

HIGH COST HITS STATE

BUDGET OF STATE BOARD OF CONTROL IS LARGER.

BANK DEPOSITS INCREASE

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

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

The budget of the state board of control presented to Governor Morehead and by him to be submitted to the legislature calls for an increase in appropriations for the maintenance of the fifteen state institutions under the management of this board. An increase in the number of inmates amounting to nearly 17 per cent is expected during the coming two years. In addition to this the board has added 10 per cent increase because of the advance in prices of supplies over the prices formerly paid by the state.

The board of control comprises Judge Howard Kennedy, chairman, ex-Governor S. A. Holcomb and Henry Gerdes. Two years ago this board presented to the legislature its first request for appropriations. For the first time in the history of the state the legislature accepted the word of the board as to the needs of state institutions. It gave the board exactly what it asked for. This confidence in the board was not misplaced, according to the views of those who have watched the management of state institutions. In spite of a big increase in the price of supplies in the past two years; the amount given by the legislature will tide the institutions over until April 1, the end of the biennium, with scarcely a deficiency. One or two of the smaller institutions may show a small deficiency.

This year the board of control asks for an appropriation of \$2,355,770 for the ordinary expenses of state institutions. This is an increase of \$268,050 over the amount appropriated for the same purposes two years ago. In addition the board asks for \$454,800 for permanent improvements or other extra items of expense.

Big Increase in State Bank Deposits

Nebraska challenges the world! If the world accepts the world may be badly beaten in the matter of increase in bank deposits the past year.

Here is what Nebraska has done in the past year. It is the record upon which this state stands.

In twelve months the deposits in the 800 banks of the state have increased \$54,651,845.

An average monthly increase of more than \$4,554,000 a month.

Figured down finer that would mean an increase of more than \$1,160 for every day of the month.

Or the increase would amount to more than \$41 for every man, woman and child in the state.

It is an increase of more than 50 per cent.

Since August 10 deposits have increased \$14,407,000, and the loans nearly \$12,560,000.

In the year loans have increased \$27,939,850.

Of total appropriations amounting to nearly \$10,000,000, made by the 1915 legislature for all state departments and institutions during the biennium from April 1, 1915, to the same date in 1917, there remained on hand in December, a little over one-fourth the gross sum. Most of this will be expended during the remainder of the biennium.

While the legislature of two years ago made \$9,849,713 available for the biennium, \$2,000,000 of this came from other sources than the state treasury and was not raised by ordinary taxation. Fees collected by departments, products and labor sold by state institutions, and miscellaneous other items made up this portion of the state's revenue.

The balance in all funds on December 1, aggregated \$2,739,217, leaving at that time the expenditures of four months, or one-sixth of the biennium still to be met.

These figures are shown in State Auditor Smith's biennial report compiled as a fiscal guide for the next legislature.

Will Fight Health Board.

Dr. Carrol Fox, federal health official, who investigated health administration laws in Nebraska a few years ago and who recommended revolutionary changes in our laws, will visit the legislature and lay before it reasons why his plans are most feasible. It is said here that practitioners from all the schools of medicine are preparing to fight a reorganization of the state health board. Many favor it, however, and a battle between the factions is expected.

School Lands Worth Much Money

State school lands under lease, which would be subject to sale if the legislature ever took a notion to take that step, total 1,650,990 acres and are worth about \$18,000,000 in the judgment of State Superintendent Thomas. If the school lands of the state had been kept intact and conserved as have private investments of Nebraska they would have brought upward of \$30,000,000 in to the permanent school funds of the state.

Recommend Exchange of Lands

The State reforestation commission will recommend that 10,000 acres of state school lands in small tracts scattered about in government forest reservations in Nebraska be traded to the government for compact bodies of land in the government reservations. This would give the government control over the entire government reservations which does not obtain at this time, and would also give the state control over compact bodies of state land which is now scattered promiscuously among government lands.

The commission will recommend three bills for passage by the legislature. One will authorize counties and cities and villages to set aside tracts of land for forest or lumber tracts to serve as recreation grounds and as a source of wood supply if carefully planted and cut. The commission also believes this plan would assist in maintaining the purity of water supplies in many instances. The second bill will relate to the trading scattered state lands for single tracts of government land.

The third bill will embody a plan for a permanent state reforestation commission, to comprise three members appointed by the governor for a term of three years each, to serve without salary.

Farmers in Legislature.

Farmers and stockraisers will outnumber lawyers in the lower branch of the Nebraska legislature this winter by four to one, but in the senate there will be seven attorneys as against only four farmers and stockmen. A few of the farmers are also interested in banks. There will be two house members and one senator who are retired farmers, and who have other interests at present. The house will contain forty-eight members who give farming as their occupation. If the two retired ones are included, this will give the agriculturists just one-half the membership. There are twelve lawyers in the house, counting two university law students who are preparing themselves for the legal profession.

University Correspondence Courses.

Correspondence courses offered by the University of Nebraska extension department are reaching 433 men and women who live not only in Nebraska, but also in various parts of the United States from Cambridge, Mass., to San Francisco, Cal. They represent farmers, housewives, business men, mechanics, laborers, professional men and teachers. A majority of the 433, however, are teachers.

The purpose of the department is to afford the worker the opportunity to study during leisure hours, "all problems—artistic, literary, historical, social, industrial, moral, political, educational—problems in sanitation, city lighting, banking, divorce—in fact all problems that may concern the citizens of Nebraska." It is considered a step further in making the university a people's school.

Wants Money to Enforce Law.

One hundred thousand dollars, to be used as a special fund for the enforcement of prohibition laws and various other sums for particular purposes, over and above the regular departmental appropriations, are asked by Attorney General Reed in his biennial report to the governor. The total amount of such appropriations requested is \$225,000, as compared with \$28,500 provided by the legislature of 1915 for special activities and maintenance of the legal department.

The attorney general also asks for two additional stenographers beside the two now employed in his office. This would require an additional appropriation of \$3,360.

Mr. Reed says the experience of other states has shown that it is necessary, in order to obtain desired results in enforcing prohibition, to make an appropriation available for investigating violations and prosecuting offenders. Failure to make such an appropriation, he asserts, will weaken the force and effect of the laws.

State Treasurer George E. Hall, in his biennial report to Governor Morehead, dwells at much length on the result of his order requiring county treasurers to make monthly remittances to the state. He recommends a change in the law that will permit state funds to be given to banks making the highest bid instead of the present regulation which allows the treasurer to place the money in such banks as he may select, the banks to pay 3 per cent interest.

Files Claim For State Reward.

Ira L. Cooper of St. Louis has filed a claim with State Auditor Smith asking for an appropriation of \$200 by the legislature to pay him the state reward offered in a proclamation by Governor Morehead for the arrest and return of John Jones, a negro who was found guilty of killing Sam Leons at Omaha in October, 1913. Jones was afterwards sentenced to be electrocuted, but the supreme court changed his sentence to life imprisonment. As the claim is a valid one against the state.

The agricultural activities bill, which made its appearance last session and which is one of the bills likely to receive considerable attention this session, is comprehensive in scope and strikes at the root of matters in which the state board of agriculture is keenly interested. It may bring on a battle between the "retentionists" and the "rebellionists" on that board. The retentionists want to continue affairs as they are. The rebellionists want to reorganize the board and take out of its hands everything but the management of the state fair.

CONDENSED NEWS

OF INTEREST TO ALL.

DATES FOR COMING EVENTS.

- Jan. 10-11—Odd Fellows' District Convention at Alliance.
- January 15-20—State Improved Live Stock association meeting at Lincoln.
- Jan. 15 to 20—Organized Agriculture Annual Meeting at Lincoln.
- January 16—Nebraska Association of Fair Managers' Meeting at Lincoln.
- January 16-17-18—Annual convention of Nebraska Volunteer Firemen at Auburn.
- January 16-19—Winter Apple, Floral and Potato Show at Lincoln.
- Jan. 19—Northeast Nebraska Editorial Meeting at Norfolk.
- Feb. 7-8-9—Nebraska Retail Lumber Dealers' Association Convention at Omaha.
- February 15—State Volleyball Contest at York.

Six thousand eight hundred dollars was the price paid for the Wahoo Mills at an auction sale last week. The mills were built ten years ago at a cost of \$25,000. The owner of the plant suspended business in July, 1915, and since that time they have stood idle. The Farmers' Co-Operative company of Wahoo are the new owners and expect to put the mills in operation in the near future.

Farmers who think they have better corn than their neighbors will have an opportunity to test their judgment this winter by sending samples to the Nebraska state corn show to be held at Lincoln January 15 to 18. This show is an annual affair conducted by the Nebraska Corn Improvers' association. Indications point to a much larger entry list this year than ever before.

Fire in the Union station office of the American express company at Omaha destroyed seventy-five out-bound Christmas parcels of value unknown. The majority of the packages were consigned to persons in the state. Silver bullion valued at \$75,000 in the office at the time, was removed with difficulty to safety.

Auburn is soon to have one of the best equipped hospitals in this state. The institution will accommodate about twenty patients. Work on the structure is practically completed and the formal opening is expected to take place soon.

Revivalists Hart and Megann have just closed a five weeks' session at Fairbury. Forty converts were secured. A free-will offering, aggregating nearly \$1,000, was raised.

Fire, thought to have been caused by spontaneous combustion, destroyed the Wilsonville school building, erected in 1889. The loss is placed at \$16,000; insurance, \$11,000.

Sugar beet growers of Scotts Bluff county are going to get \$7.50 a ton for their sliced beets next fall, it is said. A new factory in that region is stimulating prices.

The Messenger is the name of a new paper established at Henry, Scottsbluff county. It is being edited by Fred Mathias, formerly of Pine Bluff, Wyo.

A robber threw a brick through the Gildner Bros. jewelry store front at Kearney and stole about \$500 worth of rings, ear drops and stickpins.

Lindsay elevators are in a congested state, due to the car shortage, all of them being filled to the top, with no more grain being bought at any price.

Ninety dollars an acre was the price paid for a section of land in Dawson county, situated in Coyote precinct.

Bonds to the sum of \$15,000 have been issued by the city of Norfolk for the purpose of acquiring a public park.

At the Connor farm sale near Adams, milk cows with calves by their sides brought as high as \$125 each.

O'Neill has just opened its municipal skating pond, which covers a half square block.

Fire destroyed the building of the Clark Drug company at Fremont, with a loss of \$25,000.

O. E. Wood has organized a county farmers' union association at Wyoming.

It cost the city of Omaha \$5,251 to hold the recent special election on the street lighting contract.

Contract has been let for a new \$30,000 school building at Walthill.

A new creamery and cheese factory is being organized at Beatrice. The project is the result of agitation started by O. H. Liebers, who was county agent in charge of the work in Gage county for four years. Dairying is being carried on extensively in the county and this new concern will make a good market for milk.

The town of Deshler has one of the largest electric lighted skating ponds in the whole state, and hundreds of people from miles around are enjoying the sport.

The Ogallala Community club has completed arrangements for the erection of fifteen five-cluster lights on the principal streets of the town. When these lights are installed it is the belief that Ogallala will be one of the best lighted towns of its size in the state.

The Hamilton County Advocate, which has been published at Aurora for the past five years by P. J. Sharp, has suspended publication.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Young, of Brock, recently celebrated their sixty-first wedding anniversary.

Omaha is to be the location of the new federal farm loan bank for the eighth district, which comprises the states of Nebraska, Iowa, Wyoming and South Dakota. News that the Nebraska metropolis secured the institution was received with general satisfaction in Lincoln and Sioux City, its nearest rivals. The establishment of the farm loan banks is the first step by the federal board toward putting into effect the provisions of the rural credits act, designed to make it possible for farmers to borrow money at a low rate of interest. According to the provisions of the act money will be loaned on long-time first mortgages up to 50 per cent of the value of the land at a rate not higher than 6 per cent. In order to obtain this loan a farmer must be a member of a loan association of at least ten persons in his section. Interest must be paid yearly, and after five years a small portion of the principal must be paid each year. Each bank will be capitalized at \$750,000 and the local community will be given the first opportunity to buy the stock.

One of the most unique engineering feats of modern railroading was successfully consummated at Omaha when the superstructure of the old Union Pacific bridge, which spans the Missouri river, was moved bodily from the piers and the new superstructure, weighing 6,500 tons, was moved into place. The old bridge was moved north to temporary piers and the new bridge rolled into its place. Traffic over the bridge was stopped only a few hours. The actual moving of the new superstructure a distance of some thirty feet was accomplished in ten minutes by the use of donkey engines and immense block and tackles.

Senator Hitchcock at Washington, has received a report on the forest reserve in Nebraska from District Forester Riley, stationed at Denver, in which he declares that the most important needs in this state are: The building of roads for the protection of the national forest; to permit the sale of products; and to open the forest for recreation purposes. The receipts from the Nebraska reserve during 1916 were \$6,547, derived mostly from grazing permits. The elimination of the North Platte division is believed to have caused the falling off in receipts.

Norris A. Huse, editor and half owner of the Norfolk Daily News, has accepted the position of vice president of the American Press Association, and will leave Norfolk with his family in a few days to make his home in New York. He will be manager of the advertising department of the company he is to be associated with, as well as a stockholder. The Omaha World-Herald declared Mr. Huse is to receive a salary of \$25,000 a year. His new work will be to bring the big advertiser into touch with the country newspaper.

Petitions are in circulation throughout Gage county for the purpose of changing the present supervisor form of government to a commission system. In order to secure the submission of the question it will be necessary to secure the signature of ten per cent of the voters of the county. The proposition has been agitated for several months.

The Nebraska state poultry show will be staged this year in Kearney, January 15 to 26, and, according to A. H. Smith, the association's secretary, of Lincoln there is reason to believe more than 2,000 representatives of the aristocratic feathered tribe will be on hand, striving for the many prizes, silver trophies and medals which will be awarded.

The new bridge across the Platte river south of Kearney was opened to travel last week. The new bridge is 1,000 feet long and twenty feet wide, built entirely of concrete, at a cost of approximately \$60,000.

Rabbits are more plentiful in southeast Nebraska this winter than in years. Three hunters at Falls City were out a short time the other day and came in with over one hundred of the little animals.

J. W. Ramaekers, 80, of Lindsay, who had a needle removed from his right shoulder a few days ago, does not know how the tiny bit of steel came to be in his body.

For the first time in the history of the South Omaha stock yards the cattle receipts for the month of December passed the 100,000 mark.

Nebraska ranked third among all the states in the union in the amount of money contributed to the states by the Interstate Trap Shooting association for registered trap shooting tournaments during 1916. A total of \$975 was contributed to this state. Nebraska held nineteen registered tournaments during the year.

The farmers' unions in the vicinity of Wayne have just organized an elevator company with a capital of \$25,000. It will restore an old elevator and handle grain and coal.

The Dempster company of Beatrice, remembered their employes Christmas, who number four hundred men, with an order of \$2 each on the stores in the city. The amount given to the men was approximately \$800.

Albert Abrams, a wealthy bachelor, was found dead at his home near Hastings, death resulting, it is thought, from freezing. He was reported to be worth \$50,000.

Frank Howard of Pawnee City purchased a carload of horses at Beatrice for which he paid on an average of about \$150 per head.



Proclaiming the Slender Silhouette

Here is a simple but quite original evening or dinner dress worn by one of the pretty young women who helped to make "The Boomerang" so great a success. It almost goes without saying that a play presented by Belasco will be correctly staged in every particular, and that no detail of costuming will be slighted. This gown is among the earliest that proclaimed the return of the slender silhouette. It appears to have bowed to the inevitable, but with much reserve.

The dress is made of crepe georgette with a plain underskirt trimmed with bands of silver spangles, graduated in width. Although it consents to be long enough to reach the instep, it refuses to conceal the ankles and merely veils them. This is an alluring bit of coquetry, for you just glimpse them one minute, and the next—you don't. A forerunner of the long tunic appears in the drapery that falls over the underskirt.

New Departure in Satin Frocks



By way of variety this plain, simple, straight-hanging gown of satin is interesting, and it is a new departure. As shown in the accompanying picture it is developed in black, but it might be made with almost equal effectiveness in colors. As it is, a good name for it would be the "chapel" dress. With less pretentious collar and cuffs it is one of those dignified and quiet gowns that remind one of convents, cloisters and churches.

The model is a new departure in styles and could hardly be more simple. The waist is short and plain, with an easy adjustment to the figure, and the skirt is gathered on to it so that it is amply full and has liberal lines. The most noteworthy feature which it boasts will be recognized as an innovation in present styles. It is

The bodice is made with a short plenum and could hardly be more simply draped. The sleeves suggest a scarf thrown over the arms, and are wide at the wrists. They are altogether as irresponsible as to shape as the wide girdle of beads is to its duty, which is to confine the waistline. The waistline is ornamented but not restricted, and the model may therefore hold its own in point of style with the latest of gowns "a la chemise."

Nothing in the way of a hat could look better with this dress than the filmy model which supplements it. It is a sailor of guileless simplicity and has a transparent brim of crepe and a crown of ribbon. There is a youthful rosette-bow of ribbon at the front of the crown with fishtail ends of ribbon resting on the very unsubstantial support furnished by the crepe brim. This is a costume for the young maid and it becomes her slenderness.

Moreover, this model is shown with a light ribbon girdle, a thing which has not been in evidence on daytime frocks for some time. But the girdle is a girl's accessory and not an essential part of the composition of the gown. The owner of handsome lace in cape, collar or fichu, or in sets for neck and sleeves, may rejoice at a mode which makes these accessories imperative. This gown becomes a background for their display, and its importance is advanced according to the character of the neckwear or sleeve flounces used. They should match, if possible. But where one owns a fine lace collar, net flounces for the sleeves may be edged with lace to match it, and the collar made to bask in the approval of gentlewomen, for they all love lace.