

MELLOR OPPOSES IT

THINKS NEBRASKA WOULD BE INJURED BY PASSAGE OF THE MIXED FLOUR BILL

SMALLPOX AT SOLDIERS' HOME

Items of General Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources Around the State House.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Nebraska farmers would not be benefitted by national legislation permitting wheat and corn to be mixed in the making of flour, according to the view taken by Secretary W. R. Mellor of the State Board of Agriculture. He has therefore declined to endorse a bill now pending before congress having that object in view.

Mr. Mellor received a letter from Robert G. Gould at Washington representing the association of corn products manufacturers, asking that the Nebraska board of agriculture to register its approval of the bill, which bears the name of an Illinois con-



R. W. MCGINNIS, of Fremont, Holt county ranch owner, and Lincoln business man, recently elected secretary of the State Dairy-men's Association.

gressman, H. T. Rainey. The letter stated that the Illinois and Missouri boards had placed their O. K. upon it.

Two principal reasons are cited by Mr. Mellor why the proposed legislation for mixed flour would not be to the best interests of Nebraska. They are:

1. This state produces as much wheat as corn and is interested in seeing that quality of flour and the price of wheat are not lowered through the manufacture of a mixed product.
2. Nebraska is one of the chief live stock raising states of the union and for that reason is not in favor of legislation that might increase the price of feed.

Smallpox at Old Soldiers' Home

Five hundred employes and inmates of the soldiers' home at Grand Island are under quarantine and no one is allowed to leave the institution as the result of the discovery of a case of smallpox.

Sam Dietz, one of the inmates, was found to be suffering from smallpox in aggravated form.

Dr. Phelan ordered that the institution be closed.

Dietz has been ill for some time, but for the past few days has been confined to his room and none of the other inmates have been with him. He was at once placed in the farm house at the home, which was converted into a temporary isolation hospital. A number of the inmates and employes who were believed to have been exposed were vaccinated.

Close guard will be kept on those exposed and every measure taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

School funds received by the state treasurer from June 1, 1915, to January 15, 1916, total \$454,410, according to a report made by Treasurer Hall. Of the amount \$228,350 came from bond interests and \$92,000 from lease payments on school lands of the state. The balance came in from various sources.

Setting aside two or three special "pure food days" in Nebraska during the early spring is an idea which Food Commissioner Harman will suggest to Governor Morehead. In connection with this method of directing public attention to clean, sanitary and wholesome food products, Mr. Harman thinks the plan could be employed to give "made in Nebraska" goods a strong boost. What he has in mind is a general cleanup day for all grocery stores, meat markets, eating places and other business establishments where food is sold and served.

Freight Earnings Show Decline.

As a result of the resolution passed by the 1913 legislature, directing the state railway commission to order a reduction in freight rates, the revenues of the railroad companies on traffic handled within the state during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1915, fell off somewhat, although the tonnage shows an increase.

The railway commission obeyed the legislature's mandate by ordering certain reductions that went into effect in September, 1914.

WORK ALMOST COMPLETED

Unusual Record Made by the State Examiners

Examiner J. J. Mahoney and F. A. Stech employed by the state auditor's have almost completed the second examination of all county treasurers in Nebraska since the new administration took charge in January, 1915. They have had assistance from State Accountant De France of the same office in few instances. During February, the examiners will finish checking the eleven treasurers who have been examined only once.

Under former administrations it was considered an unusually good showing when the examiners made the rounds once in a year but those working under Auditor Smith finished up their first inspections last September, in less than nine months after they started. By keeping steadily at it, they will finish the second examinations in another five months, leaving ten months in which to examine all the treasurers a third time during this biennium.

In additions to the other work, the state auditor's office has employed the services of State Accountant De France in making the annual examination of trust companies. The former custom was to hire outside help for this purpose.

To Investigate Car Shortage

The Nebraska state railway commission in a telegram to the interstate commerce commission and to Congressman Charles H. Sloan of Nebraska supports Congressman Sloan's efforts in congress to correct the present car shortage. The railway commission's telegram closes with a request for a federal investigation. Railway Commissioners Clarke, Taylor and Hall say Nebraska railroads are short 2,500 cars necessary to fill orders for loading. It says a continuance of the car shortage may result in a serious financial loss.

Nebraska Freight Rates Higher.

Grain shipments in Nebraska bear a higher average freight rate for equal distances than shipments moving in Kansas, according to a comparative tabulation prepared by Rate Expert U. G. Powell of the railway commission of this state. The difference in rates ranges from 10 to 25 per cent in favor of Kansas.

To secure the best available comparison, seventeen stations on the Union Pacific railroad in Kansas, located from 28 to 429 miles from the Missouri river, were listed in one table, and seventeen stations in Nebraska, situated 25 to 428 miles from the Missouri river, in another.

The Kansas rates on wheat vary from 5 to 14.5 cents for these distances. In Nebraska the wheat rates run all the way from 5.95 to 21 cents.

On corn, Kansas rates for the distances given are from 5 to 12.5 cents; in Nebraska, from 5.1 to 19.5 cents.

The average earning per ton mile in Kansas are 10.3 mills on wheat and 8.93 mills on corn; in Nebraska, 12.4 mills on wheat and 10 mills on corn.

Want Model High School Building. Resolutions asking the board of regents of the University of Nebraska to build a model high school, that new schools may pattern after it in the matter of lighting, heating and sanitation, were passed by the Rural School Patrons' association.

The university was commended for its co-operation with the public schools. J. D. Ream, of Broken Bow, was re-elected president of the association, and W. H. Campbell, of Central City, secretary. The meetings next year will be held at the Temple theatre during organized agriculture week.

State Supt. A. O. Thomas told the gathering how progressive the rural schools of Nebraska were, where many of the teachers were college graduates and where in many cases homes were provided for them in connection with the school. Poor schools, he showed, were largely responsible for the depopulation of the rural districts of the east.

Four representatives of Nebraska at the national congress in Washington have written to Secretary Whitten of the Lincoln Commercial club agreeing to oppose the proposed tax on gasoline soon to come up for consideration. Their letters were in reply to a communication from Secretary Whitten enclosing a resolution condemning the tax passed by the board of directors.

Dr. G. D. Griffith, pathologist, at the Lincoln state hospital for insane, has been appointed by the board of control as superintendent of the state institute for feeble minded at Beatrice, and will take charge there on February 1, at the salary of \$2,500 per year. He succeeds Dr. W. S. Fast, who was recently appointed as superintendent of the Hastings state hospital for insane.

It is said that a congressional investigation of the car shortage in Nebraska will be started.

Over 46,000 number plates for motor vehicles were sent out by the employes in the automobile registration department of the Secretary of State's office during the month of January, and owing to the big rush of business the first of the year it cost over \$9,000 to carry on the work in that month. Twelve to fifteen extra assistants were at work in that department during January. The actual number of plates issued was 46,290, of which 39,240 were renewals of old numbers, 6,100 were new numbers for automobiles, and 950 were motorcycle numbers.

16 DROWN IN FLOOD

MANY THOUSANDS MADE HOMELESS IN ARKANSAS.

SCORES OF CITIES INUNDATED

Present High Water Said to Be the Most Disastrous in the Last Forty Years.

Little Rock, Ark.—The rapidly widening lake in southeastern Arkansas river pouring through breaks in the levees, engulfed a score of towns, leaving several thousand persons homeless, taking a toll of sixteen lives and doing damages estimated at several hundred thousand dollars.

The great lake that extends from the Arkansas river southward with the Mississippi river levees as its eastern bank, has engulfed numerous other towns. At Gaines Landing, four miles north of Lake Village, 400 persons were left on a levee without shelter.

In Clarence, on the White river, where the levee gave way, water was six feet deep in the highest portions of the town. The flood has been the most disastrous in the last forty years of Arkansas history, so far as loss of life and suffering are concerned. The property loss has not been so great because there are now no crops to be destroyed.

Ford Has New Peace Plan.

Chicago, Ill.—Henry Ford, the Detroit manufacturer, who sent a peace ship to Europe, has a new peace plan. This much he said to reporters here before leaving for Detroit.

"I would like to tell you about the new plan, but I must wait until my party has returned from Europe," said Mr. Ford. He said he was perfectly satisfied with the results of the peace crusade abroad.

"The new venture is along the same lines as the first one," said Mr. Ford, "but on a larger scale. I shall include some of the people I had on the Oscar II. The people across the water were astonished when they saw the personnel of the party. They had expected to see a lot of 'high brows,' and were surprised to find that they were just everyday people. They would hardly believe me when I told them I could have brought thousands more of the same."

Mrs. Mohr Found Not Guilty.

Providence, R. I.—Mrs. Elizabeth F. Mohr was acquitted of having hired three negroes to kill her husband, Dr. Charles F. Mohr, wealthy Newport physician, while he was in an automobile with his office assistant, Miss Emily Burger. Henry Spellman and Cecil Brown, negroes, were found guilty of having murdered the doctor and seriously wounding the girl. Dr. Mohr and Emily Burger were shot as they sat in a stalled automobile on Washington park road on the night of August 31, 1915.

Chaufeur George Healis, Brown and Spellman were arrested and declared that Mrs. Mohr had offered them \$5,000 to kill the doctor and Miss Burger. Later these confessions were repudiated. Healis afterward became the state's witness and was not tried.

Wilson Holds Appam a Prize.

Washington.—President Wilson is understood to hold the opinion that the British steamship, Appam, brought into Hampton Roads by a German prize crew, must be considered as a prize of Germany under the Prussian-American treaty of 1828. It was stated that this accords with the view of the State department. Some officials agree with the German contention that under the Prussian treaty the prize crew can keep the liner at Newport News until the end of the war.

Burkett to File in Iowa.

Des Moines, Ia.—E. J. Burkett of Lincoln, Neb., former United States senator, will be a candidate for the nomination of vice president on the republican ticket in the Iowa presidential preference primaries to be held April 10.

Mr. Burkett has notified W. S. Allen secretary of state, that he would file the required affidavit of his candidacy in time to have his name entered on the Iowa primary ticket.

Opposed to Reprisals.

London.—Viscount Bryce, speaking at Bedford college, London, condemned the policy of reprisals against Germany, which since the Zeppelin raid, has gained many advocates.

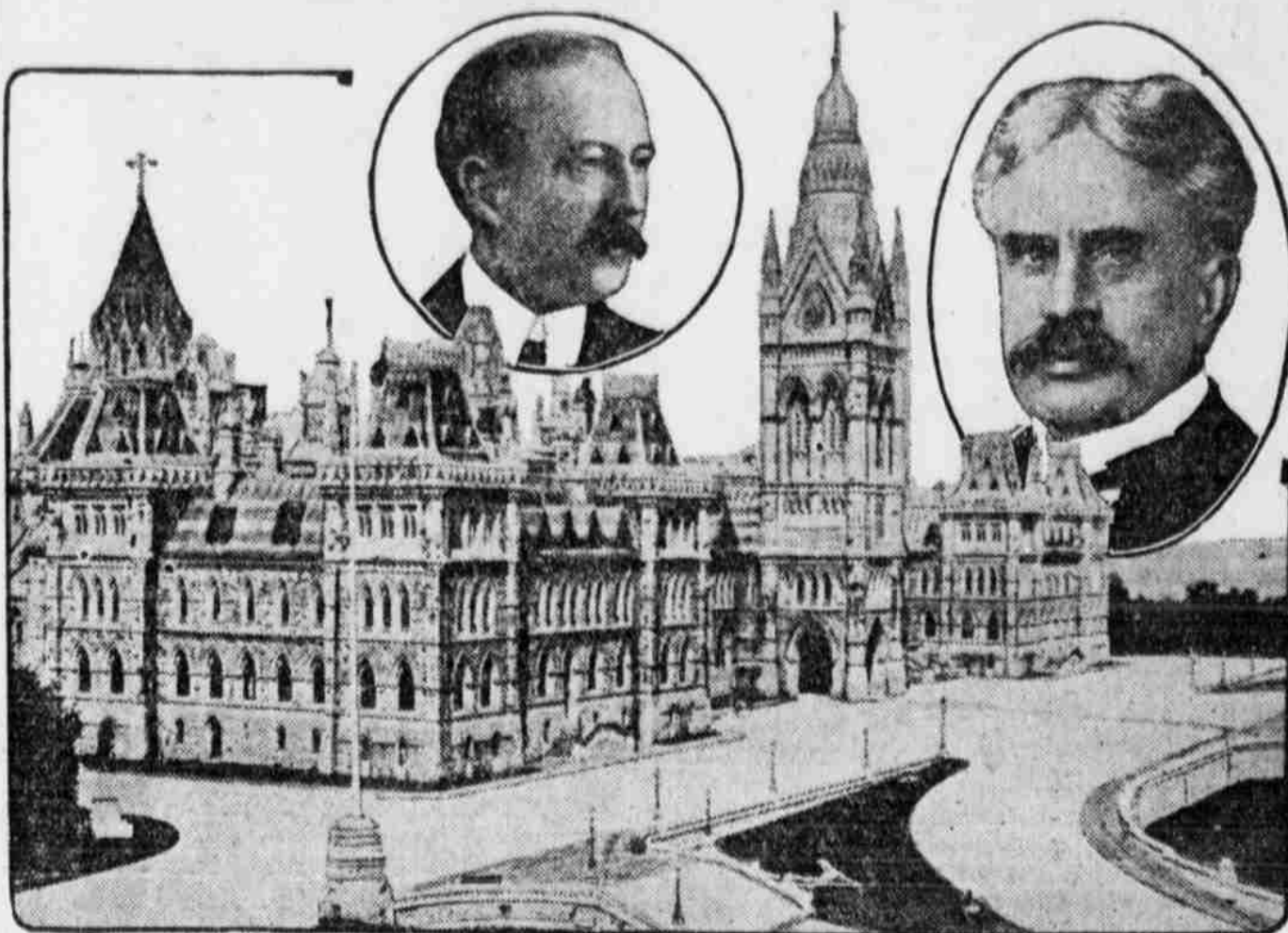
Johnson Not to Run.

San Francisco, Cal.—Governor Hiram W. Johnson said here that he would not permit his name to remain on the rolls of the secretary of state of Minnesota as a candidate for the progressive nomination for president in the March 4 primary election.

Seize Swedish Vessel.

Stockholm.—The seizure of the Swedish steamer Presto by the Germans, who have taken it to Svalbard, has excited great indignation by the press and the public.

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT BUILDING DESTROYED



The Canadian parliament building at Ottawa which was destroyed by flames, six lives being lost. The fire is believed to have been incendiary and to have been started by bombs or internal machines. Inset, at the right, is Premier Robert L. Borden, who had a narrow escape, and, at the left, Martin Burrell, minister of agriculture, who was badly injured.

CALIFORNIA FLOODS DOING IMMENSE DAMAGE



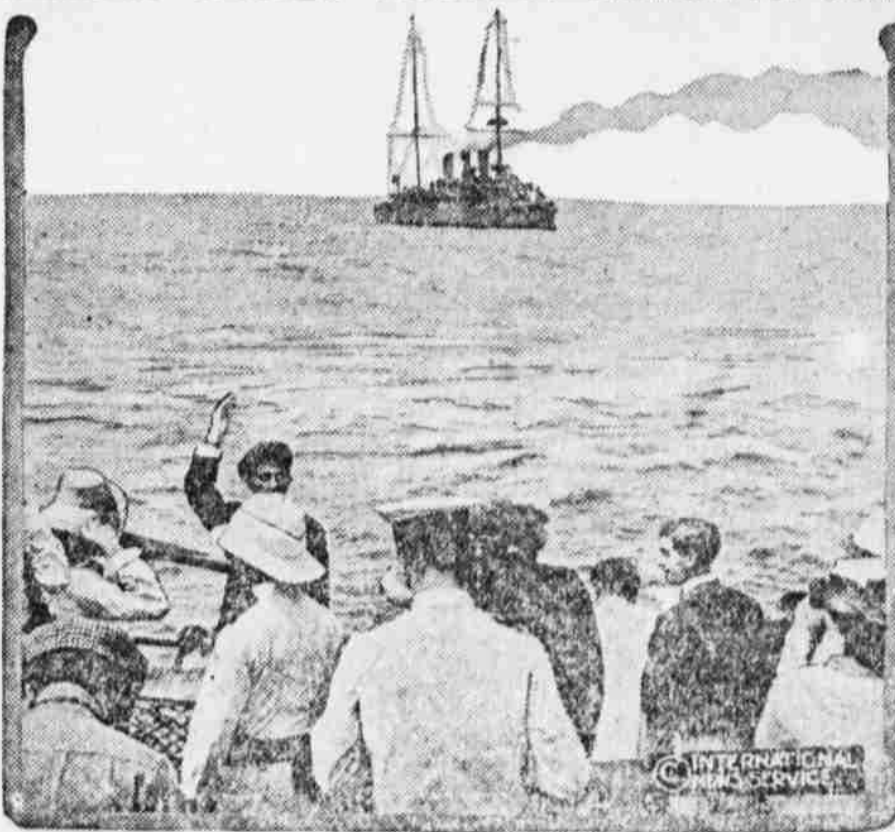
Floods in southern California are doing great damage and causing considerable loss of life. This photograph shows how the rush of waters wrecked the substructure of the railroad bridge over the Rio Hondo, making it impassable for trains.

WASHINGTON SCHOLGIRLS FORM RIFLE CLUB



Even the schoolgirls of Washington have taken up the preparedness slogan and are making themselves ready for a possible war. This picture shows the charter members of the girls' rifle club formed at Western high school. Miss Helen Cummings, in the center, with her hand on the breech of a rifle, is the organizer and captain.

GERMAN OFFICER TAKEN BY BRITISH AT SEA



This photograph was taken on board the steamship Vauban when the British cruiser Vindictive had stopped it to take off Konrad Muehenstein, a German naval officer, who broke his parole after being captured by the Japanese in China and who later in San Francisco became implicated in plots against munition plants. Muehenstein is seen waving his hand in farewell as he is about to go aboard the cruiser's boat.

MISS OLOSEGA OF SAMOA



This is Miss Olosega, late of Pago Pago, Samoa, whom Lieut. and Mrs. J. N. Davis have brought to the United States to be educated. Her first lesson was to discard the picturesque though scant costume of the South Pacific, and she seems to take kindly to the garb of civilization, walking stick and all, except the shoes, which have proved troublesome.