SANE AND SURE WAY  
"Snizzles"

The English vocabulary is to a certain sense limited.

There are only about 450,000 words in the dictionary. "Snizzles" isn't one of them.

Further, there are not enough words in the language to express adequately how a person feels who is afflicted with the said "SNIZZLES."

Most people, when they have "snizzles" speak of having a "cold."

It doesn't make much difference, neither word means anything. When you have "snizzles"—or a "cold"—it merely means that your bodily machine is out of order. It means that your body resistance is low. So, when a chummy colony of germs, who implicitly believe in marriage and the raising of large families, came along, they took up residence in your nose and throat. And your body welcomed them instead of throwing them out on their ears—if germs have ears.

The right name for a "cold" is "lowered bodily resistance favorable to germ colonization." But that takes too long to say. Hence "snizzles" is descriptive.

The way to avoid "snizzles" is to keep your bodily machine in perfect running order all the time. Also, the way to get rid of "snizzles" when you have them—or it—is to get your bodily machine back to normal running order.

The motive power of the bodily machine is nerve force. If nerve force is interrupted in its flow, normal bodily resistance is lowered.

The main artery of the nerve system is the Spinal Cord. Branching away from it are the trunk nerves going to every part of the body. These trunk nerves pass through and between the movable bones of the spine.

When one or more of these bones gets out of place, even a little, nerves are squeezed. They cannot transmit the normal amount of nerve force. Then your body is below par in its functioning.

The Science of Chiropractic concerns itself with adjusting spinal bones to normal. Then the body functions normally and throws out the germ colonies which produce "snizzles."

If you lean toward hot lemonade, mustard foot-baths, quinine and calomel, that is your privilege. But chiropractic adjustments prevent and remove the CAUSE of "colds."

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"There have been many hard things said and some of them perhaps may have been unjust, with reference to the Alliance system of athletic play, but one thing is certain and that is if these young men are allowed to compete with students of other towns who through honest hard work in their studies are maintaining their place on the team, western Nebraska will have the full measure not only of the Alliance students, but of the Alliance school authorities as well."

# CATTLE FREIGHT RATES ON "Q" INJURE ALLIANCE

(Continued from Page 1.)

to any town in the territory here except to Henry, Nebraska, as it applied only to towns 500 miles from Omaha and Henry is the only town benefited by the 50c maximum rate granted.

"In view of the fact that Union Pacific and Northwestern towns approximately equidistant from Alliance are receiving the business which naturally belongs to Alliance and nearby towns, that the Union Pacific and Northwestern roads can logically be assumed to be handling this business on a remunerative basis in that they have accepted and are operating under the same without protest, we request our commission to act favorably on our request to have this discrimination abolished by the establishment of rates on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy which will allow our shippers

to bring their cattle to Alliance and nearby towns for shipment on an equal basis as is furnished by the competing roads mentioned."

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NOTICE—We are selling Rolly's Washday Wonder. We will deliver. Phone 561-W. Fortner Bros. 18-tf

See the Duplex Chair in W. J. Hamilton's office, 106 West Third Street. Call and you can obtain one. 18-21

The Alliance high school girls team defeated the Chadron girls Thursday evening by a score of 24-6. The game was featured by the unsportsmanlike conduct of the visitors who protested every decision of the referee from beginning to end. The Chadron team wished to use boys rules rather than the usual girls rules and the Alliance coach finally compromised by using a combination of both during the first half, but strictly girls rules during the second.

The Emerson grade school boys defeated the Antioch grade boys 17 to 12 in a fast and hard fought game as a preliminary to the main contest.

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