

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

Spelling will be it, in the schools of Lancaster county this spring, for some eight thousand students in the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades are already plugging away in preparation for a big spelling bee to be held at Lincoln April 28. It will be one of the old fashioned kind of spelling bees where the speller will have to stand up and face a rapid fire test in oral spelling.

Five silver cups have been offered as a special premium to be awarded at the national swine show in Omaha October 2 to 7. The trophies will be of handsome design and are expected to bring out keen competition. They will be offered for the best boar and three gilts farrowed since February 1 this year, in the following breeds: Poland China, Berkshire, Duroc, Hampshire and Chester Whites.

That it pays well to feed hogs in Box Butte county even though the corn has to be shipped in to do it, is shown in the case of E. L. Gregg, breeder. He bought sixty-one head of hogs at the yards in Alliance and fed them corn for sixty-two days and sold the porkers at a clear gain of \$300. They showed an average gain of 85 pounds each.

Mrs. Samuel Johnson of Boone precinct, Boone county, who passed away at her home recently, at the age of 86 years, took a larger part in populating Boone county than any other person, it is believed. Mrs. Johnson had fourteen children, thirty-one grandchildren, thirty-three great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

C. E. Shea, who has conducted the Broken Bow Republican for something over a year, has sold the plant to J. K. Hewett, who has for some years been a member of the Alliance Times force. Mr. Hewett, the new editor, is a practical newspaper man and under his management the paper will be republican in politics.

The Dodge county board of supervisors instructed County Attorney S. S. Eldner to bring suit against the nineteen insurance companies which have insurance on the county courthouse, destroyed by fire at Fremont three months ago, to force the payment of the full amount of the loss, \$10,000.

George Crumline, an aged farmer, living one mile south of Phillips, Hamilton county, was injured, perhaps fatally, when he was run over by his own automobile. The aged man suffered a serious scalp wound. The top of the head had been torn almost completely off.

John Dobbs, a grain dealer of Beatrice, who has just inspected a number of winter wheat fields in Gage county, reports that the crop is in excellent condition, having passed through the winter in good shape.

Four train loads of horses, consisting of 116 cars, were shipped from Grand Island last week for the French and Italian governments. This was the largest shipment of horses ever made out of Grand Island.

Excavation work on the annex to the Clarke hotel, Hastings, has commenced. The addition will cost \$60,000, and will consist of fifty-four rooms and a banquet room with a seating capacity of 300 persons.

A movement is on foot for a new rural high school in Maple township, involving the six districts of the township in its support and benefits. Sentiment seems largely in favor of the proposed new school.

The Lincoln city commissioners have put a ban on bonfires and none will be allowed in that city this spring. The reason for it is the likelihood of fires being communicated to other property.

The West Point council has raised the saloon license fee to \$700. Ever since the enactment of the Slocumb law the license has been the minimum \$500. There are eight saloons in the city.

Farmers of Midland township, Gage county, have organized a Gopher club, for the purpose of combating the pest. Each member is to be taxed a small amount to finance the club.

A recruiting station of the U. S. army has been opened at Lincoln. It is in charge of an officer from the headquarters at Omaha.

A free dental dispensary is being planned in Omaha.

"Idaho Bill" Pearson, frontier showman, of Hastings, announces he intends to organize a troop of rough riders for service in Mexico. He will seek recruits among the cowboys of Arizona.

At a special election the city of Kearney voted out saloons by a majority of 322 votes, the largest ever recorded against the saloons. The election was a lively affair, the total vote being only thirty-two less than the total vote cast at the general election in 1914.

The annual old fiddlers' contest will be held at the Young Men's Christian association, Omaha, on March 27. All the contestants must be 50 years or more. In past years contestants have attended from all over the state of Nebraska.

By a vote of 660 to 176 Norfolk voted \$50,000 bonds for paving street intersections. This means about six miles of paving in Norfolk this summer.

The city gas plant at Ponca will be discontinued after April 30. Electricity will be used.

Inheritance taxes amounting to \$10,127.70 must be paid to four counties in Nebraska, according to a decision handed down by Judge Bryce Crawford in the Douglas county court at Omaha, in the matter of settling the estate of Francis Smith. Smith died in Rockport, Me., in 1908, and left a fortune of \$1,023,771.50 to his brother, George Warren Smith of Omaha. According to Crawford's decision, Douglas county gets \$9,327.98; Wayne county would get \$653.18; Traylor county, \$93.17, and Nuckolls, \$62.37.

The news from Mexico has stirred company C, Nebraska national guard, at Beatrice and the members feel almost certain that they will be called upon to assist the regulars in the warfare. At a recent meeting of the guard, Captain Abbott read the oath which soldiers are required to take upon being mustered into the army, and asked how many of the members of company C would subscribe to it. All but three assented.

A petition signed by thirty-five residents of Dakota has been filed with the city clerk, asking that the question of "license" or "no license" be submitted to the voters at the spring election, April 4. The place was voted dry last year by a small majority and with Sioux City on the dry list the liquor interests are making a desperate effort to gain a footing on this side of the Missouri river in close proximity to Sioux City.

The failure of the complaining witness, Mrs. May Title, to appear in federal court at Hastings at the time set for the hearing of the case of the Rev. John J. Ramsey, charged with white slavery, necessitated the rearrest of Ramsey on the same charge to be tried later. The federal grand jury will not meet until September, so until that time at least, Ramsey will remain in jail.

Recently the legal voters in school district No. 10, known as the Deer Creek school district, Madison county, held a special school meeting in the district, and voted a levy of \$5,000 for the purpose of building a modern two-room school building. An architect has been employed by the school board and plans have been drawn up for the building.

Plans for the second unit of the Masonic orphans' home to be built on the forty-acre tract the state lodge purchased last year near Fremont, have been completed and work will begin on the building soon. The structure will cost \$12,000, and will be modern throughout. It is planned to have ten buildings located on the site.

Rev. E. F. Galvin, pastor of the Catholic church at Spalding, was presented with a beautiful automobile by members of his congregation in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. His church, which is one of the finest in Nebraska, cost more than \$100,000.

The National Retail Credit Men's association meets in Omaha in August for its annual convention, holding three days. It will bring 300 to 400 members from all over the United States; S. F. Gillilan of Minneapolis is chairman of the board, and E. C. Howell of Denver, secretary.

O. R. Thompson of Wisner, ex-state senator from Burt and Cuming counties, is a candidate for district delegate on the republican ticket to the national convention. Mr. Thompson is well known in both counties.

Paul Hintz, a farmer near Norfolk, has decided to build a stock sale pavilion in that town in which to handle farmers' surplus livestock. The Commercial club is responsible for the enterprise.

Morris Levy, treasurer of the Jewish relief committee of Omaha, has sent another \$2,000 from Omaha to the central committee in New York for relief of the Jewish war sufferers.

The proposition of voting bonds for \$40,000 for a new high school building at Oakland carried by a big majority. The structure is to replace the one destroyed by fire December 31st last.

The Burt-Washington drainage district is a new project to improve the lowlands of those counties. It is contemplated that \$423,000 will be expended in the big undertaking.

Miss Mary Murray was picked by the judges at the declamatory contest to represent the Hastings High school at the district meeting at Central City March 31.

Mrs. Frank Oliva, residing near Ansley, is dead and three of the children of the family were made ill from trichinosis, the result of eating uncooked smoked pork.

Nebraska implement manufacturers and dealers say that threshing machines with separator and traction engine will cost from \$290 to \$350 more this season than last. The war has boosted prices on material used in machine construction.

Bids have been asked for the contract on the construction of a \$25,000 parochial school at North Platte. Bids will close April 1 and the contract will be awarded during the first week in April that work may begin on the structure at once.

The will of Daniel Cook, wealthy Beatrice banker, who died recently, has been filed for probate in the county court. The estate is valued at one million dollars. The entire sum with the exception of \$23,000, which was left to three children, goes to his widow.

Fremont churches have added to their respective congregations more than 850 new members since the revival meetings held last fall.

Sargent is considering the question of bonding the village in the sum of \$7,000 for an electric light plant.

REACHES OWN ABODE

VILLA AND HIS FOLLOWERS IN GUERRERO DISTRICT.

BANDIT BELIEVED SURROUNDED

Reports Received on Border Declare Outlaws Are Hemmed in On All Sides By Pursuers.

Washington.—Villa fleeing with his outlaw followers before the advance of the American expeditionary forces in Mexico, has reached his own country in the Guerrero district, where high officials of the army declare he may almost indefinitely evade capture. If the bandit chieftain makes a stand, Washington is satisfied that the campaign will quickly end, but if he leaves his followers, he can, military authorities agree, reach a haven of safety in the nearby mountains in less than a day's riding.

In the Guerrero district and in the country adjacent to Babicora, Villa is at home. For years he operated there in defiance of the law of Mexico and constituted authorities. The mountains to the west offer countless hiding places and routes of escape.

If hard pressed Villa might, officials believe, abandon his men, don the garb of a peon and flee so far into the south that it would be exceedingly difficult if not impossible to apprehend him.

To meet this situation Gen. Pershing, it was learned, has authority to employ scouts who have lived their lives in the mountainous district.

These men know these hiding places and the retreats in which the bandits are sure to take refuge if hard pressed. Upon them as a final resort will fall the task of trailing Villa to earth. Elaborate scouting plans are understood to have been completed.

To Avoid Towns.

The War department, it became known, has at the request of the State department, sent explicit instructions to the forces in Mexico not to occupy Mexican towns. Such occupation, it is said, might have the result of stirring up the resentment among the Mexicans.

Villa Said to Be Trapped.

El Paso, Texas.—Pancho Villa has been driven into a trap by the rapid advance of the American troops, according to the information received in dispatches from the front, and in telegraphic messages to General Gabriel Gaviira, the Carranza commander at Juarez.

Everything seems now to depend on the ability of the Carranza garrisons to hold their end of the net. On three sides of the bandit chief he is hemmed in by strong Carranza columns while on the fourth the American soldiers are driving forward with amazing speed.

Pershing Leads Flying Columns.

General John J. Pershing personally led the flying cavalry column in the 110-mile dash. Every man in his command was mounted. They pressed through a section of Mexico where water was scarce. For such a large body of men the speed maintained was remarkable and the good condition in which they came through was inspiring.

Only a few cavalry horses and pack mules were lost, the victims of a hard riding trail. The men reached camp thirty and hungry, but otherwise in good condition. Here they were met with reports that Villa had raided the American colonies in the vicinity of his mountain retreats and that he had killed residents of these colonies.

Request May Precipitate Crisis.

Washington, D. D.—While Carranza leaders and the United States military authorities have succeeded so far in avoiding any friction, there is one serious question which may arise at any time to threaten the entire situation. As the lines of communication of the American forces lengthen the problem of bringing up supplies becomes increasingly more pressing.

To grant the United States permission to use the Mexican railroads for shipping supplies, it is thought here, may be misconstrued by many Mexicans. On the other hand, a refusal would scarcely harmonize with the professed desire of the Carranza government to co-operate in every way with the American authorities.

Air Raiders Kill Nine.

London.—Nine persons were killed and thirty-one injured in a raid of four German aeroplanes over the east coast of Kent Sunday, March 19, it was announced officially. A British airman brought down one raider over the sea, the German observer being killed.

Recruiting Brisk in Chicago.

Chicago.—Red, white and blue posters, urging young men to "Come help catch Villa," has stimulated army recruiting in the Chicago district beyond any record since the days when "Remember the Maine" was the slogan.

Seal Season Opens With Rush.

St. Johns, Newfoundland.—Forty seven thousand seal skins were taken by the sealing fleet the first day upon the opening of the season, after two years.

WILL RAID AND MURDER NO MORE



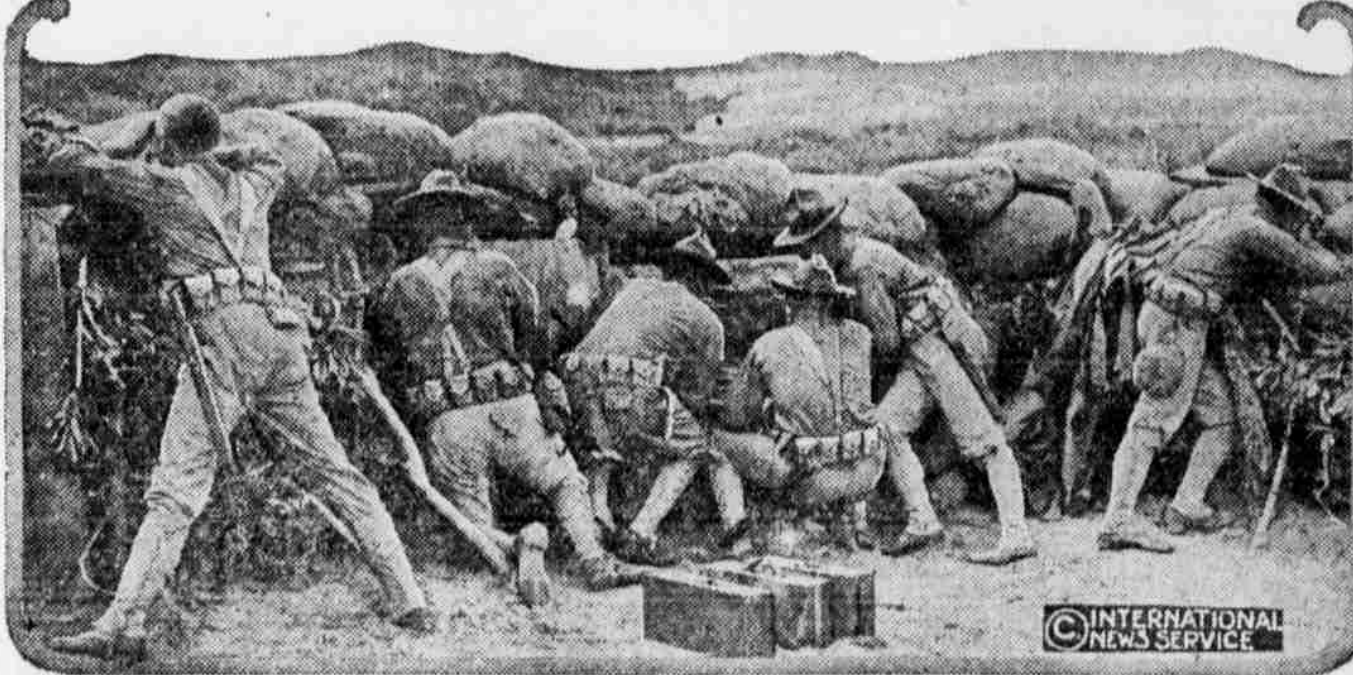
United States cavalry viewing the dead body of a Villa bandit killed in the flight from Columbus.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR MEN WHO FELL AT COLUMBUS

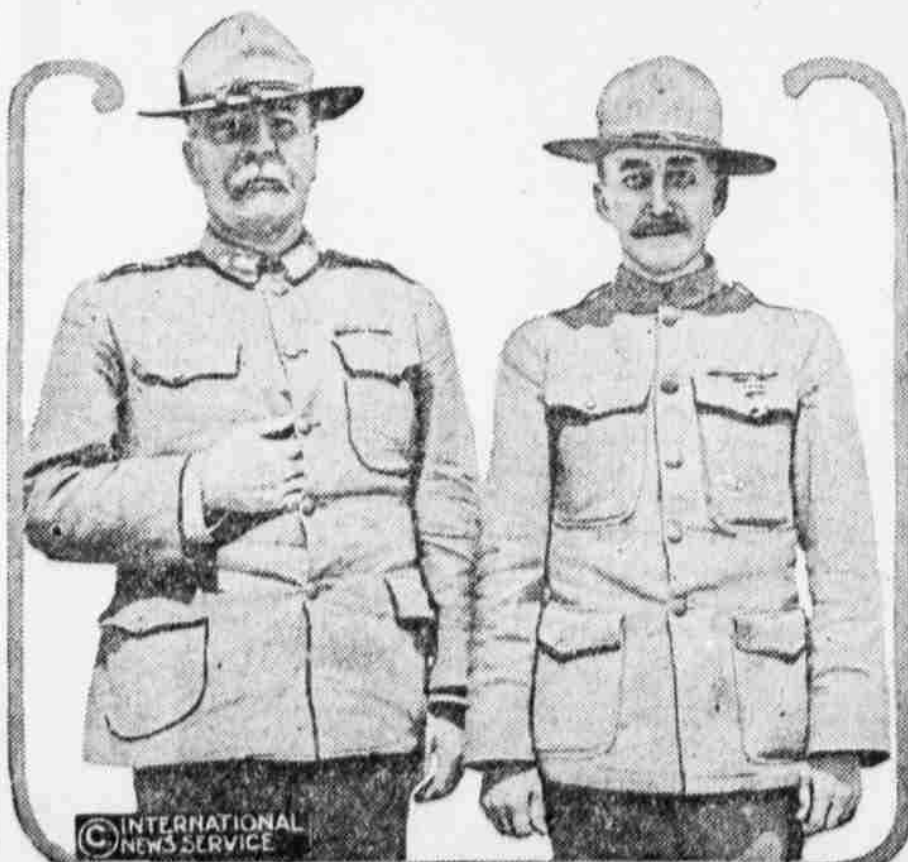


Last rites being performed for the United States soldiers who were killed in the fight with Villa's band at Columbus, N. M.

U. S. SOLDIERS USING THE LATEST STYLE TRENCHES



MEN WHO LEAD TROOPS IN MEXICO



Colonel Loughborough and Colonel Perkins, in command of infantry in the punitive expedition into Mexico.

COMMANDS AERO SCOUTS



Captain Benjamin D. Foulois in command of the aero-scouts with the United States troops in Mexico.